

Report to Amesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting 31 January 2013
Title of Report Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider :

(A) Two Grant Applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Amesbury Junior Football Club – Training & Kit for New Teams
Funding sought : £1,165 :
Recommended for **Approval**
2. Berwick St James Parish Meeting – Notice Boards
Funding sought: £600
Recommended for **Approval**

(B) Confirming an allocation of **£3,750** for community planning activities and administrative running costs, based on the following estimations below :

Salary (+ expenses) of part-time administrator (£15 per hour, working 15 hrs a week from mid Feb to end of April 2013)	£2,250
Consultation activities, public events, analysis	£500
Advertising & promotion (include website)	£500
Plans, questionnaires, other printing costs	£500

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing (4 April 2012). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/2013.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria and/or the officer's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement and the nurturing of resilient communities. With this in mind Community Area Grants (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups. Likewise, Small Grants (new this year) should be awarded to similar groups, as well as un-constituted groups of people wanting to improve things near to where they live.
- 1.4. Amesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £50,455 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. An overspend of £6990 from 2011/12 has since been deducted from this figure – leaving £43,465 available. Subsequently, the Area Board has approved grants totalling £21,299 and an allocation of £3,000 to the Community Planning Group: Crime and Community Safety. This leaves the 2012/13 available budget at £19,166.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Small Grants, new for this year will fund up to £350, where the total cost of the project does not exceed £350. This grant is aimed at enabling groups (including those not formally constituted) to implement projects, involving local people to make their community a better place to live.
- 1.7. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (CAG) applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.
- 1.8. In addition to CAGs and Small Grants, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls. The application process and form has been updated to bring it in line with the other grants.

- 1.9. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.11. Applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau (CIB) who work on behalf of Wiltshire Council. CIB support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.12. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.13. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.14. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.
- 1.15. A budget ring-fenced for the needs of young people will again be made available in 2012/2013. How this will be allocated will be the decision of the area board. £3,000 of this £5,053 budget was earmarked at the 19 July 2012 board meeting for the Bourne Valley Youth Transport Project.
- 1.16. The Amesbury Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £17,500 for 2012/13.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision • Amesbury Community Area Plan
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2012/13 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2012/2013. This are listed as below:

- 24th May
- 19th July
- 20th September
- 22 November 2013
- 31 January 2013
- 21 February 2013

3. Environmental & Community Implications

- 3.1. Area Board Grants contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Amesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Amesbury Area Board will have a balance of £13,651 remaining for 2012/13.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

6. HR Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

- 7.1. Community Area Grants and Small Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, town and parish council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – "Officer Recommendations".

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Amesbury Junior Football Club	Contribution for training equipment, courses and youth team football kit for new teams	£1,165

- 8.1.1. Officer recommendation – **to approve**

- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2012/13.

8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan, as it will support a local youth sports club to improve and expand its facilities and expertise to inspire and encourage young people to engage in sport. This grant will also assist a local group in ensuring there are opportunities in this Area to be a healthier, more inclusive community and to engage in volunteering activities.

8.1.4. The Amesbury Junior Football Club was established in 1985 and is a well established local sports group, currently catering for nearly 200 young people (7 – 16 year olds). It is looking to replace and improve some of its equipment, kit, to ensure coaches are well trained and to increase the number of trained welfare officers. This expenditure is important not simply to ensure the club’s local reputation as a good quality sports club, but to also maintain the FA Charter Standard.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Berwick St James Parish Meeting	New Parish Noticeboards x 2	£600

8.2.1 This application meets the community area grant scheme’s criteria and the officer’s recommendation is therefore to approve.

8.2.2 Berwick St James Parish Council are looking to replace the current village notice boards with 2 new boards, and will fund 50% of the costs from parish council funds.

8.2.3 The noticeboards are a vital source of communication for the village especially for those without email or online facilities. The present noticeboards have become increasingly dilapidated and allow moisture to enter and damage the notices (see photos below). The new noticeboards will be built of hardwood and properly weatherproofed.



Appendix (online):	Appendix 1 Grant application – Amesbury Junior Football Club Appendix 2 Grant Application – Berwick St James Parish Meeting
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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