

Report to	Malmesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	6 March 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to 2 Community Area Grant applications and to approve officer delegated expenditure:

1. To approve officer delegated expenditure of £828 to victims of November 2012 floods.
2. Oaksey Youth Club – award £990 towards a 2 day music project for 12-19 year olds for those living in the village and beyond.
3. Malmesbury United Reformed Church - award £5,000 towards a lift, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

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. Malmesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of **£40,593** for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 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 - £5,000 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 are considered at every area board.
- 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. Malmesbury area board would like to see funding applicants to seek funding from other sources in addition to coming to the area board, especially when larger amounts of funding are being sought.
- 1.13. The area board delegated authority to the Community Area Manager (in consultation with the area board councillors) on 10 November 2010, to approve expenditure up to £500 where it was necessary between meetings. Any such expenditure would be reported at the next area board.
- 1.14. 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.

- 1.15. 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. A decision was made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.16. 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.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13. Report and Appendices for delegated decision by Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing
--	--

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Malmesbury Area Board was allocated a budget of **£40,593** in 2012/13, to be allocated to Community Area Grants, Small Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and core funding for Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Partnership.
- 2.2. Malmesbury Area Board also had a 2012/13 budget of £4,929 for youth related projects which was not constrained by the criteria applied to Community Area Grants and Small Grants.
- 2.3. At the 4 July 2012 area board £13,930 was distributed, leaving a balance of £26,663.
- 2.4. Minety Village Hall relinquished their award of £811 made on 4 July and re-submitted their application in September, leaving a balance of £27,474.
- 2.5. At the 5 September area board £7,816 was distributed, leaving a balance of £19,658.
- 2.6. On 16 November the area board distributed £16,558, using their 2012/13 youth funding as a contribution towards the skatepark. This left a balance of £8,029.
- 2.7. Since that time £30 was spent through officer delegation to pay for hall hire and £2,888 has been credited to the budget following an under-spend on the budget for expenses for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee event in Salisbury, leaving a balance of £10,888.

- 2.8. Minety Village Hall notified the area board that they were successful in obtaining £5,000 from Awards for All and that the area board grant set aside was no longer required, leaving a balance of £15,888
- 2.9. At the January area board funding amounting to £8,654 was distributed. The current balance is **£7,234**.
- 2.10. Councillors will need to ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.11. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2012/2013 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.12. This is the last funding round of 2012/13. The earliest opportunity for the area board to consider funding applications will be 3 July 2013 and the new funding criteria and on-line funding application process will be available in April.

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 Malmesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If funding is awarded as outlined in the report, Malmesbury area board will have a balance of **£416**.

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 will be outlined in section 8, "Officer Recommendations" of the funding report.

8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Funding
8.1.	Officer delegation	Contribution towards flood damage repairs for Athelstan Players - dehumidifiers and 4 internal doors	£328

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Funding
8.2.	Officer delegation	Contribution towards flood damage repairs for Victoria Football Club – deep cleaning and electrics	£500

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding request
8.3.	Oaksey Youth Club	Music Maniacs project	£990

- 8.3.1. Officers recommend that Oaksey youth Club is awarded £990 towards a 2 day music project for local 12-19 year olds living in the village and beyond.
- 8.3.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the funding criteria and offers activities for young people who might find it difficult to access the services offered by the council's youth development service in Malmesbury.
- 8.3.3. The application links to the current Community Plan for Malmesbury & the Villages in that it identifies the need to provide things for young people to do, including more entertainment.
- 8.3.4. The 2 day workshops will cover creative and performing aspects of music making. The sessions will include team building skills and working as a group as well as how to write music and songs, as well as aspects of performance by playing together.
- 8.3.5. The area board have previously helped fund music projects in the village and the club now have musical instruments for those who may not have them, ensuring the project is as inclusive as possible. The young people likely to be involved in this project will share their skills with the junior youth club who also offer a music project, 'Shape, Make Create', as a number are training as youth leaders. Should the young people wish to continue their music making following these workshops this will be possible as part of an extended youth club session.
- 8.3.6. The applicant will promote these workshops outside the village to ensure other local young people may also attend.
- 8.3.7. A decision not to help fund this application would lead to the requirement to seek funding elsewhere, as the very modest balance of funds held by the

youth club are for their regular youth club for 7-14 year olds.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding request
8.4.	Malmesbury United Reformed Church	Lift – to enable greater use of their upper floor, to include wider community use.	£5,000

- 8.4.1. Officers recommend that Malmesbury United Reformed Church is awarded £5,000 towards a lift, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.4.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the funding criteria and will satisfy as important matter raised in the Community Plan for Malmesbury & the Villages, namely to provide more facilities other than the town hall in which hold activities and events. Support of this project will help to secure a long term asset for local people.
- 8.4.3. While the United Reformed Church and the community already use the upstairs room for a variety of church and community activities the steep stairs presents a major barrier for many. Providing a lift would enable much wider use and ensure events were accessible to all. To date a wide variety of community groups have asked to use it but have been put off by poor access.
- 8.4.4. The total cost of the project is estimated at £28,500. The applicant is working hard to fund-raise, applying to a range of charitable organisations, undertaking local fundraising and funding from their own reserves.
- 8.4.5. The applicant is keen to provide a community facility at a realistic commercial rent.
- 8.4.6. A decision not to help fund this application would lead to a delay in the work being completed (which they hope to achieve during the summer), while other funding is sought.

Appendices	Appendix 1 Oaksey Youth Club Appendix 2 Malmesbury United Reformed Church
-------------------	--

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

Report Author	Miranda Gilmour, Community Area Manager Tel: 01672 515742 Mobile:07990 505882 E-mail: miranda.gilmour@wiltshire.gov.uk
----------------------	---