

Report to	Warminster Area Board
Date of Meeting	7 March 2013
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following 3 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant funding.

1. Maiden Bradley Village Shop Association; A request for £2,500

Officer recommendation: Approve

2. Warminster Cycle Group; A request for £350 (Small Grant Programme)

Officer recommendation: Approve

3. Horningsham Youth Club; A request for £1,000

Officer recommendation: Approve

Total request if all applications are approved: **£3,850**

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. Warminster area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £47,714 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 - £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. A decision was been 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.
- 1.15. 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.
- 1.16. 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. In Warminster, the Area Board chose to allocate this via a Participatory Budgeting event.
- 1.17. Warminster Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £15,226 for 2012/13.

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There have been six rounds of grant funding during 2012/2013. The final round will take place at the Board meeting on 7 March, 2013

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area Grants will 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 Warminster Area Board.

4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Warminster Area Board will have a balance of **£1,545.93** for the financial year.

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 give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

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	Maiden Bradley Village Shop Association	New chillers for Maiden Bradley Community Village Shop	£2,500

8.1.1 Officer Recommendation – Approve

8.1.2 The application meets the 2012/13 grants criteria.

8.1.3 The application demonstrates a link to the parish plan as there is overwhelming support for maintain a village shop for the community. This project fits within Wiltshire Council's corporate goal of strengthening our communities.

8.1.4 The village shop in Maiden Bradley has been community run since 2002. It also serves the communities of Horningsham, Kilmington, Norton Ferris and the Deverills. The shop provides fresh produce to local businesses and also supports tourism via major attractions in the area.

8.1.5 The chillers have been malfunctioning since last Summer leaving water over the shop floor as they are now worn out. New chillers will improve the shop environment and health and safety and are integral to the running of the shop.

8.1.6 The overall cost of the project will be £6,000 with an amount of match funding provided of £3,500.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Warminster Cycle Group	Warminster Wobble Festival of Cycling	£350

8.2.1 Officer Recommendation – Approve

8.2.2 The application meets the 2012/13 Small Grants programme criteria.

8.2.3 Match funding has been provided from Warminster Town Council for £1,000 and Waitrose for £280. Although match funding is not technically required for a Small Grant project.

8.2.4 The Warminster wobble event is now in its 5th year. This is a very popular two day event run by volunteers. The funding will be used to re-furbish a small marquee and also for publicity. Please see the website: www.warminsterwobble.co.uk

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Horningsham Youth Club	Re-launch of Teenage Club	£1,000

8.3.1 Officer Recommendation: Approve

8.3.2 The application meets the criteria of the grants scheme 2012/13

8.3.3 The funding is requested to provide skills workshops and re-launch day at the Horningsham Club and also to buy and refurbish equipment. The club will run each Friday night. The Launch Day will involve circus skills, cake decoration and an Arts and Craft demonstration. The cost of the launch day and workshops will be £700. £300 will be used for resurfacing the pool table, pool equipment, board games and games for the Xbox and Wii.

8.3.4 The club is staffed by 3 volunteers and it will also have the support of staff from the Youth Development Centre. The funding for the club is provided by the Horningsham Village Fair and other fund raising efforts.

8.3.5 Although match funding is not required for projects of £1,000 and under, match funding has been used to refurbish the venue ready for young people to use it and a number of volunteers have been involved.

Documents used in the production of this report	Completed Community Area Grant Application forms Community Area Grants criteria 2012 /13 Small Grants criteria 2012/13
--	---

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Report Author	Jacqui Abbott Warminster Community Area Manager <u>Tel:</u> 07771 844 530 Email: Jacqui.abbott@wiltshire.gov.uk
----------------------	--