

<b>Report to</b>	<b>South West Wiltshire Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>13 March 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## Purpose of Report

- To ask Councillors to consider 6 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding.

<b>Application</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Woodland event for local school children Applicant: Wiltshire Wildlife Trust South Supporters Group	£250 – <b>small grant</b>
Start up costs for project to renovate two regimental badges on Sutton Down Applicant: Sutton Badges Committee	£105 – <b>small grant</b>
Real Bread Makers week event to be run in Mere Applicant: Merely Real Bread	£300 – <b>small grant</b>
Improving public footpaths condition and accessibility Applicant: Mere Footpath Group	£350 – <b>small grant</b>
Improvements to Hinton Hall car park Applicant: Hinton Hall (Tisbury PCC)	£840
Refurbishment of childrens' playground equipment Applicant: Berwick St John Parish Council	£5,000

## **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. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £121,048 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](http://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. South West Wiltshire Area Board agreed to delegate powers to the Community Area Manager to make decisions on expenditure of up to £750 in the financial year, 2012/13. This was agreed at the Area Board meeting on 13 June 2012.
- 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.
- 1.17. South West Wiltshire Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget of £17,079 for 2012/13.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li> <li>• Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026</li> </ul>
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## **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. The deadline for submitting applications to the Community Area Manager is 4 weeks prior to the meeting. More information is available at: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/southwestwiltshireareaboard.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/southwestwiltshireareaboard.htm)  
This is the final round of funding for 2012/13.

## **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 South West Wiltshire Area Board. Grant applications totalling **£6,845** have been received for this meeting.
- 4.2. At the time of writing this report, South West Wiltshire Area Board currently has a balance of **£8,262** 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
Tis/12/022	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Supporters Group	Woodland event for local school children	£250 – <b>small grant</b>

- 8.1.1. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 small grant criteria. A breakdown of the final costs is still required prior to any funding award being paid.
- 8.1.2. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10); this will assist in fostering strong communities by drawing together members of the community through engaging in activities.
- 8.1.3. This project is to run an activity open day where children from local schools take part in a 'hands on' experience in local woodlands. The aim of the project is to teach children about wildlife and conservation in a woodland setting.
- 8.1.4. The applicant reports that the event has previously been very successful in achieving its aims, and they have received positive feedback from children, teachers and helpers.
- 8.1.5. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local events for all the community.

8.1.6. If the Board does not fund this project then the community would continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Tis/12/023	Sutton Badges Committee	Start up costs for project to renovate two regimental badges on Sutton Down	£105 – <b>small grant</b>

8.1.7. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 small grant criteria.

8.1.8. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as the project helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.

8.1.9. This project is to organise a public meeting about initial proposals to carry out a project to renovate the two regimental badges on Sutton Down in connection with the approaching centenary of World War 1. Costs will cover the organisation, hosting and publication of the meeting.

8.1.10. The aim is for this meeting to kick-start a project that will be run by members of the local community. The badges are currently in a deteriorating state and overgrown, and a project to renovate them will help to raise awareness of the camps formally in Sutton Mandeville.

8.1.11. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local heritage for all the community.

8.1.12. If the Board does not fund this project then the community would continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Mer/12/015	Merely Real Bread	Real Bread Makers week event to be run in Mere	£300 – <b>small grant</b>

8.1.13. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 small grant criteria.

8.1.14. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10); this will potentially assist in fostering strong communities by drawing together members of the community through engaging in local events.

8.1.15. This project is to run events in Mere to coincide with real bread maker week ([http://www.sustainweb.org/realbread/national\\_real\\_breadmaker\\_week/](http://www.sustainweb.org/realbread/national_real_breadmaker_week/)), part of the real bread campaign.

8.1.16. The group aims to encourage bread making in the area whilst bringing together members of the local community through such an event. Activities include a talk on bread making, bread making classes and the redistribution of unused bread machines.

8.1.17. The Area Board recognises the need to support local activities for all the community, where they feel it is in line with grant funding criteria.

8.1.18. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Mer/12/014	Mere Footpath Group	Improving public footpaths condition and accessibility	£350 – <b>small grant</b>

8.1.19. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria.

8.1.20. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as the project helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future, and demonstrates a link to South West Wiltshire Area Board's local priorities, to assist the promotion of tourism in the area.

8.1.21. This project is to purchase tools and equipment in order to launch the footpath clearing group.

8.1.22. The Group was formed recently following concerns raised by local residents about the poor condition of some of Mere public footpaths. The group is working with the Rights of Way team (Wiltshire Council) to identify what work is needed.

8.1.23. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local routes for all the community and support local tourism.

8.1.24. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Tis/12/026	Hinton Hall (Tisbury PCC)	Improvements to Hinton Hall car park	£840

8.1.25. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria.

8.1.26. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as the work of the hall potentially helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.

8.1.27. This project is to make improvements to the car park, which has suffered through recent deterioration.

8.1.28. The hall enjoys frequent use for various activities including keep fit, line dancing, bingo, Local Authority and Local Council meetings, natural and local history societies and bell-ringers.

8.1.29. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local facilities for all

the community.

8.1.30. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
Tis/12/025	Berwick St John Parish Council	Refurbishment of childrens' playground equipment	£5,000

8.1.31. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2012/13 grant criteria.

8.1.32. The application demonstrates a link to the Wiltshire Community Plan 2011 – 2026 (p10), as it helps to build a stronger and more resilient community, fit for the future.

8.1.33. This project is to refurbish the entire playground in order to bring the equipment up to modern safety standards and provide a facility that will last into the future.

8.1.34. The village has always provided a safe and secure play area for young children and the Parish Council wish to continue this commitment to the young and their families.

8.1.35. The Area Board recognises the need to support and enhance local facilities for all the community.

8.1.36. If the Area Board does not fund this project then the local community will continue to fundraise.

<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Small Grant application – Wiltshire Wildlife Trust South Supporters Group Appendix 2 Small Grant application – Sutton Badges Committee Appendix 3 Small Grant application – Merely Real Bread Appendix 4 Small Grant application – Mere Footpath Group Appendix 5 Grant application – Hinton Hall (Tisbury PCC) Appendix 6 Grant application – Berwick St John Parish Council
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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