

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Devizes Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> May 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 20013/14 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Alzheimers Support** are requesting £399 to purchase an iPad for Sidmouth Street Day Club

Recommended for consideration for approval

2. **Devizes Rugby Club** are requesting £5000 towards the purchase of a replacement tractor and line marking machine

Recommended for consideration for approval

## **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 (5<sup>th</sup> April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2013/2014.
- 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.
- 1.4. Devizes Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of £83,375 for community grants, digital literacy projects, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £500 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £500 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. In addition to CAGs, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.10. 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.

- 1.11. The 2013/2014 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/areaboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>
- 1.12. 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.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Area Board Grant Guidance 2013/14 as presented for delegated decision</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Devizes Community Area Plan</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Devizes Joint Strategic Needs Document</a></li></ul>
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2013/14 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 5 further rounds of funding during 2013/2014. The first is contained in this report. The remaining will take place on;
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2013
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2013
  - 25<sup>th</sup> November 2013
  - 27<sup>th</sup> January 2014
  - 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014

## **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 Devizes Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Devizes Area Board will have a balance of £77,976

#### **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 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	Alzheimers Support	Purchase of an iPad for Sidmouth Street Day Club	£399

- 8.1.1. It is the officer's recommendation that an award of £399 to purchase an additional iPad for the Sidmouth Day Club is considered for approval.
- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department
- 8.1.3. Sidmouth Street Day Club is a day club in Devizes for people with dementia. The club is funded via a mixture of fundraising and member contributions. The club which is now in its 5th year is highly regarded.
- 8.1.4. Dementia is a terminal illness which leads to memory loss and a general deterioration of the cognitive function. The number of people suffering from Dementia in the Devizes area is likely to rise by about a third over the next 12

years.

- 8.1.5. The building is being refurbished but the area board can only provide awards for capital projects.
- 8.1.6. At the club, an iPad is used on a 1-1 basis to work with individuals, helping them to remember their lives and express themselves using reminiscence, prompted with images.
- 8.1.7. The grant if awarded will provide for a second iPad to be used by the team
- 8.1.8. This group is a not for profit group.
- 8.1.9. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project, this valuable work with those suffering from dementia will not take place unless alternative funding can be found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
<b>9.1.0</b>	Devizes Ruby Club	Purchase of a replacement tractor and white line marker	£5k towards a project costing £10,890

- 9.1.1. It is the officer's recommendation that an award of £5k to help purchase a new tractor and white line marker is considered for approval.
- 9.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department
- 9.1.3. The existing tractor and line marker are becoming increasingly unreliable, dangerous and difficult to operate and need to be replaced.
- 9.1.4. The rest of the funding will be provided by the RFU Lead Up and Legacy Grant as well as their own reserves
- 9.1.5. The Devizes Rugby Club is growing with over 350 youth players, a ladies senior side and three senior men's teams. In addition, a girls side will be launched next season.
- 9.1.6. The Devizes area board awarded a grant of £4,710 to the Devizes Rugby Club 2 years ago to help with the purchase of mobile flood lights.
- 9.1.7. This group is a not for profit group.
- 9.1.8. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

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

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