

Report to	Amesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	1st July 2010
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 4 applications seeking 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding, totalling £3,744.50.

1. Winterbourne Stoke Events Committee – seeking £1,410.78 to contribute towards the costs of purchasing a storage container and a base upon which to site the container to store the committee’s equipment.
2. Woodford Valley Scottish Country Dancing Group – seeking £683.76 to contribute towards the costs of purchasing equipment for this recently established group.
3. Orcheston Village Hall Committee – seeking £650 to contribute towards the cost of works to the village hall, including replacement of rotten fascia boards.
4. Larkhill Primary School – seeking £999.96 to contribute towards the cost of a new Sensory Toy Library for children with learning difficulties.

Officer
Recommendation

Approve

Approve

Approve

Approve

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 Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.5. The Amesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £50,529 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget was £154. This gave a total budget of £50,683 for the 2010/2011 budget. £7,308.08 of this was allocated in community grants at the 29th April 2010 meeting, leaving a remaining total of £43,374.92.
- 1.6. A decision has 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.
- 1.7. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year 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 2010/11. The first is contained in this report the remaining will take place on;
 - 1st July 2010
 - 2nd September 2010
 - 21st October 2010
 - 2nd December 2010
 - January / February 2011 (date to be confirmed)

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 Amesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, the Amesbury Area Board will have a remaining balance of £39,630.42.

5. Legal Implications

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

6. Human Resources Implications

- 6.1. There are no specific human resources 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	Winterbourne Stoke Events Committee	Purchase a storage container and a base upon which to site the container to store the committee’s equipment. Works to be carried out by volunteers from the village.	£1,410.78

- 8.1.1. It is recommended that the Winterbourne Stoke Events Committee is awarded a grant of £1,410.78 to assist with the cost of purchasing / installing a container and base for the storage of the committee’s equipment.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2010/11.
- 8.1.3. The Winterbourne Stoke Events Committee is a small village group constituted to organise events and entertainment for the local community. It provides a vital service, helping to bring people together in the village to enjoy local events such as bingo, pub quizzes, a village lottery, Easter Bonnet competitions, fireworks events, fancy dress parties, BBQs, Christmas parties, egg and spoon races, sack races etc. The committee also hire’s out its equipment to other local groups, e.g. for the church fete.
- 8.1.4. The committee’s equipment, i.e. tables, chairs, marquee, lights, generator is currently stored in three private garages in the village. A form of storage is required to keep the

equipment on one site and in a safe and secure unit close to the village play park, where most of the village's activities take place.

8.1.5. The committee does not foresee that the new base and storage will need much maintenance once sited, but should this be needed, the work would be carried out by local volunteers and supported by funds from the committee.

8.1.6. Winterbourne Stoke Parish Council supports this grant application.

8.1.7. Given the location for the container, the Area Board may wish to suggest to the Events Committee that it try to ensure that the container is discreetly sited and if at all possible screened, to safeguard both the visual amenity and security of the items to be stored.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Woodford Valley Scottish Country Dancing Group	The purchase of equipment for this newly established group, including a variable speed music player and microphone.	£683.76

8.2.1. It is recommended that the Woodford Valley Scottish Country Dancing Group is awarded a grant of £683.76 to assist with the cost of purchasing a variable speed music player and microphone to supply the music and "caller".

8.2.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2010/11.

8.2.3. This is a growing community group, set up in response to requests from people living in the Valley, and meets twice a month in Middle Woodford Village Hall.

8.2.4. The group enables people to come together to enjoy a traditional village activity and involves a wide range of ages.

8.2.5. Woodford Parish Council supports this application.

8.2.6. The Area Board might like to suggest to the Dancing Group, that where possible, it consider allowing other community groups in the Woodford Valley use of the equipment.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Orcheston Village Hall Committee	Works required to the village hall, including replacement of rotting fascia boards	£650.00

8.3.1. It is recommended that the Orcheston Village Hall Committee is awarded a grant of £650.00 to assist with the cost of works required to the village hall.

8.3.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2010/11, and is supported by Orcheston Parish Council.

8.3.3. The Village Hall Committee is a not for profit organisation whose aim is to provide a hall for the use of the local community with the objective of improving the conditions of life for all in Orcheston. The hall is used by many groups and individuals in the village.

8.3.4. The works required include the supply and fit of new fascia, soffit materials, gutters, downpipes and fittings to the front of the village hall.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Larkhill Primary School	To operate, on behalf of the local community, a Sensory Toy Library for children (4 – 11yrs) with learning difficulties who live in the area	£999.96

8.4.1. It is recommended that Larkhill Primary School is awarded a grant of £999.96 to assist with the cost of setting up a Sensory Toy Library for the local community for 4-11 year olds with learning difficulties.

8.4.2. This application meets the grant criteria for 2010/11. Whilst the applicant is a local school, the Sensory Toy Library is not a core service of the school. Instead, the school will operate the library on behalf of the local community and for all 4-11 year olds living in Larkhill.

8.4.3. The library will stock a number of sensory toys for parents to borrow (£1 per annum membership fee) particularly for parents of children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or with other behavioural disorders like Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

8.4.4. Children with learning difficulties, in particular ASD and ADHD respond well to sensory toys and can calm more quickly as a consequence. The library will help the school to work closely with parents and ensure improved continuity for the child, providing a link between home and school, helping the child to access the curriculum quicker and to build positive relationships.

8.4.5. Sensory Toys are expensive and difficult for families on low incomes to access. The library will help families to try out the toys before considering purchasing the toy for their child.

8.4.6. There is a high percentage of children in Larkhill with ASD and other learning difficulties, and strong local support for the new community library. Educational Professionals, including the school nurse, psychologist, health visitor and local children centre staff have each expressed a need for this new facility.

8.4.7. The impact of the new library will be monitored by Larkhill Primary School. This will include a wellbeing survey of parents and children. Evidence of the outcome from similar initiatives is that sensory toys help children with learning difficulties to feel less agitated - possibly harming themselves and siblings/parents, and help them to participate more in school and community activities.

8.4.8. Larkhill Primary School will facilitate this community facility, providing a registration scheme in the school office. The grant request is for the one off set up costs for the library, ongoing commitments, i.e. the running of the library in future years, will be paid for out of the £1 membership fee. The members of the library will be supported by the school and other professionals to fundraise for any future repairs or replacement of the toys in the library. The toys themselves are designed to withstand harsh treatment and come with guarantees and warranties.

8.4.9. Durrington Town Council supports this project.

Appendices (available on website only)	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Winterbourne Stoke Events Committee Appendix 2 Grant Application – Woodford Valley Scottish Country Dancing Appendix 3 Grant Application – Orcheston Village Hall Committee Appendix 4 Grant Application – Larkhill Primary School
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Report Author	Karen Linaker, Community Area Manager Tel: 01722 434697 E-mail karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk
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