

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Pewsey Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>9 September 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider six applications seeking 2013/14 Community Area Grant funding and one Councillor initiative.

1. Wilcot and Huish with Oare Parish Council is requesting £500 towards the purchase of two defibrillators and training – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
2. St John's Ambulance is requesting £500 towards first aid training for 300 pupils of primary and secondary school age in Pewsey – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
3. Burbage Village Hall Trust is requesting £488 towards a surface to help older people navigate the steps – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
4. Grafton Parish War Memorial Area Renovation is requesting £2,500 towards improvements to the land around the war memorial – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
5. Great Bedwyn Village Hall is requesting £1,800 towards chairs and storage trolley for the village hall – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
6. Great Bedwyn Cricket Club is requesting £5,000 towards new cricket nets and surface – Officer recommendation is for members to consider this for approval.
7. Councillor Initiative – Cllr Stuart Wheeler is requesting £500 for the Campus Team's travel expenses based on 45 pence per mile, from this point forward. (see separate paper)

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.

Further information about each application and the Officer's comments can be found later on in this report.

## 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 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 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. The area board may want to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Local Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£49,132** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.6. In addition to CAGs and digital literacy 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.
- 1.7. In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2013/14 the Pewsey area board invites applications that encourage young people and people with disabilities to become more actively involved in sports, outdoor activities, recreation, arts and volunteering
- 1.8. Applications of up to and including £500 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £501 - £5,000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000. Grants of up to £500 are available for Digital Literacy projects.
- 1.9. New for 2013/14 is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants (CAG) and Digital Literacy grants, introduced to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process and funding criteria can be found [here](#).

- 1.10. Area boards will not consider 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.
- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.13. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete an evaluation form as soon as the project has been completed and provide receipts if requested. Groups are encouraged to up-load information and photographs about their project on to their area board [blogsite](http://pewsey.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk) ([pewsey.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk](http://pewsey.ourcommunitymatters.org.uk)). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	<p><u><a href="#">Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</a></u></p> <p>Pewsey Community Area Plan <u><a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/adopted-pewsey-ca-plan-2011-new-intro.pdf">http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/adopted-pewsey-ca-plan-2011-new-intro.pdf</a></u></p> <p>Outcome of 2012 Pewsey JSA event <u><a href="http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/notes-from-discussion-groups-pewsey-forward.pdf">http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/notes-from-discussion-groups-pewsey-forward.pdf</a></u></p>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Pewsey Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£49,132** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and core funding for the CAP.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2013/2014 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.4. There are now four funding rounds remaining (including this one) during 2013/14. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:

- Friday 27 September 2013 for determination at the 11 November 2013 area board meeting
  - Friday 29 December 2013 for determination at the 13 January 2014 area board meeting
  - A date for the March meeting has not yet been set
- 2.5. On 9 May 2011 it was agreed that in respect of urgent matters and exceptional circumstances that may arise from time to time between meetings that the Pewsey Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Councillors of the Pewsey Area Board, be granted delegated authority to approve expenditure not exceeding £500 from the Pewsey Area Board budget. A report explaining any such decision and the reasons why it was considered to be urgent shall be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Pewsey Area Board.

### **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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. If all grants are awarded (including the £500 Councillor Initiative) Pewsey area board will have a balance of **£19,479**

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

## 8. Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Wilcot & Huish with Oare Parish Council	Contribution towards purchase of two defibrillators and training	£500

- 8.1.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £500 towards the defibrillator project is considered for approval with a condition that the match funding for at least one defibrillator has been confirmed before the funding is released
- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.
- 8.1.3. The total project costs are £6,000. The remainder of the funding is to be made up of contributions and private donations. £1400 is already confirmed, with £4,100 still sought.
- 8.1.4. Wilcot and Huish with Oare Parish Council do not have sufficient funds to pay for this project from its reserves. The latest accounts show total expenditure exceeds total income.
- 8.1.5. Given the ambulance response times in this rural location the parish council aims to install a community defibrillator in each of the 3 villages with support from the charity Community Heartbeat to liaise with the Ambulance Service and provide suitable units. One of the villages has a school and another is active with sports. There are also a number of older people.
- 8.1.6. As part of building safer and more resilient communities by providing life saving equipment and first aid skills to rural communities where ambulance response times are 30 minutes plus, these units provide a life saving chance for anyone in the locality that may suffer from a heart attack. This includes residents and visitors as these units are accessed via the 999 service and will be accessible 24/7. This also supports promoting health and social care as elderly residents will have access to a defibrillator should they have a need, rather than having to wait for a paramedic or ambulance. This program will also be used to encourage participation on First Aid Courses or volunteering as a first responder.
- 8.1.7. Monitoring will be by way of recording interest and engagement shown by residents and local groups for this project via fundraising activities. By recording the number of times the units are used via the ambulance service and feeding this information back to the community via the parish newsletter.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	St John Ambulance	First aid training to Pewsey secondary and primary age children	£500

8.2.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £500 towards this project is considered for approval.

8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14

8.2.3. The total project costs are £500.

8.2.4. The project is to train 300 local students in Primary Survey, Patient Care and Communication, Resuscitation.

8.2.5. This grant will form part of the National aim to teach life saving skills to young people.

8.2.6. Accounts quoted (in the application) are national figures. Surplus is required for development of St John Ambulance and maintaining of fleet, as well as support of NHS services at major incidents or support of events for charitable output.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Burbage Village Hall Trust	To install a surface to help older people navigate the steps	£488

8.3.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £488 for works outlined above is considered for approval.

8.3.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14

8.3.3. The total project costs are £488.

8.3.4. The steps at the front main entrance are currently covered in tiles which are slippery especially when wet or icy. Many users of the hall are old, infirm, and children. The trust needs to increase the standard of this entrance to ensure the safety of all users of the hall.

8.3.5. The Committee has considered several different mediums to improve the safety of this surface and have decided upon an abrasive composite covering which can be securely fixed to the current surface and includes a highly visible edge marked in yellow.

8.3.6. The trust is currently working towards Community First Hallmark 2 status.

- 8.3.7. Any Villager or visitor who uses the hall will benefit from the increased safety that the new step covering will give people entering, or leaving, the hall. However, a high proportion of the regular users of the hall are old, infirm and children.
- 8.3.8. The Village Hall is next door to the British Legion club and visitors to the joint frontage can easily use the steps without a formal booking.
- 8.3.9. In addition to all the hall users recently one of the village defibrillator's has been sited close to the hall steps and users may walk on the steps when arriving at the hall.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Grafton Parish War Memorial Area Renovation	To improve the area around the memorial	£2,500

- 8.4.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £2,500 towards this project be considered, with a condition that the match funding is in place before funds are released
- 8.4.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14
- 8.4.3. The total project costs are £5,000. The remainder of the funding is sought from the Parish Council, the sale of a memorial book, and the Parochial Church Council
- 8.4.4. To improve and significantly enhance the area surrounding the Parish War Memorial bearing the names of the 'Men of Grafton' who lost their lives in two world wars.
- 8.4.5. The project will benefit all of the people from the five scattered villages of Grafton Parish and especially their children; the next of kin of those whose names are honoured on the Memorial; plus visitors to the Parish and worshippers at its Church.
- 8.4.6. Maintenance will be provided by the Parish Council.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Great Bedwyn Village Hall and Memorial Playing Fields Charity	Great Bedwyn Village Hall chairs and chair storage	£1,800

- 8.5.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £1,800 towards the purchase of new chairs and storage be considered for approval.

- 8.5.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14
- 8.5.3. The total project costs are £3,655. £1,700 match funding has been confirmed (Great Bedwyn Pantomime Society and Great Bedwyn Parish Council. £155 remains to be sought.
- 8.5.4. Great Bedwyn Village Hall and Memorial Playing Fields committee are seeking to update the seating arrangements in this well used busy village hall. The project is for the purchase of two new moveable, low hung trolleys to hold 90 folding and hanging, padded chairs and make some adjustments to the configuration of a storage room to store these chairs in the most space efficient way. This will enable better use of limited storage areas at the hall to make more room in other areas for regular hirers to store their equipment. The seating system is quicker to put out and pack away and provides enough padded, comfortable chairs to improve the experience of hall users when attending events such as monthly Movieola showings and the Pantomime Society productions.
- 8.5.5. The reserves are the only funds the committee has available for maintaining the village hall and the Memorial Playing Field. Rebuilt in 1982, the village hall requires constant upkeep and maintenance. The Memorial Playing field site is also managed by the same committee and equally needs a reserve for maintenance. A reserve for any unforeseen costs that may arise on either site is vital e.g. felling of a memorial tree if necessary, loss of major rental income if a high user has to close.
- 8.5.6. The new seating project will benefit all users of Great Bedwyn Village hall. This includes villagers who hire the building for social uses - weddings, parties etc but mainly the many villagers who participate in the various clubs and activities that happen daily at the hall.
- 8.5.7. Great Bedwyn Village hall is now the only venue with large hall space in the village (pop. 1200) due to the closure of the British Legion building in May.
- 8.5.8. With such high use of the hall by weekly groups - (especially the thriving village Playgroup and Toddlers which opens daily at the hall from 9-3) - maximising storage is crucial. This project includes removal of a small internal wall to increase space and improve access for the new trolleys and in turn free up space for any new hall users equipment.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Great Bedwyn Cricket Club	Cricket Nets and Surface	£5,000

- 8.6.1. It is the Officers recommendation that an award of £5,000 for this project is considered for approval.
- 8.6.2. Great Bedwyn Cricket Club require a new cricket net and matting



equipment because the existing facility which has served the club for over 10 years has fallen into disrepair and can be quite dangerous to users. In order to attract new players to the club it is important that the club has good training and practice facilities. Over the last year the club has struggled to find new players because of the lack of this facility.

- 8.6.3. The total project costs are £16,294. The remainder of the funding will be met by club reserves.
- 8.6.4. The £35,000 reserves are to go towards a new cricket pavilion which is likely to cost in excess of £175,000. The club is prepared to spend £11294 of this reserve for the nets as there is an urgent need.
- 8.6.5. The disappearance of other longstanding local sports teams (for example football and bowls) has been a matter of much local disappointment. The cricket club on the other hand has not only survived but flourished, supported especially by the less wealthy families who have long lived in the area. The spirit which has enabled recent league successes has been especially notable amongst the younger members of the club. The new net will add to the cricketing facilities and wider community involvement.
- 8.6.6. The club has a pool of about 50 adult/teenage players, and would like to recruit more, but, despite the enthusiasm of those currently playing so well, newcomers are being put off by the primitive facilities.

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Grant Application – <a href="http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&amp;MId=7446&amp;Ver=4">http://cms.wiltshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=177&amp;MId=7446&amp;Ver=4</a>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

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