

Report to	Amesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	19 September 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

(a) To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to:

1. Newton Tony Memorial Hall Accessible Toilet - award £1,620 for a new accessible toilet with baby changing facilities.
2. Idmiston Parish Council's Jubilee Walk Renovations – award £4,907.06 towards the cost of footpath renovations.
3. 6th Wiltshire Kiwi Scout Group – award £500 for a start up costs.
4. Langfords Youth Group – award £500 as a contribution to the purchase of new first aid kits and a music system
5. Gomeldon Primary School Centenary Path – award £500 for the purchase of blank blocks and to assist with installation costs.

(b) To ask councillors to note the grants approved as urgent since the July 2013 board meeting (each were granted £500)

1. Bourne Valley Explorer Scouts (set up costs)
2. Durrington Otters Summer Holiday Swimming Sessions
3. Amesbury Air Cadets New Minibus
4. Porton Football Club – New Goal Posts

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. Amesbury of Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£82,361** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. In 2013/14 only capital funding is available for community area and digital literacy grants.
- 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 Amesbury 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](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	<p><u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</u></p> <p>Amesbury Area's Community Plan Priorities</p> <p><u>Amesbury Area Joint Strategic Assessment.</u></p>
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Amesbury Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£82,361** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and funding support for community planning activities.
- 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 4 funding rounds remaining during 2013/14.

Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:

- 8 August 2013 for consideration on 19 September 2013
- 10 October 2013 for consideration on 21 November 2013
- 19 December 2013 for consideration on 30 January 2014
- 13 February 2014 for consideration on 27 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 Amesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in accordance with officer recommendations Amesbury area board will have a balance of £40,553.94.

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.	Newton Tony Memorial Hall Committee	New Accessible Toilet & Baby Changing Facilities	£1,620

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that Newton Tony Memorial Hall Committee is awarded £1,620 towards the costs of installing a new accessible toilet and baby changing facilities.

- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2013/14, and cannot be funded in full by the Hall Committee's reserves. The Committee has committed £2,000 to this project, but needs to keep back £1,000 for maintenance and contingencies.
- 8.1.3. The Committee has been working on the plans for this project for a number of years now, and has had to significantly modify its plans to reach a more affordable solution. Whilst the new toilet and facilities are not a legal requirement, the committee considers that this addition to the hall meets with its "duty of care" to the village and wider community.
- 8.1.4. The total cost of the project is just over £4,000 and the works are being assisted by local volunteers, a local plumber and builder. Instead of building on a new section to the hall (which would have cost well over £20,000), the committee has agreed a modified plan with the building control officer, to split the gents in two and use half for the new accessible toilet.
- 8.1.5. Local people and visitors to the village with disabilities, and families, will all benefit from this new facility, as will all clubs and groups (including the local pre school) which use the hall.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Idmiston Parish Council	Jubilee Walk Renovations	£4,907.06

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that Idmiston Parish Council is awarded a grant of £4,907.06, as a contribution to the costs of renovating the Jubilee Walk footpath.
- 8.2.2. The Parish Council created the walk as a nature walk for the parish to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Despite ongoing maintenance, the path now needs substantial renovations to bring it up to a standard for locals, visitors, schools and clubs to enjoy. The project will completely renovate the pathway from the bottom of The Avenue to Winterslow Rd.
- 8.2.3. The Parish currently runs a small deficit on its precept and money from its reserves is prioritised for the purchase and development of The Bourne Cemetery site.
- 8.2.4. The total cost of the project is just under £10,000, the Area Board is requested to provide 50% of the costs with the remaining 50% being funded by the Parish Council.

8.2.5. Improvement and facilitation of optimum use of local footpaths is a major priority for Wiltshire Council and many local parish councils, helping to enhance the sense of place, the quality of the environment, and the general sense of health and wellbeing.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	6 th Wiltshire Kiwi Baden Powell Scout Group	Start Up of new Scout Group	£500

8.3.1. Officers recommend that, subject to the receipt of further information, this new Scout Group is awarded £500 to pay for tentage, promotional and cooking items to help it set up and provide additional scouting opportunities for both the military and civilian population of Bulford.

8.3.2. The total cost of set up is £1,000, and the remaining 50% of the set up costs will be paid for from membership fees and fundraising. This is a new group with no reserves as yet.

8.3.3. Without going into great detail, Baden Powell Scout Group's are different from Groups governed by the Scout Association. The former claims to adhere to the more traditional scouting principles. Nonetheless, the different scouting factions are proud to promote joint working.

8.3.4. Further information on this application will be made available to the board prior to the meeting on the 19th September.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Langford's Youth Group	New First Aid Kits and Music System	£500

8.4.1. Officers recommend that the Langford's Youth Group is awarded £500 to pay for new first aid kits (one for the village hall which serves as the current base for the group, and one to take on trips) and a new music system.

8.4.2. This is one of the requests which came to the July 2013 board meeting, when local youth groups were asked to bid for some funds remaining from 2012/13.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Gomeldon Primary School	Centenary Path	£500

- 8.5.1. Officers recommend that Gomeldon Primary School is awarded £500 to pay for materials to complete the new centenary path.
- 8.5.2. The total cost of the path is £1,350, and the School is unable to support the total costs from its reserves because it needs to retain certain funds for staffing contingencies.
- 8.5.3. The school celebrated 100 years in January 2013 and to mark the occasion the Governors made a decision to lay a path of blocks bearing the names of pupils and staff. The parents have bought the blocks that will be engraved, but additional blank blocks and the cost of laying the path needs also to be met.
- 8.5.4. The school governors have waived their expenses to raise £350 for the path, £500 has been secured from the local grocery store – Nisa, and the board is asked to contribute £500.

Appendices	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Newton Tony Hall Committee Appendix 2 Grant Application- Idmiston Parish Council Appendix 3 Grant Application – 6 th Bulford BP Kiwi Scouts Appendix 4 Grant Application – Gomeldon Primary School
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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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