

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Malmesbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>6 November 2013</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider the following officer recommendations:

1. Sherston Magna Cricket Club – award £5,000 capital towards the installation of twin bay full length synthetic grass outdoor cricket training nets, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
2. 1st Malmesbury Scout Group – award £483 capital towards loft insulation at St Mary’s Hall, Malmesbury.
3. Community First – consider an application seeking £2,002 revenue towards an additional service to be provided by the local Good Neighbour Co-ordinator designed to help older vulnerable people stay warm, well and safe during the winter months.
4. The area board consider a councillor led project application requesting £4,000 capital to enable topographical surveys to be undertaken of Station Yard and Cross Hayes car parks.
5. To approve officer delegated authority of £415 revenue funding to pay for Health & Safety training for volunteers to help run the Skater Kids Club for primary school aged children from across the community area .
6. To launch a Young People’s Intergenerational Project 2013/14, making £5,000 available for projects.

## **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 wish 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. In 2013/14 Malmesbury Area Board was allocated a budget of **£53,138** 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. Applications of up to and including £500 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which do 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.
- 1.8. A ring-fenced budget of £1,500 has been provided specifically for Digital Literacy Grants, although the area board may spend more. Up to £500 per project is available for capital 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 provide recommendations, however the decision to support applications is made by Malmesbury area board councillors.
- 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 the [Malmesbury & Villages – Our Community Matters blogsite](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	<a href="#">Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</a> <a href="#">Area Board Grants Scheme 2013/14 – information and criteria</a> <a href="#">Digital Literacy Grants 2013/14</a> <a href="#">Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Plan 2009-2013</a> Minutes of the 4 September 2013 Malmesbury area board
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. At the 3 July 2013 area board £8,118 revenue funding was allocated to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Partnership and £5,000 capital awarded to Minety Village hall, leaving a total balance of **£40,020** to be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants and Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives
- 2.2. At the 4 September area board £418 capital was awarded to Little Somerford Short Mat Bowls Club and £3,154 revenue was returned to the area board, leaving a capital budget of **£34,743**, (plus a further £1,500 for digital literacy grants) and a revenue balance of **£9,513** (includes £3,000 ring fenced legacy funding).
- 2.3. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. There are 2 funding rounds remaining in 2013/14. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:
- **22 November 2013 for consideration at 15 January 2014**
  - 24 January 2014 for consideration at 5 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 Malmesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If funding is awarded in accordance with officer recommendations Malmesbury area board will have **£25,260 capital** (excluding the digital literacy grant) and **£2,096 revenue**.
- 4.3. If the area board agree to fund Community First's, 'A Winter's Journey' project, it will mean that some of the ring-fenced revenue MVCAP Legacy funding will be used.

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

#### **8. Officer Recommendations**

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Sherston Magna Cricket Club	Twin bay full length synthetic grass outdoor cricket training nets	£ 5,000

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that Sherston Magna Cricket Club is awarded £5,000 capital funding towards the cost of installing twin bay full length synthetic grass outdoor cricket training nets, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

- 8.1.3. The applicant is requesting less than 25% of the total cost of the project from the area board, contributing approximately 50% from their own funds/fundraising and applying elsewhere for the balance.
- 8.1.4. The Malmesbury and the Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 lists the need to have affordable activities for young adults and families, engagement of young people in community life/activities, while young people stated they wanted more activities for teenagers – especially in the villages.
- 8.1.5. The training nets would particularly help the junior sections of the club and new members, especially those returning to the game, as well as retaining current members. It is hoped that these new facilities will help the club grow to its full potential and harness the enthusiasm that appears to blossoming throughout all levels.
- 8.1.6. Sherston Magna CC provides the cricketing focus for Sherston and 10 villages including Luckington, Sopworth, Didmarton, Badminton, Hullavington, Norton, Shipton Moyne, Grittleton, Alderton, Westonbirt and Leighterton; four of which fall within the Malmesbury community area . These villages have limited access to cricket facilities and Sherston is the major focal point for cricket in this area.
- 8.1.7. The club is flourishing with a Saturday and Sunday sides, a junior section with over 50 members and a burgeoning ladies side. The U13 team had their first league season this year and next year the club aims to enter an U11 and U15 team as well. Two coaches (one an ex England International) have helped to increase membership and provide a strategic direction for the club.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	1st Malmesbury Scout Group	Loft insulation at St Mary's Hall, Malmesbury.	£483

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that 1st Malmesbury Scout Group is awarded £483 capital towards loft insulation at St Mary's Hall, Malmesbury.
- 8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.
- 8.2.3. The Malmesbury and the Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 lists the need to provide facilities other than the town hall for events and activities.
- 8.2.4. The hall is used by a wide variety of community (most children's) groups and charges modest hire charges.
- 8.2.5. The hall is very cold in the winter and heating bills substantial. In an attempt to improve the situation additional insulation of 200mm is to be installed by volunteers to supplement the 100mm currently in place. This action will help to reduce carbon emissions by saving fuel, while at the same time making the

hall a more comfortable environment for its many user groups.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Community First	A Winter's Journey- helping vulnerable and older people keep warm, well and safe	£2,005

- 8.3.1. Community First – consider awarding £2,002 revenue towards an additional service to be provided by the local Good Neighbour Coordinator, designed to help older vulnerable people stay warm, well and safe during the winter months across the Malmesbury community area.
- 8.3.2. This application does not meet the grant criteria 2013/14 as it is providing a salary to increase the role of the local Good Neighbour Coordinator between November 2013 and March 2014.
- 8.3.3. The Malmesbury and the Villages Community Plan 2009-2013 lists the need to provide support for the elderly and vulnerable people to be cared for in their own homes.
- 8.3.4. The project will support about 200 older people through presentations and publicity with intensive support to an additional 15 older, vulnerable people in the area to ensure that they can stay warm, healthy and engaged at a time when they are at their most vulnerable.
- 8.3.5. Practical support will be provided which might include how they can save money on their energy bills including giving plenty of practical energy saving tips for around the house. Regular follow up is provided which might include essential shopping during bad weather and organising transport for medical appointments.
- 8.3.6. Promotional activity throughout the community area will highlight the importance of staying warm, well and active which will be targeted specifically to the over 60's. Through a combination of presentations at local clubs and events and articles in local publications, information and advice about staying warm and healthy and who to contact for additional support will be provided.
- 8.3.7. The ability to be able to fund this project only arises because revenue funding was returned to the area board in September for a project which did not take place.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Cllr. John Thomson	Topographical surveys of Station Yard and Cross	£4,000

		Hayes Car Parks	
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- 8.4.1. The area board to consider a councillor led project requesting £4,000 capital to undertake topographical surveys of Station Yard and Cross Hayes car parks.
- 8.4.2. A topographical survey provides an accurate electronic model of exactly what is on the ground, picking up kerb lines, drainage gullies, street furniture etc. It will also give level and contour information of the ground itself. The value of the survey is that it will ensure what is subsequently designed will work in practice. The survey for Station Yard car park will also include the approach road.
- 8.4.3. Councillor led funding applications are designed to address 'sticky issues' identified through the area board community issues process or where there is a significant community need identified. This proposal meets these criteria addressing the desire to see how the Cross Hayes car park might be reconfigured to accommodate more vehicles and the Station Yard car park may be examined to find ways in which it and the approach road might be redesigned to discourage anti-social behaviour.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Officer delegation	Health & Safety Training.	£415

- 8.5.1. To approve officer delegated authority of £415 revenue funding to pay for Health & Safety training for volunteers to help run the Skater Kids Club for primary school aged children from across the community area .
- 8.5.2. Officer Delegation was approved by Malmesbury area Board on 10 November 2010).
- 8.5.3. At the Malmesbury skatepark opening there was a demand from primary school aged children to use the skatepark. It was agreed that as this fell outside the remit and capacity of the Youth Development Service to provide, (plus the need to separate larger and smaller children), this could go ahead where volunteers could be found to run the sessions.
- 8.5.4. To date parents of primary aged children are sought to help deliver this programme. The Youth Development Service has agreed to manage the CRB checks, while area board members felt they could assist by providing the Health & Safety training.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Area Board	Young People's Intergenerational Project 2013/14	£5,000

- 8.6.1. Officers recommend the launch of the 2013/14 Young People's Intergenerational Project fund which invites projects up to £2,000 to be received no later than 7 February 2014, for consideration at the 5 March 2014 area board.
- 8.6.2. Following the approach adopted last year when young people were encouraged to take the project lead but involve adults, as supporters, helpers, educators or beneficiaries; the area board feel they would like to repeat this style in 2013/14.
- 8.6.3. Those applicants meeting the funding criteria will be invited to present their project proposals to the area board on 5 March and using a participative budgeting approach the community will vote for and chose the projects which will receive funding.
- 8.6.4. Funding packs will be available from the [Malmesbury area board webpage](#) as well as the Malmesbury Our Community Matters website following this meeting.

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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