

Report to	Marlborough Area Board
Date of Meeting	26 November 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to:

1. **Baydon Young People's Association, Baydon** – requested £398 towards indoor trestle tables and table trolley for storage. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
2. **MINAL PLAY, Mildenhall** – requested £5,000 towards creating a outdoors meeting area and playground for all ages of the village, where families can spend time in together. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
3. **The Merchant's House, Marlborough** – requested £1,551 towards restoration of the window in the Main Stairwell of the 17th century house. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
4. **Kennet Valley Village Hall, Lockeridge** – requested £600 towards replacing the hall's emergency lighting with new, efficient and low maintenance LED units. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
5. **Kennet Valley Driving Group, Ogbourne Maisey** – requested £475.20 towards new driving equipment that will allow more users to drive carriages more safely. Recommendation: Meets Criteria
6. **Marlborough Sports Club (Cricket and Hockey)** – requested £5,000 towards new kitchen, catering and dining facilities at the Club's Pavilion. Recommendation: Meets Criteria

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. Links to these electronic documents can be found below.
- 1.5. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£55,422** 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 Marlborough 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. Recipients of grants are also asked to come back to future area board meetings to provide a verbal update on their project to spread good practice and encourage other applicants. Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	<u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</u>
	<u>Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17</u>
	<u>Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Marlborough, 2011</u>

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£55,422** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board / Councillor Led Initiatives.
- 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 three funding rounds remaining during 2013/14, including this meeting. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications to be considered at future area board meetings are as follows:

- 13 January 2014 for consideration on 28 January 2014
- 10 March 2014 for consideration on 25 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 Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in accordance with officer recommendations Marlborough Area Board will have a balance of **£29,105**

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	Recommendation
8.1.	Baydon Young People's Association	Indoor trestle tables and table trolley	£398	Meets Criteria

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that Baydon Young People's Association (BYPA) is awarded £398 towards the purchase of new trestle tables and a trolley for storage.
- 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. BYPA manages Baydon Young People’s Hall, a community facility within the village of Baydon. There has been an on-going programme of improvements to the hall including new windows funded by Marlborough Area Board in 2011/12. This application is part of a different application from earlier in 2013 for new internal and external seating and tables. Under earlier criteria, the internal tables were not eligible for funding but following changes can now be considered.
- 8.1.4. The new tables will become a useful asset to the hall and will make users better able to enjoy it. Consequently, this should encourage more hirers to make use of this facility, benefitting both BYPA and Baydon’s community.
- 8.1.5. Half of the funding for this project comes from the applicant’s own funds, showing their commitment to the project.
- 8.1.6. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including ‘recreation facilities and amenities for young people’ and ‘provision of safe social facilities for young people’ (p. 11) and ‘lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities’ (p. 18).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.2.	MINAL PLAY, Mildenhall	creating a meeting area and playground for all ages of the village	£5,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that MINAL PLAY is awarded £5,000 towards the creation of this new playground and meeting place.
- 8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.2.3. MINAL PLAY is a new organisation established to create this new facility for the village of Mildenhall. Their vision is for a special space which is a pleasant meeting place for all ages to get together. As well, they are looking to provide safe and fun play equipment for children as well as making it a pleasant, helpful area for families to spend time in together.
- 8.2.4. Mildenhall is a small village with very few locations or opportunities for people of all ages to get together and socialise. In particular, MINAL PLAY is looking to create a space for young people to congregate and have fun with their friends instead of hanging around.
- 8.2.5. Marlborough Area Board’s contribution is a fairly small part of a costly project and MINAL PLAY’s ambition in attracting this level of funding should be recognised.
- 8.2.6. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan

concerning access to recreation amenities and facilities, particularly for young people and those from rural areas (p.10-11, 18).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.3.	The Merchant's House, Marlborough	Restoration of the main staircase window	£1,551	Meets Criteria

- 8.3.1. Officers recommend that The Merchant's House is awarded £1,551 towards the restoration of the window.
- 8.3.2. This application meets grant criteria for 2013/14.
- 8.3.3. The Merchant's House, Marlborough is a rare 17th century house set in the High Street. The house itself contains many rare and important features and the Trust is working towards restoring and maintaining many parts of the building. The Trust requires a grant for the re-glazing of the main staircase window. This 338cm x 175cm window is of significance as it provides light to the first and second floor landings and the main staircase.
- 8.3.4. The Merchant's House is an important tourist attraction to Marlborough and the surrounding area and the Trust plays a role in promoting other tourism-related businesses in the area through their own mailings and brochures. This work will make an important improvement to this attraction, could increase visitors to it and play a part in boosting Marlborough's tourism economy.
- 8.3.5. This project meets issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including 'encouragement and support for tourism business' and 'provision of tourist and local information' (p. 8-9). Having this attraction in the centre of town also helps to 'maintain a vibrant and healthy High Street' (p. 17).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.4.	Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge	Upgrading emergency lighting system	£600	Meets Criteria

- 8.4.1. Officers recommend that Kennet Valley Hall is awarded £600 towards installing new, efficient and low-maintenance LED emergency lighting.
- 8.4.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.4.3. The emergency lighting in the Hall is old, unreliable and often requires maintenance. The KVH management committee therefore wish to upgrade all this emergency lighting by fitting LED units throughout. The result will be; greater reliability, better quality light, longer lasting and a proportional reduction in energy costs.

8.4.4. This is the latest project in a programme to upgrade facilities at the hall and at the same time reduce energy costs. Marlborough Area Board has already helped us with previous projects of this nature.

8.4.5. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including 'recreation facilities and amenities for young people' and 'provision of safe social facilities for young people' (p. 11) and 'lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities' (p. 18).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.5.	Kennet Valley Driving Group	New equipment for safe carriage driving	£475.20	Meets Criteria

8.5.1. Officers recommend that Kennet Valley Driving Group is awarded £475.20 towards new driving equipment that will allow more users to drive carriages with this group more safely.

8.5.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.5.3. Kennet Valley Driving Group is an established RDA organisation delivering carriage driving courses for disabled users. They require new seat belts and booster seats to strap in disabled drivers and give them a more comfortable and safe experience. This will allow more users the chance to experience carriage driving for themselves.

8.5.4. The aim of the group is to allow as many people as possible to enjoy the pleasure of driving a horse and carriage. Driving a pony and carriage gives the participant the feeling of freedom from their disability. The ability to move about and to control that movement. With three carriages and volunteers scheduled to facilitate this activity several times a week as well as putting on special days for groups, the KVDG could deliver driving sessions to as many as 100 disabled participants per annum.

8.5.5. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan concerning access to recreation amenities and facilities, particularly for young people and those from rural areas (p.10-11, 18). It also meets the Council's aims of supporting the Olympic and Paralympic legacy by encouraging young people and people with disabilities to become more actively involved in sports and outdoor activities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.6.	Marlborough Sports Club (Cricket and Hockey)	Creation of new, after-match catering facilities	£5,000	Meets Criteria

8.6.1. Officers recommend that Marlborough Sports Club is awarded £5,000

towards creating new catering facilities for after-match refreshments at their Pavilion.

- 8.6.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.6.3. The Marlborough Sports Club is an umbrella organisation formed to run and manage the Sports Pavilion used by the Marlborough Cricket Club and Marlborough Hockey Club. In the winter, up to 8 hockey teams use the pavilion for after match refreshment on Saturdays between 11 am and 12.30 and in the summer, the cricket club use the pavilion for teas in the week and at weekends for 2 teams.
- 8.6.4. Marlborough Sports Club pavilion is now over 20 years old and has only basic kitchen equipment which is proving inadequate for providing hot meals after sports matches, which is something players enjoy and now come to expect. This project will provide a modernised kitchen that is able to provide decent catering for sports events as well as other social events taking place at the pavilion. There will also be new tables and chairs for the pavilion as well as redecoration to complete the ability to provide catering for a range of purposes
- 8.6.5. This project could meet several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including 'access to sports facilities' 'recreation facilities and amenities for young people' and 'sports and leisure facilities' (p. 10-11, 18).

Appendices	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Baydon Young People's Assoc. Appendix 2 Grant Application – MINAL PLAY Appendix 3 Grant Application – The Merchant's House Appendix 4 Grant Application – Kennet Valley Village Hall Appendix 5 Grant Application – Kennet Valley Driving Group Appendix 6 Grant Application – Marlborough Sports Club
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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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