

Report to	Calne Area Board
Date of Meeting	10 December 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider the following officer recommendations:

1. Calne Town Council – award £3,335 towards CCTV coverage at Calne Skate Park, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
2. FC Calne – award £700 towards Football dug outs, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. Calne Community Area Partnership – award £600 towards a project that will encourage/develop parenting skills and provide an introduction to literacy, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
4. To extend the deadline of a grant previously awarded to the CAYPIG with reference to the Bowl Project until March 31st 2013.

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 Calne Area Board was allocated a budget of **£58,112** 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. 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 Calne 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 [calne.ourcommunitymatters blogsite](#) . Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</p>	<p>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</p> <p>Area Board Grants Scheme 2013/14 – information and criteria</p> <p>Digital Literacy Grants 2013/14</p> <p>Calne Community Area Plan 1999 - 2014</p> <p>Wiltshire Joint Strategic Assessment 2011</p> <p>‘Experiences of Poverty & Educational Disadvantage’ and ‘How much do affluence and disadvantage influence educational attainment?’ – Joseph Rowntree Foundation 2007 (www.jrf.org.uk)</p>
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. There is 1 funding round remaining in 2013/14. Deadline for receipt of funding applications is as follows:
 - **23 December 2013 for consideration on 4 February 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 Calne Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded and retained in accordance with officer recommendations Calne area board will have a balance **£40,812**

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.	Calne Town Council	CCTV - Calne Skate Bowl	£3,335

8.1.1. Officers recommend that Calne Town Council is awarded a grant of £3,335 towards a camera and cabling that will link into an existing inventory of CCTV cameras. This award should be made conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

8.1.3. The Town Council is contributing 50% of the cost of this project.

8.1.4. The project has been developed in response to community concerns about anti-social and criminal behaviour incidents in the vicinity.

8.1.5. Young people, the local neighbourhood police team and antisocial behaviour officers from Wiltshire Council have been involved in plans to develop this project and are in agreement that it may assist in addressing community concerns and creating a safer environment for all local residents, children and young people who use the facility.

8.1.6. The ongoing maintenance and costs of this project will be undertaken as part of the Town Councils existing inventory of 5 static and 8 moveable CCTV cameras.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	FC Calne	Football dug outs	£700

8.2.1. Officers recommend that FC Calne is awarded a grant of £700 towards a project to provide football dug outs, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

8.2.3. The application relates to the Calne Community Area Plan through assisting the provision of activities for children and young people and to Area Board themes around children and young people; health, life style and well being; sport, play and recreation.

8.2.4. FC Calne has over 300 young players playing football from under six to under seventeen/eighteen. The dug outs will be used to keep the young players dry and warm during matches.

8.2.5. The dug outs will be used every weekend during league/cup matches.

8.2.6. Calne Town Council is providing match funding for this project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Calne Community Area Partnership	Story Jam	£600

8.3.1. Officers recommend that Calne Community Area Partnership is awarded a grant of £600 towards the Story Jam project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.3.2. CCAP is awaiting a decision from Greensquare to confirm their contribution of the remaining 50% of the cost of this project.

8.3.3. The project is aimed at parents of pre-school children and is designed to encourage and enthuse parents around notions of stories as valuable sharing experiences for them and their children, to break patterns and challenge perceptions of books and reading as boring, inaccessible or difficult.

8.3.4. The project addresses issues in the Calne Community Area Plan, providing positive activities for young people and children and also ensuring that opportunities are available to all members of the community in an environment that encourages them to take part.

- 8.3.5. The project also addresses issues that are identified in the Joint Strategic Assessment for Wiltshire (2011) with specific regard to the Calne Community Area:
- 2 wards (Abberd & Priestly) feature in the 10% most deprived in Wiltshire
 - An above average % of children are living in poverty
 - Education results are below national averages
- 8.3.6. In a report on the experiences of poverty and educational disadvantage, by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF), it is recognised that 'children growing up in poverty and disadvantage are less likely to do well at school. This feeds into disadvantage in later life' ... and this in turn perpetuates a circle of poverty and disadvantage through generations of family which could be linked outwards to other issues that are experienced in the Community Area such as higher than average numbers of people receiving out of work benefits, and incidents of perceived anti social behaviour.
- 8.3.7. The JRF also recognises that children from poorer backgrounds face much less advantageous 'early childhood caring environments' than children from better-off families. For example, compared with children from better-off backgrounds, there are significant differences in poorer children's and their mothers':
- health and well-being (e.g. birth-weight, breastfeeding, and maternal depression);
 - family interactions (e.g. mother–child closeness);
 - the home learning environment (e.g. reading regularly to the child); and parenting styles and rules (e.g. regular bed-times and meal-times).
- 8.3.8. It is generally recognised that there is a link between confidence, self esteem and literacy skills and that children who are not exposed to books and stories in pre-school years find learning to read a more onerous and less relevant task.
- 8.3.9. The project has been developed so far with advice and input from the Community Librarian and the Calne Children's Centre.
- 8.3.10. The project would include six sessions, based on a key book. Each session would be fun and interactive; using games, arts and crafts, song, food and reading aloud to bring the story, key words and key letters to life for the children and the young parents.
- 8.3.11. This project will be facilitated by Pageturners a locally based group that uses humour, art, drama and creative activities to promote reading for pleasure and encourages ideas of books as fun. Each participant will be given a copy of the book they are discovering and will develop a story sack of props that will help them to keep the story alive at home. They will also be provided with an opportunity to engage with their local library and get enthusiastic about developing reading skills.

8.3.12. This project will be open to everyone in the community area with pre-school aged children but will be targeted at, and is hoped will be of particular interest to, people who are in specific need of encouragement to develop parenting skills and discover the advantages of sharing stories with young children.

8.3.13. It is hoped that, upon the successful completion of this project, local volunteers will continue to engage with existing and new participants in the form of a 'story club'. With this in sight the project will involve volunteers from the start in order that they will develop skills and knowledge from the professional facilitator and will also develop a tool kit for future use.

8.3.14. An award to this project will cover 50% of the cost of the programme.

8.4. On 14th February 2012, Calne Area Board granted an award to the CAYPIG in relation to the Calne Bowl Project. On 11th June this year Councillors agreed to extend the deadline for starting the project to December 2013. The Area Board has been asked to consider extending this deadline once more to accommodate a delay in appointing contractors.

8.4.1. Officers recommend that this deadline be extended to 31st March 2014 but suggest the applicant is advised that, if the project is not underway at that point, the award should be returned and a funding application be resubmitted for future consideration.

9. Community groups are encouraged to make funding applications to the area board for support. The Community Area Manager, Jane Vaughan, is happy to help potential applicants.

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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