

Report to	Westbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	12 December 2013
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider two funding applications to the community area grants fund scheme and six councillor led project bids:

1. Two applications seeking Community Area Grant Funding (appendix 1)

- 1.1 BA13 Community Area Partnership - is seeking £4,700 towards annual running costs
- 1.2 Bratton Pre School – is seeking £1150 towards the creation of a shaded area and storage shed

2. Six councillor led project bids

- 2.1 Child and Parent/Carer activity sessions – £1200.
- 2.2 Design and set up of a website for Westbury Heritage - £1153
- 2.3 Specialist finance/debt training and laptop for use by Crosspoint volunteers - £1305
- 2.4 Replacement of heritage road sign - £800
- 2.5 Installation of lighting on footpath adjacent to Matravers - £2000
- 2.6 Purchase of computer equipment to enable Silver Surfers group - £1000

TOTAL Funding Requests: £13,308

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 (5th 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 emphasis in the Coalition Government's 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.

Westbury Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of £49,091

- 1.4. for community grants, digital literacy projects, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £500 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £500 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (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.
- 1.7. In addition to CAGs, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.10. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.

- 1.11. The 2013/2014 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areboards/areboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>
- 1.12. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2013/14 as presented for delegated decision • BA13 Community Area Plan • Westbury Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2013/14 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be one further round of funding during 2013/2014:
- 6 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 Westbury Area Board.
- 4.2. The Westbury grants funding currently stands at £45,318. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Westbury Area Board will have a balance of £32,010.

4.3. All awards are subject to the condition that no payment will be made until all other funding has been confirmed.

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 councils 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 are outlined within section 8 – Officer Recommendations.

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	BA13 Community Area Partnership	Running costs	£4700

8.1.1. It is the officer's recommendation that this project is considered for approval.

8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.1.0	Bratton Pre School	Funding towards creation of a shaded area and a storage facility	£1150

9.1.1. It is the officer's recommendation that this application is considered for approval.

9.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2013/14

9.1.3. The intention is to create a new shaded area in the garden to give children a safe and versatile area out of the sun and rain by building a wooden gazebo area. This area will be a great place to learn and play, as it will be used as an outside classroom, stage and sensory area. The existing storage shed would be replaced and raised flower beds constructed to give the opportunity to grow plants and vegetables. The garden is also used by many other local groups such as Brownies, church fetes and parties, all these other groups will benefit from the project.

10.Councillor Led Applications

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
10.1	Cllr Gordon King	Child and Parent/Carer activity sessions	£1200.

10.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve 'sticky' community issues and/or projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

10.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

10.Councillor Led Applications

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
11.1	Cllr Russell Hawker	Design and set up of a website for Westbury Heritage Society	£1153

11.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve 'sticky' community issues and/or

projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

11.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
12.1	Cllr David Jenkins	Specialist finance/debt training and laptop for use by Crosspoint volunteers	£1305

12.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve ‘sticky’ community issues and/or projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

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- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

12.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
13.1	Cllr Russell Hawker	Replacement of heritage road sign	£800

13.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve ‘sticky’ community issues and/or projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is

possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

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13.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
14.1	Cllr Gordon King	Installation of lighting on footpath adjacent to Matravers	£2000

14.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve ‘sticky’ community issues and/or projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

14.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

Ref	Submitted by	Project proposal	Funding requested
15.1	Cllr David Jenkins	Purchase of computer equipment to enable Silver Surfers group	£1000

15.1.1 Councillor led projects should address or resolve ‘sticky’ community issues and/or projects and initiatives which have been identified by the community as priorities. It should not be used to fill gaps where there are service shortfalls or where it is

possible for them to be resolved through use of the Area Grant funding scheme. Grants will not normally exceed £5,000. The Board will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

15.1.2 It is recommended the Area Board considers this project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget.

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