

Report to	Trowbridge Area Board
Date of Meeting	16 January 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding Applications

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider six funding applications to the community area grants fund scheme and one Councillor led project bid:

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

- 1.1 Trowbridge Sea Cadets Unit – to repair the unit roof - £1,000 requested
- 1.2 Trowbridge Sports Forum – to purchase a mini bus - £5,000 requested
- 1.3 West Wilts Model Railway Circle – to insulate roof in new clubroom and exhibition area - £345.70 requested
- 1.4 Wiltshire Mind - to purchase a new laptop for the Trowbridge Peer Support Social Group - £494 requested
- 1.5 Big Community Grow – to purchase a marquee for the Trowbridge Apple Festival – £1,000 requested
- 1.6 Mead Community School PTA – to purchase a new shed for the school gardening club - £500 requested

2. One councillor led project bid (appendix 1)

- 2.1 Councillor Graham Payne – Security & improvements to Trowbridge Park Bandstand - £5,000 requested

Total Amount requested = £13,339.70

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. The emphasis in 2013/14 will be that the Area Board funding will support volunteering, community involvement and addressing community priorities.

1.2 Trowbridge Area Board has a total budget for 2013/2014 of £113,785 for community area grants (CAGS), community area partnership (CAP) core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. Pursuant to the budget approved by full Council, the Area Board has a capital budget allocation of £92,036 for CAGS/Councillor led projects and Digital Literacy Fund grants and £21,749 for revenue funding including the CAP core funding. £47,107 has been allocated to date:

- £15,556 - TCAF CAP core funding
- £2,680 – TCAF – Lights Camera Action
- £1,500 – West Wiltshire Scouts – Equipment & secure store
- £500 - Wiltshire Youth Marching Band - new band instruments
- £2,850 - Gloucester Road Allotment Association – creation of paved pathway
- £3,000 – Friends of Newtown Primary School – to purchase equipment for the swimming pool
- £788 – BA14 Culture - Take the Lead (Pop) young peoples' performance project
- £483 – Monday Wednesday Club – to purchase storage equipment and woodwork materials
- £1,890 – Councillor led project – noise assessment for proposed Paxcroft mead Skatepark
- £6,500 - Councillor led project – to tarmac footpath of Boundary Walk
- £11,360 - Councillor led project – to purchase equipment and kitchen for Trowbridge Town Hall

This leaves a remaining budget total of **£66,683** to allocate in 2013/14.

1.3 Area Boards will be encouraged to develop ways of linking grant funding to locally agreed priorities emerging from the Joint Strategic Assessment, the local community plan or other relevant local evidence.

1.4 An on-line funding application process has been introduced for all applicants.

1.5 In 2013/14 up to £500 unmatched funding will be available to support small local projects. All applications for projects exceeding £500 will be expected to provide match funding (either in cash or in kind) to the value of a minimum of 50% of the total requested

1.6 In 2013/14 applications specifically for Wiltshire Online, Digital Literacy will be considered, with £1,500 being allocated to each area board and distributed through the community area grants process.

- 1.7 In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2013/14 the Area Boards will particularly welcome applications that encourage young people and people with disabilities to become more actively involved in sports, outdoor activities, recreation, arts and volunteering.
- 1.8 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.
- 1.9 In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria 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.
- 1.10 In addition to CAGs, 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.
- 1.11 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 ordinary Area Board meeting.
- 1.13 Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available to view on the Wiltshire Council web http://portal.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard_grants/grants_list.php
- 1.14 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.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report

- Area Board Grant Guidance 2013/14 as presented for delegated decision
- Technical Officers report

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.

3. Environmental Impact of the Proposals

3.1. Community Area Grants will 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 budget allocated to the Trowbridge Area Board. If the funding is allocated according to the recommendations in this report there will still be funding remaining in the budget for 2013/14.

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 Diversity Implications

7.1. Community Area Grants give local community and voluntary groups, an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 where appropriate.

8. Community Grant Applications

Applicant 8.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Sea Cadets Unit	To repair the unit roof	£1,000

8.1.1 The application meets the grant criteria and will encourage more young people to be involved in sporting activity.

8.1.2 The applicant is contributing over 50% of other funding towards the project.

8.1.3 **It is recommended that a grant of £1,000 is approved.**

Applicant 8.2	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Sports Forum	To purchase a mini bus	£5,000

8.2.1 The application meets the grant criteria and will encourage more people including young people to be involved in active sport.

8.2.2 The applicant is contributing over 50% of other funding towards the project.

8.2.3 The Council's sports development department is supportive of the application and believe it will benefit the local community

8.2.4 **It is recommended that a grant of £5,000 is approved.**

Applicant 8.3	Project summary	Funding requested
West Wilts Model Railway Circle	To insulate roof in new clubroom and exhibition area	£345.70

8.3.1 The application meets the grant criteria. As the new premises are in the Bradford on Avon community area the group has applied to both area boards as a joint application.

8.3.2 The applicant is contributing over 50% of other funding towards the project.

8.3.3 **It is recommended that a grant of £345.70 is approved.**

Applicant 8.4	Project summary	Funding requested
Wiltshire Mind	To purchase a new laptop for the Trowbridge Peer Support Social Group	£494

8.4.1 The application meets the grant criteria specifically from the Wiltshire Online, Digital Literacy fund,

8.4.2 The applicant is not contributing any funding towards the project.

8.4.3 **It is recommended that a grant of £494 is approved**

Applicant 8.5	Project summary	Funding requested
Big Community Grow	To purchase a marquee for the Trowbridge Apple Festival	£1,000

8.5.1 The application meets the grant criteria and will benefit the local community including children and young people.

8.5.2 The applicant is contributing over 50% of other funding towards the project.

8.5.3 **It is recommended that a grant of £1,000 is approved**

Applicant 8.6	Project summary	Funding requested
Mead Community School PTA	To purchase a new shed for the school gardening club	£500

8.6.1 The application meets the grant criteria and will specifically encourage children to be involved in outdoor activity.

8.6.2 The applicant is contributing 50% of other funding towards the project.

8.6.3 **It is recommended that a grant of £500 is approved**

9. Councillor Led Project Application

Applicant 9.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Submitted by Councillor Graham Payne	Security & improvements to Trowbridge Park Bandstand	£5,000

9.1.1 Councillors 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

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

10. Recommendations

10.1 It is recommended that the Area Board agrees to the recommendations for the Community Area Grant applications contained within paragraphs 8.1.3, 8.2.4, 8.3.3, 8.4.3, 8.5.3 & 8.6.3 of this report.

10.2 It is recommended that the Area Board makes a decision re allocating funding for the Councillor led project as outlined in paragraph 9.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Community Area Grant applications & Councillor led project bid
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