

Report to	Bradford on Avon Area Board
Date of Meeting	12 March 2014
Title of Report	Community Area Grant

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 1 application seeking 2013/14 Community Area Grant funding:

- i) Holt Pre-School requesting £ 353 for a new ipad**

1. Background

- 1.1 Area Boards have authority to approve Community Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 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 as to why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3 In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance, officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4 Bradford on Avon Area Board has been allocated a budget in 2013/2014 of £ 51, 075 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5 It has been decided that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce the volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council website and hard copies will be available upon request.
- 1.6 The funding criteria and application forms are available on the Council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12• Bradford on Avon Community Area Plan• Wiltshire Local Area Agreement
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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 five rounds of funding during 2013/14, this being the fifth.

3 Environmental & Community Implications

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 Area Boards budget allocated to the Bradford on Avon Area Board.

4.2 If grants are awarded in line with recommendations, Bradford on Avon Area Board will have a balance of £ 561 funding remaining in the grants budget for the 2013/14 financial year.

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 give all 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 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8 Officer Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Holt Pre-School	New Ipad	£ 353

8.1.1 This application meets the community area grant criteria for 2013/14.

8.1.2 The application demonstrates a link to the Bradford on Avon Community Plan and Wiltshire Local Area Agreement through its support for the local economy and community

and cultural development.

8.1.2 Holt Pre-School recently had to dispose of its computer after many years of use. They no longer have any computer facilities for the children and would love to purchase an ipad for them. They would use this as a learning tool through the use of educational apps to include phonics and also to familiarise the children with IT and modern technology.

8.1.3 The use of an ipad will allow all pre-school children to experience technology and learning in a fun, interactive way. The children will be able to choose and explore their own favourite apps from a large selection of preselected educational apps to ensure they have an individual, fully interactive experience with the technology during their allocated time. The ability to touch, move and explore everything they see will make the iPad a perfect learning tool for the preschoolers overall educational experience at preschool. The iPads will be used for learning the basics about letters, numbers, shapes and colours, as well as drawing and even composing music. Staff can also use it for interactive storytelling. The children can press the characters and see them move. The use of an ipad will allow all children within the community to become computer savvy regardless of their background or the IT facilities they have at home. It will allow all families within the community to have access to modern technology.

8.1.4 Holt Pre-believes that outdoor play is an essential part of the pre-school learning experience and they regularly spend time outdoors either within the pre-school / school grounds or during Forest School sessions. The use of an ipad will never replace outdoor time or time spent reading books or pens and paper. The use of an ipad will be monitored closely and parents will be kept up to date on their child's progress and they provide / be provided regular feedback reports.

8.1.5 This project would meet the objectives of the digital literacy programme to improve access to broadband for citizens and businesses in Wiltshire; to increase the uptake and usage of council on-line services; and to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to become digitally literate and confident users of technology.

Officers recommend that £ 353 is awarded to Holt Pre-School for an ipad

Appendices:	Grant application from: Holt Pre-School
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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