

<b>Report to :</b>	<b>Amesbury Area Board – 27 March 2014</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask councillors to consider officer recommendations in respect to:

1. Amesbury Street Pastors – award £1,623 towards project set-up costs;
2. 2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Group – award £5,000 (£2,000 in 2013/14 & £3,000 in 2014/15) towards a new scout hut, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place;
3. Winterborne Stoke Parish Council – award £5,000 towards multi-play unit and safety surface;
4. Berwick St James Parish Council – award £247 towards the cost of two new litter bins;
5. Shrewton Recreation Ground Renovation – award £4,803 towards the cost of new steps and surrounding area.
6. Amesbury Carnival and Show – award £2,710 in 2013/14 and £1,790 in 2014/15;
7. Durrington Walls Wind Band – decline grant request of £1,260 for the purchase of a tuba to the 29 May 2014 meeting, as the band has already benefited from area board funds for the same “instrument renewal” project this year
8. Bulford & Durrington Sunshine Club – award £500 as an emergency fund to ensure this organisation can remain operational
9. Newton Tony Village Hall Committee – award £332 towards the cost of setting up a new newsletter for the village
10. Shrewton Day Centre – award £340 towards the costs of arts and crafts materials to facilitate activities for the day centre service users

## 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.
- 1.5. Amesbury of Area Board has been allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£82,361** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. In 2013/14 only capital funding is available for community area and digital literacy grants.
- 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 Amesbury 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](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b>	<p><u><a href="#">Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Amesbury Area's Community Plan Priorities</a></u></p> <p><u><a href="#">Amesbury Area Joint Strategic Assessment.</a></u></p>
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Amesbury Area Board was allocated a 2013/2014 budget of **£82,361** that could be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives and funding support for community planning activities.
- 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.

## **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 Amesbury Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in accordance with officer recommendations Amesbury area board will have a balance of **£228**.

#### **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 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	
8.1.	Amesbury Street Pastors	Set-up costs	£1,623

- 8.1.1. Officers recommend that Amesbury Street Pastors is awarded £1,623 towards the project set-up costs.
- 8.1.2. This application demonstrates a link to the Joint Strategic Assessment for Amesbury (addressing anti-social behaviour and fear of crime).
- 8.1.3. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council's priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire 'We want people to feel safer and more confident in their own community. People of all ages have told us that being and feeling safe in their communities is of high importance to them' and 'encouraging participation in positive activities and the promotion of ideas about safe, cohesive and resilient communities'.
- 8.1.4. The Street Pastors scheme is an initiative spearheaded by the Ascension Trust. The scheme was the Churches response to neighbourhood problems to engage with people on the streets and in night time venues to care, listen and offer practical help.
- 8.1.5. The role of the Street Pastor is not about preaching, it is one of caring, listening and helping. Full training will be provided and volunteers will work in teams. Uniforms are necessary to clearly identifying the volunteers as Street Pastors.

- 8.1.6. The Street Pastor scheme does not work in isolation; it works closely with the police and local government. The project to launch the scheme in Amesbury has the full support of Wiltshire Police (Insp Christian Lange) and Pubwatch (Ken Staniforth, Chairman) – both of whom have offered supporting letters.
- 8.1.7. Street Pastors currently operate in over 80 locations across the country and evaluation has shown a reduction in street crime following introduction of the scheme.
- 8.1.8. Officers are of the opinion that this project will be of benefit to individuals, residents and the night time economy of Amesbury.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	2nd Bulford St Leonard's Scout Group	New scout hut	£5,000

- 8.2.1. Officers recommend that 2nd Bulford St Leonard's Scout Group is awarded a grant of £5,000 towards the costs of building a new scout hut (£2,000 to be released in 2013/14 and £3,000 to be released in 2014/15).
- 8.2.2. The scout group has been in temporary accommodation for several years that is not fit for purpose while they have been fundraising for this new build project.
- 8.2.3. The new hut will immediately benefit 60 young people, half of whom are from military families. With many more service families expected to return to the area, the numbers of scouts are expected to increase.
- 8.2.4. The new facility will enable a new scouting group for older children aged 14-18, an age group that has fewer facilities and organised activities available.
- 8.2.5. The scout group plays an active role in the community's civic life taking part in uniformed parades and helping with the upkeep of the church.
- 8.2.6. It is anticipated that opportunities for volunteers will also increase with the expanded facility.
- 8.2.7. The venue will also be made available for use by the wider community for events and as a meeting place for other local groups.
- 8.2.8. This application helps to address issues identified in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire 'building resilient communities' by building a strong and vibrant voluntary sector, create stronger and more inclusive communities, and helping young people to succeed by taking part in positive activities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Winterborne Stoke Parish Council	Multi-play unit and safety surface	£5,000

- 8.3.1. Officers recommend that Winterborne Stoke Parish Council is awarded £5,000 towards the purchase of presentation equipment for the hall.
- 8.3.2. While this application is borderline in meeting our criteria because it states that a parish should be capable of precepting to manage its assets and their repairs, Councillors may wish to make an exception due to the very small size of the parish from which it can raise precept funding (87 households) versus the size of the project.
- 8.3.3. The parish has raised its precept by 97% to help fund this project. The total project will cost £18,618.
- 8.3.4. Small rural parishes find it hard to provide adequate facilities for its communities.
- 8.3.5. The children's play area was recently transferred from Wiltshire Council into the ownership of the parish council by way of asset transfer in a less than adequate condition.
- 8.3.6. This application helps to address issues identified in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire 'building resilient communities' by creating stronger and more inclusive communities, and 'lives not services' by providing the strong foundations for children and young people's development.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Berwick St James Parish Council	2 Public Litter Bins	£247

- 8.4.1. Officers recommend that Berwick St James Parish Council is awarded £247 towards the purchase of two public litter bins.
- 8.4.2. The parish is one of the smaller communities and has the very low precept of £1,250 with which to maintain parish assets.
- 8.4.3. While this application may be borderline in terms of meeting the grant criteria due to the fact the parishes are now expected to fund their own litter bin facilities, this is a relatively new requirement and this parish cannot precept for all of its expenses due to its size, when unexpected expenditure occurs. The total cost of providing the bins is £494.
- 8.4.4. Wiltshire Council has committed to emptying the litter bins on the condition that the parish council can provide them.
- 8.4.5. The village which stretches for a mile has one litter bin in its centre and

would like to provide another at each end of the developed area to keep the village tidy.

- 8.4.6. This application meets the aspirations of the Local Agreement for Wiltshire to build resilient communities by helping to improve the way Wiltshire organisations work together to plan and deliver services in local communities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Shrewton Recreation Charity	Concrete new steps and surrounding area and new external lighting	£4,803

- 8.5.1. Officers recommend that Shrewton Recreation Charity is awarded £4,803 towards the concreting of new steps and surrounding area and the installation of new external lighting. The total cost of the project is £9,606 and the committee has sufficient funds in its reserves to match fund this project.
- 8.5.2. The recreation ground is a well used facility by community groups and for events for activities, sports and shows.
- 8.5.3. The charity is run by a committee of volunteers.
- 8.5.4. The ground was originally provided 1947 for the men and women returning to the parish from Armed Forces service during World War Two and is a legacy to the community. This work will ensure that the grounds are ready for the WW1 Commemoration event in July.
- 8.5.5. This application meets the aspirations of the Local Agreement for Wiltshire by helping local communities develop their own priorities and needs, building a strong and vibrant voluntary sector and creating stronger and more inclusive communities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Amesbury Carnival and Show	Event Costs	£4,500

- 8.6.1. Officers recommend that Amesbury Carnival and Show is awarded a grant of £4,500 towards the carnival event costs (£2,710 in revenue funding to be awarded in 2013/14 and £1,790 in capital funding to be awarded in 2014/15).
- 8.6.2. The theme for this year's event is "the life and times of 2014" and as such will be further enhanced by closer partnership working with and involvement by Larkhill and Bulford Garrisons. The date of the show has also been changed to ensure greater participation of local schools.
- 8.6.3. As a legacy of the event, information panels will be installed at sites around

the old military railway known as the Apple Track.

- 8.6.4. This carnival continues to grow in size, appeal and ambition. The costs included in the total project this year include capital purchases, i.e. street signs, barriers and marquees, which will provide sound investment for the ongoing future success of this local event.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.7.	Durrington Walls Wind Band (DWWB)	New Tuba	£1,260

- 8.7.1 Officers recommend that this grant request is declined.
- 8.7.2 DWWB was awarded £500 earlier in 2013/14 as a contribution to its “instrument renewal” project, facilitating the purchase of new percussion instruments.
- 8.7.3 It could be argued that the purchase of a new tuba is part of the same “instrument renewal” project, and as such, the board could not fund such a purchase according to the grant scheme criteria.
- 8.7.4 A tuba is not an instrument the band would expect a player to own, but it is important to ensure the continuance of the band’s growing reputation locally. The band is unable to fund this purchase from its reserves as these have been committed to fund the acquisition of independent premises.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.8.	Bulford & Durrington Sunshine Club	Support Costs	£500

- 8.8.1 Officers recommend that Bulford & Durrington Sunshine Club is awarded £500 to assist with refreshment and support costs in 2014/15. This type of application would not normally be supported by the grant scheme, however, sufficient reason has been given to demonstrate that without this assistance, the club could close next year.
- 8.8.2 This project is designed to keep the Durrington & Sunshine Club open during 2014 to enable them to build up funds to be self supporting into 2015/16. The club is mainly funded by yearly subscriptions. Currently, there are 34 members in the club. However, dwindling numbers over the past couple of years, has impacted upon the club’s reserves.
- 8.8.3 The Good Neighbour Co-ordinator is working with the club to ensure its future viability. It is one of those “grass roots” organizations which provides crucial social support to some of the most isolated in this community area.



Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	
8.9.	Newton Tony Village Newsletter	Start Up Costs	£332

8.9.1 Officers recommend that the village hall committee is awarded £332 to help with the costs of printing a new newsletter for the village.

8.9.2 The committee has worked hard to update the hall and now would like to commence a new venture intended to better market the hall and therefore to increase community engagement / use of this important village facility.

8.9.3 The committee does not hold any free reserves to start this new initiative and is therefore requesting the board to provide initial start up costs for the newsletter.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	
8.10.	Shrewton Day Centre	Arts & Crafts Materials	£340

8.10.1 Officers recommend that the Shrewton Day Centre is awarded £340 to contribute to the cost of materials needed to facilitate arts and crafts activities for the users of the day centre.

8.10.2 This type of activity provides crucial stimulation for those attending the day centre, assisting with their manual dexterity and invoking creativity. The classes will also enhance the overall contribution made by the day centre which provides a place for people to interact and thereby combating loneliness and depression.

8.10.3 The day centre is unable to fund this initiative from its reserves, which are required for contingency purposes.

Appendices	Appendix 1 Application - Amesbury Street Pastors Appendix 2 Application - 2nd Bulford St Leonards Scout Grp Appendix 3 Application - Winterborne Stoke Parish Council Appendix 4 Application - Berwick St James Parish Council Appendix 5 Application - Shrewton Recreation Charity Appendix 6 Application - Amesbury Carnival and Show Appendix 7 Application – Durrington Walls Wind Band Appendix 8 Application – Bulford & Durrington Sunshine Club Appendix 9 Application – Newton Tony Village Hall Committee Appendix 10 Application – Shrewton Day Centre
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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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