

**Report to** Salisbury Area Board  
**Date of Meeting** 15 May 2014  
**Subject** Community Area Grants

**Purpose of Report:**

To consider 6 applications for community area grant funding, totalling **£ 22,591.01**. A summary of the applications together with the Community Area Manager's observations is set out below.

Application	Amount requested
<b>Exeter House Special School</b> Meet, make and move summer scheme – equipment and summer holiday activity programme for children with disabilities.	£4,230 (£500 capital, £3,730 revenue)
<b>Wiltshire Blind Association</b> Assistive Technology workshops – equipment to assist blind and partially sighted people develop IT skills	£4382.71 (capital)
<b>Salisbury Arts Centre</b> Enhancement of facilities at the Arts Centre	£10,000 (capital)
<b>Parochial Church Council, St Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle</b> Wayside WW 1 Memorial Cross – To add names of the fallen to the memorial cross in Stratford sub Castle	£778.30 (capital)
<b>Bootleg Theatre Company</b> To commissioning and produce a new compilation production concerning the theme of adoption	£2,300 (£450 capital £1,850 revenue)
<b>Bemerton Heath Residents Association</b> Celebrate Bemerton fun day	£900 (revenue)
<b>Total requested</b>	<b>£ 22,591.01</b>
<b>Area Board balance prior to consideration</b>	<b>£85,826</b>
<b>If all applications approved the Board's balance will be</b>	<b>£ 63,234.99</b>

## **1. Background**

- 1.1. Salisbury Area Board has authority to approve grants under powers delegated to it by the Council. Under the terms of the delegation Area Boards are required to follow the Community Area Grant guidance and funding criteria.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance the decision to support applications and to what level is made by the Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria will 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.
- 1.4. A decision was made in 2010/2011 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 applications are all available to view on the [Wiltshire Council web site](#) and hard copies can be made available upon request.

## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded satisfy the [criteria set by the Council](#) and are made to projects that can proceed within a year of the award being made.

## **3. Environmental & Community Implications**

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 of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

## **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1. Financial provision has been made to cover this expenditure. The Salisbury Area Board was allocated a discretionary budget for 2013/2014 of £90,826 (£77,427 capital and £13,399 revenue). This is the first meeting of the financial but £5,000 has been previously earmarked to support a tree planting scheme – a project promoted by the Air Quality Management Group.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

## **6. Human Resources Implications**

- 6.1. There are no specific human resources 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.

## 8. Applications for consideration tonight

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8	<b>Exeter House Special School</b>	Meet, make and move summer scheme	£4,230 (£500 capital, £3,730 revenue)

- 8.1. During July and August 2014, Exeter House plan to run a pilot 'Meet, Make and Move' holiday scheme for Exeter House School pupils. Feedback received from parents indicates a demand for holiday activities for children with special needs, especially for children aged 4-11 years. Parents also indicated that their children miss contact with their friends and that respite activities which enable them to have time to themselves or with their other children are invaluable. In response to this identified need, the School has designed a pilot series of eight, day-long workshops to be held at Exeter House School.
- 8.2. Exeter House School currently caters for 100 pupils aged 4-19 years, all of whom have a range of complex needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder, Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties and Specific Learning Disabilities. Many of the pupils also have physical and sensory disabilities and approximately 20% use wheelchairs. The Meet, Make and Move scheme has been designed in response to a need identified by parents and pupils for activities, respite and an opportunity to meet with friends during the long summer holiday. Since announcing their intention to run the scheme, 40% of their families have come forward to book spaces and Exeter House are confident in being able to offer around 165 places to 40 families during the course of the scheme. They will be supported by 12 of the School's teaching and support staff who have come forward to work in the scheme.
- 8.3. The Meet, Make and Move Holiday Scheme is a pilot initiative which aims to address an identified gap in provision for families of children with special needs during the summer break (please see 8.4 below). The Scheme will benefit pupils and families in the following ways: the Scheme will provide an average of 20 places per 6-hour session over a run of 8 days during late July and early August; routine, familiarity and friendships are especially important to many of our pupils and the scheme will help to mitigate the impact of a six week gap in their routine; pupils will be able to meet with friends and support staff they would not otherwise see during the holidays; pupils will be able to take part in a range of custom-designed activities both on and off-site and with external facilitators; pupils will be cared for and assisted by staff they know and trust; parents will benefit from having time to themselves or to spend with other children; the excellent facilities of the School will be more fully utilized; the Scheme will help to address a gap in provision for children aged 4-11 years with special needs.

- 8.4. It should be noted that Wiltshire Council currently subsidises activity and holiday schemes for children with disabilities run at Elizabeth House in Exeter Street, Salisbury. Elizabeth House runs 6 hour holiday club session between 10am—4pm and the schemes currently receive the majority of their participants from Exeter House School. Their summer holiday sessions start late July and run throughout August for 9 full days (twice a week) for 8-17. A recent survey of the Short Breaks Scheme in Wiltshire, undertaken by WPCC our service was the only one that received 100% satisfaction in a parent survey. Members will need to satisfy themselves that this project will not duplicate or undermine the viability of the services offered at Elizabeth House. This proposal is based on a pilot scheme and members may wish to evaluate the impact of the scheme on the services offered at Elizabeth House which is an established local provider of services in this specialized field.
- 8.5. Subject to the points raised at 8.4 above, this application meets the Council's grant criteria. However, members will need to bear in mind that revenue funding is limited in 2014/15.
- 8.6. If the Board is minded to approve this project, then the award would be funded as follows: £500 from the capital budget and the remaining from the revenue budget (£3,730).

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9	Wiltshire Blind Association	Assistive Technology workshops	£4,382.71

- 9.1 The Wiltshire Blind Association is applying for funding to purchase specialist equipment to enable them to run assistive technology workshops in Salisbury for people with sight-loss over a 12 month period. The service would be free of charge and run by a trained Sight Advisor, supported by Volunteers. The sessions would teach people with sight loss how to use computers / assistive technology to help them manage many aspects of their lives, which sighted people may take for granted, including managing their finances, to look for work/voluntary roles, write a C.V, use the internet, shop online and communicate.
- 9.2 The association will run 24 workshops in the community designed to train those with sight loss to use the technology available and give them confidence to do so independently. Each workshop will last for 3 hours and benefit up to 10 participants. A total of 240 participants will benefit from these workshops. They will also run 20 community drop-in sessions designed to give people with sight-loss the tools to be able to try new products, each drop-in session will be 2 hours long. We anticipate that 50 people will benefit from these sessions. Each session will be run by a trained Sight Advisor and supported by Volunteers. People of all

ages will be welcomed, including those of working age, people currently in education and older people, who, in addition to their sight loss, may be financially and socially disadvantaged.

- 9.3 People attending the sessions will learn how to use assistive technology to improve and manage many parts of their lives, e.g. to manage their finances, write a C.V, access written documents, use the internet and look for and apply for employment. Assistive Technology plays a vital role in breaking down barriers for individuals who have sight loss to fully participate in society. When a person loses their sight, they may not be able to use or afford a computer anymore and this can lead to many problems, including maintaining their job, education, confidence and independence. The project will give those with sight loss: reduced isolation, improved mental health and the opportunity to maintain / regain their independence, at work, home and in education. By coming to our sessions, users will be more active, more confident and have higher self-esteem. As a result, the quality of life will be improved for residents of Salisbury and local communities will be stronger, more active and more inclusive.
- 9.4 Following the success of the Assistive Technology pilot schemes, the association has identified a great need for this project. They are also aware from individual research carried out by the RNIB, Thomas Pocklington Trust, Vision 2020 strategy and discussions with the Wiltshire Council’s Hearing and Vision Team, that people affected by sight-loss can be at a serious disadvantage to sighted people. The project aims to address this and ensure that such people have equal chances in life.
- 9.5 The total cost of the project is £ 17,107.71 and they are seeking a grant of £4,382.71 from the Board.
- 9.6 This application meets the Council’s grant criteria and supports the digital inclusion priority within the scheme.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
10	Salisbury Art Centre	Replacement and upgrading of facilities	£10,000

- 10.1 Salisbury Arts Centre plans to improve key facilities in the venue to increase access, improve the visitor experience, develop artistic conditions, create additional capacity, and reduce environmental impact. They need to replace the seating bank, some stage lighting, the PA system, ceramics kiln, and dance floor, and to refurbish the toilets, entry doors, and exhibition panels. These changes will consolidate the previous redevelopment of the building and ensure that the organisation can continue to thrive.
- 10.2 Everyone involved in Salisbury Arts Centre will gain from the project. Through the refurbishment it is aimed to actively increase the number of people who take part in and experience the Arts Centre’s work. Huge numbers of people benefit from

the Arts Centre from café customers who visit the building every day to people who just experience some live music we have put on somewhere else in the City, like the recent Sound and Light youth music event in Salisbury Cathedral. Last year the centre saw 62,000 attendances at events, over 60% of them from SP1 and SP2 postcodes. Here are a few examples of the number of people involved:-

- The kiln will directly benefit 100 regular workshop attendees a term, visiting artists, and our ceramic artist in residence
- The dance floor will directly benefit 26 members of the youth dance companies, around 6 professional touring dance companies a year, and 500 audience members a year who experience their work
- The raked seating system will benefit the 5,500 people a year that attend SAC's own events, and the 4 technicians that spend so much time maintaining the current system
- The toilets will benefit the 9,000 individuals that visit the building.

10.3 The total cost of the project is £302,160 and they are seeking a grant of £10,000 from the Board.

10.4 This application meets the Council's grant criteria and although normally grants are limited to £5,000 the Board has discretion to award a higher amount.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
11	Parochial Church Council, St Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle	To add names of the WW1 fallen to the memorial cross in Stratford sub Castle	£778.30

11.1 Currently the memorial cross in Stratford has inscribed on it 'God makes us worthy of their sacrifice'. The names of nine local residents of Stratford-sub-Castle are inscribed on a wooden board inside the church. This project seeks to have the names added to the base of the cross as a permanent memorial. The current inscription is hardly visible therefore it is planned to clean and restore the base. The rest of the cross is in good condition as it was replaced a few years ago after a large section fell off.

11.2 By having the names added to the wayside cross anybody will be able to see them instead of having to rely on gaining entry to the church. As part of the PCC plans for 3rd August WW1 commemorations, research is being done into the names of those who died with the idea of trying to find relatives. All research work will be displayed in the Reading Room opposite the church on the 3rd.

11.3 The total cost of the project is £1,556.61, the PCC is contributing £785. The application meets the Council's grant criteria.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
12	Bootleg Theatre Company	To commissioning and produce a new production on the theme of adoption	£2,300 (£450 capital £1,850 revenue)

- 12.1 This project seeks funding to commission and present a new compilation production concerning the theme of adoption which will begin in the district and then tour around Wiltshire as well as other regions. The local community will benefit from this topically related production as well as schools, colleges and other potential educational facilities where interest has been shown in receiving the production. The initial funding will enable the production to go ahead initially and then will be covered by the fees and/or box office receipts from the venues concerned.
- 12.2 The application seeks a mix of capital (£450) for the new lighting board and revenue (£1,850) to cover the production costs. The capital cost of a new lighting board will enhance the company's facilities in Salisbury and meets the grants criteria. However, the production is intended to tour, so the benefit is not solely for the Salisbury community although there will be performances in the City. In this respect it does not fully meet the grants criteria and members will need to consider whether a smaller contribution to the production costs may be more appropriate. Members will be minded that revenue funding is limited in 2014/15.
- 12.3 Subject to 12.2 above this application meets the Council's grant criteria.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Bemerton Heath Residents Association	Celebrate Bemerton Fun Day	£900 (revenue)

- 13.1 This project seeks funding for a fun and activity day for residents of Bemerton Heath. In 2013 groups on Bemerton Heath organised 'Celebrate Bemerton' a week of activities celebrating the estate, including a scarecrow trail, community BBQ and fun day. In 2013 the Fun Day was funded by Sarum Academy as a farewell to their old building. This bid is for funding for the continuation of a free Family Fun Day for summer 2014 organised by the Bemerton Heath Centre and the Bemerton Heath Residents Association, working with the police, schools and churches. Activities to include live music, inflatables, children's rides, arts & crafts and an art activity to commemorate the anniversary of WWI.
- 13.2 50% of the funds for this project will be coming from the Bemerton Heath Residents Association, Bemerton Heath Interagency Group, Salisbury City Council and Radian Housing Association but additional funding is needed.
- 13.3 The whole community of Bemerton Heath will enjoy a fun and largely free day out

that will help engender community spirit in an area that scores highly on the scale of social deprivation, with families on relatively low incomes and associated problems such as anti-social behaviour. The community will be able to meet and interact with the police, the fire service and other local organisations. Residents will also be able to have their say on the local community through a small consultation exercise. Through the WW1 arts project participants will learn the importance of commemorating such an important part of our history.

- 13.4 At the recent JSA event at the Arts Centre, arts and social activities that address social inclusion and inequality issues emerged as a priority. This project meets the grants criteria although it will need to be made clear to the organisers that the Area Board will be unable to fund this event on an annual basis and they should be encouraged to secure sustainable funding to cover future events.

Background papers:	Grant Application – Exeter House Special School Grant Application – Wiltshire Blind Association Grant Application – Salisbury Arts Centre Grant Application – Stratford St Lawrence PCC Grant Application – Bootleg Theatre Company Grant Application – Bemerton Heath Residents Association
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