Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

Report to	South West Wiltshire Area Board
Date of Meeting	4 June 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report
To ask councillors to consider applications in respect to;

Finger Post Funding:
To allocate funding of up to £550 to Parish Councils (up to £350 towards a finger post repair/replacement and a further £200 towards the Highways element of the necessary works to take down and reinstate the posts) who have registered their requirements with Highways and/or Community Area Manager of replacing or refurbishing finger posts on the highway in their area.

Parish Council	Amount
Broad Chalke	£550
Hindon	TBC
Sedgehill & Semley	TBC
TOTAL	**£550**

Recommendation: **To approve the finger post funding as set out in the table above with the condition that each Parish Council that receives funding to replace or refurbish a finger post must provide evidence of doing so within twelve months.**

Community Area Grants (all conditional on the balance of funding being in place):

1. South Newton Parish Council - £2,450 towards digital equipment for village hall.

2. Bishopstone Village Hall – £3,218 towards new air source heat pump for memorial room.

3. Dinton Cricket Club – £4,375 towards a new roller.

4. Quidhampton Village Hall Committee – £600 towards kitchen equipment.

5. Wilton Community Centre – £964 towards installing wi-fi access.

6. Mere & District Railway Modellers – £2,000 towards restoration of band hut.

1. Background

1.1.   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.

1.2.   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.

1.3.   South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£56,822** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.

1.4.   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.

1.5.   In support of the ongoing Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2014/15 the South West Wiltshire 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.

1.6.   Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,001 - £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.

1.7.   There is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants (CAG) and Digital Literacy grants to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process can be found here.

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.   The decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire councillors on the area board.

1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.

1.11. 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.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	AB project - finger posts report 2014/15 (in agenda pack) South West Wiltshire Area Board Priorities Action Log (in agenda pack) Mere Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment Tisbury Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment Wilton Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment

2.   Main Considerations

2.1. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£56,822** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants and Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives.

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 2014/2015 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 South West Wiltshire Area Board.

4.2.   At the time of writing this report South West Wiltshire Area Board has a balance of **£56,822.** If all grants/finger posts are awarded South West Wiltshire Area Board will have a balance remaining of **£43,215.**

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 Report" of the funding report.

8.   Officer Report

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	South Newton Parish Council	Update village hall with digital equipment	£2,450

8.1.1.   This application has been classified as a part-capital part-revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department. Any award from the Area Board would be used to cover capital expenditure (with the inclusion of one year's line rental).

8.1.2.   This project is to fund the cost of purchasing new digital equipment for the village hall, including a laptop, projector, screen and broadband. It is hoped that the community will benefit through using the equipment/broadband for social, business and educational purposes, helping to decrease rural isolation.

8.1.3.   This application is eligible for the full £500 digital literacy small grant. Any additional funding awarded would be granted from the general funding pot.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Bishopstone Village Hall	New air source heat pump for memorial room.	£1,400

8.2.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.2.2. This project is to provide a new air source heat pump to replace the current heaters in the Memorial Room (a small meeting room) of the village hall. A similar system is already installed in the main meeting room.

8.2.3. It is hoped that the improvement will increase the reputation and usage of the hall, as well as creating a comfortable environment and an efficient solution.

8.2.4. This application is supported by Community First's Village Hall and Community Buildings Advisor, who reports that the quotes provided appear to be appropriate and the works are a high priority to complete the phased work on the hall.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Dinton Cricket Club	New roller for cricket pitches	£4,375

8.3.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.3.2. This project is to purchase a new roller in order to produce pitches of a high standard.

8.3.3. The club has recently achieved an English Cricket Board club mark and has various teams, including a growing colts section.

8.3.4. Wiltshire Council's Leisure Service reports that Dinton CC are a very pro-active club and have some keen and dedicated cricket coaches that have supported many of our sports development programmes over the years – the club have just been awarded a Return to Sport grant of £400 to develop an adult coaching programme to get new participants into the club.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Quidhampton Village Hall Committee	Kitchen equipment	£600

8.4.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.4.2. This project is to purchase new kitchen equipment to replace the current old and outdated equipment.

8.4.3. It is hoped that the village hall will become more attractive to individuals and organisations for them to hire once a higher standard of catering facilities are on offer.

8.4.4. This application is supported by Community First's Village Hall and Community Buildings Advisor, who reports that the quotes provided appear to be realistic and the works are a high priority to increase the usage of the hall.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Wilton Community Centre	Installing wi-fi access	£964

8.5.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.5.2. This project is to install wi-fi acess in the community centre to coincide with the installation of superfast broadband into the area.

8.5.3. Internet access is already used at the centre but this is currently only achieved through the use of dongles. Other community groups have indicated an interest in using the wi-fi if it is made available.

8.5.4. This application is eligible for the full £500 digital literacy small grant. Any additional funding awarded would be granted from the general funding pot.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Mere & District Railway Modellers	Restoration of Mere Band Hut	£2,000

8.6.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.6.2. This project is to complete phase 1 of a project to completely

refurbish Mere band hut. A list of works is included in the application form (section 10b. Project Finance).

8.6.3. The club will have a 7 year lease on the building and aim to restore the building to a standard that will enable it to be an asset for the community into the future.

8.6.4. At the time of writing this report the Area Board is awaiting a technical officer assessment from Wiltshire Council Facilities Management Service.

Appendices:	Grant applications

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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