

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Devizes Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> July 2014</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 20014/15 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Devizes Canoe Club** are seeking £5,000 towards shower and changing block
2. **First Stages** are seeking £614.07 for new equipment
3. **Great Cheverell Pavilion Trust** are seeking £1,800 towards a community cinema

## **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<sup>th</sup> April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 1.2. In 2014/15 the officer is required to only ensure that the request meets the funding criteria but not to make any recommendations.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's 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 allocation for Devizes Area Board in 2014/2015 has not been fully agreed but is likely to be similar to 2013/14. The majority of funding available to the Area Board is capital.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1001 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (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.
- 1.7. In addition to CAGs, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.10. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.11. The funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/areaboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>

- 1.12. 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.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Area Board Grant Guidance as presented for delegated decision</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Devizes Community Area Plan</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Devizes Joint Strategic Needs Document</a></li></ul>
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. Councillors will need to decide whether the community benefit will warrant the request.
- 2.3. This is the second round of funding during 2014/2015.
- Sep 29<sup>th</sup> 2014
  - Nov 24<sup>th</sup> 2014
  - Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 2015
  - Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015

## **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 Devizes Area

Board.

- 4.2. All awards are subject to the condition that no payment will be made until all other match funding has been confirmed.

## 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 are outlined within section 8 – Officer Recommendations.

## 8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8	<b>Devizes Canoe Club</b>	Towards the installation of new changing and shower facilities	£5k towards a project costing £66,448

- a. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- b. Devizes Canoe club is one of the largest in the county with over 100 members of all ages. Demand for canoeing is increasing and the club needs to be able to meet this demand.
- c. The club is in danger of being unable to continue unless new facilities can be provided
- d. The club, working with the Area Board and its partners, have secured an asset takeover of the Lower Wharf depot as their new home. A planning application has been submitted to convert it to a site suitable for the Canoe Club's use including provision of the new facilities for which funding is being requested.
- e. Additional funding for the overall project is coming from a variety of other sources such

as Sport England, British Canoeing and local providers.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9	<b>First Stages</b>	Additional lighting and some radios	£ 614.07

- a. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- b. First Stages is a musical drama group for talented young people
- c. First Stages owns its own equipment for productions. Hiring is much more expensive. They are looking to purchase additional lighting for more special effects to maintain high standards and enhance productions. This will also enable some radios for communication during shows to be purchased. The young members are trained in all aspects of musical theatre, including technical skills from operating this equipment
- d. The group is asking for the full cost of the equipment. As the total cost is less than £1k, no match funding is required

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
10	<b>Great Cheverell Pavilion Trust</b>	Towards a community cinema	£ 1,800 towards a project costing £3,652

- a. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- b. The purpose of the project is to purchase film equipment, appropriate lighting and signage to enable the New Pavilion Trust to provide a community cinema
- c. A film provider such as Moviola would charge too much for a small community such as Great Cheverell. This approach allows those in the village to access films and also ensures that any expenditure is retained locally.
- d. The Parish Council is providing 50% of the costs.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

<b>Report Author</b>	Richard Rogers Devizes Community Area Manager Tel: 01225 718626 E-mail <a href="mailto:Richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk">Richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
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