

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Marlborough Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>22 July 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. **Avebury Day** – requested £1,000 towards putting on a parish fete for both members of the local community and visitors from further afield.  
Recommendation: Meets criteria.
2. **Avebury Cricket Club** – requested £1,336 towards refurbishing the club's cricket nets. Recommendation: Meets criteria.
3. **MinalPlay** – requested £5,000 towards installing new outdoor gym / fitness equipment in the village. Recommendation – Meets criteria.

## 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. Links to these electronic documents can be found below.
- 1.5. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£41,691.57** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. This figure is lower than in previous years.
- 1.6. This figure is made up of £35,437.57 of Capital funding and £6,254 of Revenue funding. Grants awarded during 2014/15 will be allocated either Capital or Revenue funding.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. In support of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2014/15 the Marlborough 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.
- 1.9. 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.
- 1.10. There will still be 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](#).

- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. 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. This recommendation will be to confirm if the application meets the criteria of the grant scheme or not.
- 1.13. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.14. 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](#). Recipients of grants are also asked to come back to future area board meetings to provide a verbal update on their project to spread good practice and encourage other applicants. Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

<p><b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b></p>	<p><a href="#">Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2013/14 as approved by delegated decision</a></p> <p><a href="#">Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2012-17</a></p> <p><a href="#">Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Marlborough, 2013</a></p>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Marlborough Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£41,691.57** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, 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.

- 2.4. There five funding rounds remaining during 2014/15, including this meeting. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications to be considered at future area board meetings are as follows:

- **7 July 2014 for consideration on 22 July 2014**
- **15 September 2014 for consideration on 30 September 2014**
- **10 November 2014 for consideration on 25 November 2014**
- **12 January 2015 for consideration on 27 January 2015**
- **9 March 2015 for consideration on 24 March 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 Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. For this meeting, Marlborough Area Board has received applications for projects totalling **£6,336** in Capital costs and **£1,000** of Revenue costs. The area board will need to be aware that if all applications are awarded at this meeting, it will have £20,119.57 of Capital funding and £5,254 of Revenue funding remaining for the rest of the 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 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	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.1.	Avebury Day	A parish fete for both members of the local community and visitors from further afield.	£1,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.1.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a Revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.1.2. This application is to help resurrect the Avebury Day last held in the 1970's. It will be an event to help celebrate the village. It will start it off by holding a village lunch, followed by a fete with traditional stalls and displays. This will then be opened up to the general public so they can also enjoy the things on show. There will be a full afternoon of displays as well as interactive activities from local people.
- 8.1.3. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to community facilities and social / recreation facilities & amenities particularly for young people (p.10-11); lack of local entertainment and cultural facilities (p. 18).
- 8.1.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include “develop events and cultural programs to enliven the *whole* community, particularly cinema and other highly inclusive activities”.
- 8.1.5. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Avebury Day. A considerable proportion of the funding for this project, nearly three quarters, comes from the applicant's own funds, showing their commitment to it.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.2.	Avebury Cricket Club	Re-surfacing of artificial cricket net at Avebury sports field	£1,336	Meets Criteria

- 8.2.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.2.2. The project is to effect repairs to the artificial cricket net facility on the sports field at Avebury. The facility is used by the community and general public. The surface of the nets has become unusable due to the settling of stone laid

in the base.

- 8.2.3. The facility is a much-used play facility for young people, in many cases for children and young adults learning a new sport for the first time. This resurfacing will ensure that the facility is safe. Avebury's Cricket Club is at the heart of the sporting community in Avebury. We have a strong local membership from the village and the surrounding Parish, and this facility is in regular use at least three days a week in the summer. As an all-weather facility this surface can be used in all weather conditions and provides an added benefit increasing the amount of sporting (cricket) activity on the field.
- 8.2.4. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities and recreation facilities & amenities for young people (p.10-11); sports & leisure facilities (p. 18).
- 8.2.5. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and discussions from March 2014. These include "improving young people's access to community sports activities" and "increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity". The application also supports volunteering activities through the work of volunteer coaches and administrators committed to running and helping the club. The club also contributes to improving the health and well-being of children, young people and local residents.
- 8.2.6. Marlborough Area Board has not previously funded Avebury Cricket Club. Half of the funding towards this project comes from the applicant's own fundraising activities including the club using all their financial reserves towards this, showing their commitment to it.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested	Recommendation
8.3.	MinalPlay	New outdoor gym equipment	£5,000	Meets Criteria

- 8.3.1. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.3.2. As part of a much larger project to install new play equipment for the village's playgrounds, MinalPlay now wish to install new outdoor gym equipment for use by older children and adults. Feedback gathered from consultation within the village, which was used to determine what was wanted by younger children, showed there was an appetite amongst older residents for fitness equipment that all could use.
- 8.3.3. This project meets several issues raised through the Marlborough area plan including access to sports facilities (p. 10), recreation facilities and amenities for young people, provision of safe social facilities for young people (p. 11) and sports and leisure facilities (p. 18).
- 8.3.4. This application meets priorities that were raised by the JSA document and

discussions from March 2014. These include “improving young people’s access to community sports activities” and “increased awareness of existing opportunities in sport and physical activity”. It also meets priorities raised by data gathered in the What Matters To You survey that shows that a large proportion (46.3%) of residents from the community area would like to do more physical exercise and 56.2% said they would like to lose some weight.

8.3.5. In November 2013, Marlborough Area Board awarded £5,000 to MinalPlay towards to installation of new play equipment for younger children at the village playground. This application is part of the same overall project to re-develop recreation facilities for the village. MinalPlay are again looking to raise a considerable sum of money towards this second phase. They have raised more than three quarters of the £22,000 costs themselves, showing their commitments to the project.

<b>Appendices</b>	Appendix 1 Grant Application – Avebury Day Appendix 2 Grant Application – Avebury Cricket Club Appendix 3 Grant Application – MinalPlay
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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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