

**Corsham Area Board
Community Area Grants September 2014**

1. Project title:

New Pony for Lacock Riding for the Disabled

2. Project summary:

Lacock RDA provides free, after school riding lessons for children with special needs. It is one of the few after school activities for special needs children in the area. We need to purchase a new pony otherwise we will have to drastically reduce the number of children who can ride during the year.

3. Electoral Division

Corsham Without and Box Hill.

4. What is the Post Code of where the project is taking place?

SN15 2PH

5. Please tell us which theme(s) your project supports:

Children & Young People
Countryside, environment and nature
Health, lifestyle and wellbeing
Inclusion, diversity and community spirit
Sport, play and recreation

6. Finance: Your Organisation's Finance:

Your latest accounts:

06/2014

Total Income:

£6025.00

Total Expenditure:

£3686.00

Surplus/Deficit for the year:

£2686.00

Free reserves currently held:

(money not committed to other projects/operating costs)

£12699.00

Why can't you fund this project from your reserves:

It is vital for Lacock Riding for the Disabled to maintain adequate operating reserves for the reasons stated below: 1. We must be able to feed and care for our two ponies to ensure their health and safety are maintained and they are fit for special needs children to ride. Without adequate reserves we cannot guarantee we could do this properly. 2. We cannot control livery and feed costs that may rise suddenly in line with inflation, commodities and other rates. As of November 2013, our livery

costs increased by 60 per cent which was unexpected. We have been told that another hefty increase will be levied this year too. 3. We must be able to pay for veterinary bills and medicine should our ponies get sick. These costs cannot be predicted so we must ensure we can cover these unexpected costs. 4. Should our ponies not be able to work then we will have to rent ponies at expensive commercial rates until our ponies recover and are fit for special needs children to ride. 5. Our costs have increased in June as we now operate four ponies instead of three to ensure we serve as many children as possible. As a result, our pony rental costs have increased. We had to sell one pony and now need to purchase another. For the reasons stated above it is vital we maintain adequate operating reserves to ensure we can continue to serve disabled children and maintain our ponies so they are fit to ride.

6a. Project Finance:

Total Project cost		£4,350.00		
Total required from Area Board		£2,175.00		
Expenditure (Itemised expenditure)	£	Income (Itemised income)	Tick if income confirmed	£
New pony	£4,350.00	Our reserves	yes	2,175.00
Total	£4,350			£2,175

7. Have you or do you intend to apply for a grant from another area board within this financial year?

No

8. Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project benefit your local community?

Lacock RDA offers one of the few after school activities for special needs children in the area. We provide riding for children with disabilities to help improve their health and wellbeing, delivering real and lasting therapy that benefits mobility, coordination encourages confidence, communication and self worth whilst having fun. Without a new pony we will have to drastically reduce the number of children we can support.

9. How will you monitor this?

We recently implemented feedback forms for parents / guardians to help us monitor the benefits the children receive. My child is more independent because of her experience at LRDA. She gets a real sense of achievement from it. As a result, she is more open to suggestions and new things. - Tracy, parent

10. If your project will continue after the Wiltshire Council funding runs out, how will you continue to fund it?

We would do more fund raising and applying for grants from private organisations.