

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Warminster Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>2 September 2010</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 20010/11 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Corsley Memorial Playing Field, Improving safety, access and facilities, £5,000  
Officer recommendation: Approve
2. Warminster Christmas Lights Committee, Christmas grotto and street fair, £2,650  
Officer recommendation: Approve
3. Maiden Bradley Village Shop, New Display Freezer £1,923  
Officer recommendation: Refuse, as the project does not meet grant criteria (needs 50% match funding).

Total, if all applications are allocated in line with officer recommendations, £7,650  
Total if Members override officer recommendations, £9,573

## 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 Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.5. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.6. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11</li><li>• Warminster and Villages Community Area Plan</li></ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 20010/11. The third is contained in this report and, subject to funds, the remaining will take place on;
  - 11 November 2010
  - 13 January 2011
  - 10 March 2011

The deadline for applications is six weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

### **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 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 Warminster Area Board.

4.2. Warminster Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £47,752 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives.

4.3. Community partnership core funding can be up to £9,550, although the partnership has submitted a claim for the year of £9,436. The area board has committed £4,718 first tranche funding.

4.4. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Warminster Area Board will have a balance of £19,935 before community partnership second tranche core costs (£18,012 if Members override officer recommendations).

### **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 give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

### **8. Officer recommendations**

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1 WAR02 7/10	Corsley Memorial Playing Field	Improving safety, access and facilities	£5,000

- 8.1.1. Officer recommendation – Approve
- 8.1.2. The application meets the grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.1.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan, see pages 13, 14, 15, 21 and 22.
- 8.1.4. The project will support the following local priorities:
- County play strategy
  - Sport England and LTA strategy.
  - The Parish Council fully supports the project as a way of continuing key aspects of community life and keeping amenities in the village.
- 8.1.5. Corsley Memorial Playing Field is a non profit organisation.
- 8.1.6. The project will improve the field to reflect the community make-up, improving safety & access provision for all abilities and reduce maintaince. This includes free access to the tennis courts for children, new activities for all ages & environmental improvements.
- 8.1.7. This is a capital project.
- 8.1.8. This project is to purchase and install new equipment. The volunteers will continue to run the playing field through local fundraising.
- 8.1.9. If the Area Board does not to fund the project, fewer facilities would be available, which would effect specific age groups reducing the usage of the facility. Free access to the tennis courts for kids and students would not be possible. This application represents the final part of a much wider application process to the National Lottery.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2. WAR02 8/10	Warminster Christmas Lights Committee	Christmas grotto and street fair	£2,650

- 8.2.1. Officer recommendation - Approve
- 8.2.2. The application meets the grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.2.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan (see Pages 8, 9 and 24).
- 8.2.4. Warminster Christmas Lights Committee is a non profit organisation.
- 8.2.5. The project will also support the local priority to increase footfall on the High Street.

- 8.2.6. The purchase of a Christmas grotto and equipment to deliver an annual street fair will increase the amount of local trade by encouraging people into the town. By purchasing the equipment, the town will not need to hire equipment from elsewhere, reducing long-term costs.
- 8.2.7. This is a capital project.
- 8.2.8. In future the event will be supported by the Town Council and payments from local traders.
- 8.2.9. If the Area Board does not fund the project, the Committee will hire a grotto this year, although this will not be as cost effective in the long term.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3. WAR02 9/10	Maiden Bradley Village Shop	New Display Freezer	£1,923

- 8.3.1. Officer recommendation – Refuse. The application does not meet the grant criteria 2010/11, because the project does not have 50% match funding.
- 8.3.2. Members have the authority to overrule officer recommendations if the project demonstrates exceptional benefit to the community (see 1.2 and 1.3 above). This application was submitted in the knowledge that the match funding criteria has not been met and highlights the importance of the village shop to the community (including surrounding villages, particularly Horningsham - since their shop closed Maiden Bradley is the nearest provider). The committee have raised a contribution towards the project through local fundraising, but have exhausted all other grant sources. There is tremendous in-kind support from local volunteers who staff the shop and the committee implore the area board to support the purchase of this vital piece of equipment.
- 8.3.3. The application supports the Community Plan's vision to achieve a thriving and sustainable economy and increased visitor spending on local goods and services. Also, MB Parish Plan states that the shop is regarded as a Parish treasure and has national recognition as an exemplar of local co-operative action
- 8.3.4. Maiden Bradley Village Shop is a non profit making organisation.
- 8.3.5. The committee need to buy a new display freezer, as the old one has broken down. It was purchased when the village shop was refurbished and as it was secondhand, was not covered by a warranty. A new freezer will provide vital space for local farmers to promote and sell their products, enable the shop to purchase in bulk and pass on savings to customers. It comes with a warranty, free delivery and installation.

8.3.6. This is a capital project.

8.3.7. Failing to secure a community area grant would have an enormous effect on the community as the equipment would not be purchased. The shop will be unable to supply vital goods to the rural area. This will impact on the sale of local produce (impacting local farmers) and seriously impacting the viability of the shop putting the Post Office at risk if the shop fails.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>Appendix 1 Grant application – Corsley Memorial Playing Field</b> <b>Appendix 2 Grant application – Warminster Town Council</b> <b>Appendix 3 Grant application – Warminster Development Trust</b> <b>Appendix 4 Grant application – Maiden Bradley Village Shop</b>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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