

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	10 November 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider the following applications for funding:

Capital

1. CLOGS Musical Theatre award £1,479 towards an amplifier and mikes kit, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
2. Friends of Chippenham Museum award £716 towards Chippenham Museum Oral History kits.
3. Castle Combe Parish Council award £973 towards Castle Combe Village Hall hearing loop installation, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Revenue

4. The Ivy Community Partnership award £1,000 towards Ivy Estate Resident Empowerment Training, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 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 wish to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. For the 2014/15 financial year Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a budget of **£92,383** for Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Community Partnership Core Funding, Chippenham Area Board operational funding and Chippenham Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives. **£1,500** was allocated to Digital Literacy funding, **£77,025** was allocated to capital funding and **£13,857** was allocated to revenue funding.
- 1.6. Following awards made by Chippenham Area Board Meeting 8th September 2014, the Chippenham Area Board balance of funding was of **£67,481** capital and **£2,945** revenue.
- 1.7. In addition to Community Area Grants 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. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which do 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.
- 1.9. A ring-fenced budget of £1,500 has been provided specifically for Digital Literacy Grants, although the area board may spend more. Up to £500 per project is available for capital projects.
- 1.10. There is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants and Digital Literacy grants, introduced to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process and funding criteria can be found under <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/areaboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>

- 1.11. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant 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. The decision to support applications is made by Chippenham Area Board councillors.
- 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 the Chippenham 'Our Community Matters' website Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	<u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2014/15 as approved by delegated decision</u>
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. This is the third funding round of the 2014/15 financial year.

Future funding rounds and deadline for applications will take place as follows:

- 8 December 2014 for consideration on 19 January 2015
- 19 January 2015 for consideration on 2 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 Chippenham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded to all of the applications considered by Chippenham Area Board on 10 November 2014, the board will have a capital balance of **£64,313** and a revenue balance of **£1,945**

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 and Small 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, "Applications for Consideration" of the funding report.

8. Applications for Consideration

	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	CLOGS Musical Theatre	Amplifier and Mikes Kit	£1,479

- 8.1.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting CLOGS Musical Theatre, a community area grant of £1,479 towards an amplifier and mikes kit, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.1.3. CLOGS Musical Theatre has been operating since 1979, producing one major performance per year and supplementing this with other fund-raising concerts through the year.
- 8.1.4. CLOGS Musical Theatre is a not-for-profit community group which has been sustainable for over 30 years.
- 8.1.5. CLOGS Musical Theatre requested and received a grant from Chippenham Area Board on 3rd March 2014 for 6 Radio Mikes and Mixer desk, which are being used by the group to perform as either a large or smaller group. The addition of these items has proved a great success. CLOGS have been borrowing a member's amplifier/speakers and hand held microphones and are requesting a further grant to purchase these items for the group.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Friends of Chippenham Museum	Chippenham Museum Oral History kits	£716

8.2.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting the Friends of Chippenham Museum a community area grant of £716 towards Chippenham Museum Oral History kits.

8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.

8.2.3. The project will support the purchase of two digital recording kits so that volunteers may carry out Oral History interviews, thus preserving Chippenham's history and heritage through the recollections of its community. Firstly, the recorders will be used to collect stories for the museum's forthcoming WWI VAD Hospital Exhibition. This will tell the story of the lives of the men and women who worked and volunteered in the hospital, and the vital role they played in the Home Front effort. Oral History training will be provided by Emma Golby-Kirk (Wiltshire at War project Officer) and the museum's team.

8.2.4. Chippenham Museum Oral History kits will be shared with the whole community of Chippenham, through the exhibition, as well as tourists and visitors to the area. 100 volunteers from the Friends of Chippenham Museum will have the opportunity to receive training in How to Carry Out an Oral History Interview.

8.2.5. The digital recorders will be a valuable asset to the museum and will ensure the continuation of Oral History practices for future projects.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Castle Combe Parish Council	Castle Combe Village Hall hearing loop installation	£973

8.3.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting Castle Combe Parish Council a community area grant of £973 towards a hearing loop installation in Castle Combe Village Hall, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.3.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.

8.3.3. Castle Combe Village Hall has several users with increasing hearing difficulties who have expressed the hope that an efficient hearing loop with appropriate ancillary equipment can be installed to help them. Currently some have elected not to attend meetings or functions (including performances under Wiltshire Council's Rural Arts programme) as they are unable to enjoy such events to the maximum.

8.3.4. The village hall is a focal point for events and meetings. Many users are now finding increasing difficulty in hearing as they age and several have been prescribed hearing aids fitted with the facility to utilise the benefits of a hearing loop system. They have asked if the village hall will consider such an installation in order that they can still enjoy the events and facilities provided.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	The Ivy Community Partnership	Ivy Estate Resident Empowerment Training	£1,000

8.4.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting The Ivy Community Partnership a community area grant of £1,000 towards Ivy Estate Resident Empowerment Training, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

8.4.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **revenue** project.

8.4.3. The Ivy Community Partnership is a new group comprising local residents, supported by Sovereign Housing to work with partners to improve issues within the Ivy estate. The group has identified a residential training course which will contribute to residents learning and confidence to lead and develop events and build a stronger sense of community spirit. The area suffers from having a poor reputation but there is a will amongst key residents to turn things around. This training, called C2, is a recognised national training for residents to lead local community partnerships, developed by the University of Exeter Medical School.

8.4.4. The primary beneficiaries of this funding are the four residents who will attend this training who have been identified from earlier community development work undertaken by Sovereign in the area.

8.4.5. The longer-term outcome of this investment will benefit all residents living in the Ivy estate (Field View, Royal Close and Charter Road) and its partners by helping to create an effective community partnership with confident residents who will benefit from the ongoing support of the C2 team. This support will also provide the partnership (whose membership will grow) to network with other similar groups nationally at different stages of development to share learning.

8.4.6. By investing in the development of skills and capacity of residents they will be able to ensure the community is better able to work with partner agencies and residents have more confidence to report issues concerning community safety and also work to create new projects to meet the needs of the area.

8.4.7. This investment will also help pave the way for the creation of a Community Hub on the estate which Sovereign is currently working on with the residents and GreenSquare. The intention is for residents to create a space on the estate to build community spirit, create better links with partner agencies and provide services such as employment and digital training in this space. We are also working with the Wiltshire Time Credits scheme to support increased volunteering in the area.

- 8.4.8. Sovereign's own contribution towards this project requires long-term impact measurement and the group will collect and share data with all partners and provide updates as required. Sovereign will be looking to see greater engagement of residents in decision-making locally, an increase in volunteering and more funding attracted into the area for project developed by resident-led partnership working.
- 8.4.9. This investment will pay for the up-front training for the residents involved but the partnership will continue to grow and be supported by Sovereign and its partnering agencies including GreenSquare, Wiltshire Police and local councillors.
- 8.4.10. The project detailed in this application is not dependent on additional unsecured funding or decisions as regardless of how/when the community hub develops, the community partnership will still be able to exist and develop. As the community partnership is still in its infancy the group does not yet have its own bank account or constitution but a Terms of Reference is in development and we will share this as soon as it has been finalised. Sovereign will hold the funding for this activity and process payment for the training as part funder.

Appendices	<p>Appendix 1 – CLOGS Musical Theatre - amplifier and mikes kit</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Friends of Chippenham Museum - Chippenham Museum Oral History kits</p> <p>Appendix 3 - Castle Combe Parish Council - Castle Combe Village Hall hearing loop installation</p> <p>Appendix 4 - The Ivy Community Partnership - Ivy Estate Resident Empowerment Training</p>
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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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