

Report to	Tidworth Area Board
Date of Meeting	17th November 2014
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report:

To consider one Community Area Grant Application

- **St James Ludgershall and Faberstown, Parochial Church Council – Acoustic enhancement to community hall - £1934.76**

To consider two member led applications

- **Cllr Charles Howard, Everleigh Playground equipment - £966.89**
- **Cllr Mark Connolly, TCAP second Tranche funding - £3000**

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Cabinet Member. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria 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.
- 1.5. Tidworth Area Board has been allocated a 2014/15 budget of **£38,300.43 Capital and £6,759 revenue**. In 2014/15 only capital funding is available for community area and digital literacy grants. Community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and some small project support can be paid from the revenue budget as it allows.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. In support of the Olympic and Paralympics legacy, in 2014/15 the Tidworth 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.
- 1.8. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £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.
- 1.9. There is 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 online on the Wiltshire Council website.

- 1.10. 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.
- 1.11. The decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire councillors on the area board.
- 1.12. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.13. 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 [blog site](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	Area Board Criteria and Guidance
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2. Main Considerations

Tidworth Area Board has been allocated a 2014/15 budget of **£38,300.43 Capital** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants and Digital Literacy Grants, **£6,759 Revenue** that can include core funding for the CAP. There is further funding for Community Area Transport Group priorities.

- 2.1. 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.
- 2.2. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2014/15 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.3. There are six funding rounds during 2014/15. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are **6 weeks before** the next area boards on

- 19th Jan 2015
- 9th March 2015

2.4. The Community Area Manager has delegated authority to authorise grant payments up to £500 between area boards where a project needs to be funded urgently. This will be in consultation with and agreement of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the board, all projects must meet the community grants criteria and be ratified at the next meeting of the area board.

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 Tidworth Area Board.

4.2. Following the area board meeting in September 2014 the area board had a balance of **£24,639.43 Capital and £1,813 Revenue. However £1,946 revenue was used to support the summer activities programme in May 2014 and can now be reclaimed from the youth initiatives budget, leaving a revenue balance of £3,759**

4.3. If grants are awarded in accordance with officer recommendations at this meeting, Tidworth area board will have a balance of **£21,737.78 Capital and £759 Revenue.**

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, “Officer Recommendations” of the funding report.

8. Officer Recommendations

8.1

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
	St James’ Ludgershall and Faberstown, Parochial Church Council	Acoustic enhancements to St James’ church community hall	£1934.76

8.1.1 St James Ludgershall and Faberstown, Parochial Church Council is applying for the sum of £1934.76 for acoustic enhancements to St James’ church community hall

8.1.2 This application meets the 2014/15 grant criteria. This is a capital project, the organisation applying is a not for profit community organisation, match funding has been secured and the project will have community benefit.

8.1.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2013 – 2023 under the Housing and Built Environment Theme
In that it:-
- improves an existing community facility used by most of the local population.

8.1.4 The Project is to improve the acoustic properties of St James’ Church hall, a well used community facility.

8.1.5 The church community hall was built as part of development of the old church school grounds in St James Street. A light and airy hall replaced portakabin-style rooms and delighted the wider Ludgershall community with its pleasant atmosphere and outlook.

8.1.6 Experience with the facility however, has shown that its acoustic properties need improvement if it is to be enjoyed by everyone. A wide range of options have been explored, acoustic tests carried out, and an optimum permanent solution selected and approved by the PCC. This involves the fixing of forty eight large acoustic tiles in a specific pattern around the hall.

8.1.7 All users of the facility will benefit from the near-elimination of the sound echoes which pervade most events held there. The use of the hall will become tenable for many older townfolk, those with hearing difficulties and those in charge at children’s events.

8.1.8 The project further links to delivery of JSA priorities:-

- Health and Social Care - Dementia support group clients will enjoy a less confusing environment.
- Education - Realising potential and achieving life skills e.g. Computer training for all ages, utilising the new Web facility in the Hall when the Town Council service is unavailable.
- Children and Young People - Thematic Groups Support; Pre-school mother and toddler, mother and baby etc
- Culture and Leisure - Town and Parish Community Events and Activities; Events such as coffee mornings, U3A talks, concerts, art classes, heritage lectures, club and church activities will all be enriched by the modifications which will remove the impediment of the echo chamber effect.

8.2.7 The total project cost is £3869.52. The church council will contribute £1934.76 from its own reserves and fundraising, leaving a shortfall of £1934.76 which is the amount applied for to the area board.

8.2

Ref	Sponsored	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Cllr Mark Connolly	TCAP second Tranche funding	£3000

8.2.1 This is a member project sponsored by Cllr Mark Connolly, to be paid from the 2014/15 revenue budget.

8.2.2 The project is to provide Tidworth Community Area Partnership with the second tranche of it's funding from the area board for the financial year 2014/15. This will enable TCAP to continue to operate effectively and to support the work of the area board.

8.2.3 The work of the community area partnership is important to the development of the community area. The partnership develops the community plan for the area, engages all local partners, develops community events and activities and supports the work of the area board.

8.2.4 The local community will benefit from actions taken by the partnership to deliver the community plan and work on JSA priorities for the area.

8.2.5 The partnership has provided an account of its activities and actions over the past year which includes support to deliver the area board/health fair and set up the dementia group and memory café for our area.

8.2.6 The value of the second tranche of funding is £3000.

8.2.7 The board is asked to support this application.

Ref	Sponsored	Project proposal	Funding requested
	Cllr Charles Howard	Everleigh Playground equipment	£966.89

8.3.1 This is a member project sponsored by Cllr Charles Howard, to be paid from the 2014/15 Capital budget.

8.3.2 The project is to support Everleigh parish with funding to facilitate the completion of their childrens' playground.

8.3.3 The project is to provide a slide in the playground, the bulk of the funding having been secured.

8.3.4 The local community will benefit from completion of the playground which will also be of benefit to visiting children and families and new families coming into to the area in future.

8.3.8 The parish council will take on responsibility for ongoing repair and maintenance of the facility and has confirmed that all policies and procedures are in place for the safe use of the facility.

8.3.9 The total project cost is £5379.38, the parish council is contributing £966.89 from its reserves, and £3445.60 has been secured from a Landfill grant leaving a shortfall of £966.89 which is the amount applied for to the area board.

Appendices	Appendix 1- St James Ludgershall and Faberstown, Parochial Church Council- £1934.76 Appendix 2- member project TCAP £3,000 Appendix 3- member project, Everleigh playground £966.89
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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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