

Report to	Melksham
Date of Meeting	17/12/2014
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

1. Purpose of the report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking funding from the Melksham Area Board.

Application	Grant Amount
Applicant: Broughton Gifford and Holt Scouts Project Title: Broughton Gifford Scouts Tent Renewal	£2341.94
Applicant: Bowerhill Residents Action Group Project Title: Purchase of two lectern style display boards	£988.00
Applicant: Shaw and Whitley Friendship Club Project Title: Introducing pre school children to computers at Shaw and Whitley Pre school	£800.00
Applicant: 1st Bowerhill Scout Group Project Title: Where did all the mud come from?	£4422.34
Applicant: MELKSHAM UKULELE SOCIAL CLUB Project Title: projector and screen for Melksham Ukulele Social Club	£500.00
Applicant: Splitz Support Service Project Title: Hear My Voice	£2624.00
Applicant: Melksham Comic-Con Project Title: Melksham Comic-Con Security & Communications Package	£708.16
Applicant: Extended Services (Melksham Area) Project Title: New laptop for organiser	£767.29
Applicant: Melksham Railway Development Group Project Title: Real Time Public Transport Information in Melksham	£448.10

Applicant: Golden-Oldies Charity Project Title: Goldies Singing in Melksham	£228.99
Applicant: Seend Parish Council Project Title: Salt/grit spreader	£250.00
Total grant amount requested at this meeting	£25,078.82
Remaining funding	£36,169

2. Main Considerations

Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Cabinet member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.

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.

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.

3. The applications

Applicant: Broughton Gifford and Holt Scouts Project Title: Broughton Gifford Scouts Tent Renewal	Amount Requested from Area Board: £2341.94	
This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.		
Project Summary: Camping and the great outdoors are at the core of the Scout movement. This year we are renewing some of our aging tents		
Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: We currently have over 100 young people partaking in community and outdoor activities in the Melksham area through Broughton Gifford Scouts		
Applicant: Bowerhill Residents Action Group Project Title: Purchase of two lectern style display boards	Amount Requested from Area Board: £988.00	

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: The Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) picnic area near the Kennet and Avon Canal won a Level 5 Outstanding award in the It's Your Neighbourhood class of South West in Bloom. To win the same award next year we have to make even more improvements to the area. Currently we have produced notices showing what type of flowers, trees, insects and other wild life that people can find in the area. These are laminated and attached to canes but they tend to get damaged in the wind and rain. These notices provide valuable information to visitors and children use them to see what they can find in the area. What we want to erect in the picnic area is two lectern style display boards which provides interpretive information at an angle designed to be easily visible to children and wheelchair users as well as the general adult public. These display boards have an easy image replacement facility so BRAG can update the information to suit the seasons.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: Residents of the Melksham area and visitors such as canal users will be able to easily see the different types of trees, flowers, shrubs and insects that can be found in the picnic area. Young children are encouraged to walk around the area looking for the items on display which promotes interest in nature.

Applicant: Shaw and Whitley Friendship Club

Project Title: Introducing pre school children to computers at Shaw and Whitley Pre school

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: Shaw and Whitley Pre school want to buy two laptop computers for use in the pre school

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: This will better prepare children for school where under new government plans they will be required to become familiar with computer work

	Amount Requested from Area Board: £800.00	
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Applicant: 1st Bowerhill Scout Group

Project Title: Where did all the mud come from?

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: Equipment for camping, pioneering and orienteering. Now that the Scout Group are mobile, we are planning

programs that offer more opportunities for getting out and about. Key to this are patrol tents, pioneering kit and equipment. The group are also seeking permit training and expertise within the group to offer enhanced nights away and adventurous activity supervision, such as hill walking, archery, rifle shooting and water sports.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community:

The Scout group helps young people to enjoy new adventures, to experience the outdoors, interact with others, gain confidence and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. We provide activities for every young person, whatever their physical and emotional ability. We support young people by providing a fulfilling programme that develops empathy, skills, teamwork and a community understanding by activities that breakdown boundaries and treats everyone equally, whether able bodied or those with visual impairment, Aspergers, Tourettes, ADHD or autism, to name but a few conditions within the group. This project will replace damaged camping equipment, provide training to enhance the skill sets of the leaders, allowing for even more adventurous activities ranging from night hikes on Dartmoor to kayaking on the Avon and archery and rifle shooting. With the valued support from the Melksham Area Board for our minibus last year, we have increased our outdoor activities and increased our membership from last year to over 65 (from 50) young people between the ages of 6 and 18, supported by a team of 9 adult volunteer leaders. We now are seeking additional equipment and training for Group and sectional activities to really have parents asking the question, "Where did all that mud come from?" The young people in the Scout movement will benefit from an outdoor experience that will help them prepare for their future and build their social skills, teamwork ability, leadership ability and confidence. Specifically, the Where did all that mud come from project is as follows:

Tents At our annual group camp, it was identified that the 3 patrol tents in use were in an undesirable state and sadly beyond repair. They will be converted into dining shelters, however, new bell tents are require ensuring the group camping tradition of Beavers and Cubs. The newer version of patrol tents require a single pole and come with integrated groundsheets, allowing the younger members of the group the opportunity of an enjoyable first night away experience. Awning With the success in 2014 of the Minibus with over 15 trips ranging from Basingstoke for indoor sky diving to Hemel Hempstead for snowboarding, Weymouth for hikes, Bournemouth for camps and local trips to explorer, camp and be outdoors, we recognise the benefit of an awning to provide shelter from sun and rain. Pioneering Having spent time learning lashings and knots inside, using broom handles and bean poles, it is now time to put these skills to use creating full size projects ranging from gates and arches to bridges and flagpoles. In order to for this, pioneering poles (3 & 4 m) made of sturdy wood and capable of taking the stress of the activities are required. Cooking Bushcraft and outdoorsman ship require cooking skills and it is important that the young people are exposed to the skill of cooking outdoors, whilst limiting the impact to the environment. A wood burning stove allows the users and opportunity to create contained heat with simple AGA style stove top cooking in a unit that packs away into itself. The Dutch oven and fire disc kit, utilises a tripod to suspend the fire disc off the floor, avoiding charred grass and earth below the fire and leaving the camp site free from disturbance. Inclusivity As a uniformed association, we require subscriptions from our member. We are able to support subscriptions, where possible, from within the group for those able to demonstrate a financial need. In addition, where possible, the group seek to support those in need with external activities which also attract a cost, whether for food or services. What we are unable to supply is starter packs for nights away, ranging from roll mats and sleeping

<p>bags to individual tents and eating/drinking utensils. Some equipment is sourced from older members but we need the activities to be inclusive and not cost prohibitive. As such, we intend to build a selection of stock items for nights away which can be lent to those needing support. Training In order to continue creating innovative programs and challenging activities that provide adventurous opportunities, the leaders need training for permits. The permits would be a cost to the Group as we would be able to utilise these for both our own group but also as a potential revenue stream to other groups. The training is based at Scout activity centres throughout the UK and the group are seeking to be able to provide the following activities to the young people in our charge:  Archery  Rifle Shooting  Hill Walking  Water Sports</p>		
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<p>Applicant: MELKSHAM UKULELE SOCIAL CLUB Project Title: projector and screen for Melksham Ukulele Social Club</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £4422.34</p>	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary:To enable for singalongs for community /charity groups and for help in the teaching of playing the ukulele in the club

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: To enable communities to join in the singalongs and to provide for learning the ukulele

<p>Applicant: Splitz Support Service Project Title: Hear My Voice</p>		
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary:This video diary project is offering traumatised young people from the Melksham area, who have experienced domestic abuse, a means of communicating and sharing their feelings, ideas and challenges. The overall SplitzKids project uses confidential settings, and skilled support staff during group work or one to ones, to encourage and motivate the young person to make sense of their situation; and to develop appropriate coping strategies. Children and young people of today are very familiar with the technology and the video diary concept, as well as exhibiting a refreshing lack of self consciousness about opening up and sharing.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your

project and benefit your local community: Our figures show that last year in the Melksham area, Splitz supported 60 women (116 dependent children) and provided direct support to 53 children and young people. Exposure to domestic violence has been linked to poor school performance. Children who grow up with domestic violence may have impaired ability to concentrate; difficulty in completing school work; and lower scores on measures of verbal, motor, and social skills. In addition to these physical, behavioural, psychological, and cognitive effects, children who have been exposed to domestic violence often learn destructive lessons about the use of violence and power in relationships. Children may learn that it is acceptable to exert control or relieve stress by using violence, or that violence is in some way linked to expressions of intimacy and affection. These lessons can have a powerful negative effect on children in social situations and relationships throughout childhood and in later life. Participatory video approaches are specifically concerned with participation and empowerment, notably in the context of a marginalised community. Our underlying aim is to reduce any gap between the concepts and models of research, which we currently use in supporting the needs of those young people referred to us, and the direct experiences of the traumatised young people themselves. We give them control of the camera and the process of making their experiences visible. It has parallels with data collection techniques of diary keepers. Children's immediate reactions to domestic violence may include: Anxiety, Sleeplessness; Nightmares; Difficulty concentrating; High activity levels; Increased aggression; Intense worry about their safety or the safety of a parent Long-term effects, especially from chronic exposure to domestic violence, may include: Physical health problems; Behavior problems in adolescence (e.g., juvenile delinquency, alcohol, substance abuse); Emotional difficulties in adulthood (e.g., depression, anxiety disorders, PTSD) The project would support local Melksham area priorities (July 2013) A1; D2; G3

<p>Applicant: Melksham Comic-Con Project Title: Melksham Comic-Con Security & Communications Package</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £500.00</p>	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: To supply basic security & communications package for Melksham Comic-Con to ensure the safety and wellbeing of attendees, guests and staff. Weatherproof shelter for storage of pushchairs and other personal items, 2 way radios for staff communication across multiple venues in town, portable PA system for important safety & crowd control announcements, Display Boards, flipchart stand and portable hard drive for storage of sensitive data.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: Melksham Comic-Con is an event open to the public and is currently held annually in the Assembly Hall and Town Hall as this is the largest venue currently available to us in the

town centre. This year, due to the number of attendees, guests and staff at the convention, we noticed several areas of concern to us. As the event was held in 2 adjacent, but separate buildings, we found communication and security to be an issue; staff were not able to contact each other in case of emergency. A good quality 2 way radio package would help us communicate with each other between buildings. We had a lot of families with small children and lack of space in the hall meant it was difficult to maneuver with pushchairs, plus with the cosplay competition we had a considerable number of attendees with large costumes and props that they did not want to carry around all day, but nowhere to keep them. We think that offering cloakroom storage area would solve this problem. We offered a lot of different workshops and events during the weekend and it was difficult informing attendees of when and where these were taking place and organising the queues. We feel that a portable PA system and notice boards would help us organise people effectively. There is a PA system available at the Assembly Hall, but there is a charge to hire it and we don't have the funds to do so. The PA system and display boards would also be very useful for when we hold fundraising events throughout the year.

<p>Applicant: Extended Services (Melksham Area) Project Title: New laptop for organiser</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £2624.00</p>	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: The charity has an old laptop that the Manager uses for the day to day running of the charity as well as for use at events. This machine is now 7 years old. We effectively now rely on this member of staff using their own personal computer to undertake their role. We would like to replace this machine with a suitable new laptop.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: Extended Services (Melksham Area) work with children, young people and their families across the melksham community area.

<p>Applicant: Melksham Railway Development Group Project Title: Real Time Public Transport Information in Melksham</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £708.16</p>	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: To provide real time train and bus departure displays in public places such as the Town Hall and TIC, and other public facing places (e.g. shop windows). This information is not otherwise available on displays in the town

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: This project will benefit bus and train passengers and potential passengers in the train by giving them real time feeds of upcoming bus and train departure times from the nearest bus stops and from the station. They will benefit by knowing what transport options are available for them, and where available (for trains and for some buses) whether they're on time.

Applicant: Golden-Oldies Charity Project Title: Goldies Singing in Melksham	Amount Requested from Area Board: £767.29	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: Golden-Oldies run regular events and fun monthly singing sessions for older people and people living in isolation, singing hits of the 50s onwards. People are encouraged to dance, sing and relax with a cup of tea and a chat with their session leader and other participants. These groups offer opportunities for lonely people to make supportive friendships and a regular activity to attend which can often be a life saver. Golden-Oldies will be running a monthly session in Melksham at Thornbank Community Room on the second Tuesday of every month from 10.30-11.30am during 2015.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: The grant money will be used to fund the cost of the Ipod and Docking System for the Melksham session only, with the primary beneficiaries being residents of Melksham, it is likely that others will come to the session from the surrounding area. Goldies sessions aim to promote and sustain independence in the growing older population through improving mental and physical health and wellbeing. To reach people living in isolation and give them a reason to get out, make friends and enjoy the companionship of others. To encourage participation in their local community and include them in the decision making for how Goldies progress and develop in Melksham. We regularly consult with the older people who attend our Goldies groups across the West of England via our session leaders. Between May and June 2013 a survey of 200 people took place, 129 were female and 71 male, between the ages of 64 and 92. We asked how they felt before and after the session on a 1-10 scale. 50% scored below 5 at the start of the session. One hour later 90% ticked either 9 or 10. Questionnaires are a regular way of monitoring feedback from attendees. Through support of the University of Bath, we have introduced "Active Songs"™ to our monthly BIG SING which have been a huge success. To the popular hits of the 50s onwards we encourage our participants to follow the session leader with actions to the music. The movements have been developed through the Department for Health at the University. Incorporating movements that strengthen independence muscles in the legs, improve cardiovascular fitness and develop upper body flexibility, this fun "exercise in disguise"™ choreography has multiple

real life benefits; standing and sitting, climbing stairs, reaching high shelves or boarding a bus will all be easier after repeat exposure to the Goldies "Active Songs"™. Dr Afroditi Stathi, Department of Health at Bath University is a Trustee of the Golden-Oldies Charity.

<p>Applicant: Seend Parish Council Project Title: Salt/grit spreader</p>	<p>Amount Requested from Area Board: £448.10</p>	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary:Seend Parish Council wants to purchase a salt/grit spreader to attach to the back of a tractor to enable vulnerable areas of the village to be cleared in case of heavy snow falls, as in the winter of 2012/13.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: Residents of areas of the village which are not covered by the salt/grit spreading on the main roads, i.e. Seend Cleeve, Dial Close, The Lye

<p>Report Author: Abbi Gutierrez</p>		
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