

Report to	South West Wiltshire Area Board
Date of Meeting	4 February 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider applications in respect to;

Community Area Grants (all conditional on the balance of funding being in place):

1. Mere & District Railway Modellers - £1,225 towards furnishing and equipping Mere Band Hut.
2. Royal British Legion in Tisbury - £413 towards events to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of Battle for Gallipoli.
3. Tisbury Parish Council - £1,900 towards a Great Tisbury Brocante and Antiques Fair event.

1. Background

- 1.1. 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.
- 1.2. 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.
- 1.3. South West Wiltshire Area Board was originally allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£56,822** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. This has subsequently been revised to a budget of **£74,511**.
- 1.4. 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.
- 1.5. In support of the ongoing Olympic and Paralympic legacy, in 2014/15 the South West Wiltshire 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.
- 1.6. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,001 - £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.
- 1.7. There is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants (CAG) and Digital Literacy grants to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process can be found [here](#).
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. The decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire councillors

on the area board.

- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.11. 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 blogsite](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	AB project - finger posts report 2014/15 South West Wiltshire Area Board Projects and Priorities 2014/15 Mere Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment Tisbury Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment Wilton Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of **£74,511** that may be allocated through Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants and Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives.
- 2.2. 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.
- 2.3. 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.

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 South West Wiltshire Area Board.
- 4.2. At the time of writing this report South West Wiltshire Area Board has a balance of **£25,270**. If all grants/finger posts are awarded South West Wiltshire Area Board will have a balance remaining of **£21,732** (not taking into account any funding spent on Area Board projects).

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 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 Report" of the funding report.

8. Officer Report

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Mere & District Railway Modellers	Furbishing and equipping Mere Band Hut	£1,225

- 8.1.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.1.2. This project is to create furbish and equip Mere Band Hut. It is hoped that the space will be used by the Modellers club as well as providing an opportunity for young people to gain engineering experience.
- 8.1.3. The group has previously received funding from the Area Board in 2014/15 (£2,000) as part of a separate project to bring Mere Band Hut up to a usable standard.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Royal British Legion in Tisbury	Commemorating Gallipoli	£413

- 8.2.1. This application has been classified as a revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.2.2. This project is to hold a series of events in Tisbury to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Gallipoli.
- 8.2.3. It is hoped that the events will benefit the local community by being open to all. Local groups including the Community Choir, Tisbury Arts Group, Tisbury History Society and the local primary school will also be involved.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Tisbury Parish Council	Great Tisbury Brocante and Antiques Fair event	£1,900

- 8.3.1. This application has been classified as a revenue project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.3.2. This project is to provide start-up funding for a new weekend event that aims to promote local tourism, welcome visitors to the village, showcase Tisbury and promote local businesses.
- 8.3.3. The Parish Council hopes that the event can become self-financing in the future to enable either an annual or bi-annual event.
- 8.3.4. Full details of the Parish Council finances will need to be provided prior to any award of funding by the Area Board.

Appendices:	Grant applications
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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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