

Report to	Corsham Area Board
Date of Meeting	Thursday 21 May 2015
Title of Report	Area board funding

Purpose of Report

Capital:

To ask the Corsham Area Board to consider 1 application seeking capital funding from the 2015/16 community area grant scheme:

1. Selwyn Hall Management Committee – requesting £5,000 for renovations to the rear of the stage at Box Village Hall.

Revenue:

To ask the Corsham Area Board to consider 1 proposal recommending revenue funding from the 2015/16 youth revenue budget:

2. Magna Carta 800 Community Celebrations – recommending the following delegated funding decision:
 - i. That the Community Engagement Officer is authorised to approve the allocation of up to £2,000 from Area Board's youth revenue budget to support the Magna Carta 800 celebrations in Corsham and in Salisbury on 15 June.
 - ii. That the CEO and CYO form a local project team to deliver the Corsham area's element of the celebrations.

To Note:

The Area Board is asked to note the following other expenditure incurred since the last meeting from the 2014/15 budget accruals and under spends:

3. Hire of Colerne Village Hall for slipper exchange on 28 April 2015 - £33
4. Payment for slippers for Colerne slipper exchange on 28 April 2015 - £192

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve grants under powers delegated to them by the Leader of the Council. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2015/16. [Area Board Grants Guidance 2013/2014.](#)
- 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 emphasis in the Coalition Government's 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. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2015/16 budget of £42,814 for community grants, digital literacy projects and area board/councillor led initiatives. In 2015/16 only capital funding is available for community area and digital literacy grants. The Area Board also has a separate youth revenue budget of £4,577.65 and the Local Youth Network funding of £46,989.43.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (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.
- 1.7. In addition to Community Area 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 has 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. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.9. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.

- 1.10. New for 2014/15 was 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 [here](#).
- 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.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<p>Corsham Community Area Plan</p> <p>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2015/16 as approved by delegated decision</p> <p>Corsham Joint Strategic Needs Document</p>
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2015/16 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. The next rounds of funding for 2015/16 will be:
- Thursday 23 July 2015
 Wednesday 23 September 2015
 Wednesday 25 November 2015
 Wednesday 20 January 2016
 Wednesday 16 March 2016

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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. **Corsham Area Board has a remaining balance of £42,814 in its capital budget for 2015/16. If grants are awarded in line with the requests in this**

report, Corsham Area Board will have a remaining balance of £37,814.

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 are outlined within section 8 – Officer Recommendations.

8. Applications for consideration

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Selwyn Hall Management Committee	Renovations to the rear of the stage at Box Village Hall	£5,000 of a total project cost of £21,566

8.1.1. Selwyn Hall Management Committee is requesting the sum of £5,000 to contribute towards the cost of renovations to the rear of the stage at Box Village Hall.

8.1.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria 2015/16.

8.1.3. This application demonstrates links to the Corsham Community Plan 2012, particularly the Children & Young People 'improve access to local facilities and activities' and the Culture, Recreation & the Arts 'support the need for a wide and varied programme in arts, culture, heritage and leisure'.

8.1.4. Selwyn Hall Management Committee is seeking funds to renovate part of the hall to the rear of the stage, currently 2 rooms used as a staging area but in need of significant upgrading in order to bring the area up to the required standard and make it fit for purpose.

8.1.5. The old windows, doors, boiler, toilets and showers are to be stripped out and replaced with a single toilet, hand basin, new windows and doors. The Area will also have new seating facilities and will be newly carpeted and redecorated.

- 8.1.6. Box Village Hall, managed by the Selwyn Hall management Committee, is a popular facility at the centre of village life in Box parish. The hall is utilised by many different user groups and is particularly popular for performances.
- 8.1.7. The management committee has many aspirations to further improve the hall for both hirers and the local community, and this project is just one of three improvement projects planned for the hall. As well as contributing to this project from reserves, the committees remaining reserves will also be used to replace the current chair lift with an escalator, and the installation of PV panels on the roof to improve energy consumption.
- 8.1.8. The total cost of this renovation project is £21,566 and Selwyn Hall Management Committee is investing £16,566 from its own reserves. The remaining balance of £5,000 is sought from the Area Board's grant scheme.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Magna Carta 800 Community Celebrations	See appendix 2	Up to £2,000

Appendices:	<p>Appendix 1 – Community Area Grant application</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Magna Carta 800 Community Celebrations – delegated authority proposal</p>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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