

Report to	Amesbury
Date of Meeting	28/05/2015
Title of Report	Community Youth Grants

### 1. Purpose of the report:

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

Application	Grant Amount	
<b>Applicant:</b> Wessex Community Action <b>Project Title:</b> Amesbury Youth Cafe	£10769.00	
<b>Applicant:</b> BRIDGING PROJECT- Durrington Town Council <b>Project Title:</b> Bridging Project	£4286.00	
<b>Total grant amount requested at this meeting</b>	£15055	
<b>Total amount allocated so far</b>	£7662	

### 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 Youth 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 Youth 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

<b>Applicant:</b> Wessex Community Action <b>Project Title:</b> Amesbury Youth Cafe	Amount Requested from Area Board: £10769.00	
This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.		

**Project Summary:**

This is a centrally based youth drop-in cafe catering for the needs of a wide cross section of 13-19 year olds on Tuesday and Friday evenings. Transport can be provided on an On Demand basis to take young people to and from the fully equipped premises. We are building on the initial 3 months of this growing facility for young people.

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

The Youth Cafe is open to all and free to attend, with free transport being provided on demand from a variety of rural places. Local people are volunteering at the cafe and we signpost young people to other activities which are taking place locally, delivering positive activities. The cafe is widely advertised especially in all the local schools and using social media. We have had 14 different young people through the doors on a regular basis and last week we had 30 young people came to an evening with the police running a games night with Xboxes and a projector.

**Local Youth Network report**

The Local Youth Network met on Wednesday the 13th of May and considered the application for the Amesbury Youth Café. The youth leader and three of the regular young people spoke about the Café.

The group discussed the application at length and scored using the provided scoring sheets. The score was 74 out of a possible 100. The LYN were happy to approve the funding for the café minus the £2600 for the bus service. Concerns were raised about the on demand bus as there was not adequate staff to run it safely. Before the funding is granted the LYN would also like to see that all correct policies are in place, including DBS checks for members and safeguarding training certificates.

The Local Youth Network recognises that the limit for the Youth Grants scheme is £5,000, although exceptional cases that have elected members support. In this instance the councillors were aware of the grant prior to the Local Youth Network meeting, and supported it being discussed at the Local Youth Network management meeting.

The Local Youth Network would like to recommend to the area board that they fund the project minus the transport costs at a total of £8169. This would be released once the Local Youth Network is satisfied the appropriate policies are in place, along with DBS checks and safeguarding training.

The Local Youth Network would welcome another grant from the Amesbury Youth Café in the future.

<b>Applicant:</b> BRIDGING PROJECT <b>Project Title:</b> Bridging Project	Amount Requested from Area	
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	Board: £4286.00	
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This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

**Project Summary:**

The Bridging Project is a youth group for Young People with disabilities aged 13-25. We provide a range of positive activities for Young People to engage, develop new skills and build confidence in a safe and welcoming environment. We manage this group for and with Young People.

**Please tell us WHO will benefit and H Our group is continuing on from the existing bridging project previously ran by**

We are currently a small group with an aspiration to grow. The sessions we provide under the new community led model are providing positive activities for young people where they are actively involved with planning, participation and evaluation.

We aim to continue to provide a safe and welcoming environment for young people, where they are empowered and valued. Offering them information, advice and guidance and an opportunity to make a difference in a fun way.

At the start of the community led model we held a meeting with YP and their parents to discuss how they wanted to move the group forward. It was agreed that the group was still needed so with the immediate support from Durrington Town Council we were reinstated and now here we are. The young people have been so patient and understanding with all the changes and having to use another groups resources and building. We have planning sessions where young people share their ideas of what they want to do and then its our role to try and provide such activities. Some of the activities that have been delivered; cooking; arts and crafts; team games; group work activities around challenging views and opinions on sexual discrimination; informative discussions on sex and relationships and sexuality; guidance provided to young people about their pathways onto further education; sharing of information about 'safe place' and the ICE cards; informal police visit and so much more.

We began the sessions with 6 young people and have recently had 2 new members. The range of ages of our members are 13-19 but we welcome young people with disabilities aged 13-25. Our members are from the local areas; Durrington; Amesbury and Shrewton and attend the local schools and colleges. The group is managed by 2 youth workers and 2 volunteers.

We are looking to expand the group through advertising within the schools via the pastoral tutors and SENCO's in both Durrington and Amesbury. We would like as many young people as possible to benefit from these sessions.

To make our group more sustainable we are looking to introduce an entrance fee in addition to our tuck shop that young people manage with

support which is currently shared with Kids Friday Club.

Because of all the recent changes our young people have become passionate about being involved, leading one of our young people to becoming a member on the LYN.....Fantastic!! A couple of our other members and volunteers have recently supported the LYN Event. We would like this type of community involvement to continue. We would like to provide the opportunity of peer mentoring for all young people; our group mentoring others and other young people being mentors within our group.

For this group to develop we need to secure permanent premises with age appropriate resources and opportunities. With these hurdles to jump we are working closely with Wiltshire Council, Avon Valley College, Durrington Town Council and the community youth officers to secure premises and resources.

Our group has also had the offer of support from Mencap, Barnardos and Larkhill youth services, all offering different sources of funding which we will explore during the year.

Through working closely with others we are building good relationships within our community.

#### **Local Youth Network report**

The Local Youth Network considered the grant at their meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> May. The grant was scored using the designated scoring sheets and was awarded 89/100. The two leaders of the group attended with a young person. They had also sent an evaluation document which included young people's feedback which supported the application.

The Local Youth Network were supportive of the group and discussed if there was anything they could do to help the process of the Bridging Project moving back into their old venue. This would enable them to advertise wider and offer more within their sessions.

The Local Youth Network would like to recommend to the area board to fund the Bridging Project for the full amount of their application which will ensure a year's provision.

#### **Report Author:**

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