

Report to	Southern Area Board
Date of Meeting	28 May 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider the following grant requests:

1. Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club – £800 for new cricket covers.
2. Grimstead Parish Council – £565 for a new defibrillator for East Grimstead.
3. Redlynch Parish Council - £2,090 for tyre swing safety surfacing at Nomansland Land Recreation Ground – play area.
4. Old Sarum Youth Group - £870 for an intergenerational fun day in Old Sarum
5. Downton Training Band - £1,115 for the “Bash & Blow” community project

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 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 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 wish to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. The community area grants budget has been approved for 2014/2015 for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 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. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which do 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.
- 1.8. A ring-fenced budget of £1,500 has been provided specifically for Digital Literacy Grants, although the area board may spend more. Up to £500 per project is available for capital 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 [here](#).
- 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. Officers provide advice on how the application meets with the scheme's criteria, but the decision to support applications is made by Amesbury area board councillors.
- 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 the Southern Wiltshire 'Our Community Matters' [blog-site](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors must 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 2014/2015 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 budgets allocated to the Southern Wiltshire Area Board in 2015/16.

Budget	£
Discretionary Capital	44,057
Discretionary Capital Digital Literacy	1,500
Youth Funding	19,216
Capital overspend 14/15	(4,528.22)
Discretionary Revenue underspend 14/15	1,648.59
Youth Funding underspend 14/15	2,330
Locally Held Youth Funds underspend 14/15	16,412
TOTAL	80,635.37

- 4.2. The board will consider grant applications at each of its board meetings in 2015/16, and therefore there will be 6 rounds of funding consideration, as below:

- 28 May board meeting – 16 April application deadline
- 30 July board meeting – 18 June application deadline
- 1 October board meeting – 20 August application deadline
- 3 December board meeting – 22 October application deadline
- January 2016 board meeting – tbc
- March 2016 board meeting - tbc

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 of the funding report.

8. Grant Requests

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club	New Cricket Covers	£800

- 8.1.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria. The funding requested is to make a capital purchase of some new cricket covers for the club which operates on the playing fields in Redlynch.
- 8.1.2 New guttering, hoses and metalwork are required as the current covers are unusable making training very difficult after rain. The under 9s and under 17s sections of the club will benefit in particular from the new covers.
- 8.1.3 It will provide the Colts section of the club, of which there are nearly 100, with a safe environment to play on after rain. The new covers will help ensure that local children and use the facilities and local matches can proceed.
- 8.1.4 The club cannot fund this from its reserves as it needs to retain a percentage of funds to cover unforeseen circumstances and to pay for a new scoreboard and new nets.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Grimstead Parish Council	New Defibrillator for East Grimstead	£565

- 8.2.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria. The funding requested is to contribute towards the costs of a new defibrillator for East Grimstead.
- 8.2.2. West Grimstead has a defibrillator, but considering the 2 mile distance from this, and the rural - elderly nature of the community in East Grimstead, the Parish Council believe this defibrillator to be necessary.
- 8.2.3. The parish council is contributing £950 of its reserves, but cannot contribute anymore as it is committed to a new play area project in West Grimstead.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Redlynch Parish Council	Tyre Swing Safety Surfacing	£2,090

- 8.3.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria.
- 8.3.2. In 2011 the existing playground at Nomansland Recreation Ground was

improved which included the installation of a new tyre swing. Since then, the level of community use at the playground has increased and the number of children enjoying this particular item of equipment has exceeded expectations. As a result it has become difficult to sustain the appropriate provision and maintenance of a loose filled bark pit as a safe fall surface. This project will mean that the equipment will become safer and more sustainable for the future with a surface that will last as long as the swing.

8.3.3. The local community will benefit from better quality equipment which will encourage yet more people to the recreation ground with their children to enjoy a healthier lifestyle and recreational choices. Additional resources will be released from the charity maintaining the surface and redirected into providing more sport.

8.3.4. The Parish Council is unable to fully fund this from its own free reserves and is seeking a contribution from the Area Board.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	Old Sarum Youth Group	Intergenerational Community Fun Day	£870

8.4.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria. The Youth Group would like to organise this event to bring the community together, and to raise awareness of the youth group through this positive activity.

8.4.2. A Sports Coaching organisation will be used to provide professional expertise for this fun day, and the current draft programme includes events such as bubble football, rounders, cricket, archery, parachute games, crazy catch games.

8.4.3. A key objective of this event is to bring the community together to facilitate intergenerational activities, helping to emphasise the positive contribution young people can make to the community. It will also facilitate better understanding, appreciation and respect amongst the young, the adults and the elderly who live in Old Sarum, simply by bringing all together to have a bit of fun.

8.4.4. The Youth Group has very recently been set up and does not have reserves to call upon to fund this event. The grant will be deducted from the Youth Fund.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
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8.5.	Downton Training Band	"Bash & Blow" project to encourage village residents to take up an instrument	£1,115
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8.5.1. The application has been appraised by the Community Area Manager and meets the grants criteria.

8.5.2. The aim of this project is to encourage residents of the village to take up a musical instrument (brass or percussion), offering high quality but low cost musical education, accessible for all. The Band will hold a weekly rehearsal run by well qualified volunteers during which participants would learn how to play an instrument. Instruments will be made available to loan to participants. The Band plans to go into the local schools and demonstrate just how much fun playing an instrument can be. Performance opportunities would also be arranged so that participants have a goal to work towards and display our work within the village.

8.5.3. Participants will be invited from all sections of the local area and the band is actively recruiting all ages to join the training band. The vision is to instil in participants a desire to continue making music, benefitting themselves, and the wider community.

8.5.4. The band is unable to fully fund this project from its reserves.

Appendices	Appendix 1 – Redlynch & Hale Cricket Club Appendix 2 – Grimstead Parish Council Appendix 3 – Redlynch Parish Council Appendix 4 – Old Sarum Youth Group Appendix 5 – Downton Training Band
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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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