

Report to	Pewsey Area Board
Date of Meeting	6th July 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 20015/16 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Great Bedwyn Playgroup** are seeking £991.99 for new furniture for younger children
2. **Tuesday Night Bingo Club (Burbage)** are seeking £529.98 for a projector and screen

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing (5th April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 1.2. In 2015/16 the officer is required to only ensure that the request meets the funding criteria but not to make any recommendations.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the 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. The allocation for Pewsey Area Board in 2015/2016 including any funding carried over from the previous financial year is £42,408. This is a capital only grants system. If the two funding requests are awarded there will be £37,507.03 remaining
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1001 - £5000 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 CAGs, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle 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.
- 1.8. 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. The funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/areaboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>

- 1.11. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance as presented for delegated decision • Pewsey Joint Strategic Needs Document
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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. Councillors will need to decide whether the community benefit will warrant the request.
- 2.3. This is the second round of funding during 2015/2016.

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 Pewsey Area Board.
- 4.2. All awards are subject to the condition that no payment will be made until all other match funding has been confirmed.

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. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8	Great Bedwyn Playgroup	New furniture for younger children	£991.99

- a. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- b. The project is to purchase a number of lower tables and chairs suitable for the growing number of two year olds enrolling each year and the increasingly popular Toddler session every Wednesday. These tables are to be used throughout the day for both playing and eating and must be cleared away at the end of every session. For this reason it is also hoped that an accompanying trolley for transporting these tables can be purchased at the same time.
- c. The key purpose of this request is to ensure the safety and comfort of both children and staff. Currently the Younger, smaller children will no longer be struggling to reach the high tables and will be benefit from a more ergonomically designed environment in which to eat and play. The trolley will protect the backs of staff members during the endless rounds of setting up and dismantling of furniture, which happens at least twice - and often four times - a day.
- d. The total cost of the project is only £991.99 and no match funding is required.

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4			Report No

9	Tuesday Night Bingo Club (Burbage)	New projector and screen	£529.98
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- a. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- b. The funding is to purchase a new projector and screen to be used by the club and available for all local groups and organisations to use freely and confidently. It will also ensure a single body (Burbage News) is responsible for availability, maintenance and training in the use of such equipment
- c. The equipment that the Bingo Club used previously is not adequate and the club does not have funds in order to purchase new ones. Once it has started it will ensure its sustainability through fundraising.
- d. The total cost of the project is £529.98 and therefore no match funding is required.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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