

<b>Report to</b>	<b>South West Wiltshire Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>29 July 2015</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Funding</b>

### **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. Netherhampton Parish Council - £880 towards a playground boundary hedge.
2. Chilmark Playground Management Committee – £532 towards new playground safety surface.
3. Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall Management Committee - £4,940 towards a disabled access WC and refurbishment of existing toilets.

## 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 2015/2016 budget of **£62,541** for community area grants, digital literacy grants, area board/councillor led initiatives and revenue costs.
- 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 2015/16 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.

<p><b>Background documents used in the preparation of this report</b></p>	<p>South West Wiltshire Area Board Projects and Priorities 2015/16</p> <p><a href="#">Mere Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment</a></p> <p><a href="#">Tisbury Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment</a></p> <p><a href="#">Wilton Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment</a></p>
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. South West Wiltshire Area Board has been allocated a 2015/2016 budget of **£62,541** 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 2015/2016 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. Awards totalling **£2,575** have already been allocated in 2015/2016 at the time of writing this report.

## **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.	Netherhampton Parish Council	Playground boundary hedge	£880

8.1.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.

8.1.2. This project is to plant evergreen hedging along the southern boundary of the children's playground in order to shield it from traffic noise and pollution from the A3094.

8.1.3. The Parish Council reports that current users of the playground include children from Netherhampton families, from the neighbouring nursery school and from visitors to the village. It is also used by families who gather for village events such as fetes.

8.1.4. Wiltshire Council's Play & Leisure Strategy Officer reports that noise reduction from the nearby A3094 is desirable and would support improvements to children's play facilities, although would have expected the local community to fund this improvement.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Chilmark Playground Management Committee	New playground safety surface	£532

- 8.2.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.2.2. This project is to install a new safety surface for the playground.
- 8.2.3. The applicant reports that the playground contributes to the health and well-being of the whole community by providing a safe place for children to play, and somewhere for adults to take young children and meet others.
- 8.2.4. Wiltshire Council's Play & Leisure Strategy Officer reports that safety surfacing is required in all play areas and therefore would be an appropriate item for a Community Grant application.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall Management Committee	Disabled access WC and refurbishment works	£4,940

- 8.3.1. This application has been classified as a capital project by Wiltshire Council finance department.
- 8.3.2. This project is to provide a disabled access WC in Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall, to replace the leaking water supplies to all basins & sinks and to refurbish the Ladies & Gents Toilets.
- 8.3.3. Information technology improvements are currently being installed, with support from a previous community area grant. The applicant reports that current use of the building has been compromised by lack of facilities.
- 8.3.4. Community First's Village Hall and Community Buildings Advisor has recommended this work, reporting that the quotes obtained by the committee appear both appropriate and realistic and carrying out this work would encourage more use by the local community.

<b>Appendices:</b>	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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