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| Report to | Southern Wiltshire |
| Date of Meeting | 30/07/2015 |
| Title of Report | Community Area Grants |

1. Purpose of the report:

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

| Application | Grant Amount |
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| Applicant: Firsdown Parish Council Project Title: Replacement equipment for Firsdown Parish Council play area | £1795.00 |
| Applicant: Redlynch Playing Field Association Project Title: Redlynch Playing Fields Association (RPFA) Mower Project | £2350.00 |
| Applicant: West Dean Youth Club Project Title: Improving our recreation ground 2015 | £2139.00 |
| Applicant: Brian Whitehead Sports Centre Association Project Title: Downton Leisure Centre Internal Sports Hall Tennis Hall Replacement Lights | £5000.00 |
| Total grant amount requested at this meeting | £11284 |

2. Main Considerations

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.

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 2015/2016.

Community Area 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 Area 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

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| <p>Applicant: Firsdow Parish Council Project Title: Replacement equipment for Firsdow Parish Council play area</p> | <p>Amount Requested: £1795.00</p> |
| <p>This application meets grant criteria 2015/16.</p> <p>Project Summary: Replacement piece of play equipment for Firsdow play area</p> <p>Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: Children and their parents - the play area is well used and valuable recreational amenity area for families and of which this is the only one in the Parish. It is an enclosed and safe area, away from traffic.</p> <p>Input from Community Area Manager: Matched funding on £1800 has been raised. The total cost of this project is £3595. This project will provide new facilities for the play park</p> | |
| <p>Applicant: Redlynch Playing Field Association Project Title: Redlynch Playing Fields Association (RPFA) Mower Project</p> | <p>Amount Requested: £2350.00</p> |
| <p>This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.</p> <p>Project Summary: The RPFA are in need of a replacement mower. The current mower is a Gang Mower which is 15 years old and was purchased some years ago, 2nd hand. In the past three years expenditure on spare parts for repairs is around £3000. This does not include labour. Several potential replacement mowers have been inspected, some tested, and found lacking. The preferred mower has been tested on our grounds and fulfils all the requirements of the RPFA. There is a very substantial community discount available. Plus a three year guarantee.</p> <p>Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: RPFA has a large grass area. Sufficient for three football pitches in winter and a cricket pitch in the summer. Three football teams have operated this past winter. They include a veteran, a youth and a League playing team. Team training is conducted mid week with a young persons training session being held for the younger potential players in the area. Currently very popular. There are two cricket teams who also utilise the Village green pitch. They have likewise a range of players. They too run twice weekly training sessions including quite young and female members. Adjacent to this sport area there is a childrens grassed play area, with rubberised matting below all play equipment. The play area attracts a large cross section of the community. Families have picnics in this area. Bins provided Sporting events are well supported by many mature elders including those with disabilities. They are accommodated on the benches on the grassed area immediately to the front of the Club House. The sportsmen of the community, of all ages will benefit from maintaining pitch standards. This in turn will develop their fitness, teamwork and competitive skills. The very appeal of this well</p> | |

maintained area attracts diverse families who meet and have the opportunity to enhance their social skills and make friends outside their own social circle. Children have a safe and modern play area in which to exercise their coordination and with encouragement develop further. The area brings Parents, and Grandparents together of other family groups. This social amenity must be maintained to its best.

Input from Community Area Manager:

Matched funding on £2350 has been raised. The total cost of this project is £ 6350. This project will help maintain the local facilities.

Applicant: West Dean Youth Club
Project Title: Improving our recreation ground
2015

Amount Requested:
£2139.00

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: We wish to build on improvements made to West Dean playground in 2013. Then we concentrated on provision of play equipment a pavilion as a place to meet and a path to improve access. We now wish to provide a wider range of activities suitable for older children and young adults an outdoor table tennis table, a small climbing wall with safety matting, new goalposts and nets, plus an extension to the path with a ramp to the pavilion to provide safer access for people with impaired mobility and help parents with baby buggies who get stuck crossing the bark.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: This application links to Joint Strategic Assessment Leisure priority no 4 Formal and informal outdoor recreation as well as JSA Environment priority no 2 Maximising the social benefits of green space. During the last 10 years many houses have changed hands in West Dean and we now have many children under the age of 11 but within a few years they will be teenagers so we need to offer a wider range of activities at the park. We have asked young people and their parents for their ideas: the table tennis table, climbing wall, and better goalposts and nets were favourites. We also need to replace the goalposts as the playground safety inspector says our existing posts are unsatisfactory. An extension to the path is needed as some of the older residents cannot walk across the uneven bark surface to the pavilion, nor can a wheelchair or baby buggy go across it. The aim of the project is to provide healthy outdoor activities for a wider range of people and to make access to the equipment and the pavilion safer and easier. West Dean is affected by the same issues as many other rural communities: all our amenities have closed, no school, no shop, no post office, no pub. There is nowhere to go and meet people except for the few organised activities in the village hall. It is over 8 miles to the nearest town so the reduction in bus services, increased train fares, and cost of car use affects us all thus the recreation ground is of additional importance to us as a place to meet, mix, relax and play sport. Our objective is to continue making West Dean a good place for everyone to live in.

Input from Community Area Manager:

Matched funding on £ 6023.92 has been raised. The total cost of this project is £8162. This project will help maintain the local facilities.

Applicant: Brian Whitehead Sports Centre Association

Project Title: Downton Leisure Centre Internal Sports Hall Tennis Hall Replacement Lights

Amount Requested:
£5000.00

This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.

Project Summary: This is a project to replace the lights in the tennis hall and Sports Hall at Downton Leisure Centre. Half of the lights in the Tennis Hall are currently not working, the ones which work use a lot of energy and are difficult to replace. The orange lights in the Sports Hall are to be replaced with lights which have a 10 year life and the existing bulbs will be discontinued next year so replacements will not be available.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community: All users of the Leisure Centre and Tennis Hall will benefit from the project. These consist of users of exercise classes, badminton players, children's parties, holiday club children 5 a side Football, Basketball, Downton Tennis Club juniors and adults.

Input from Community Area Manager:

Matched funding on £1000 has been raised. The total cost of this project is £28801.00. Matched funding is short and we would need to know how remaining £22k funding will be sought. This project will help maintain the local facilities.

Report Author:

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