

## Melksham Area Grant Report

### Purpose of the Report

- To provide details of the grant applications made to the Melksham Area Board. These could include:
  - community area grants
  - youth grants
  - older and vulnerable people grants
  - area board initiatives
- To document any recommendations provided through sub groups.

### Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Youth Grants	Older and Vulnerable People Grants
Opening Balance For 2024/25	£ 22,309.00	£ 18,349.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 0.00	£ 0.00	£ 0.00
Current Balance	£ 22,309.00	£ 18,349.00	£ 7,700.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 19,824.48	£ 18,349.00	£ 4,366.01

### Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
<a href="#">ABG1731</a>	Community Area Grant	Melksham and District Historical Association	Melksham Historical Association Display Cabinets	£2000.00	£1000.00
<b>Project Summary:</b> As an initial step towards a long term goal of a Melksham Museum, we are looking to half fund two display cabinets with a view to showcasing items the Association has collected over the past 62 years. The Town Council has agreed to allow the use of their foyer as a venue.					
<a href="#">ABG1760</a>	Community Area Grant	Great Hinton Heritage Group	Great Hinton Heritage Group Display Materials	£484.52	£484.52

**Project Summary:**

The group was founded in December 2023 with the assistance of an Older and Vulnerable Adults grant submitted to the Melksham Area Board by the Great Hinton Community Committee. Our meetings and walking tour have reached out to the target demographic, building opportunities for social interaction after the isolating effects of the Covid period. A wealth of information has already been gathered and the group would like to share this with the village by having a Heritage Event in the Village Hall. It has also become apparent during the meetings that it would be helpful to be able to project materials such as maps to support participative discussion. Also, the need for magnifiers has been identified. We believe we have sourced the loan of main display boards from Steeple Ashton to present exhibition material at the Heritage Event, but we would benefit from two table top boards to present topical theme materials and prompt curiosity when using source material at the meetings.

[ABG1764](#)

Community Area Grant

Bowerhill Baby and Toddler Group

Bowerhill Baby and Toddler group Outdoor Active

£642.40

£500.00

**Project Summary:**

Bowerhill Baby and Toddler Group has been running for around 20 years. In June of 2023 a group of Mums living in Bowerhill, decided to take on the running of the group rather than loose such a fabulous facility. The group operates every Monday 10am-11:30 (apart from Bank Holidays). We offer a different theme each week such as "under the sea" with sea creature toys, water and sea themed crafts. We have been very fortunate to receive funding to replace our indoor, broken toys and equipment. This has been extremely welcomed and resulted in an increase in the popularity of our playgroup. However, we would now like to request funds to invest in some outdoor equipment for our children. Currently, we have an outside, grassy area however we do not utilise this space as we lack of appropriate toys and equipment. Encouraging our children to play outside is important as this develops physical fitness and helps to aid critical development such as stability and bone density. Time spent outdoors helps to relieve stress and anxiety and has significant, positive impacts on mental health and wellbeing. Given that the children who attend playgroup have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 and the disease containment measures followed i.e., subsequent lockdowns, it is important to help children thrive as much as possible. Therefore, providing access to an outdoor space with fun and engaging toys and equipment for them to use, is an excellent way to support the development of our children.

[ABG1774](#)

Community Area Grant

Great Hinton Indoor Bowls Club

Great Hinton Indoor Bowls Club

£500.00

£500.00

**Project Summary:**

The project is to purchase a set of new carpet bowls. The Great Hinton Indoor Bowls Club was established in 2009. All of the start up equipment was second hand. A set of bowls should last 15-20years and at first they were satisfactory, but over time there has been a gradual change in the bias. There is inconsistency in performance, some bowls reacting more than other. A replacement set of bowls will enhance the enjoyment for both current and future players.

**Application Reference****Grant Type****Applicant****Project****Total Cost****Requested**[ABG1769](#)

Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding

Avon Bowls Club

Avon Bowls Club Access Ramp

£333.99

£333.99

**Project Summary:**

At present, one has to go up two steps to enter the Bowls Club grounds. Those in a wheelchair need to have able-bodied assistance to be pulled up the steps. A difficult manoeuvre. To access the Green, one has to use portable steps, which currently presents an insurmountable challenge to both wheelchair users and those with significant mobility issues, The provision of a moveable ramp will provide easier access to the club grounds for all those with mobility issues, including wheelchair users and the same ramp can also provide similar access to the Green.

<a href="#">ABG1788</a>	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	OUR TIME PROJECT	MELKSHAM MOVEMENT AND THEATRE WORKSHOPS FOR ELDERS	£6000.00	£3000.00
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**Project Summary:**

**TO PRODUCE AND DELIVER A SERIES OF HIGH QUALITY INSPIRING THEATRE AND MOVEMENT WORKSHOPS WITH ELDERLY COMMUNITIES IN MELKSHAM : CREATING JOYFUL, LIFE - ENHANCING EXPERIENCES, UNDER THE GUIDANCE AND THE EXPERTISE OF THE OUR TIME PROJECT COMPANY. INVOLVING ACTIVE ELDERS, VERY FRAIL, THOSE WHO HAVE HAD STROKES, AND THOSE WITH DEMENTIA .ULTIMATELY ENCOURAGING PERSONAL DISCOVERY AND A SHARED AND ENLIGHTENING COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE WHICH WILL HAVE POSITIVE REPERCUSSIONS IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY. The workshops will improve the health and well-being of participants at The Brookside Home Melksham OSJCT and the Rainbow Day Centre Melksham encouraging mental and physical stimulation as well as being a joyful creative collective experience for both elders and carers. [www.ourtimeproject.com](http://www.ourtimeproject.com) <https://www.youtube.com/@ourtimeproject> Tailor- made to the needs of each group whether very frail, active elders or those with dementia or who have had strokes, the OUR TIME PROJECT inspires through the use of movement and theatrical play, drawing from the life experience of participants, guiding with delicate expertise and taking ideas onto a theatrical level, allowing and encouraging the participants to see each other in new ways, and encouraging a fantastic shared experience which has an impact inside the prospective homes and groups as well as having ripples into the wider communities through the carers and families ; Carers are encouraged to participate and sometimes family members who are visiting. In Melksham Brookside Home and the Rainbow Day centre have been highlighted as having a clear need and a keen interest in having OUR TIME PROJECT delivering this work for the beneficiaries of elders. Each residency workshop is a unique experience in itself and is tailor made to the needs and requirements of each group whether very frail active elders those with dementia or physically disabled. These workshops draw from the distinctive experience of the Company and the experience of the Director who has created pioneering theatre and movement work with the elderly over the past 14 years . It is a pre- requisite of the company's ethos to have an innovative creative and life enhancing approach to interactive workshops with the elderly. Drawing from training at the Lecoq International school 1992 -1994 and over 20 years' experience as a Director of theatre Sue Lee B.A Hons Diploma Ecole Lecoq Director coordinates the OUR TIME PROJECT and encourages a direct and stimulating environment with the Our Time expert practitioners where wonderful experiences and great discoveries happen with much laughter under the care and collaboration with care workers within each workshop setting. The workshops aim to inspire and bring out the undiscovered in each participant drawing on the creativity that stems from each individual's life experience and celebrate this in a joyous way. Movement is at the core and each workshop begins with simple movements which will have a great physical benefit then leading to simple improvisation creating a unique vibrant and life enhancing experience that bonds the collective and rejoices the individuals uniqueness. The workshops are delicate drawing out the creative potential in each person in a sensitive way as well as encouraging a group shared experience. The workshops aim to stimulate physical activity as well as spiritually bind the group encouraging well-being and improved quality of health. Some feedback from the previous set of workshops in the area Rebecca Brown leader from Forum Stroke Club "I think the members really enjoyed it they were smiling and laughing ..... it is wonderful for their imagination and memory. It is good for them to interact as a group. They gain confidence I could really see this programme happening again as it was great fun.' Chris brown day centre participant Mrs Alison Meer's .'It took me out of my shy comfort zone.... Making a fool of oneself isn't a bad thing from time to time... I wish I had started being so fluid in movements earlier'.**

**Background**

3. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria. This document is available on the council's website.
4. Three funding streams are available to the Area Board, each with an annually awarded amount. These funding streams are as follows:
  - Community Area Grants (capital)
  - Youth Grants (revenue)
  - Older and Vulnerable People Grants (revenue)
- 5.

The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

## **Main Considerations**

6. Councillors need to be satisfied that the applications meet the requirements as set out in the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria and that the health and wellbeing and young persons funding guidelines have been adhered to.
7. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
8. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

## **Safeguarding Implications**

9. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **Public Health Implications**

10. The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## **Environmental & Climate Change Implications**

11. Grant funding will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

## **Financial Implications**

12. Councillors must ensure that the Area Board has sufficient funding available to cover the grants awarded.

## **Legal Implications**

13. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

## **Workforce Implications**

14. There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

## **Equalities Implications**

15. Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.
16. Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

## **Proposals**

17. To consider and determine the applications for grant funding.

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## **Report Author**

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