

REPORT TO THE Area 4 Committee

Report No.6

Date of Meeting	12 th September 2006
Title of Report	Area 4 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/07
Link to Corporate Priorities	Community Area Awards can be linked to the Council's priority of Partnerships and Customer Focus through community based projects, supporting the delivery of Community Plans and all other Council priorities; especially those associated with Equalities and Diversity and Healthy Lifestyles.
Public Report	Yes

Summary of Report

To ask Members to consider 2 applications seeking 2006/07 Community Area Award Funding

Officer Recommendations

To agree funding distribution of Area 4 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007:

Ecolerne - Award £1,482 from the revenue budget to hold a Sustainability Festival and produce environmentally friendly shopping bags for every household in Colerne.

Box Youth Club – Award £500 from the revenue budget to establish a Youth Club in Box

Other than those implications agreed with the relevant Officers and referred to below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Financial Implications	Legal Implications	Community & Environmental Implications	Human Resources Implications	Equality & Diversity Implications
Yes	None	Yes	None	Yes

Contact Officer

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Following the funding awards made on 16th May 2006, Area 4 Committee has a capital balance of £48,270 and a revenue balance of £8,000.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 provides details of the 2005/2006 distribution of awards across Area 4, in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area in 2006/07.
- 1.3 Members are reminded that all applications in 2006/07 will be considered under the same Community Area Award criteria. Those schemes requesting £500 or less will not require any matched funding, while those requesting more than £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total cost of their project.
- 1.4 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that there will be three funding rounds during 2006/07. The first took place on 16th May 2006, the second is contained in this report, and the third will take place on:
- 16th January 2007
- 1.5 The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered at the January Committee meeting is 1st December 2006.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.1	Ecolerne See Appendix 2	To hold a Sustainability Festival and produce environmentally friendly shopping bags for every household in the village	Revenue	£ 1,482

- 2.1.1 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2006/07 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "Improve local recycling and composting".
- 2.1.2 "Ecolerne" is a newly formed group of people from Colerne who have come together to address environmental issues. There is tremendous local support for this initiative, coupled with a team of highly motivated volunteers with considerable skills and experience to bring to the project.
- 2.1.3 Ecolerne intends to actively encourage all of the villagers to consider a number of environmental issues by hosting a Sustainability Festival. Stands will provide information about ethical services, composting and recycling. The Festival is the first in a programme of events and activities to inspire, stimulate and engage the Colerne community in building a sustainable village.
- 2.1.4 The first campaign to be launched at the Festival will be to reduce consumption and waste disposal of plastic bags. Every household will be offered a robust environmentally friendly shopping bag free of charge. The 3 local shops will monitor the success of the campaign by providing figures of reduction in the number plastic carrier bags required.

2.1.5 Officer Recommendation – Award £1,482 from the revenue budget to Ecolerne to hold a Sustainability Festival and produce environmentally friendly shopping bags for every household in Colerne.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.2	Box Youth Club See Appendix 3	To establish a Youth Club in Box for ages 11 - 19	Revenue	£ 500

2.2.1 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2006/07 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan “Lack of places for young people to meet” and “Lack of facilities for young people, particularly in the villages”.

2.2.2 Volunteers have come forward from within the parish of Box, and they have consulted with Youth Action Wiltshire to confirm best practice when setting up a new Youth Club.

2.2.3 The Parish Council is fully in support of the project, and has made the parish office available for Youth Club planning meetings. The Bowls Club has offered the use of their pavilion during the winter months.

2.2.4 Local young people have been involved throughout the planning of the project. Adult volunteers have encouraged young people to take on various aspects of the project to provide them with an opportunity to gain life skills. e.g. fundraising, and creation of a programme of events and activities.

2.2.5 Future running costs will be met by weekly subscriptions and ongoing fundraising.

2.2.6 Officer recommendation - Award £500 from the revenue budget to establish a Youth Club in Box.

3. Background Information

3.1 In 2006/07 Area 4 Committee were given a capital budget of £40,000 and a revenue budget of £8,000 for distribution in the form of Community Area Awards.

3.2 As a result of 3 projects not proceeding, capital funding totalling £24,544 was returned to the Area 4 Committee for 2006/07.

3.3 Funding criteria for 2006/07 were reviewed by a Working Party, which included representatives of all five Area committees. The Executive Committee subsequently approved the revised policy and procedures, on 2nd February 2006. Should members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.

3.4 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget would be allocated to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Corsham Area Community Plan. The remaining 25% would be available for those schemes that fell outside the Community Plan, but remained important for local people and were able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial Implications

- 4.1.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 4 Committee as outlined in section 4.1 of this report.
- 4.1.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of £48,270 and a revenue balance of £6,018
- 4.1.3 Consideration needs to be made to ensure a balance of funding across towns, villages and hamlets within the Community Area.
- 4.2 Community & Environmental Implications
 - 4.2.1 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and /or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and well-being in the Community Area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent on the individual project.
- 4.3 Equality & Diversity Implications
 - 4.3.1 No EIA available at the time of writing this report, but this will be completed shortly.
 - 4.3.2 The Community Funding Award Criteria does not discriminate against any member of the community on the grounds of age, gender, disability, ethnicity/culture, religion/belief, sexual orientation.
 - 4.3.3 All documents relating to the Community Funding Awards are available in hard copy, large print, or via the North Wiltshire District Council website.
 - 4.3.4 Officers offer support to applicants through the application process.
 - 4.3.5 Expert funding advice is available via the Charities Information Bureau.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Financial Summary • Appendix 2 – Funding Application from Ecolerne • Appendix 3 – Funding application form Box Youth Club
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan • Community Area Award Criteria

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Area 4 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/07	Area 4 Committee 16 th May 2006	