

## REPORT TO THE CALNE AREA (5) COMMITTEE

Report No. 7

Date of Meeting	10 October 2006
Title of Report	Area 5 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/2007
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working – also links to Healthy Lifestyles
Public Report	YES The decisions will have an impact on people living and working in the Calne Community Area and may contribute towards delivering projects identified in the Calne Community Area Plan

### Summary of Report

This report presents recommendations relating to 3 applications seeking funding from the 2006/2007 Community Area Award Scheme. It links the applications to the Calne Community Area Plan where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

### Officer Recommendations

**To agree funding distribution of the Area 5 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007:**

- 1. Calne Without Parish Plan Steering Committee – Award £323 from the revenue budget, towards the preparation of a Parish Plan, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2. Calne Area Initiative for an Active Community (CAIAC) – Award £500 from the revenue budget, towards the running of lantern workshops across the Community Area, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
- 3. Calne Family Action Group – Award £500 from the revenue budget, towards a theatre excursion for disadvantaged young people and their families, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**

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

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 3 applications for 2006/2007 Community Area Award funding; many of which relate directly to issues and priorities identified in Calne Community Area Plan.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

- 2.1 **Option 1: Calne Without Parish Plan Steering Committee – Award £323 from the revenue budget, towards the preparation of a Parish Plan, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**

- 2.1.1 This application meets the 2006/2007 Community Area Award funding criteria and demonstrates links to the Calne Community Area Plan, through addressing all of the 8 plan themes. This will feed into the community planning process generally and will promote a sense of community cohesion and well being.
- 2.1.2 District Council Officers are of the opinion that the production of Parish Plans is a valuable community exercise, involving local people in the identification of local needs and priorities. This will provide relevant local information, which will inform the community planning process at an area, district and county level.
- 2.1.3 The project has been planned with the support of Community First and the Parish Council.
- 2.1.4 Unique to applications for funding towards the production of Parish Plans is the requirement that the Area Committee will only match the contribution made by the Parish Council and the total contribution from the Area Committee will not exceed £1,000.
- 2.1.5 A decision not to fund this project might deprive the Community Planning process of a valuable resource and at the same time deny the local population the opportunity to take an active involvement in informing that process.
- 2.1.6 If members are minded to support this project it should be noted that the project still faces a shortfall of £2,306. Therefore any award should be made conditional upon the balance of funding being in place

- 2.2 **Option 2: Calne Area Initiative for an Active Community – Award £500 from the revenue budget, towards running a series of lantern workshops across the Community Area, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

- 2.2.1 This application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and has specific links to the Calne Community Area Plan, which seeks to 'encourage community events that create a sense of pride and well being' and which 'encourages a vibrant community which involves all elements of the society'.
- 2.2.2 The initial lantern procession in Calne received support from the Area 5 Community Area Award scheme on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2003. At that time, an award of £500 was made to Calne Town Council, towards the engagement of professional artists to support workshops and the event. This project enabled local volunteers to gain the skills to run workshops for future events.
- 2.2.3 The lantern procession has gone on to form a focal point of the towns calendar and is now organised by volunteers from CAIAC, the Culture Theme Group of the Calne

Community Area Partnership. The procession and associated festival attracts positive attention to the town and the Community Area as an attractive place to live, work and do business. Increasingly evidence shows that people travel from beyond the Area and the District to experience the procession.

- 2.2.4 This application represents the further expansion of the project through a programme of lantern workshops. These will provide opportunities for greater engagement, interaction, communication and inclusion across the wider Community Area.
- 2.2.5 A decision not to fund this project would limit the number of people living in the Community Area that might achieve a sense of personal pride and inclusion from being involved in this prominent community event.
- 2.2.6 If members are minded to support this project it should be noted that, while the applicant has secured financial support from Community First, the project still faces a shortfall of £250. Therefore any award should be made conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 2.3 **Option 3: Calne Family Action Group – Award £500 from the revenue budget, towards a theatre excursion for disadvantaged young people and their families, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 2.3.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and has specific links to the Calne Community Area Plan, through providing activities for young people and also the promotion of community cohesion and wellbeing.
- 2.3.2 This organisation aims to provide opportunities for children and their families to participate in activities that they would otherwise be excluded from as a result of a lack of resources within their families.
- 2.3.3 Target families are those experiencing low income, the need for long term benefit support, relationship breakdowns, alcohol and drug abuse or long term illness.
- 2.3.4 The Family Action Group undertakes a programme of fundraising activities and will partially fund this project from those activities. In addition the families involved will make a contribution to the cost of the trip.
- 2.3.5 Members may remember that this applicant has been supported by Area 5 with respect to a number of projects in the past, at the same time the group has achieved funding from other sources for a range of other projects. Officers are of the opinion that this group provides a valuable service in the Community Area and are encouraging the group to develop a more long-term programme of project planning and funding. The Charities Information Bureau will assist the group in adopting a stronger more strategic approach to fundraising from a variety of agencies in the future.
- 2.3.6 A decision not to fund this project would mean that this project would not take place.

### **3. Background Information**

- 3.1 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 2 February 2006. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.

- 3.2 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 Calne Community Area 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.
- 3.3 In 2006/07 all funding applications 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.
- 3.4 The virement of £1,000 from the Area 5 Committee Community Area Award revenue budget to the District-wide Scheme (approved on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006), has been returned as a result of all Area Committees being unable to agree to this request.
- 3.5 Following the funding recommendations made on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 2006 and the return of the virement, Area 5 Committee has a community capital balance of £52,510 and a revenue balance of £4,440 available for distribution for the remainder of the year.
- 3.6 Appendix 1 provides details of the 2005/06 geographical distribution of awards across Area 5, while Appendix 2 illustrates 2006/2007 geographical distribution of awards to date. It is hoped that these will assist Members when making their decisions.
- 3.7 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that there are three funding rounds during 2006/07. The second is contained in this report, and the last remaining one will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2007. The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered for the February Committee meeting is 12<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 5 Committee as outlined in section 3 of this report
- 4.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, members will have a capital balance of £52,510 and a revenue balance of £3,117.

#### **5. Community and Environmental Implications**

- 5.1 All of the awards can be directly linked to priority themes and aspirations laid out in the Calne Community Area Plan.
- 5.2 Awards made by Area Committee to successful applicants will contribute to the continuance and /or the 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.

#### **6. Equality & Diversity Implications**

- 6.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment for the Community Area Awards has been undertaken and copies may be made available on request.

## 7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1 Failure to make awards would have a moderate impact on applicants and their associated community projects. Since this is considered to be unlikely, the overall risk is considered low.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 Area 5 2005/2006 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li> <li>• Appendix 2 Area 5 2006/2007 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li> <li>• Appendix 3 Application – Calne Without Parish Council</li> <li>• Appendix 4 Application – CAIAC</li> <li>• Appendix 5 Application – Calne Family Action Group</li> </ul>
<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Area Award Funding Criteria</li> <li>• Calne Community Area Plan 2004 – 2014</li> <li>• Calne Community Area Plan Update 2006</li> </ul>

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
None		