

**REPORT TO THE CALNE AREA (5) COMMITTEE**

Report No. 6

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>19 June 2007</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area 5 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008</b>
Link to Corporate Priorities	To put customers at the heart of everything we do – Support Community Area Partnerships and Community Plans
Public Report	Yes

**Summary of Report**

This report has been prepared to present members of the Calne Area (5) Committee with the Community Area Awards funding criteria and procedures for 2007/2008.

In addition it provides Members with details of the 2007/2008 budget available and gives recommendations relating to 6 applications seeking funding from the 2007/2008 Community Area Award Scheme.

It illustrates links between applications and the Calne Community Area Plan where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

**Officer Recommendations**

**See overleaf**

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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## **Officer Recommendations**

- 1. Members to note their 2007/2008 budget allocation and funding criteria for the Community Area Award scheme.**

**To agree funding distribution of the Area 5 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:**

- 2. Compton Bassett Village Hall Management Committee – Award £499 from the revenue budget, towards the cost of providing disabled vehicular access to the village hall, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 3. Calne Town Council – Award £2,831 from the capital budget, towards the cost of converting the town centre CCTV system from analogue to digital, conditional upon the Town Council funding the balance.**
- 4. Derry Hill United Football Club – Award £315 from the revenue budget, towards the purchase of portable goal wheels, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 5. Summer Fun in Calne Playscheme – Award £1,232 from the revenue budget, towards a playscheme for 5 – 13 year olds during the summer holidays, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 6. Calne Family Action Group – Award £1,145 from the revenue budget towards a summer programme of activities for priority need children and their families.**
- 7. Stay and Play Café - Award £500 from the revenue budget towards equipping a voluntarily run, low cost café for parents and pre-school aged children, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the budget available and funding criteria for the 2007/2008 Community Area Awards scheme, which were approved by Executive on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2007. It considers 7 applications for 2007/2008 Community Area Award funding, all of which relate to issues and priorities identified in the Calne Community Area Plan.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

### 2.1 Option 1: Members note their 2008/2009 budget allocation and funding criteria for Community Area Awards

- 2.2 The budget allocation was approved by Council on 22 February 2007 and is not a matter of debate. Details are outlined in section 3 of this report.

- 2.3 A Joint Community Area Funding Advisory Body reviewed the Community Area Award criteria for 2007/08 in January 2007. The Executive subsequently approved the Community Area Award Policy on 8 February 2007. Details are outlined in section 3 of this report. Criteria are reviewed annually. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter must be referred to the Executive.

### 2.4 Option 2: Award Compton Bassett Village Hall Management Committee £499 from the revenue budget, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Compton Bassett Village Hall Management Committee App 1	Drop kerb to provide vehicular disabled access to the village hall.	Revenue	£499

- 2.4.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.4.2 While there is not a specific link between this project and the milestones and issues laid out in the Calne Community Area Plan, this project reflects the overarching vision of the plan 'to improve the quality of life for all who live in, work in or visit the Calne Community Area'. (CCAP pp1).
- 2.4.3 The Village Hall Management Committee has already successfully found funding from other sources, which has enabled the implementation of a scheme that has equipped the hall with internal disabled facilities.
- 2.4.4 Those members of the community who experience mobility and accessibility difficulties continue to have to park away from the building on an uneven grass area, from here they have to cross a road and mount a raised kerb in order to gain access to the village hall.
- 2.4.5 The Management Committee is seeking match funding from Area 5 for the creation of a disabled vehicular access, which will complete the groups' ambition to make the building accessible to all.

- 2.4.6 The current population of the parish is approximately 250; 20% of whom are aged 65 or over and just over 15% are recorded as suffering a limiting long-term illness. (*National neighbourhood statistics 2001*). The applicant suggests that approximately 60 disabled drivers use this village facility. This award will benefit all members of the community and especially those who have difficulties in accessing the building.
- 2.4.7 A decision not to fund this project would mean a delay to the implementation of this work and subsequent continued inconvenience to those members of the community who experience accessibility difficulties.

**2.5 Option 3: Award Calne Town Council £2,831 from the capital budget towards the provision of digital CCTV recording equipment, conditional upon the Town Council funding the balance**

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Calne Town Council App 2	Replacement of analogue with digital recording equipment for the town centre CCTV system.	Capital	£2,831

- 2.5.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.5.2 This application makes specific links to the Calne Community Area Plan. Through improving the effectiveness of the towns CCTV, it responds to issues surrounding anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime and is addressing the visions of the plan to promote 'a community where criminal damage is minimal' and 'where all ages feel safe' (*CCAP Crime and Community Safety section*).
- 2.5.3 North Wiltshire District Council's Crime and Community Safety Officer has advised that many analogue CCTV systems are now being transferred to digital systems and that this provides the police and the community safety partnership with a higher quality image in a format that is more flexible (internet enabled), long lasting and time/date specific.
- 2.5.4 Members might be minded to consider debates about the effectiveness of CCTV as a tool to reduce crime and anti social behaviour in relation to its intrusive nature with regards to personal freedoms.
- 2.5.5 Members may like to note that other local authorities continue to support the use of CCTV. Swindon Borough Council's CCTV strategy 2005-2010 states that, particularly when considered as part of a package of improvements, 'CCTV can play a vital role in crime prevention and detection as well as raising public confidence and feelings of safety'.
- 2.5.6 Members may also like to note that, in a report by Crime Concern, commissioned by the four Wiltshire Community Safety Partnerships in September 2003, Town Councils across Wiltshire (including Calne Town Council) were commended for taking the lead role in 'identifying places where CCTV might play a part in crime reduction, often as a part of a broader town regeneration programme'
- 2.5.7 North Wiltshire District Council contributed to the original CCTV project in Calne Town Centre with a resolution (25th July 2000) to commit £25,000 from underspending in the 1999/00 budget.

- 2.5.8 Calne Town Council is funding more than half of the overall cost of this project.
- 2.5.9 A decision not to fund this project would result in its implementation being delayed while the Town Council seeks other sources of funding.

**2.6 Option 4: Award Derry Hill United Football Club £315 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of portable goal wheels, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Derry Hill United Football Club App 3	The purchase of portable goal wheels	Revenue	£315

- 2.6.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.6.2 This application also links to the community plan by encouraging and creating the provision of leisure recreation in the town and villages as well as activities for young people.
- 2.6.3 The applicant is looking for a modest contribution towards a piece of equipment that will fundamentally enhance the development of young people's involvement in this sporting activity.
- 2.6.4 The Football club has a successful record of serving a large number of young people, boys and girls, not exclusively from within the village of Derry Hill, but from across the community area.
- 2.6.5 A decision not to fund this project would result in its implementation being delayed while the organisation seeks other sources of funding.

**2.7 Option 5: Award the Summer Fun in Calne Playscheme £1,232 towards a playscheme for 5 – 13 year olds during the summer holidays, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Summer Fun in Calne Playscheme App 4	To run a 4 week playscheme for 5 – 13 year olds from 30 <sup>th</sup> July – 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2007.	Revenue	£1,232

- 2.7.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.7.2 This application also addresses the Community Plan by providing facilities and activities for young people.
- 2.7.3 A wide range of organisations including Calne Town Council are supporting this project financially.
- 2.7.4 The applicant is looking for a relatively modest contribution towards a 4-week scheme of summer play activities for children 5 years old and over.

2.7.5 Area 5 has supported this playscheme in previous years. It is highly regarded as a well-planned and organised project that delivers a different programme to a different group of children each year.

2.7.6 A decision not to fund this project might result in the project being unable to take place, or to it being undertaken at a reduced level.

**2.8 Option 6: Award the Calne Family Action Group £1,145 from the revenue budget towards a summer programme of activities for priority need children and their families.**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Calne Family Action Group</b> App 5	A programme of activities for priority need children and their families to run from July to October 2007.	Revenue	£1,145

2.8.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.

2.8.2 This application has specific links to the Calne Community Area Plan, through providing activities for young people and also the promotion of community cohesion and well-being.

2.8.3 The Family Action Group was formed by a group of local residents based mainly around the Coleman's Farm Estate it receives a degree of organisational support from Barnardos.

2.8.4 This group 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. Events tend to focus upon encouraging families to interact with each other and discover the possibilities of day to day family life.

2.8.5 Target families are those experiencing low income, the need for long term benefit support, relationship breakdowns, alcohol and drug abuse or long term illness.

2.8.6 The events that this group organises represent traditional kinds of family outings and activities, which many of the participants experience here for the first time. This particular programme will include semi-supervised day trips to the seaside, adventure play trips, and facilitated arts and crafts sessions for between 150 and 200 people.

2.8.7 Members should be aware that this applicant has been supported by Area 5 with respect to a number of projects in the past.

2.8.8 Following advice from officers, this group has adopted a more strategic approach to long-term project planning and funding. The group has successfully researched alternative funding sources and has devised a programme of fundraising activities that will partially fund this programme. In addition the families involved will make a contribution to the cost of this programme.

2.8.9 In addition to this programme of events, the group has also secured alternative funding from the Local Network Fund to take 8 priority families on a summer holiday for a week at a caravan site in Devon.

- 2.8.10 Officers are of the opinion that this group provides a valuable service in the Community Area and are encouraging the group to continue to develop their long-term approach to project planning and funding.
- 2.8.11 A decision not to fund this project might result in the project being unable to take place, or to take place at a reduced level as well as reducing confidence amongst the groups organisers in the positive value of long term planning, this could have a negative effect upon the development of this group.

**2.9 Option 7: Award the Stay and Play Café £500 from the revenue budget towards a café/children’s play area.**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Stay and Play Cafe</b> App 6	A town centre, drop in, café/children’s play area where local young parents and their young children can ‘stay and play’.	Revenue	£500

- 2.9.1 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2007/2008 funding criteria.
- 2.9.2 This application has specific links to the Calne Community Area Plan, through providing activities for young people and also the promotion of community cohesion and well-being.
- 2.9.3 Officers recognise that parents of young children can often feel anxious, sad, emotional or isolated, combined with other social pressures like low income or poor housing these experiences can be intensified. It is also recognised that projects promoting interaction, relaxation and enjoyment are of value in countering such experiences.
- 2.9.4 This project is organised by a group of volunteers who aim to provide a low cost facility in the town centre that would provide parents somewhere to meet in an informal environment while their children can play safely. This provides a venue for ‘customers’ to meet other people who may share similar experiences and the opportunity for mutual support networks to arise.
- 2.9.5 The organisers have consulted with many parents about their needs and wants and believe that there is a requirement for this form of low cost facility.
- 2.9.6 The organisers have operated a successful pilot scheme to this project for the past 3 months, using borrowed equipment and 2<sup>nd</sup> hand toys. During this period they have seen the numbers of visitors rise from 15 – 30 per session.
- 2.9.7 The organisers would now like to upgrade the project by obtaining new equipment and toys, this will enable more people to be catered for and provide a more comfortable and inviting environment in which people can meet.
- 2.9.8 A decision not to fund this project will not prevent this project from continuing, but will mean that it has to continue to rely upon borrowed and second hand equipment and will mean that it is unlikely to be able to cater for more people.

## 2.10 Other applications

In addition to the above, 3 further applications were submitted which did not meet funding criteria or, after discussions between applicants and officers, did not include enough information or evidence of adequate project planning to be considered at this time.

Two of these applicants (Cherhill Pre-school and The North Wilts Golf Club) have withdrawn their applications with a view to resubmitting at a later date. Officers have rejected the third application (from Westlea Housing Association) on the grounds that it did not meet the funding criteria and, in spite of receiving an extension to the deadline, the applicant failed to provide additional information relating to the application in time for submission.

## 3. Background Information

3.1 In 2007/2008 Area 5 Committee have been allocated a capital budget of £40,000 and a revenue budget of £8,000 for distribution in the form of Community Area Awards.

3.1.1 A copy of the 2007/2008 Community Area Awards Funding Pack can be found in Appendix 7. This contains information relating to funding criteria, information and advice about alternative funding sources, an application form, guidance notes for completing the form and a chart outlining the process by which applications will be dealt with.

3.1.2 Applications can be made electronically via the Council's website, ([www.northwilts.gov.uk](http://www.northwilts.gov.uk)) or via a paper version.

3.2 Funding Criteria

3.2.1 Key elements and changes to the funding criteria are outlined below:

- ◆ The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget is allocated to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Calne Community Area Plan. The remainder (being no more than 25%) is available for those schemes that fall outside of the Community Plan, but are important for local people and demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.
- ◆ Applications 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. Where applications come from Parish and Town Councils, the Area 5 Committee will not award more than the amount contributed by the Town or Parish Council. The rationale for this decision is based on the ability of Town and Parishes to raise funding through the precept.
- ◆ Funding will be awarded according to demand over the three funding rounds and not divided equally between the three tranches.
- ◆ Planning permission will only need to have been investigated by the applicant at the time of submitting an application, although receipt of planning permission would form a condition of all Awards being made.
- ◆ No Award can be made to an applicant if it exceeds the sum requested on the formal application form. Should Members wish to award a greater sum, the item would need to be deferred until the next funding round and the applicant requested to submit a revised application.

- ◆ Capital and revenue cannot be awarded to the same scheme. The rationale for adopting this approach is to ensure that applicants have ensured that, before committing themselves to capital schemes, they have the means by which they can sustain their project.

3.2.2 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that there will be three funding rounds during 2007/08. The first is contained in this report, and the other two will take place on:

- ◆ **9<sup>th</sup> October 2007**

- ◆ **12<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

- ◆ The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered at the October Committee meeting is **31st August 2007**.

- ◆ The deadline for receipt of applications to be considered at the February Committee meeting is **4<sup>th</sup> January 2008**.

### 3.3 Budget

3.3.1 The rules on capital have remained unchanged, resulting in the Area 5 capital underspend of £45,610 being carried forward. The total capital available to this Committee during 2007/2008 is therefore £85,610.

3.3.2 Appendix 8 provides details of the Area 5 capital and revenue balance for 2007/2008. Appendix 9 details the 2006/2007 distribution of awards across Area 5, these will assist Members in distributing funding across the whole of the community area.

### 3.4 Feedback from Recipients of Funding

3.4.1 All recipients of funding are requested to complete an evaluation sheet, following completion of their project. Provision of this information is a condition of funding and failure to do so precludes them from future funding from the Committee.

3.4.2 Representatives from groups in receipt of Community Area Awards are also invited to attend the Committee following receipt of the award to explain how it was used and the impact it had on the community.

## 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 A capital award of less than £1,000 may only be made where it can be shown to generate external funding.

4.3 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of £82,779 and a revenue balance of £3,559.

## 5. Community and Environmental Implications

5.1 The majority of the awards can be directly linked to priority issues and visions identified in the Calne Community Area Plan. Where this is not the case the applicant can provide evidence that local consultation and investigation or pilot studies have taken place to identify a community need.

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 are available on the Council's website.

## 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.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 Application – Compton Bassett Village Hall Management Committee</li> <li>• Appendix 2 Application – Calne Town Council</li> <li>• Appendix 3 Application – Derry Hill United Football Club</li> <li>• Appendix 4 Application – Summer Fun in Calne Playscheme</li> <li>• Appendix 5 Application – Calne Family Action Group</li> <li>• Appendix 6 Application – Stay and Play Café</li> <li>• Appendix 7 Community Area Awards Funding Pack.</li> <li>• Appendix 8 Area 5 2007/2008 Community Area Award Budget</li> <li>• Appendix 9 Area 5 2006/2007 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li> </ul>
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<p>Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2007/08          Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008          Calne Community Area Plan 2004          Calne Community Area Plan 2006 update          Office of National Statistics <a href="http://www.statistics.gov.uk">www.statistics.gov.uk</a>          Swindon Borough Council – CCTV Strategy 2005 – 2010          CCTV in Wiltshire, Making the Most of it -Crime Concern Sept.2003</p>

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008	Executive - 8 February 2007	E175