

**REPORT TO THE CHIPPENHAM AREA 3
COMMITTEE**

Report No. 7

Date of Meeting	5th February 2007
Title of Report	Area 3 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

<p>Summary of Report</p> <p>To ask Members to consider 3 applications seeking 2006/07 Community Area Award Funding.</p>
<p>Officer Recommendations</p> <p>To agree funding distribution of Area 3 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007:</p> <p>2.1 Award £1000.00 from the revenue budget to Seagry Parish Council to extend the speed limit conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.</p> <p>2.2 Award £1,500.00 from the capital budget to Kington St Michael Parish Council for the Pedestrian School Crossing conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.</p> <p>2.3 Award £380.00 from the revenue budget to Friends of Seagry School for musical equipment.</p>

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	Victoria Welsh Community Partnership Officer 01249 706 446 vwelsh@northwilts.gov.uk
------------------------	--

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 3 applications for 2006/07 Community Area Award Funding, all of which demonstrate a link to the concerns and priorities identified in the Chippenham Area Community Plan.
- 1.2 Following the funding awards made on 9th October 2006, Area 3 Committee has a capital balance of £13,364.00 (£11,164.00 + £2,200.00) and a revenue balance of £1,912.00.
- 1.3 Members need to be aware that at present there is no indication that unallocated capital funding will be rolled forward to 2007/08. Any remaining revenue funding will not be rolled forward.
- 1.4 Members attention is drawn to the fact that all revenue funding awarded to groups and organisations must be drawn upon by 31st March 2007.
- 1.5 Appendix 1 provides details of the distribution of awards across Area 3, in an attempt to assist members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area in 2006/07.
- 1.6 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.
- 1.7 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that this is the last of 3 funding rounds for 2006/07. The first took place on 5th June 2006, the second took place on 9th October 2006, and the third is contained in this report.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.1	Seagry Parish Council See Appendix 2	To extend the Speed limit	Revenue	£1000.00

- 2.1.1 **Option 1 – Award £1,000.00 from the revenue budget to Seagry Parish Council to extend the speed limit, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2.1.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2006/07 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan. Transport section 5 item 5.8 “Speeding vehicles particularly through villages in the rush hour”.
- 2.1.3 In response to the concern of residents of Seagry about the increase in speeding traffic through the village, consultation has taken place with all users of the Village Hall and the local community. The Parish Council has also consulted with Wiltshire County Council regarding the proposed work.
- 2.1.4 The extension of the existing speed restrictions will achieve a safer pedestrian and traffic environment.

2.1.5 The extension of the speed restrictions will benefit community groups of both the existing village hall, and new village hall (when constructed). This includes a wide variety of people from Seagry Pre-school to the Seniors attending the Luncheon Club.

2.1.6 A decision not to fund this project will delay the project to extend the speed limit. It would also be a missed opportunity to support an issue identified in the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.2	Kington St Michael See Appendix 3	Pedestrian School Crossing	Capital	£ 1,500.00

2.2.1 Option 2 - Award £1,500.00 from the capital budget to Kington St Michael Parish Council to install a pedestrian School Crossing conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

2.2.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2006/07 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan. Transport section 5 item 5.8 "Speeding vehicles particularly through villages in the rush hour". Housing & Built Environment section 7 item 7.7 "Lack of roadside footpaths – there are many locations in rural areas where there is insufficient footway provision".

2.2.3 The Parish Council is about to publish the Parish Plan and Village Design Statement, and research for this has identified that the most prominent cause for concern from parishioners is the speeding traffic through the village, lack of wide pavements and lack of crossing point for the school.

2.2.4 The crossing will compliment the existing traffic calming measure where the road narrows to a single carriageway.

2.2.5 The project is being promoted under the "Walking to School Agenda". The crossing is an essential element required to proceed with the "Walking Bus" which is to be introduced in the village shortly for children going to school.

2.2.6 The crossing will benefit not only the primary school children, but as the only east/west crossing in the village will provide all residents with a recognised and safe crossing point.

2.1.7 A decision not to fund this project will result in a delay in providing the pedestrian crossing, which in turn will jeopardise the plans to implement the "Walking Bus". It would also be a missed opportunity to support an issue identified in the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.3	Friends of Seagry School See Appendix 4	To purchase musical equipment	Revenue	£380.00

2.3.1 Option 3 - Award £380.00 from the revenue budget to Friends of Seagry School to purchase musical equipment.

2.3.2 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2006/07 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan section 2 item 2.2 "Maintain viability of village

schools”.

- 2.3.3 FOSS (Friends of Seagry School) is a dedicated team of volunteers with a vision to create a “Trim Trail” or outdoor classroom facility for Seagry School. The first step of the project is to provide outdoor musical instruments and CD Listening Centres with headphones.
- 2.3.4 The project will give children the opportunity to experience music and develop an interest in sound and rhythm. It will also encourage users to participate in outdoor activity and promote healthy lifestyles.
- 2.3.5 In addition to the school children, the Trim Trail will benefit the wider community as it will be available to other local groups such as pre-school, Brownies, Cubs, Scouts and Sunday School children.
- 2.3.6 A decision not to fund this project will hinder the efforts of FOSS to launch this project. It would also be a missed opportunity to support an issue identified in the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 In 2006/07 Area 3 committee was 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 one project not proceeding, capital funding totalling £2,200 was returned to the Area 3 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 Chippenham and Villages 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.
- 3.5 Consideration needs to be made to ensure a balance of funding across towns, villages and hamlets in the Community Area.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial Implications

- 4.1.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 3 committee as outlined in section 3 of this report.
- 4.1.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of **£11,864.00** and a revenue balance of **£532.00**.

4.2 Community & Environmental Implications

- 4.2.1 All of the applications demonstrate a direct link to the concerns and priorities identified in the Chippenham and Villages Community Plan.

4.2.2 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 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

4.3.2 An Equality Impact assessment for the Community Area Awards Scheme has been undertaken, and there are no significant issues identified within it. This assessment can be found on the North Wiltshire District Council website www.northwilts.gov.uk copies may be downloaded, or made available upon request.

4.3.3 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.

4.3.4 All documents relating to the Community Funding Awards are available in hard copy, large print, or via the North Wiltshire District Council website www.northwilts.gov.uk .

4.3.5 Officers offer support to applicants through the application process.

4.3.6 Expert funding advice is available via the Charities Information Bureau.

5. Risk Analysis

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

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 – Financial Summary • Appendix 2 – Funding application from Seagry Parish Council • Appendix 3 – Funding application from Kington St Michael Parish Council • Appendix 4 – Funding application from Friends of Seagry School
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Area Award Funding Criteria • Chippenham and Villages Community Plan

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Area 3 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/07	Area 3 Committee 5 th June 2006 Area 3 Committee 9 th October 2006	