

## REPORT TO THE Corsham Area (4) Committee Report No. 5

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>30 July 2008</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Corsham Area (4) Community Area Funding Distribution 2008/09</b>
Link to Corporate Priorities	Community Area Awards can be linked to all 3 of the Council's priorities: Community, Environment and Customers, and in particular, "Make decisions based on the Community Strategy and five Community Plans" through community based projects.
Public Report	Yes
<p><b>Summary of Report</b></p> <p><b>To ask Members to consider increasing the award made to Neston Memorial Hall on 8th July 2008, to include VAT element of project costs, and to recommend that Members request further funding from the Executive</b></p>	
<p><b>Officer Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>To agree funding distribution of Corsham Area (4) Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2008/2009:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Neston Memorial Hall – Increase the Award from the capital budget from £2,060 to £2,421 to include the VAT element of the project costs, towards the cost of chairs, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Members make a request to the Executive for further funding to satisfy the anticipated further demand for funding during the remainder of the year.</b></li> </ul>	

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

<b>Contact Officer</b>	Victoria Welsh Community Partnership Officer 01249 706446 vwelsh@northwilts.gov.uk
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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers an application for 2008/09 Community Area Award funding.
- 1.2 This report asks Members to consider increasing the award made to Neston Memorial Hall on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008 from £2,060 to £2421 to include the VAT element of the project costs, towards the cost of chairs.
- 1.3 Members are advised that due to an administrative oversight, the report to the Corsham Area (4) Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> July recommended an award excluding VAT costs. The applicant is not eligible to claim VAT, and therefore is entitled to include the VAT element in the total project costs.
- 1.4 Following the funding awards made at the funding round on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008, Corsham Area (4) Committee had a **£27,054 balance of capital funding**, and a **£3,813 balance of revenue funding** remaining.
- 1.5 Appendix 1 provides details of the distribution of awards across the Corsham Area (4) in 2008/09, to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
2.1	Neston Memorial Hall See Appendix 2	Purchase new chairs	Capital	Increase the award to £2,421

**2.1.1 Neston Memorial Hall – Increase the Award from the capital budget from £2,060 to £2,421 to include the VAT element of the project costs, towards the cost of chairs, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.**

**2.1.2** This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria. Although the project does not demonstrate a direct link to the Corsham Area Community Plan, it has clear benefits to the community. Current criteria allows for 25% of the overall budget to be spent on projects which do not appear in the Community Plan.

**2.1.3** The applicant informs us that the existing chairs in the Neston Memorial Hall are broken or damaged, resulting in discomfort and on occasion damage to clothing. The provision of new chairs will be of benefit to all hall users, and may also encourage more people to hire the hall in future.

**2.1.4** The committee responsible for running the hall has also identified that the provision of some chairs with arms would greatly assist the elderly and infirm hall users, some of whom have difficulty rising from a seated position. Further details are set out at Appendix 2.

## 3. Background Information

- 3.1 The Community Area Award criteria for 2008/9 were reviewed by a Joint Community Area Funding Advisory Body on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008. The Executive subsequently approved the Community Area Award criteria on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008. Members will recall a Member training session about the Scheme on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008. Should

Members wish to act in contravention of these amended criteria, the matter must be referred to the Executive.

- 3.2 A copy of the 2008/9 Community Area Awards Funding Pack can be found on the Council's website [www.northwiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.northwiltshire.gov.uk) or a paper version is available by contacting [community@northwiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:community@northwiltshire.gov.uk) or 01249 706 448. This contains information relating to funding criteria, sources of advice and funding available other than from the District Council, an application form and a chart outlining the application process.
- 3.3 Applications can be made electronically via the Council's website, [www.northwiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.northwiltshire.gov.uk) or via a paper version. All enquires should be made to [community@northwiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:community@northwiltshire.gov.uk) or 01249 706 448.
- 3.4 Applications received after **19th December 2009** will not be considered for funding as there will be insufficient time to process them before the final award given at the Committee Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009.
- 3.5 Members will need to be satisfied that awards granted in the 2008/09 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed before March 31 2009. All funding must be drawn down by **31st March 2009**.
- 3.6 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that funding applications will be submitted for consideration at each of the Corsham Area (4) Committee meetings up to and including **20<sup>th</sup> January 2009**. The first took place on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2008, the second is contained in this report, and the remaining dates are as follows:

<b>23<sup>rd</sup> September 2008</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2008
<b>18<sup>th</sup> November 2008</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2008
<b>20<sup>th</sup> January 2009</b>	deadline for receipt of applications 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2008

3.7 Budget

Appendix 1 provides details of the Corsham Area (4) capital and revenue balance for 2008/9, to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the Community Area.

## 4. Implications

### 4.1 Financial Implications

- 4.1.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to the Corsham Area (4) Committee as outlined in section 1.2 of this report.
- 4.1.2 If Members make awards in line with Officer recommendations, Members will have a **capital** balance of **£26,693** and a **revenue** balance of **3,813**.
- 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 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 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.

### 5 Risk Analysis

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

<b>Appendices:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Appendix 1 – Financial Summary 2008/09</b></li><li>• <b>Appendix 2 – Funding Application from Neston Memorial Hall</b></li></ul>
<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Corporate Plan</b></li><li>• <b>Community Area Award Criteria 2008/09</b></li><li>• <b>Community Area Awards Policy 2008/09</b></li></ul>

### Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

<b>Report</b>	<b>Committee &amp; Date</b>	<b>Minute Reference</b>
<b>Corsham Area (4) Community Area Funding Distribution 2008/09</b>	Corsham Area (4) Committee 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2008	CO08
<b>Community Area Awards Criteria 2008/09</b>	Executive 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	E182
<b>Budgets</b>	Council 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	C83