

Date of Meeting	18th November 2008			
Title of Report	Corsham Area (4) Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009			
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working			
Public Report	YES			
<p>Summary of Report To ask Members to consider 3 applications with recommendations for funding from the 2008/09 Community Area Award Scheme.</p> <p>There are insufficient funds for Members to award the requested sums to each of the applications on this agenda. Members will need to decide on the relative merits and benefits to the community for each project and prioritise which projects to fund within the available budgets.</p>				
<p>Officer Recommendations To agree funding distribution of the Corsham Area (4) Community Area Awards Scheme budget based on the agreed criteria and available for 2008/09:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corsham Town Council - Award £6,253.00 from the capital and project budgets to Corsham Town Council to renew play equipment for older children and provide a house style climbing frame for younger children, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009. 2. Film @ The Pound - Award £1,452 from the project budget to set up and carry out a young person’s film making project, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009. 3. Corsham Regis PTA – Award £2,493 from the capital budget to Corsham Regis PTA to create a “Mini Beast” Garden and erect a greenhouse to provide local children with an interactive learning opportunity, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009. 				
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 2008/09 Community Area Award funding; many of which relate to issues and priorities identified in the Corsham Area Community Plan. The Area Committee has insufficient funds to make the requested awards to each applicant. Members will need to decide on the relative merits and benefits to the community for each project and prioritise which project to fund.
- 1.2 Appendix 4 provides details of the distribution of awards so far in 2008/9 to assist Members when distributing grants across the whole community area.

2. Funding Levels

- 2.1 Following the funding awards granted at the third funding round on 23 September 2008, the Area 4 Committee has the following balances in the community areas awards budget.

Capital £2,543
Revenue £323
Streetscene overspend of £272 (to be deducted from the project budget)
Project Budget £4,490

- 2.2 Members are reminded that the project budget has been provided from in year savings and can be spent on projects of either a capital or revenue nature.
- 2.3 The requests for funding on this agenda exceed the funds available. Members will need to decide on the relative merits and benefits to the community for each project and prioritise which project to fund.

3. Options and Options Appraisal

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
3.1	Corsham Town Council See Appendix 1	Renew play equipment for older children and provide a house style climbing frame for younger children.	Capital	£ 6,253.00

- 3.1 **Corsham Town Council – Award £6,253.00 from the capital and project budgets to Corsham Town Council to renew play equipment for older children and provide a house style climbing frame for younger children, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

- 3.1.1 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan “Lack of facilities for young people, particularly in the villages”.
- 3.1.2 Corsham Town Council has produced a management plan for improving the facilities at Neston Recreation Ground and this application is part of Stage 2 of the improvements.
- 3.1.3 The current play equipment was installed at least 10 years ago and has reached the end of its useful life and warrants safety concerns.
- 3.1.4 Corsham Town Council has consulted villagers since the beginning of the project focusing on younger people’s views and a group of volunteers has been meeting regularly with the council to discuss and decide on the improvements.

- 3.1.5 The decision to fund this project would be beneficial for all the children who live within the village, surrounding areas and who are visiting the area. The play area is also used by the local playgroup and uniformed organisations (such as the Scouts).
- 3.1.6 The total cost of this project is £17,253.00. If Members make an award in line with the Officer Recommendation this will represent a contribution of 36% of the whole project.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
3.2	Film @ The Pound See Appendix 2	Set up and carry out a young person's film making project	Revenue (Project Budget)	£ 1,452

- 3.2 **Film @ The Pound - Award £1,452 from the project budget to set up and carry out a young person's film making project, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 3.2.1 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan "Lack of places for young people to meet" and "Education and Lifelong Learning".
- 3.2.2 The Global Village Film Festival (run by Film @ The Pound) has been running for six years and aims to expand their outreach work to include young people aged 11-19. Film is a fun, contemporary way to engage and motivate young people and provide them with the opportunity to voice and share their understanding and appreciation of their local and wider communities using the medium of film.
- 3.2.3 Film @ The Pound will work with 50 young people from the Corsham area, they will be introduced to the technology and techniques of filmmaking and the experience of staging a film event. 25 of them will make up a forum to choose and screen the best short films on YouTube from different global communities. The other 25 will be involved in film making workshops in the February half term holiday.
- 3.2.4 During these workshops students will create five short films facilitated by professional film makers, focusing on positive community themes. The best films from around the world via YouTube and the five films created by the young people will be screened at the Film Festival being held at the Pound Art Centre.
- 3.2.5 This will be a free event, and the participants from the project will help organise and publicise the screenings, this in turn will help them learn new organisational and business skills. Not forgetting the positive learning experience they will gain from showing their creations to an appreciative audience.
- 3.2.6 The decision to fund this project will provide an opportunity for young people to gain skills, techniques and a sense of community through creative learning.
- 3.2.7 The total cost of this project is £2,452. If Members make an award in line with the Officer Recommendation this will represent a contribution of 59% of the whole project.

Ref.	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
3.3	Corsham Regis PTA See Appendix 3	Create a “Mini Beast” Garden and to provide an interactive learning opportunity	Capital	£ 2,493

3.3 Corsham Regis PTA – Award £2,493 from the capital budget to Corsham Regis PTA to create a “Mini Beast” Garden to provide local children with an interactive learning opportunity, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place and the award being paid to the recipient before 31st March 2009.

- 3.3.1 This application meets the essential funding criteria for 2008/09 and demonstrates a direct link to the Community Plan “Maintain the high quality of local schools”.
- 3.3.2 Corsham Regis PTA is a dedicated team of volunteers with a vision to create a “Mini Beast” Garden or interactive outdoor facility within the school grounds. The project will have long term benefits for the wider community through its availability not just to the 250+ pupils, but also to other local children attending the recently opened Early Learning Centre and nearby ABC Nursery.
- 3.3.3 Through the creation of raised bedding areas, a greenhouse and insect nesters, visitors will appreciate the rich and diverse relationship that exists between plants and insects.
- 3.3.4 These new facilities will create a platform for additional learning initiatives, such as food cultivation, environmental issues and will hopefully instil a lifelong respect for all creatures great and small.
- 3.3.5 The decision to fund this project would benefit a vast number of local children providing them with facilities to learn, create and appreciate wildlife, flora and fauna. The decision not to fund this project would result in the scheme not being able to proceed.
- 3.3.6 The total cost of this project is £2,493. If Members make an award in line with the Officer Recommendation this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 4 Committee as set out in Section 2 of this report. As there are insufficient funds to meet all requests on this agenda Members will need to prioritise which applications will be awarded funding.
- 4.2 Members will need to be satisfied that awards granted in the 2008/09 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed before 31 March 2009. The last date that applications must be received by is 19 December 2008. This Council will not be in a position to guarantee the availability of funding after that time. With this in mind, the award criteria (point 4) clearly states that;
- 4.3 Funding can be drawn down by successful applicants when all award criteria have been met (e.g. match funding is in place) and on confirmation that the project which funding has been awarded to will proceed in the next 3 months. All funding awards must be paid to or invoiced by the recipient prior to 31 March 2009 - it is the recipients’ responsibility to ensure this condition is met. Failure to do so will result in the award being withdrawn.

5. Community and Environmental Implications

- 5.1 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.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendix 1 - Funding application Corsham Town Council• Appendix 2 - Funding application Film @ The Pound• Appendix 3 - Funding application Corsham Regis PTA• Appendix 4 – Funding Awards Area 4 Committee
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2008/9

Report Authors

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