

## Area 2 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/2007

### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Members of the 2006/07 Community Area Award Budget.
- 1.2 To ask Members to consider six applications seeking 2006/07 Community Area Award funding.
- 1.3 To ask Members to invite representatives from groups in receipt of Community Area Awards to attend future meetings to tell the Committee how their award was used.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **To agree funding distribution of the Area 2 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007 for the following organisations:**
  - 2.1.1 **Purton Parish Council – Award £728 from the capital budget towards the purchase and installation of a climbing wall at the Play Close play area in Purton, conditional on the balance of funding being in place, that ongoing maintenance and safety inspections will be the responsibility of Purton Parish Council and that no further applications are submitted for this project.**
  - 2.1.2 **Purton Parish Council – Award £1,748 from the capital budget towards the construction of a new footpath in the cemetery, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
  - 2.1.3 **Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council – Award £4,345 from the capital budget towards the purchase and installation of three wind and solar powered lights at the junction of A3102 and Bradenstoke Road, conditional on the balance of funding being in place and future maintenance being provided by Wiltshire County Council.**
  - 2.1.4 **Otani Judo Club of Wootton Bassett – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of new judo mats.**
  - 2.1.5 **Ps and Qs (Purton) – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of portable display boards and accessories.**
  - 2.1.6 **Purton Historical Society – Award £410 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of a digital projector.**
- 2.2 **To ask Members to invite representatives from groups in receipt of Community Area Awards to attend future meetings to tell the Committee how their award was used.**

### 3 Links to Corporate Business Plan Priorities

- 3.1 Community Area Awards can be linked to the Council's priority of Partnerships, Community and Involvement and in practice through community based projects to support the delivery of Community Plans and other Council priorities.

### 4 Background

- 4.1 Funding criteria for 2006/07 were reviewed by a Working Party, which included representatives of all five Area Committees. The revised policy and procedures were subsequently approved by the Executive Committee on 2nd February 2006. (See Appendix 1). Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.
- 4.2 Funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget is allocated to applications which demonstrate explicit links to identified priorities in the Northern Community Area Plan. The remaining 25% will be available for those schemes that fall outside the Community Plan,

but remain important for local people and are able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.

- 4.3 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 match funding, while those requesting more than £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total cost of the project.

## 5 Funding

- 5.1 In 2006/07 the Area 2 Committee was allocated a capital budget of £40,000 and a revenue budget of £8,000 for distribution in the form of Community Area Awards. (Full Council on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2006 approved a reduction of £10,000 to Area Committee Community Revenue for 2006/07. The total revenue budget results in a revenue funding allocation of £8,000 for each Area Committee in 2006/07).
- 5.2 At the meeting of the Area 2 Committee on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2006, Members agreed to an 'in principle' conditional award of £15,692 from the 2006/07 capital budget to Wootton Bassett Town Council towards refurbishment of Jubilee Lake. Members also agreed to an 'in principle' conditional award of £3,000 from the 2006/07 revenue budget to Beaufort Vision towards the funding of a project manager. This leaves the Area 2 Committee with **a community capital balance of £24,308 and a revenue balance of £5,000 for 2006/07.**
- 5.3 At the last meeting of this Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2006, Members agreed to a one off virement of £1,000 from the Area 2 2006/07 Community Area Awards revenue budget to the District-wide Awards revenue budget after consideration of the second round of Area awards which will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006. If any Area Committee decides not to vire £1,000 from their Community Area Awards revenue budget to the District-wide Award scheme for 2006/07, no virement from any Area Committee will take place. This will reduce the District-wide Award scheme by £5,000. Only Area 2 Committee has decided to wait until a later funding round before making this virement.
- 5.4 Appendix 2 provides details of the 2005/06 geographical distribution of awards for Area 2.
- 5.5 Appendix 3 provides details of the 2006/07 awards already agreed for Area 2.
- 5.6.1 Members are reminded that there will be three funding rounds during 2006/07. The first is contained in this report, and the other two will take place on:
- 18<sup>th</sup> October 2006 (with a deadline for receipt of applications of 16<sup>th</sup> September 2006)
  - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2007 (with a deadline for receipt of applications of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2007)

## 6 Officer Observations & Recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.1	<b>Purton Parish Council</b>  See Appendix 4	Replacement of climbing wall on multi-play unit at the Play Close play area	Capital	£728

- 6.1.1 This application largely meets the funding criteria for the Area 2 Committee and has links to the Community Plan under the section referring to the lack of recreational facilities and playgrounds throughout the Community Area (page 22).
- 6.1.2 A new climbing frame is needed for the multi-play equipment at the Play Close play area in Purton. The existing climbing frame is an integral part of the unit and without a replacement the whole unit

may become unusable and unsafe. The play area which is located near to St Mary's Primary School is well used and popular.

- 6.1.3 The equipment was installed in 1998 with a guarantee of 5 years. The climbing frame section of the apparatus can no longer be maintained or repaired by the Parish Council.
- 6.1.4 Members are reminded that an award was granted to Purton Parish Council by this Committee at its meeting on 8th June 2005 for new equipment for play areas in Purton (including equipment for Play Close). The applicant was not awarded the full funding requested as it fell short of the 2005/6 criteria stating that applications from Town and Parish Councils will not normally receive more funding than that contributed by that town or Parish Council.
- 6.1.5 The officer recommendation below is based upon the following considerations:
- The project has links to the Northern Community Area Plan
  - The funding request is modest
  - An additional condition has been suggested as the applicant has already been awarded funds from the Area 2 Committee for the same project
- 6.1.6 **Officer Recommendation** - Award £728 from the capital fund towards the purchase and installation of a climbing wall at the Play Close play area in Purton conditional on the balance of funding being in place, that ongoing maintenance and safety inspections will be the responsibility of Purton Parish Council and that no further applications are submitted for this project.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.2	<b>Purton Parish Council</b>	Construction of new footpath in cemetery and extension to entrance of cemetery.	Capital	£3,625
	See Appendix 5			

- 6.2.1 This application does not wholly meet the funding criteria of the Area 2 Committee and has only tenuous links with the Northern Community Area Plan.
- 6.2.2 This application is for funding for works to the cemetery in Purton involving the construction of a new footpath and also an extension to the existing entrance to the site.
- 6.2.3 As one section of the cemetery is almost full, it is now necessary to use another part of the site and a new footpath is needed for access to the graves. The resurfacing work to the entrance of the site will slightly extend the area to allow vehicles to turn without having to reverse out onto the main road or drive onto the grassed area of the cemetery as happens now.
- 6.2.4 Town and Parish Councils are responsible for the maintenance of cemeteries. The parish precept represents a clear method for raising funds to meet the needs of the local community. (This was raised in Purton for 2006/7). Town and Parish Councils would not normally expect to receive grants from the District Council for maintenance works.
- 6.2.5 The officer recommendation below is based upon the following considerations:
- The proposed works do not have links to the Northern Community Area Plan (the reference on page 19 is to find new or re-use existing burial sites)
  - Members have agreed that at least 75% of their budget will be allocated to projects linked to the Community Plan. However, other projects, not demonstrating a link will still be considered for the remaining 25% of funding where there is a clear community need
  - The proposed footpath is a new project and will be of benefit to the community
- 6.2.6 **Officer Recommendation** - Award £1,748 from the capital budget towards the construction of a new footpath in the cemetery, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.3	<b>Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council</b>  See Appendix 6	Purchase and installation of three wind and solar powered lights at the junction of A3102 and Bradenstoke Road.	Capital	£4,345

- 6.3.1 This application meets the funding criteria of the Area 2 Committee and has clear links to the Northern Community Area Plan (page 16) referring to the lack of street lighting particularly in rural areas.
- 6.3.2 The junction of the A3102 and the Bradenstoke Road is busy with no lights. It is a dangerous junction and is particularly unsafe for the elderly residents of Bradenstoke. A village petition containing over 100 names for the provision of street lights at this junction has been presented to Wiltshire County Council (WCC).
- 6.3.3 The proposed lights will be 3 renewable energy lighting units. The light (known as the green column) provides lighting output at almost any location remote from grid electricity supply. It converts wind power into electrical energy which is stored in the battery at the base of the column for use as required by the lamp. No other environmental solar street light has yet been installed in North Wiltshire.
- 6.3.4 The Parish Council has approached Wiltshire County Council for funding for the project. There are no funds available for new lighting projects but a contribution towards this project may be forthcoming. It also seems that although conventional street lighting is cheaper, there may be a problem with the electricity supply to this location which would increase the overall cost. WCC has confirmed that it will maintain the lighting units once installed. (This agreement will be reviewed after two years).
- 6.3.5 Planning permission is not required for the installation of these lights. Although the lighting output is relatively low, the Parish Council will inform nearby RAF Lyneham of the installation.
- 6.3.6 The officer recommendation below is based upon the following considerations:
- The project has links with the Northern Community Area Plan
  - There is a clear evidence of community need for lighting at this junction
  - It is a new and innovative environmental lighting system and a first for North Wiltshire
  - The Parish Council is putting forward a substantial amount towards the project
- 6.3.7 **Officer Recommendation** – Award £4,345 from the capital budget towards the purchase and installation of three wind and solar powered lights at the junction of A3102 and Bradenstoke Road, conditional on the balance of funding being in place and future maintenance being provided by Wiltshire County Council.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.4	<b>Otani Judo Club – Wootton Bassett</b>  See Appendix 7	Purchase of new judo mats	Revenue	£500

- 6.4.1 This application meets the funding criteria for the Area 2 Committee and has clear links to the Northern Community Area Plan under the reference to lack of youth facilities in the Community Area (page 22).

- 6.4.2 The proposal is for funds towards the purchase of 16 judo mats for use by the Otani Judo Club. The existing mats were bought in 1992 and are now in very poor condition.
- 6.4.3 The Club has been running for 30 years and is the only one serving the local area. Its dedicated instructors teach judo to local young people aged 5 -18 years and has a current membership of around 35 members. The Club meets every Friday evening at St Bartholomew's Church Hall in Wootton Bassett. It holds annual judo championships and has held events to raise money for charities such as Children in Need.
- 6.4.4 The officer recommendation below is based upon the following considerations:
- The project has clear links to the Northern Community Area Plan
  - The applicant is a successful club providing a leisure activity for local young people in the community
  - Better equipment will help to encourage more members into the Club
- 6.4.5 **Officer Recommendation** - Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of new judo mats.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.5	<b>Ps and Qs – (Purton)</b>  See Appendix 8	Purchase of portable display boards	Revenue	£500

- 6.5.1 This application meets the 2006/07 funding criteria for the Area 2 Committee and demonstrates a number of clear links to the Northern Community Area Plan.
- 6.5.2 Purton Ps and Qs (often working with Purton Parish Council) has been in existence since 1994 and works to raise awareness of community issues in the village. It publishes articles in the village magazine on environmental and sustainability issues (recycling, energy efficiency, waste management, etc) as well as alerting parishioners to planning issues and countywide and national consultation exercises. It runs a website which provides a great deal of community information. It has hosted a number of public events and exhibitions in the village (often in partnership with the Parish Council) to highlight important local issues and raise public awareness.
- 6.5.3 The group needs professionally made display boards to enable them to display both indoors and outside (the latter encourages more community participation). It currently uses display materials which rarely survive more than one public airing. The proposed portable and durable acrylic boards with accessories including cases for transport would help to provide better and more credible presentations and display material could be re-used.
- 6.5.4 The officer recommendation below is based upon the following considerations:
- The project has many links to the Northern Community Area Plan
  - The purchase of the display boards will help to further encourage community engagement and participation
- 6.5.5 **Officer Recommendation** – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of portable display boards and accessories.

Ref	Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
6.6	<b>Purton Historical Society</b>  See Appendix 9	Purchase of a digital projector	Revenue	£410

- 6.6.1 This application meets the funding criteria for Area 2 Committee and has clear links to the Northern Community Area Plan referring to improvements to education and lifelong learning (pages 9 and 10) and the lack of cultural activities page (23).
- 6.6.2 Purton Historical Society was formed in 1967, has a membership of around 80 people and meets monthly. The Purton Museum was opened in 1990. The Society runs a number of lecture courses as well as sessions for members. Groups study local, national and international history. Sessions are also attended by pupils of Braydon Forest School and the Society has also provided a mini museum for junior school pupils. There is an event programme offering a range of lectures and activities throughout the year. It also runs its own website.
- 6.6.3 At present the Historical Society uses an overhead projector and the addition of a digital projector would greatly enhance all presentations especially as the society also holds historical film nights.
- 6.6.4 The officer recommendation below are based on the following considerations:
- The project has links to the Northern Community Area Plan
  - The purchase of the projector will improve the overall quality of presentations
  - In turn, this will encourage a wider membership of the group
- 6.6.5 **Officer Recommendation** – Award £410 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of a digital projector.

## 7 Feedback from Recipients of Funding

- 7.1 During 2005/06 all recipients of funding were 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 this Committee.
- 7.2 Rather than bring these forms to Committee, officers suggest that it might be more appropriate if members were to invite representatives from groups in receipt of Community Area Awards to attend future meetings to tell the Committee how the award was used. (In the past year this information has been passed on to the Committee through a Chairman's Announcement.) It is envisaged that groups are identified and invited to those Committee meetings dealing with Community Area Awards
- 7.3 **Officer Recommendation** - Members to invite representatives from groups in receipt of Community Area Awards to attend future meetings to tell the Committee how their award was used.

## 8. Financial Implications

- 8.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to the Area 2 Committee as outlined in section 4.1 of this report.
- 8.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of £17,487 and a revenue balance of £3,590.
- 8.3 As outlined in section 5.3, following the second round of Area Awards in October the one off virement will reduce the Area 2 Committee revenue budget balance for 2006/7 by £1,000.
- 8.4 Consideration needs to be made to ensure a balance of funding across towns, villages and hamlets within the Community Area.

## 9. Community and Environmental Implications

- 9.1 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.

## **10. Human Resources Implications**

10.1 There are no Human Resources implications directly relating to this report.

### **Documents used in the preparation of Report**

Community Area Grant Proposal Forms, Northern Community Area Plan

**REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC MANAGER TO AREA 2 COMMITTEE  
14<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2006**

#### **Report Prepared by**

Shelley Parker, Community Partnership Officer, Telephone: 01249 706449  
e-mail [sparker@northwilts.gov.uk](mailto:sparker@northwilts.gov.uk)