

# REPORT TO THE MALMESBURY AREA (1) COMMITTEE

Report No.6

Date of Meeting	24 JANUARY 2007
Title of Report	Area 1 Community Area Funding Distribution 2006/2007
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working – also links to Healthy Lifestyles
Public Report	YES

## Summary of Report

This report presents recommendations relating to 7 funding applications from the 2006/07 Community Area Award Scheme. The report links the applications to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations. It also requests a verbal update about the Malmesbury skate facility.

### Officer Recommendations

**To agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget, based on the agreed criteria for 2006/2007:**

- 1. Charlton Parish Council – Award £432 from the revenue budget, towards the provision of a new notice board, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 2. Hullavington Jolly Tots – Award £435 from the revenue budget, towards the cost of additional storage facilities for the parent & toddler group, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 3. Hankerton North Aisle Community Area – Award £1,648 from the capital budget, towards the cost of installing a composting toilet at Hankerton Church, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 4. St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council – Award £441 from the revenue budget, towards a replacement boundary fence for Corston Nature Reserve, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 5. White Lion Recreation Association – Award £8,000 from the capital budget, towards the improvements to facilities in the park, conditional on the Town Council maintaining the path, seating and trees and the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 6. Malmesbury Health Visitors – Award £441, from the revenue budget, towards a post-natal depression programme to be run at Buckley Barracks, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 7. Citizen's Advice Bureau - Award £402 from the revenue budget, towards improvements in the service provided in the Malmesbury Area, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 8. To receive a verbal update about the progress being made to provide a skate facility in Malmesbury.**

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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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The report considers 7 applications for 2006/2007 Community Area Award funding, many of which relate directly to issues and priorities identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan. It also requests a verbal update about the Malmesbury skateboard facility, including confirmation of a timescale for its instalment.

## 2. Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Charlton Parish Council</b> App 1	Provision of a new notice board	Revenue	£488

- 2.1 **Option 1: Award Charlton Parish Council £432 from the revenue budget, towards the provision of a new notice board, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

- 2.1.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and identifies specific links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan, which clearly state that, "the notice boards and Parish newsletter, which aid communication". (M&VCAP pp6)
- 2.1.2 The notice board in question is situated by the entrance of the Village Hall and consequently will be a valuable asset to the whole community.
- 2.1.3 Supporting this application will enable a wide cross section of the Charlton community and other users of the village hall to read notices from a wide variety of clubs and organisations, many of whom use the hall or are staging events in it.
- 2.1.4 The Parish Council has identified its willingness to contribute over 50% of the total cost of the notice board.
- 2.1.5 A reduction of about 12% of the funding request is being recommended to ensure equitable distribution of funding available.
- 2.1.6 A decision not to fund this project is unlikely to deprive local people of accessing information, as funding would probably be found from elsewhere. It does, however provide an opportunity to support issues identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>Hullavington Jolly Tots</b> App 2	Additional storage facilities for a new parent and baby/toddler group	Revenue	£490

- 2.2 **Option 2: Award Hullavington Jolly Tots £435 from the revenue budget, towards the cost of additional storage facilities for the parent & toddler group.**

- 2.2.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and while there are no specific links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan, it does indirectly support issues related to community spirit and cohesion.
- 2.2.2 The funding criteria enable up to 25% of the Community Area Award budget to be used to support schemes that fall outside the Community Plan, but remain important for local people and where a community need is identified.
- 2.2.3 The new Parent and baby/toddler group currently supports 12 –15 children ranging from 0 -3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years.
- 2.2.4 It is a pity that the Village Hall Committee did not anticipate the needs of its potential users when they were designing their replacement village hall (and to which this Committee contributed). The storage facility will be placed adjacent to the village hall.
- 2.2.5 A reduction of about 12% of the funding request is being recommended to ensure equitable distribution of funding available.
- 2.2.6 A decision not to fund this project would cause storage problems at the hall and limit the ability to purchase additional equipment for this newly established group

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Award Type</b>	<b>Funding Requested</b>
<b>Hankerton North Aisle Community Area</b> App 3	Composting toilet	Capital	£1,648

- 2.3 **Option 3: Award Hankerton North Aisle Community Area £1,648 from the capital budget, towards the cost of installing a composting toilet at Hankerton Church.**
- 2.3.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria, although there are no specific links to providing toilets in the church identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan. The Plan does however identify, “ the village has a church with a good social community” (M&VCAP pp 6).
- 2.3.2 The applicant is a group that addresses the community needs of the church, the North Aisle having been identified as a community meeting place some years ago, when this Committee contributed £1,440 towards equipping the area with tables and chairs.
- 2.3.3 The church is heavily used as a community meeting place other than for worship.
- 2.3.4 Providing a toilet for occasional use will enable a greater range of local people to attend events and activities at the church, from which they may have previously felt excluded because of the absence of toilet facilities.
- 2.3.5 A decision not to fund this project would lead to delays while other funding was found, thus delaying the provision of the facility and the consequential inconvenience of users.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council</b> App 4	Replacement boundary fence for Corston Nature Reserve	Revenue	£500

2.4 **Option 4: Award St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council £441 from the revenue budget, towards a replacement boundary fence for Corston Nature Reserve**

2.4.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and identifies specific links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan. The Plan states that the community of St Paul Malmesbury Without values, “the parks and nature reserves” (M&VCAP pp 5) and prioritises, “enhance and maintain the nature reserve for use by all members of the community both now and for future generations” (M&VCAP pp15).

2.4.2 The Parish Council has identified its willingness to contribute 50% of the cost of the fencing.

2.4.3 The Parish Council was last awarded funding in October 2005 when £1,500 was given towards play equipment and safety surface. A further £500 was awarded to the applicant in September 2005 towards the cost of an interpretation board at the Corston Nature Reserve.

2.4.4 The nature reserve is owned by the Parish Council, who do put funding aside to maintain it. If Members decide to award funding on this occasion, they may wish to request that the applicant either raise their precept to cover future maintenance costs, or investigate other funders before coming to Area 1 Committee for the upkeep of the reserve.

2.4.5 A reduction of about 12% of the funding request is being recommended to ensure equitable distribution of funding available.

2.4.6 A decision not to fund this project is unlikely to impact negatively on the community, since funding could probably be found from elsewhere or from the applicants themselves. It would, however, be a lost opportunity to support issues identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
<b>White Lion Recreation Association</b> App 5	To improve facilities through provision of trees, footpaths and benches in White Lion Park	Capital	£8,000

2.5 **Option 5: White Lion Recreation Association – Award £8,000 from the capital budget, towards the improvements to facilities in the park, conditional on the Town Council maintaining the path, seating and trees and the balance of the funding being in place.**

- 2.5.1 This application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria, however there is no direct link to the Malmesbury and Villages Community Plan. It is accepted, however that facilitates for young people remain a common theme across the community area.
- 2.5.2 Funding criteria enable up to 25% of the budget to be used to support schemes that fall outside the Community Plan, but remain important for local people and where a community need is identified.
- 2.5.3 A considerable amount of local consultation has been undertaken. This was evident when the applicant was successful in being awarded £50,000 from the Big Lottery Fund towards the play equipment.
- 2.5.4 On-going consultation with young people will be important to ensure they gain ownership of the development. Such an approach could help to reduce vandalism to young trees and seating.
- 2.5.5 The scheme will include play areas for 2 - 8 year olds and 8 -14 years old, as well as football pitches, which will be funded from the Lottery award. The contribution requested from the Area Committee would enhance the scheme by providing pathways for easy access to the play areas, benches in order that the whole facility may be enjoyed by local people and tree planting to enhance the area. The latter will in the longer term provide shade as well as encourage local wildlife.
- 2.5.6 Improvements to White Lion Park will largely benefit the residents in the western part of the town, providing a pleasant environment in which to exercise, play and relax.
- 2.5.7 The maintenance of the White Lion Park is the responsibility of the Town Council who ensures regular ROSPA checks, while under the terms of the lease of the land by the Town Council from the District Council, the District ensures to insure and maintain the equipment.
- 2.5.8 A decision not to fund this application would lead to a delay in providing each access to these two play areas on the White Lion Park and to generally improve this community facility.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Malmesbury Health Visitors App 6	Post - natal depression programme	Revenue	£500

- 2.6 **Option 6: Malmesbury Health Visitors – Award £441, from the revenue budget, towards a post- natal depression programme to be run at Buckley Barracks**
- 2.6.1 This application only partially meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria and there are no direct links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan. The well being of the community is however at the heart of community planning.
- 2.6.2 The funding criteria enable up to 25% of the budget to be used to support schemes that fall outside the Community Plan, but remain important for local people and, or where a community need is identified.
- 2.6.3 A similar scheme was funded but this Committee in February 2005, when £500 was awarded to a similar scheme operated in Malmesbury.

- 2.6.4 This scheme is to be held in Buckley Barracks and will provide support for residents of the site, who are inclined to be socially isolated from the rest of the local community. The scheme will however be extended to other local people from surrounding villages, including Hullavington.
- 2.6.5 The funding criteria suggests that the Primary Care Trust should be funding this project, however the applicant says there is no funding from this type of community programme. The previous course proved beneficial to those people who attended in Malmesbury, of which two subsequently become befrienders for MIND.
- 2.6.6 A reduction of about 12% of the funding request is being recommended to ensure equitable distribution of funding available.
- 2.6.7 Failure to support this project will result in either no special help, or a reduced level of help for this small group of socially isolated people.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Citizens Advice Bureau App 7	Purchase of a PC to improve the service provided in the Malmesbury Area	Revenue	£ 456

- 2.7 **Option 7: Award Citizens Advice Bureau £402 from the revenue budget, towards improvements in the service provided in the Malmesbury Area.**
  - 2.7.1 The application meets the 2006/2007 funding criteria, however there is no reference to improving this service identified in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan.
  - 2.7.2 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to be allocated to applications that can demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. The remaining 25%, however available for those schemes that fall outside the Plan, but remain important for local people and were applicants are able to demonstrate that they meet a community-identified need.
  - 2.7.3 The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) is open 3 hours a week, based at Malmesbury Town Hall, with an additional 3 hours spent following up enquiries.
  - 2.7.4 The provision of a computer with Broadband access will speed up the responsiveness of the service since it will enable immediate access to retrieve case records and other information and will have the potential to support a higher through put of clients.
  - 2.7.5 In 2006/07 the District Council core funded the CAB through a service level agreement of £122,400. It should be noted, however, that this does not cover the cost of purchasing equipment.
  - 2.7.6 A reduction of about 12% of the funding request is being recommended to ensure equitable distribution of funding available.
  - 2.7.7 A decision not to make this award would lead to a less effective service being provided by CAB to people living and working in the Malmesbury and Village Community Area.

**2.8 Option 8: To receive a verbal update about the progress being made to provide a skate facility in Malmesbury.**

2.8.1 To date a funding application has still not been received from the Malmesbury Skater and Riders Action Group. Without a formal application, containing noise survey reports and planning consent, this Committee is not in a position to formalise its funding award.

2.8.2 Members have made an 'in principle' award totalling of £16,196 towards this scheme (from their capital budget) subject to the consideration of a full application being received. Part of this award was made as early as January 2005.

2.8.3 Officers suggest that the Committee requests that the applicant to submit an application for consideration on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007. Failure to make an application at this stage will place this provisional funding at risk, since outstanding capital (which has not been formally allocated) may not be carried over to 2007/08.

2.8.4 Provision of a skateboard facility has been a long held aspiration held by young people in Malmesbury and was identified as a continuing priority in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Plan by people aged between 14 and 18 years of age.

**3. Background Information**

3.1 Following the funding awards made on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2006, Area 1 Committee had a capital balance of £15,083 and a revenue balance of £2,151.

3.2 The revenue funding applications outlined in this report outstrip the funding available. In order to adopt an equitable approach, a reduction of some 12% has been suggested.

3.3 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that this is the last of three funding rounds for 2006/07. The first took place on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2006, the second on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2006, and the third is contained in this report.

3.4 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 carried forward.

3.5 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that all revenue funding awarded to groups and organisations must be drawn upon by 31 March 2007.

3.6 Appendix 8 provides details of the 2005/2006 distribution of awards across Area 1, while Appendix 9 provides details of the 2006/07 distribution of awards, in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area.

3.7 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 that £500 will not be awarded more than 50% of the total cost of their project.

3.8 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 2 February 2006. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy, the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.



- 3.9 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 Malmesbury & Villages Community Area 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.
- 3.10 In 2006/07 all funding applications 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.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 1 Committee as outlined in section 3 of this report.
- 4.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, Members will have a capital balance of £5,435 and a revenue balance of nil.

#### **5. Community and Environmental Implications**

- 5.1 The majority of the awards can be directly linked to priority themes and aspirations laid out in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. Where this is not the case the applicant can provide evidence that either local consultation or pilot projects to identify a community need have been undertaken.
- 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.

<p>Appendices:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 Application - Charlton Parish Council</li> <li>• Appendix 2 Application – Hullavington Jolly Tots</li> <li>• Appendix 3 Application – Hankerton North Aisle Community Area</li> <li>• Appendix 4 Application –St Paul Malmesbury Without Parish Council</li> <li>• Appendix 5 Application – White Lion Recreation Association</li> <li>• Appendix 6 Application – Malmesbury Health Visitors</li> <li>• Appendix 7 Application – Citizen’s Advice Bureau</li> <li>• Appendix 8 Area 1 2005/2006 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li> <li>• Appendix 9 Area 1 2006/2007 geographical distribution of Community Area Awards</li> </ul>
<p>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:</p>	<p>Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2006/07</p>

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
None		