

REPORT TO THE MALMESBURY AREA (1) COMMITTEE**Report No.7**

Date of Meeting	23 January 2008
Title of Report	Area 1 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008
Link to Corporate Priorities	To put customers at the heart of everything we do – Support Community Area Partnerships and Community Plans
Public Report	YES

Summary of Report

This report presents recommendations relating to 15 funding applications for the 2007/08 Community Area Award Scheme. The report links the applications to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan 2005-2015 where appropriate and sets out the implications of accepting these recommendations.

Officer Recommendations

To agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2007/2008:

1. The Grapevine, Hankerton Community Newsletter – Award £ 419 from the revenue budget towards the cost of IT equipment to produce the village newsletter, conditional on the balance of funding being in place
2. Malmesbury Branch of Wiltshire Mind – Award £140 from the revenue budget towards the cost of an A frame board and associated art work
3. Lea & Cleverton Parish Council – Award £346 from the revenue budget towards the provision of a Parish Council notice board in the village, conditional on the balance of funding being in place
4. Charlton Village Hall – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the installation of replacement lighting in the village hall, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place
5. Friends of Luckington School – Award £462 from the revenue budget towards the installation of a netball posts and indoor court marking, conditional on the balance of funding being in place
6. Little Somerford Village Hall – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the cost of re-conditioning the village hall floor
7. Dauntsey Parish Council – Award £2,000 from the capital budget towards the costs of two notice boards, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.
8. Oaksey Youth Club - Award £316 from the revenue budget towards the cost of Foldback monitors for use with the Oaksey youth music project
9. Malmesbury Branch of the National Childbirth Trust – Award £273 from the revenue budget towards the establishment of a Breastfeeding Support Group, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place
10. The Jackdaw Community Newspaper – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the publication of the February 2008 issue, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place
11. Crudwell Parish Council – Award £1,250 from the revenue budget towards a feasibility study to update and enhance the Post office Green Play Area, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place
12. Sherston Village Hall – Award £3,212 from the capital budget towards a new central heating system, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place
13. Sherston Parish Council – No award from the capital budget towards preliminary surveys in respect to the purchase of the Old School, Sherston
14. Brinkworth Recreational Group – Award 1,881 from the capital budget towards the provision of acoustic tiling and a stage system in the village hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place
15. Sherston Scout and Guide Management Committee – Award £3,824 from the capital budget towards the refurbishment of the Scout HQ kitchen, conditional on the balance of funding being in place

16. Members request that Executive agree to permit the carry forward of the Area 1 2007/2008 capital under spend of £14,518.

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	Miranda Gilmour, Principal Community Partnership Officer, 01249 706380 mgilmour@northwiltshire.gov.uk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report considers 15 applications for 2007/08 Community Area Award funding, the majority of which relate directly to issues and priorities identified in the Malmesbury and Villages Community Area Plan.
- 1.2 Following the funding awards made on 26 September 2007, Malmesbury Area (1) Committee have a capital balance of £25,435 and a revenue balance of £5,036 for distribution at this, the last round of funding for 2007/08.
- 1.3 The demand for revenue funding outstrips the supply. Decisions will need to be made to ensure that appropriate levels of funding are awarded to ensure the viability of schemes under consideration within this report. Where there are opportunities to delay funding until 2008/2009, this may need to be considered, although at this stage the budget for 2008/09 has not been agreed.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
The Grapevine, Hankerton Community Newsletter App 1	IT equipment to produce the village newsletter	Revenue	£ 419

- 2.1 **Option 1: The Grapevine, Hankerton Community Newsletter – Award £ 419 from the revenue budget towards the cost of IT equipment to produce the village newsletter, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
 - 2.1.1 This application meets the funding criteria and addresses the specific need to maintain and improve the newsletter in Hankerton (pp 37 of the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan).

- 2.1.2 The bi-monthly newsletter is produced by a volunteer on behalf of the Parish Council. To date the volunteer has used their own IT equipment, but this now needs replacing and upgrading.
- 2.1.3 The Parish Council has agreed to contribute half the cost of the equipment contained within the funding application. In addition the Parish Council pay £300 towards the annual running costs.
- 2.1.4 The newsletter is delivered to all 250 households in the parish and thus provides a valuable means through which to communicate local news and information.
- 2.1.5 This Committee has not previously funded the applicant.
- 2.1.6 A decision not to fund this scheme would be likely to lead to delays, while other funders are sought or fundraising undertaken.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Malmesbury Branch of Wiltshire Mind App 2	An A frame board and associated art work to promote the service	Revenue	£140

- 2.2 **Option 2: Malmesbury Branch of Wiltshire Mind – Award £140 from the revenue budget towards the cost of an A frame board and associated art work.**
 - 2.2.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, and the Malmesbury and Villages Community Plan (see pp 37), refers to the need to keep local people informed, by providing notice boards.
 - 2.2.2 While the provision of a board to promote the drop-in information and support group is likely to benefit only a small number of people, officers are of the opinion that the service provided by Mind is very valuable and awareness and easy access to such a service is important.
 - 2.2.3 This organisation has not previously approached the Committee for funding.
 - 2.2.4 A decision not to fund this project would result in a poor level of public awareness of this service.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Lea & Cleverton Parish Council App 3	A Parish Council notice board	Revenue	£346

2.3 **Option 3: Lea & Cleverton Parish Council – Award £346 from the revenue budget towards the provision of a Parish Council notice board in the village, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**

2.3.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, while the need to improve communications through the provision of notice boards is specifically identified in the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan (pp 37).

2.3.2 The applicant advises that the current notice board will be moved to Cleverton and the new larger one will be used in Lea.

2.3.3 The applicant has agreed to contribute just over 50% of the total costs. They last received funding from this Committee in April of this year when £114 was given towards the costs of a cricket net.

2.3.4 A decision not to fund this project would probably result in the Parish Council either delaying the purchase or providing the full costs to make the purchase.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Charlton Village Hall App 4	Replacement lighting in the village hall	Revenue	£500

2.4 **Option 4: Charlton Village Hall – Award £500 from the revenue budget towards the installation of replacement lighting in the village hall, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.4.1 The application largely meets the 2007/08 funding criteria. While there is no specific link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan, there is a reference to, ‘an active village community seeking to maintain and develop a variety of facilities’ (Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan pp 1).

2.4.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.4.3 This application illustrates the on-going efforts that local people are making to maintain and improve the village hall over recent years. It is hoped that improvements to the lighting will help to make the hall more attractive to hirers.

2.4.4 Failure to fund this scheme is unlikely to prevent the project from proceeding, although its start date may be delayed while fundraising is undertaken.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Friends of Luckington School (FOLS) App 5	Netball posts and indoor court marking	Revenue	£462

2.5 **Option 5: Friends of Luckington School – Award £462 from the revenue budget towards the installation of a netball posts and indoor court marking, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**

2.5.1 The application largely meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, however, awards are not normally allowed to schools. This application is however to provide facilities for an after school netball club, which parents will run and there is a vision that an adult team might also be established.

2.5.2 The need to, ‘maintain and enhance safe playground and sporting facilities for younger residents in Luckington & Alderton’, is identified in the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan (pp 35).

2.5.3 The applicant is not in a position to fully fund this project, as they have already committed to support swimming lessons and transport. They have however made a modest contribution to this scheme.

2.5.4 Failure to fund this scheme will result in the after school club being established without the netball posts until the funding becomes available from other sources.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Little Somerford Village Hall App 6	Re-conditioning the village hall floor	Revenue	£450

2.6 **Option 6: Little Somerford Village Hall – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the cost of re-conditioning the village hall floor.**

2.6.1 The application largely meets the 2007/08 funding criteria. While there is no specific link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan, there is a reference to the value that residents of Great Somerford place on meeting places such as the village hall (Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan pp 6).

2.6.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.6.3 The village hall is in constant use by local groups, with it being hired out approximately five times a week.

2.6.4 Failure to fund this scheme would be unlikely to stop the work proceeding, but may delay it until sufficient funding has been found from other sources.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Dauntsey Parish Council App 7	Two notice boards	Capital	£2,000

2.7 **Option 7: Dauntsey Parish Council – Award £2,000 from the capital budget towards the cost of two notice boards, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.7.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, and the Malmesbury and Villages Community Plan (see pp 37), refers to the need to keep local people informed, by providing notice boards.

2.7.2 A decision has been made to re-site the boards to increase accessibility by local people to parish council news.

2.7.3 The applicant has agreed to provide 50% of the costs of this project.

2.7.4 A decision not to fund this project would probably result in the Parish Council either delaying the purchase or providing the full costs to make the purchase.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Oaksey Youth Club App 8	Foldback monitors	Revenue	£316

2.8 **Option 8: Oaksey Youth Club - Award £316 from the revenue budget towards the cost of Foldback monitors for use with the Oaksey youth music project.**

2.8.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria, and the Malmesbury and Villages Community Plan (see pp 10), refers, 'to the youth development service engaging with young people in informal learning through diverse youth work opportunities.....and to offering them access to youth workers and informal learning experiences which are fun'.

2.8.2 This Committee made a contribution towards the cost of purchasing musical instruments in January 2006 and over the last 19 months a wide cross section of young people from Oaksey and the surrounding villages have had an opportunity to develop their musical skills and enjoyment.

2.8.3 The purchase of these monitors will enable the young people to hear the music they are making and ensure an improvement in the balance and professionalism of their performance.

2.8.4 A decision not to fund this project would result in the applicant having to look for funding from elsewhere and the young people being unable to further develop their musical skills.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Malmesbury Branch of the National Childbirth Trust App 9	Establishment of a breastfeeding support group	Revenue	£273

2.9 **Option 9: Malmesbury Branch of the National Childbirth Trust – Award £273 from the revenue budget towards the establishment of a Breastfeeding Support Group, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.9.1 The application largely meets the 2007/08 funding criteria. While there is no specific link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan identifying a need for this service, there is reference (pp 26), to the services that historically were provided by Malmesbury Community Hospital.

2.9.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.9.3 The weekly drop-in service will provide peer support to mothers, encouraging a positive experience for those mothers who want to breastfeed their babies.

2.9.4 The applicant is hoping to meet the need of mothers, which was previously satisfied by Malmesbury Maternity Unit prior to the closure of Malmesbury Community Hospital.

2.9.5 From March 2008 this service will be based in the Malmesbury Children’s Centre and will offer an inclusive service, reaching out particularly to those mothers on low incomes.

2.9.6 A decision not to fund this project would result in the need for the applicant to look for funding from elsewhere and a delay in access to this valuable local service.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
The Jackdaw Community Newspaper App 10	Publication of the February 2008 issue of the Jackdaw	Revenue	£450

2.10 **Option 10: The Jackdaw Community Newspaper – Award £450 from the revenue budget towards the publication of the February 2008 issue, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.10.1 This application meets the funding criteria, although there are no specific references to this type of publication contained within the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan. The applicant believes that this publication improves communication in Malmesbury and the surrounding villages and engenders a sense of community, which is identified within the plan (pp 33).

- 2.10.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.
- 2.10.3 The Jackdaw is a free newssheet, containing information relating to the local community, past present and future. One thousand copies are produced, while the readership is estimated at 3,000.
- 2.10.4 A decision not to fund this project would result in the need for the applicant to look for funding from elsewhere.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Crudwell Parish Council App 11	Feasibility study to update and enhance the Post office Green Play Area	Revenue	£1,250

- 2.11 **Option 11: Crudwell Parish Council – Award £1,250 from the revenue budget towards a feasibility study to update and enhance the Post office Green Play Area, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**
- 2.11.1 The application largely meets the 2007/08 funding criteria and links to the reference on page 34 of the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, ‘to provide an accessible focal point for the youth of the village; to maintain and enhance safe playground and sporting facilities for younger residents’.
- 2.11.2 A cursory report provided for the Parish Council by Cranfield University suggests opportunities for developing the play area and adjoining Swill Brook in this prominent but underused area within the village and it is hoped that a feasibility study will be able to demonstrate the viability of incorporating a water feature and associated landscaping.
- 2.11.3 The applicant, who has not received previous funding from this Committee, is contributing 50% of the total costs of this project.
- 2.11.4 Failure to contribute towards this scheme will probably result in the project being fully funded by the Parish Council.
- 2.11.5 A decision not to contribute towards this scheme might result in the project being delayed.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Sherston Village Hall App 12	A new central heating system	Capital	£3,212

2.12 Option 12: **Sherston Village Hall – Award £3,212 from the capital budget towards a new central heating system, conditional on the balance of the funding being in place.**

2.12.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria; however there is no specific link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan, although local residents do value their village hall (Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan pp 5).

2.12.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.12.3 The current heating system is over 20 years old and requires replacing. It will be replaced by a condensing boiler which will be much more efficient.

2.12.4 The hall is well used and local people have contributed towards the funds required to undertake this work.

2.12.5 Failure to support this scheme may result in delays in undertaking this work while other funding is sought.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Sherston Parish Council App 13	Preliminary surveys in respect to the purchase of the Old School	Revenue	£5,000

2.13 Option 13: **Sherston Parish Council – No award towards preliminary surveys in respect to the purchase of the Old School, Sherston.**

2.13.1 The application meets the funding criteria although there are no specific references to the Old School in the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan.

2.13.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.

2.13.3 The applicant is seeking significant levels of revenue funding to assist them to undertake preliminary surveys in respect to purchasing the Old Sherston School which will ultimately be converted for retail and community use.

2.13.4 This scheme is a significant one for Sherston, one which was endorsed by 100 people at a meeting in May 2007. Further consultation with the community will be undertaken as soon as the purchasing of the Old School becomes a reality.

- 2.13.5 While officers are supportive of this significant community scheme, it is suggested that rather than make a revenue award at this stage (and in so doing jeopardise a multitude of small projects tabled elsewhere in this report), that Members express their support for the scheme and invite the applicant to apply for capital funding during 2008/09, for the next phase of the scheme.
- 2.13.6 It should be noted that Sherston has been a significant beneficiary of Community Area Awards funding over recent years.
- 2.13.7 Failure to contribute towards the cost of professional fees, may lead to the need to renegotiate the Parish Council Public Works Loan, however it is unlikely to place the overall project at risk.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Brinkworth Recreational Group App 14	The provision of acoustic tiling and a stage system in the village hall	Capital	£1,881

- 2.14 **Option 14: Brinkworth Recreational Group – Award 1,881 from the capital budget towards the provision of a stage system in the village hall, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2.14.1 The application meets the funding criteria although there are no specific references to Brinkworth Village Hall within the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, although the village hall is valued by local people (see pp 6).
- 2.14.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.
- 2.14.3 The applicant is asking for a contribution towards the cost of acoustic tiling and the provision of a stage system for the recently updated village hall. The tiling will improve communications within the hall, which is currently proving difficult for many users especially those with hearing difficulties.
- 2.14.4 The sound problems came to light following the recent enlargement of the hall. The stage system will improve ease of use.
- 2.14.5 This Committee made an award of £15,000 in May 2006 towards the cost of refurbishing the village hall and it is the opinion of the officers that although it is a user group applying for this funding (who in their own right have been beneficiaries of this Committee), that the Committee has already made a significant contribution to the hall.
- 2.14.6 Officers are of the opinion that if Member chose to make this award they should consider whether they wish to receive funding requests from this organisation during 2008/09.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Sherston Scout and Guide Management Committee App 15	Refurbishment of the Scout HQ kitchen	Capital	£3,824

- 2.15 **Option 15: Sherston Scout and Guide Management Committee – Award £3,824 from the capital budget towards the refurbishment of the Scout HQ kitchen, conditional on the balance of funding being in place.**
- 2.15.1 The application meets the 2007/08 funding criteria; however there is no link to the Malmesbury & Village Community Area Plan. It is accepted that there is a need across the Community Area to provide facilities for young people.
- 2.15.2 While the funding criteria require that Members allocate at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget to applications that demonstrate explicit links to the Malmesbury & Villages Community Area Plan, the remaining 25% may be awarded to schemes that fall outside the Community Plan. These projects must be able to demonstrate a community need.
- 2.15.3 The current membership of the Scout and Guide groups who use these facilities amounts to about 50. In addition to being the Scout and Guide HQ it is also used by other clubs within the village. Improvements to the kitchen are likely to make it a more attractive facility to use.
- 2.15.4 The applicant had hoped to fund this project from their own funds; however their previous project to extend the building (to which the Committee contributed £7,100), overrun, resulting in this request to improve the kitchen facilities.
- 2.15.5 Much voluntary support is being provided by parents and friends in order to keep the cost of this refurbishment to a minimum.
- 2.15.6 A decision not to fund this project will probably lead to further delays while funds are sought from elsewhere.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 Appendix 16 provides details of the 2007/08 geographical distribution of awards, in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the community area.
- 3.2 Funding criteria for 2007/08 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 8 February 2007. Should Members wish to act in contravention of this policy the matter will need to be referred to the Executive.
- 3.3 Members are reminded that all applications in 2007/08 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

- 3.4 A capital award of less than £1,000 may only be made where it can be shown to generate external funding.
- 3.5 The funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget 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.

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 £14,518 and a revenue balance of nil.
- 4.3 Capital carry forward is a decision of the Executive.

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.

Appendices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 1 Application from Hankerton Community Newsletter • Appendix 2 Application from Malmesbury Branch of Wiltshire Mind • Appendix 3 Application from Lea & Cleverton Parish Council • Appendix 4 Application from Charlton Recreational Centre • Appendix 5 Application from Friends of Luckington School • Appendix 6 Application from Little Somerford Village Hall • Appendix 7 Application from Dauntsey Parish Council • Appendix 8 Application from Oaksey Youth Club
-------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix 9 Application from Malmesbury Branch of the National Childbirth Trust • Appendix 10 Application from The Jackdaw Community Newspaper • Appendix 11 Application from Crudwell Parish Council • Appendix 12 Application from Sherston Village Hall • Appendix 13 Application from Sherston Parish council • Appendix 14 Application from Brinkworth Recreational Group • Appendix 15 Application from Sherston Scout & Guide Management Committee • Appendix 16 Area 1 Committee 2007/2008 Community Area Award Budget Distribution
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	<p>Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2007/08</p> <p>Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008</p>

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Policy 2007/2008	Executive - 8 February 2007	E175
Area 1 Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2007/2008	Area 1 Committee – 26th September 2007	M22