

Date of Meeting	16 July 2008
Title of Report	Malmesbury Community Area Awards Funding Distribution 2008/2009
Link to Corporate Priorities	Partnership Working
Public Report	Yes
Summary of Report	
To ask Members to consider 7 applications with recommendations for funding from the 2008/9 Community Area Award Scheme	
Officer Recommendations	
<p>Members agree funding distribution of the Area 1 Community Area Awards budget based on the agreed criteria for 2008/2009:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wilts & Berks Canal Trust – Award £2,140 from the capital budget towards the restoration of Lock 4 of the Wilts & Berks Canal, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 2. Malmesbury Cricket Club – Award £2,500 from the capital budget towards the cost of new storage facilities for club equipment, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 3. Malmesbury School Governors – Award £1,250 from the revenue budget towards a joint schools community music project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 4. Dauntsey Parish Council - Award £3,000 from the capital budget towards new play equipment at the village recreation field, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 5. Brinkworth Parish Council - Award £2,500 from the capital budget towards the installation of a toilet in the village, conditional upon the award being paid to, or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 6. Thomas Hobbes Festival Society - Award £3,166 from the capital budget towards a bronze plaque and bench to commemorate Thomas Hobbes, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 7. Minety Lawn Tennis Club – Award £2,400 from the revenue budget towards the development of primary school links with Minety Lawn Tennis Club, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009. 8. Members make a request to the Executive for further capital funding to satisfy the demand for funding and that anticipated during the remainder of the year. 	

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 This report considers 7 applications for 2008/9 Community Area Award funding and, where appropriate, links them to issues and priorities in the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages
- 1.2 Following the funding awards made on 21 May 2008, Malmesbury Area (1) Committee have a **capital balance of £34,296** and a **revenue balance of £9,050** for distribution.

2. Options and Options Appraisal

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Wilts & Berks Canal Trust Appendix 1	Restoration of Lock 4 of the Wilts & Berks Canal	Capital	£ 2,140

- 2.1 Option 1: **Wilts & Berks Canal Trust – Award £2,140 from the capital budget towards the restoration of Lock 4 of the Wilts & Berks Canal, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 2.1.1 The application was deferred by this Committee on 21st May 2008, pending a request for clarification concerning a Noise Enforcement Notice. Officers can assure Members that to date no such Enforcement Notice has been served and the applicant has agreed to limit the use of noisy equipment.

Clarification on a number of issues sought at the May meeting are listed below:

- The aim of this project is to provide access to the towpath for local people, which when the project is complete will be surfaced to an agreed rural standard.
- The Canal Trust has a policy of replacing any trees that have to be removed for construction purposes. In supporting the canal restoration, Natural England recognises the importance of the hedgerow and the aquatic habitat as part of the regional Green Infrastructure.

- The site and its work practices have been monitored on a number of occasions by the Health & Safety Executive. The Canal Trust recognises the need to post warnings at the site entrance during the current works. On completion, the site will be assessed for risk and the lock sides may be fenced (as at Chaddington Lock, Wootton Bassett).
- The Trust is a registered charity, with audited accounts.

2.1.2 This application largely meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and while the project does not link directly to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, although it does reflect the overall Brinkworth parish vision around developing and sustaining the attractiveness of the village that is consistent with its rural history. Whilst funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget is allocated to applications demonstrating links to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, the remaining 25% is available for schemes that fall outside of the Plan but remain important for local communities.

2.1.3 In the short term, the project is to transform the existing lock from what has been a hazard to walkers using the towpath into a good sound structure. The lock will form part of the restored Wilts & Berks Canal which connects into the national waterway network and will offer benefits to local communities and wildlife. There is much community support for this project with local volunteers working on a weekly basis on construction and planning.

2.1.4 Further details of this application are provided in the application at Appendix 1.

2.1.5 Members are reminded that NWDC awarded capital funding of £27,000 to the WBCT as part of the Partnership Restoration Strategy in 2004/5 and in 2005/6 for work on various lock projects throughout the district. No grants have been made by NWDC to Canal Trust projects since then.

2.1.6 A decision not to fund this would hold up work while the applicant identifies other funding sources and would also go against the District Council's historic commitment to support the work of the Canal Trust.

2.1.7 The total cost of this project is £43,800. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations, this will represent a contribution of approximately 4% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Malmesbury Cricket Club	New storage facilities for club equipment	Capital	£ 2,500
Appendix 2			

2.2 **Option 2: Malmesbury Cricket Club – Award £2,500 from the capital budget towards the cost of new storage facilities for club equipment from the capital budget towards, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

2.2.1 This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria and can be indirectly linked to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, which state the need to, “provide more sports facilities”.

- 2.2.2 The current storage at the club is considered structurally hazardous and inadequate to store machinery and equipment.
- 2.2.3 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 2.
- 2.2.4 Failure to fund this scheme is unlikely to prevent the project from proceeding, although its start date may be delayed while fundraising is undertaken.
- 2.2.5 The total cost of this project is £5,000. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 50% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Malmesbury Schools project Appendix 3	A joint schools community music project	Revenue	£ 1,250

2.3 **Option 3: Malmesbury School Governors – Award £1,250 from the revenue budget towards a joint schools community music project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

- 2.3.1 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and although not specifically mentioned in the Malmesbury and Village Community Area Plan, there is reference to the need to promote culture, particularly in the villages and to hold performance events. This application also meets a need to provide activities to engage young people.
- 2.3.2 This is an interesting project bringing Zimbabwean music and dance into schools as well as the opportunity to join performances at Malmesbury Abbey and WOMAD festival. Such involvement will enhance cultural awareness amongst participants
- 2.3.3 Further details of this application are provided in the application at Appendix 3.
- 2.3.4 Failure to fund this scheme may limit the extent of the project.
- 2.3.5 The total cost of this project is £1,250. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of approximately 25% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Dauntsey Parish Council Appendix 4	New play equipment at the village recreation field	Capital	£3,011

2.4 **Option 4: Dauntsey Parish Council - Award £3,000 from the capital budget towards new play equipment at the village recreation field, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**

- 2.4.1 This application meets the 2008/09 funding criteria and demonstrates a specific link to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages since Dauntsey identified the need to, " fund raise for new playground equipment".
- 2.4.2 Rather than replacing traditional play equipment, a decision has been made by the applicant to provide an 'adventure trail' that will appeal to slightly older children.
- 2.4.3 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 4.
- 2.4.4 Failure to fund this scheme is unlikely to prevent the project from proceeding, although its start date is likely to be delayed while fundraising is undertaken.
- 2.4.5 It should be noted that this Committee contributed £2,000 (50%) of the cost of two parish notice boards on 23 January 2008.
- 2.4.6 The total cost of this project is £6,011. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 50% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Brinkworth Parish Council Appendix 5	To install a toilet in the centre of the village	Capital	£2,500

- 2.5 **Option 5: Brinkworth Parish Council – Award £2,500 from the capital budget towards the installation of a toilet in the village, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 2.5.1 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria, and while the project does not link to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, the need has been identified within the village.
- 2.5.2 Whilst funding criteria require that at least 75% of the Community Area Award budget is allocated to applications demonstrating links to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, the remaining 25% is available for schemes that fall outside of the Plan but remain important for local communities.
- 2.5.3 A decision has been made to utilise a small building in the centre of the village to provide a single (DDA compliant) toilet, for residents and visitors to the village; reversing the current trend to close them. The Parish Council will be responsible for its maintenance.
- 2.5.4 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 5.
- 2.5.5 Failure to fund this scheme is unlikely to prevent the project from proceeding, although its start date is likely to be delayed while fundraising is undertaken.
- 2.5.6 The total cost of this project is £6,000. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 42% of the whole project.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Thomas Hobbes Festival Society Appendix 6	A commemorative bronze plaque and bench	Capital	£ 3,166

- 2.6 **Option 6: Thomas Hobbes Festival Society - Award £3,166 from the capital budget towards a bronze plaque and bench to commemorate Thomas Hobbes, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place and the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 2.6.1 This application largely meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and although the project does not link specifically to the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages, it does strongly relate to the value placed by people living and working in Malmesbury to their, " proud heritage and historic buildings".
- 2.6.2 This funding application for a contribution towards the plaque and bench only, forms a sustainable element of a much larger project, which includes the first Thomas Hobbes Festival which is due to take place in Malmesbury later in the year. Funding for the festival is being sought from elsewhere.
- 2.6.3 The provision of a bench and informative plaque is likely to increase visitor interest in the history of the town.
- 2.6.4 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 6.
- 2.6.5 Failure to fund this scheme might prevent the project from proceeding in conjunction with the festival which would reduce its impact; however it seems likely that it would proceed once funding had been sought from other sources.
- 2.6.6 The total cost of the capital element of project is £5,276. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 60%.

Applicant	Proposal	Award Type	Funding Requested
Minety Lawn Tennis Club Appendix 7	The development of primary school links with Minety Lawn Tennis	Revenue	£2,400

- 2.7 **Option 7: Minety Lawn Tennis Club – Award £2,400 from the revenue budget towards the development of primary school links with Minety Lawn Tennis Club, conditional upon the award being paid to or invoiced by the recipient before 31st March 2009.**
- 2.7.1 This application meets the 2008/9 funding criteria and links to Minety’s aspiration to provide, “future activities including sports”.
- 2.7.2 It is likely that the project will commence in September in four primary schools the young people will be encouraged to take up additional taster sessions at the club, with opportunities to join as junior members for the 2009 season.
- 2.7.3 Members of this Committee last awarded funding to the club in 2004 when they contributed £15,000 toward the installation of floodlights.
- 2.7.4 Further details of this application are provided at Appendix 7.
- 2.7.5 Failure to fund this scheme is likely to lead to delays in proceeding with this project, especially with the all the schools who wish to be involved.

- 2.7.6 The total cost of this project is £2,400. If Members make an award in line with officer recommendations this will represent a contribution of 100% of the whole project.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 Member's attention is drawn to the fact that funding applications will be submitted for consideration at each of the Area 1 Committee meetings up to and including 21st January 2009 (where funding remains available), providing three further funding opportunities. Application deadlines and future meetings are as follows:
- 8th August 2008 application deadline, for consideration at Area Committee on 17th September 2008
 - 10th October 2008 application deadline for consideration at Area Committee on 19th November 2008
 - 19th December 2008 application deadline for consideration at Area Committee on 21st January 2009
- 3.2 Applications received after 19th December 2009 will not be considered for funding as there will be insufficient time to process them before the January Area Committee Meetings, when final awards will be agreed.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Applications can be made electronically via the Council's website, www.northwiltshire.gov.uk or via a paper version. All enquires should be made to community@northwiltshire.gov.uk or 01249 706448.

4. Budget

- 4.1 Appendix 8 provides details of the Area 1 capital and revenue balance for 2008/9, while Appendix 9 details the 2007/8 distribution of Awards by the Area 1 Committee, in an attempt to assist Members when distributing funding across the whole of the Community Area.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 Members of the Area Committee will not be able to make an award to an applicant that exceeds the sum requested on the formal application form. Should Members wish to award a greater sum, the item would need to be deferred until the next funding round and the applicant requested to submit a revised application.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 Distribution of awards must fall within the Community Awards budget allocated to Area 1 Committee as set out in Section 1 of this report.
- 6.2 If Members make awards in line with officer recommendations, there will be a capital balance of **£20,990** and a revenue balance of **£ 5,400**

7. Community and Environmental Implications

- 7.1 The majority of the awards can be directly linked to priorities identified in the Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages.
- 7.2 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.

8. Equality & Diversity Implications

- 8.1 Community Area Awards give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 8.2 An Equality Impact Assessment for the Community Area Awards has been undertaken and copies are available on the Council's website.

9. Risk Analysis

- 9.1 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:	Appendix 1 Application - Wilts & Berks Canal Trust Appendix 2 Application – Malmesbury Cricket Club Appendix 3 Application – Malmesbury School Appendix 4 Application - Dauntsey Parish Council Appendix 5 Application - Brinkworth Parish Council Appendix 6 Application - Thomas Hobbes Festival Society Appendix 7 Minety Lawn Tennis Club Appendix 8 2008/9 Geographical Distribution of Community Area Awards. Appendix 9 2007/8 Geographical Distribution of Community Area Awards.
Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report:	Community Area Award Funding Criteria 2008/9 Community Plan for Malmesbury and the Villages 2005 – 2015

Previous Decisions Connected with this Report

Report	Committee & Date	Minute Reference
Community Area Awards Criteria	Executive 7 th February 2008	E182
2008/9 Budgets	Council 26 th February 2008	C83
Minutes of Area 1 Meeting	Malmesbury Area (1) Committee on 21 st May 2008	M09