

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

ITEM NO. 10b

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Tidworth Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> November 2009</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Community Area Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 6 applications seeking 2009/10 Community Area Grant Funding

1. Phoenix Hall, Netheravon – seeking a grant of £1,415 towards repairing and replacing all external fascia boards, soffits and porch cladding.
2. Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council – seeking a grant of £1,605 towards the cost of dismantling and overhauling St Andrew's Church clock to bring it back into working order. (*Application form to follow*)
3. Collingbourne Ducis and Everleigh PCC – seeking a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of constructing a toilet with baby change and disabled facilities in a new build room attached to St Andrew's Church.
4. Ludgershall Pre-school playgroup – seeking a grant of £5,000 to buy equipment to furnish the newly built pre-school.
5. Tidworth Town Council – seeking a grant of £750 to re-instate lettering to 9 damaged monuments in St Mary's Memorial Chapel.
6. Enford Camera Club - seeking a grant of £659 for purchase of a PC projector for use of camera club members and other groups in the village.

## 1. Background

- 1.1. A single and simple application process was accepted by the Implementation Executive on 13 May 2009 for use during 2009/10. Appendix 1 contains the Community Area Grants Pack, which has been developed and includes details of the grants process and criteria.
- 1.2. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to the Area Boards by the Leader of the Council (13 May 2009). Under the terms of that delegation Area Boards must operate within the policies set by the Leader and /or the Council. The Council has adopted an Area Grants policy, with funding criteria, to which the Area Boards must adhere.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that was contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.4. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting until 31 March 2010.
- 1.5. Tidworth Area Board was allocated for 2009/10 a budget of £37,678. After the deduction of 20% of this budget to core fund the Community Area Partnership, a total of £27,631 remains to distribute through the Community Area Grants Scheme. The four grants approved by the Area Board on 14 September totalled £8,084 leaving a balance of £19,547 to spend on grants up to 31 March 2010.
- 1.6. If all 6 of the attached grants are approved, the total amount approved will be £14,429. This will leave a remainder of £5,118 available to spend on grants up to 31 March 2010.

<b>Background Documents Used in the Preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Community Area Grant Application Pack 2009/10</b></li><li>• <b>Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-2013</b></li></ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2009/10 year are made to applicants where projects can realistically proceed before 31 March 2010.
- 2.2. There will be 4 rounds of funding during 2009/10. The first has already taken place and the second is contained in this report. The remaining will take place on:
  - 18 January 2010
  - 15 March 2010
- 2.3. Community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils are encouraged to submit funding applications to the 18 January area board. Closing date for receipt of applications is 14 December 2009.

### **3. Environmental Implications**

- 3.1. The Phoenix Hall, Netheravon grant will preserve the exterior of a much used community building and keep it weatherproof, thus prolonging its use.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Tidworth Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Tidworth Area Board will have a balance of £5,118 up to 31 March 2010.

### **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

### **6. HR Implications**

- 6.1. There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

### **7. Equality and Inclusion Implications**

- 7.1. Wiltshire Council is committed to Equality and Inclusion. Community Area Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2. Consideration has been given to each application and implications are outlined within section 8 of this report.

### **8. Officer Recommendations**

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project proposal</b>	<b>Funding requested</b>
8.1.	Trustees of the Phoenix Hall, Netheravon	To repair and replace all external fascia boards, paint and replace soffits and clad roof to porch with PVC	£ 1,415

- 8.1.1. It is recommended that the Trustees of the Phoenix Hall, Netheravon are awarded a grant of £1,415 for the work on external fascia boards, soffits and cladding on the porch.

- 8.1.2. Officers are of the opinion that this application meets 2009/10 grant criteria.

- 8.1.3. This application has specific links to Tidworth Community Plan 2003-2013 under the Housing and the Built Environment and Culture and Leisure themes in that:-

- the work will preserve the weather proofing and extend the life of a much used multi-use community facility.
- This will help the hall to support the work and continuation of youth organisations and other groups of all types and encourage new and existing community groups by

providing good quality premises for their activities and meetings.

8.1.4. This application has been made by the trustees of the hall ensure that the building is weather proof and finished to a high and attractive standard to the benefit of all users. The hall is used by members of the villages of Netheravon, Fittleton and Haxton for all types of activities, regardless of age, gender or race. Activities include a weekly Day Centre (16 members) for the aged/lonely, Judo for the young (2 sessions), short-mat bowls, village or church functions and many private functions such as wedding receptions and children's parties. Other users include the Primary School, the Small Saints Playgroup, evening aerobics and keep fit classes, Voluntary Action Kennet for children and the Community for village activities.

8.1.5. The Phoenix Hall is matching the grant funding 50/50.

8.1.6 The Phoenix Hall has been viable for many years and, it is considered, will continue to be so. This project will further improve the look of the Hall and the Management committee's ability to 'market' the hall and its amenities.

8.1.7 The project relates to Wiltshire Council priorities in that it will:-

- increase the number of people volunteering by making the hall available to different groups.
- improve access to services for people with dementia through the activities carried out in the hall.
- encourage people to make lifestyle changes that will have a positive impact on the health of both themselves and their families through the recreational activities carried out and it will improve young people's participation.
- indirectly increase the number of people who feel safe in their community and reduce perceptions of anti-social behaviour through providing a safe venue for activities for all age groups.
- improve the local area through intergenerational activities such as community events.

8.1.8 A decision not to fund this application will mean a delay in repairing some of the external fixtures of the hall with winter approaching and mean that the hall will not be improved for a time, making it not so attractive to new customers.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council	To dismantle and overhaul the 140 year old clock on St Andrew's Church	£1,605

8.2.1 It is recommended that Collingbourne Ducis Parish Council is awarded a grant to £1605 dismantling and overhauling the clock on St Andrew's Church, which has currently stopped.

8.2.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2009/10 grant criteria.

8.2.3 This application has links to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-2013 Objectives and the Housing and Built Environment section in that it:-

- enables a 140 year old clock on a Grade 2\* listed building to be repaired and

brought back into use for the good of the community and also enhances the building, which is part of the cultural heritage of the area, for local people to enjoy.

- improves the quality of the built environment.

8.2.4 The church clock is the only public clock in the village and is well used for reference as the chimes can be heard throughout the village. It serves the community as a whole being well placed on a high point of the village and is part of the tradition and culture of the village. The clock unexpectedly stopped and many local people have commented on its being stopped as it is a familiar useful landmark and the chimes are a useful reminder of the time.

8.2.5 The clock was donated to the Collingbourne Ducis community pre the 1894 act creating parish councils, and since that date it has been routinely serviced by the parish council. It now needs dismantling, worn parts replacing and cleaning to ensure that it will continue to serve the community for at least another century.

8.2.6 The project relates indirectly to Wiltshire Council priorities in that it:-

- improves the local area as it serves the whole community who can see or hear it when out and about.
- the familiarity of the chimes increases the feeling of people being safe in their community and reduces perceptions of anti-social behaviour by keeping up the traditions of the village.

8.2.7 A decision not to fund this application would result in a loss to the built environment of a traditional clock on a listed building which is part of the cultural heritage of the village and would deprive local people of a useful outdoor clock, the chimes of which can be heard across the village.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Collingbourne Ducis and Everleigh Parochial church Council (PCC)	To construct a toilet with baby change and disabled facilities in a new build room attached to St Andrew's Church in Collingbourne Ducis.	£5,000

8.3.1 This project has also put an expression of interest forward for the Performance Reward Grant Scheme. Councillors will need to consider separately whether they support the application to the Performance Reward Grant Scheme. The amount of £5,000 requested from the Area Board is part of the overall funding package. The £10,000 requested from the Performance Rewards Grant Scheme is to replace or repay the private loan of the same amount which is also a key part of the funding package. The applicant has checked with the officer administering the scheme and she has confirmed that applying to use the scheme's funds to clear a loan for this capital project would be permissible. Both amounts of funding are a necessary part of the funding package if the taking out of a loan is to be avoided.

8.3.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2009/10 grant criteria.

8.3.3 This application has links to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-13 under the Housing and Built Environment and culture and Leisure themes, in that:-

- it supports the existence of the church as a centre for the community and enables it to be used for longer meetings and events.
- it will encourage a wide range of music and arts events in the area by improving the facilities for hosting concerts, exhibitions, and holding meetings of all ages groups.
- It will promote and encourage new and existing community groups by giving them an alternative place to meet.
- It will encourage community involvement and volunteering through the activities held in the church with its expanded facilities.

8.3.4 St Andrew's church is a Grade 2\* listed building with very good acoustics which are commented on by performers when the building is used for dramatic or musical events and it is the only venue in the village with fixed seating for 150 people. The PCC wants the building to be familiar to and used much more by all sections of the community for any suitable use such as meetings, exhibitions, or concerts, etc. The building has no toilet but is served by drains and water. This limits its use very severely to short events of about an hour unless portable toilets are hired in, such as for a concert.

8.3.5 Running costs will be limited to heating and cleaning the toilet area with occasional painting and maintenance, all of which will be part of the PCC's routine care practice.

8.3.6 The project relates indirectly to Wiltshire council's priorities in that:-

- it engages the church to work with local people to find out their priorities and work with them to deliver solutions and hosting events
- it enables the church to increase the number of people involved in regular volunteering.
- It encourages people to make lifestyle changes that will have a positive impact on the health of both themselves and their family.
- it improves young people's participation in positive activities through the events put on in the building.
- It increases the number of people who feel safe in their community and reduces perceptions of anti-social behaviour by providing a safe venue for all types of events to take place for all sections of the community.
- it improves the local area through intergenerational activities and events that can be held in the church.

8.3.7 The decision not to fund this application will result in a delay to the works and will mean it is difficult to hold events such as concerts that last over an hour. This will affect use of the church by a wider section of the community and reduction in the type of events that can be held.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Ludgershall Pre-School Play Group	To equip and furnish the newly built pre-school.	£5,000

8.4.1 It is recommended that that the Ludgershall Pre-School Pay Group is awarded a grant of £5,000 towards the purchase of equipment for the newly built pre-school.

- 8.4.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2009/10 grant criteria.
- 8.4.3 The Pre-School has savings of £6051.95 specifically for the purpose of equipping the new pre-school. The grant of £5,000 will enable the total project expenditure of £11,051.95 to be made.
- 8.4.4 The current pre-school is registered for 36 children and is generally fully booked by the Easter term. When the new building is completed, the pre-school will be able to cater for 64 places. The main beneficiaries will be families and children in the area with an extra benefit to employers as parents and carers will be released to take on work. The pre-school is a charity and aim to keep their prices low so that good quality childcare can be accessed by all.
- 8.4.5 The pre-school have some existing equipment which they can use but need to purchase more to furnish and provide play equipment for 3 rooms in the new building. They will re-use what they can of the old equipment but some is too old and will have to be disposed of.
- 8.4.6 The pre-school are confident that they will remain financially viable, based on the numbers on their current waiting list. They continue to monitor their success and survey parents regularly to ensure that they are offering the hours and services needed.
- 8.4.7 Wiltshire Council will also benefit as pre-school will be able to increase places under the National Education Grants scheme. They will need to take on more staff and volunteers, thus increasing employment opportunities in the area.
- 8.4.8 The application has specific links to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-13 under the Health and Social Care section in that it:-
- ensures that additional childcare provision is provided to release parents and carers for employment or training.
  - supports families through rurally based services
- 8.4.9 The application relates to Wiltshire council priorities in that it:-
- engages with local people to find out their priorities and works with them to deliver solutions.
  - increases the number of local people involved in regular volunteering
  - improves young people's participation in positive activities.
- 8.4.10 A decision not to fund this project will result in delay in offering the additional places at the pre-school to the children of local parents and carers. If the equipment can be purchased, the numbers can be increased straight away.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5	Tidworth Town Council	To reinstate lettering to 9 memorials in St Mary's Chapel, Tidworth	£750

- 8.5.1 It is recommended that Tidworth Town Council is awarded a grant of £750 for reinstating the lettering to 9 monuments in St Mary's Chapel.

- 8.5.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2009/10 grant criteria.
- 8.5.3 This application links to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-13 objectives relating to people being able to enjoy the cultural heritage of the area as once the monuments are restored they will provide historic knowledge of Tidworth's heritage to the community.
- 8.5.4 The Diocese has no funds available for maintenance/upkeep of the building so Tidworth Town Council has taken on responsibility. Upon transfer to the town council, the chapel has been deconsecrated. There are several specific work requirements stipulated by the Diocese, one of them being the maintenance and upkeep of the monuments. The nine monuments have sadly been vandalised and graffitied in the past and when being cleaned lettering has been damaged or erased. The Town council consider this project to be of great importance as it is important to Tidworth's heritage and provides historic knowledge to the community who do not want part of the past and future to be lost. The Town Council are contributing £804 to the project.
- 8.5.5 The project relates indirectly to Wiltshire Council's priorities in that the project will improve the local area through intergenerational activities as local people, visitors and school parties can visit the chapel to learn about the history of the town.
- 8.5.6 The ongoing costs of maintenance of the Chapel will be met by the Town Council.
- 8.5.7 The decision not to fund this application will result in delay in restoring the monuments.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6	Enford Camera Club	To purchase a PC projector for use of camera club members and other organisations in the village,	£659

- 8.6.1 It is recommended that Enford Camera club is awarded a grant of £659 to purchase a PC projector for the use of club members and to extend this use to other user groups in the area.
- 8.6.2 Officers are of the opinion that this application meets the 2009/10 grant criteria.
- 8.6.3 This application has specific links to the Tidworth Community Area Plan 2003-13 under the Culture and Leisure theme. The camera club is a new organisation and the plan sets out the vision:-
- to promote and encourage new and existing community groups.
  - to support the work and continuation of youth organisations and other groups, all of which this project will do as the intention is for the equipment to be purchased for the camera club but also made available to other local clubs.
  - to encourage community involvement and volunteering, particularly among young



people all of which this project does.

- 8.6.4 Enford Camera club was formed on 3 September 2009 as a meeting place where members can be stimulated and encouraged in the art and science of photography and to create an environment where people can learn photographic techniques and skills from each other. The club welcomes members of all ages and abilities. Younger members will especially benefit as the club will offer support to those who would like to take their interest in photography as a hobby into a career. The club has a policy of inclusiveness and therefore there is no club entrance fee, no annual membership and monthly subscriptions are kept to a minimum to cover running costs and hall hire, etc. The purchase of a projector is necessary as almost all photography now uses a digital format and a means of displaying images is required.
- 8.6.5 The projector funded by this application will be made available to other user groups in the local community. This could include groups such as the Enford & Avon Valley Youth Club, Garden Club, Football Club and could be used to show pictures of community events such fireworks, community suppers, club nights, Christmas Bazaars and Summer Fetes, etc. Attending these events is not only of interest for members taking photographs but encourages a wider participation in all community activities for all sections and age groups in the community.
- 8.6.6 The project relates indirectly to Wiltshire Council's priorities in that:-
- the projector will increase the role and activities of the camera club and as a consequence it will:-
    - \* engage with local people to find out their priorities and work with them to deliver solutions by involving local people in its activities.
    - \* increase the number of people involved in regular volunteering through encouraging local activities.
    - \* encourage people to make lifestyle changes that will have a positive impact on themselves and their families by involving sports clubs, etc.
    - \* improve young people's participation in positive activities through their involvement in local groups.
- 8.6.7 A decision not to fund this project would mean a delay in the camera club being able to fund the purchase of the projector as they try to keep the costs of membership down so that, all who wish to, are able to take part in the club's activities.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>5 grant application forms (<i>application form relating to Collingbourne Ducis PCC, St Andrews Church Clock, to follow</i>)</b>
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