



Western Area Committee

9th September 2004

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REPORT

SOUTH WILTSHIRE AREA GRANTS SCHEME

Recommendations of the Western Area SWAG Review Panel – Second Tranche Grant Applications 2004- 05

In the second tranche for grant applications under the South Wiltshire Area Grants Scheme (SWAG), five applications were received. A summary of these applications, detailing projects for which funds are requested, together with the recommendations of the SWAG Review Panel are set out below.

Please note, if any member would like to see applications in full with supporting papers, these will be available on request from the Area Co-ordinator either before or at the meeting.

1.0 Funds available for distribution in the financial year 2004-2005

The total SWAG Budget for the Western Area Committee in 2004-05 is £24,350. £8,070 was allocated in the first tranche leaving a balance of £16,280 for distribution in the second and third tranches, i.e. £8,140 per tranche.

The Western Area Discretionary Budget for 2004-05 is £7,500. £3,000 of this has been allocated in favour of the Broad Chalke Village Hall Appeal and £450 has been allocated to East Knoyle Parish Council to cover the cost of an application for registration as an Industrial Provident Society. The balance remaining is £4,050.

If Members are minded to approve the Panel's recommendations, these total £4,565 and would leave a SWAG balance of £11,715 for distribution in tranche 3.

2.0 Summary of Grant Applications received:-

Application No: W006 – Fonthill Awards Festival

Sum Requested:	£8,000 to purchase equipment associated with Festival activities, e.g. carving tools for sculpture workshop, photography equipment, wood and materials for constructing display stands for sculpture and pottery
Technical Officer:	Rachel Efemy
Officer Priority Rating	High
Parish Comments:	Fonthill Bishop and Berwick St Leonard fully support the application. Fonthill Gifford has expressed concerns that the Festival may not appeal to the majority of the community.

Mrs Kozubka, Chairperson of the Fonthill Awards Festival was in attendance to speak in support of the application.

The Fonthill Awards Festival (FAF) is organized and run by a team of ten people from Fonthill Bishop, Chilmark, Hindon and Tisbury. The aims and objectives of the Festival are to bring arts and crafts to the local community and to encourage newcomers to activities and to “have a go” in many of the categories including drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, writing, music, music composition/performance and photography, alongside those with experience. The results are judged by well known local artists and musicians.

The Fonthill Awards Festival was launched in April 2004 and was a great success. Over one hundred entries across all the categories were received. Entries were displayed in the Reading Room (village hall), raku and sculpture workshops were held in the grounds of the River Barn (the only commercial building in the village) and musical performance took place in the church.

Events planned for 2004-2005 include the creation of an illustrated memoir of Fonthill Bishop, a record of flora and fauna in the Fonthill Estate and Scottish Country Dancing for 5 November 2004. It is not planned to extend the catchment area for the Festival activities beyond the existing ten mile radius. Nor is the team seeking to develop the Fonthill Awards Festival into a large festival. The team wants FAF to create significant opportunities for local people to participate in the arts.

The FAF Team will start preparing for the 2005 Awards Festival in September 2004 and the key issue it faces is one of funding. Last year the Festival was funded by entrants to the festival, sponsorship and substantial donations by three members of the FAF team. The group hopes to receive some funding from grant awarding bodies and will be inviting small businesses located on the Estate business units to a meeting in October to see if both financial sponsorship and practical help can be obtained.

FAF needs specific assistance with equipment costs e.g. mallets, chisels, gloves, eye protectors for the sculpture workshop, display boards for photography, painting and drawing, music stands for instrumentalists, a small photocopier to help produce posters and entry forms, two way radio to facilitate communication between the village buildings which might be used for exhibitions. The total cost of equipment required is £8,161.

Mrs Kozubka explained to the Panel that the Festival group understood that SWAG could not fund all of FAF's requirements, but included the total amount required so as to provide an overall picture.

Recommendation: -

That the award of a grant to the Fonthill Awards Festival be deferred to the third tranche to enable the applicant to undertake the following:-

- (a) To discuss with the Principal Arts Officer the existing Rural Arts Scheme and Participatory Arts Workshop Scheme and how their community might benefit from them, as well discussing how to obtain funding from other sources; and
 - (b) To enable the applicant to reconsider the amount requested and prioritise items for funding from SWAG, depending on additional support that may be available from the local community in the first instance.
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Application No: W007 – Mere Snooker Club

Sum Requested:	£390 to renew cushions and baize on a full sized snooker table
Technical Officer:	Louise Cary
Officer Priority Rating	High
Parish Council Comments:	Mere Parish Council fully supports.

Mr Durkee, Secretary of the Mere Snooker Club was in attendance to speak in support of this application. He explained that the Club has two tables, one of which was recovered and had new cushions approximately 18 years ago, while the other has not been refurbished to anyone's recollection.

Refurbishing the snooker table is crucial to the existence of the group, enabling recreational and competitive play and coaching in both snooker and billiards.

The Club currently has 45 members including two juniors. Whilst the club has taken part in a league in previous years, it does not do so at present, although it does play fixtures against other teams. The club plans to join the league again in the future.

Club members have raised £50 towards the cost of the project and the balance of £390 is sought from SWAG.

Recommendation

That a sum of £390 be allocated in favour of Mere Snooker Club.

Application No: W008 – Tisbury Parish Council

Sum Requested:	£750 to purchase a noticeboard.
Technical Officer:	Reg Williams
Officer Priority Rating	Medium to High
Parish Meeting Comments:	N/A

Mrs Amos, Parish Councillor from Tisbury was in attendance to speak in support of this application. Mrs Amos explained that in order to purchase a reasonable quality noticeboard for Tisbury Parish Council, the total project cost has been estimated at £1,000, towards which the Parish Council has raised £250 (i.e. 25% - as required by the SWAG scheme for those Parishes with a tax base over 500 but under 1000).

The current noticeboard used by Tisbury Parish Council actually belongs to the Victoria Hall Management Committee, consequently the space is shared and limited, making information hard to read. The Parish Council has been asked to “vacate” the space it currently occupies on the existing notice board, hence this request for funding for a new noticeboard.

Recommendation

That a grant of £375 be made in favour of Tisbury Parish Council.

Application No: W009 – Fovant Village Hall Management Committee

Sum Requested:	£1,425 to refurbish and improve the area at the entrance to the village hall.
Technical Officer:	Katie Griffin
Officer Priority Rating	Medium
Parish Council comments	Fovant Parish Council supports the project

Mr Lunt, Honorary Treasurer and Mrs Caverhill, Chairperson were both in attendance to speak in support of this application.

A key aim of the Village Hall Management Committee is to increase the use of the hall by the people of Fovant. A refurbishment programme was commenced in 2003 which has resulted in improved interior decoration and seating funded by the Village Hall Committee and the replacement of the windows and door to improve ambience and security, funded by SWAG. For Members’ information £2,500 was allocated from SWAG in Tranche 2 of the financial year, 2003-2004 for the new windows and door.

The Village Hall Committee has now turned its attention to the area in front of Fovant Village Hall, which consists of several blocks of concrete of different levels and textures, with some cracks. Much adverse comment has been received, particularly from local residents with walking difficulties.

The proposal is to break up and remove the existing concrete and to lay two courses of tarmac with a smooth finish and good drainage, with kerb surround at the sides and a neat finish to the base of the War Memorial. The total cost of the project will be £1,600, towards which Fovant Parish Council has contributed £175.

The Hall is used by numerous organizations including the W.I, Whist, Parochial Church Council, Parish Council, Gardening Club, Horticultural Society and Musical Club. The refurbished entrance will create a safe and attractive environment for users and the wider community.

The Village Hall Adviser has informed the Panel that it may be possible for the project to be zero rated for VAT purposes since the need for a new entrance has resulted from an access audit undertaken by the village hall committee.

Recommendation

- (1) That Fovant Village Hall Management Committee be granted £1,300.
- (2) That Fovant Village Hall Management Committee be advised to contact the Village Halls Adviser for advice on how to have the project zero rated for VAT purposes.

Application No: W010– Hinton Hall Committee

Sum Requested:	£5,000 to refurbish the kitchen with new units, cooker, extractors, refrigerator, work surfaces, electrical work and redecoration.
Technical Officer:	Kate Griffin
Officer Priority Rating	Medium
Parish Council comments	Tisbury Parish Council fully supports the application especially in light of the loss of kitchen facilities at Nadder Middle School, which was formerly designated as the emergency kitchen for emergencies and disasters.

Mr Waters, Treasurer of the Hinton Hall Committee was in attendance to speak in support of the application.

The proposal involves the complete refurbishment of the kitchen at the Hinton Hall in Tisbury. Rather than have pre-cooked food brought into the hall and then reheated they aim to have a kitchen installed where food can be prepared and cooked on the premises.

The total project cost has been estimated at £10,000. The Committee itself is able to allocate £2,000 towards this from its General Fund and hopes to raise smaller donations/grants from appeals/events planned for the late summer and early autumn. £5,000 is sought from SWAG.

The refurbishment of the kitchen will include the installation of new units, a new oven and hob, extractors, refrigerator, work surfaces, rewiring the mains and redecoration.

The Hinton Hall is in daily use by various parts of the community. The Parochial Church Council meets there, as do the West Tisbury Parish Assembly, the Local History Society, the Natural History Society, the Horticultural Society, the South-West Primary Care Trust, the Sunshine Support Group for disabled people and their carers, the Tisbury Flower Group, Art and Line Dancing classes and the over 60's Social Group.

Over the past ten years the Hinton Hall Committee has been able to install more economical heating arrangements, keep up to date with redecoration, bring into use two outbuildings attached to the Hall and to upgrade both men's and women's toilets and to re-floor the kitchen. However, the proposed and necessary refurbishment of the kitchen is a very substantial project for the Hall Committee, hence the request for financial assistance from SWAG.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,500 be granted to the Hinton Hall Committee.

Background Papers:

Completed South Wiltshire Area Grant Applications

Implications:

- **Financial:** As set out in report.
- **Legal:** None, other than compliance with SWAG criteria by SWAG applicants where grants have been successful.
- **Personnel:** None.
- **Community Safety:** None.
- **Council's Core Values:** Excellent Service, supporting the disadvantaged, protecting the environment.
- **Ward(s) Affected:** Wards within the Western Area of Salisbury District.
- **Consultation Undertaken:** District Councillors of the Western Area Grants Review Panel and Parish Councils.