



## Western Area Committee

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# REPORT

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## SOUTH WILTSHIRE AREA GRANTS SCHEME

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

In the third 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

##### SWAG BUDGET

The total SWAG Budget for the Western Area Committee in 2004-05 is £24,350. £8,070 was allocated in the first tranche and £4,565 was allocated in the second tranche.

##### DISCRETIONARY BUDGET

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.

In addition to the above awards, £6,562 has been allocated from SWAG to Maiden Bradley and Hindon Village Halls (as at the Western Area Committee held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2004)

##### TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING

Therefore, funds available for distribution in the third tranche are as follows:-

SWAG :	£5,153
DISCRETIONARY:	£4,050

If Members are minded to approve the Panel's recommendations, these total £1,559.95 and would leave a SWAG balance of £3,593.05 and a Discretionary balance of £4,050 to be returned to the Council's General Fund at the end of the financial year.

## 2.0 Summary of Grant Applications received:-

### Application No: W011 – Teddy Bears Parent and Carer Baby and Toddler Group

Sum Requested:	£209.95 to purchase a play house
Technical Officer:	Amber Skyring
Officer Priority Rating	Medium
Parish Comments:	Broad Chalke Parish Council fully supports the application.

Mrs Holland, Leader of the Teddy Bears Parent and Carer Baby and Toddler Group was in attendance to speak in support of the application.

Mrs Holland explained that the key objectives of the group were to provide a relaxing and supportive environment for parents and carers of babies and children up to school age. The group operates in Broadchalke Village Hall and is open between 2pm and 4.30pm on Wednesdays during school term time. The number of families attending each week does vary from approximately 12 – 15 and families usually come from Wilton, Fovant, Ebbesbourne Wake, Bowerchalke and Bishopstone and other villages within the Chalke Valley.

At present the Group has a fabric playhouse that is small and flimsy and is not practical for use by older children (who move it around the hall). The proposed new playhouse, made by GALT, will be much sturdier and can be easily packed away at the end of each session. The playhouse enables children to act out family situations, to develop constructive social interaction and encourages the development of language. The total cost of the playhouse is £209.95.

The group is self-funding and pays rent for use of the village hall and other associated running costs. Parents are charged £1.50 for the Wednesday afternoon session and all staff members and helpers work on a voluntary basis.

#### Recommendation: -

- (1) That £209.95 be awarded in favour of the Teddy Bears Parent and Carer Baby and Toddler Group.
  - (2) That a copy of Salisbury District Council's Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy be sent to the Group and the Group be encouraged to put this in place.
  - (3) That the Group be informed of the free training that is provided on Child Protection through the Salisbury and District Voluntary and Community Sector Training Partnership.
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**Application No: W012 – Bowerchalke Parish Council**

Sum Requested:	£500 to purchase a new larger notice board for the village
Technical Officer:	Reg Williams
Officer Priority Rating	High
Parish Council Comments:	N/A

The request submitted by Bowerchalke Parish Council is for the provision of a new three-door oak notice board to replace the old single-door one, which is now in a poor state and would need to be replaced shortly. Since the closure of the village shop, the Parish Council has lost a valuable means of communication in the village.

The new three door notice board would enable the display of Parish Council notices, village notices and local-but-out of village notices.

The total project cost is £1,163.30 plus VAT.

Only one quote has been supplied by the Parish Council for the notice board.

**Recommendation**

That subject to the Parish Council (a) seeking two additional quotes and (b) selecting a local supplier, then a sum of £250 be allocated in favour of Bowerchalke Parish Council for the new notice board.

**Application No: W013 – The Chalke Valley Short Mat Bowling Club**

Sum Requested:	£500 to purchase two new short mat carpets.
Technical Officer:	Karlene Payne
Officer Priority Rating	High
Parish Meeting Comments:	Alvediston and Broad Chalke Parish Councils both fully support

Mr Attenborough, Chairman of the Chalke Valley Short Mat Bowling Club was in attendance to speak in support of this application.

Mr Attenborough informed the Panel that the Club had been in existence since 2003. The aim of the Club was to encourage the sport of indoor short mat bowling within the Chalke Valley, especially for the older members of the community who play no other sport.

When the Club first formed, it borrowed two old short mat carpets that are now worn out and are inadequate for competitive bowling and thus need replacing as a pair.

With only twenty-three members at present, of whom some sixteen are active playing members, it has been difficult to raise funds and playing expertise. By purchasing two new carpets, the Club will be able to promote the sport within the Chalke Valley and possibly expand membership, especially at the western end of the Chalke Valley. In the future the Club could offer the opportunity for junior members to participate, with the help and training of volunteers.

The total project cost is £1,198, towards which the Club has raised £698. The balance of £500 is sought from SWAG.

**Recommendation**

That a grant of £500 be made in favour of the Chalke Valley Short Mat Bowling Club.

**Application No: W014 – The Burnbake Trust**

Sum Requested:	£2,500 to purchase office equipment e.g. computer and printer, photocopier, office furniture and updated Sage Software
Technical Officer:	Amber Skyring
Parish Council comments	Wilton Town Council – no comment

The grant request has been made by the Burnbake Trust in order to set up an office within the Trust’s new warehouse. The Trust is in the process of purchasing the new warehouse, with an expected completion date of March 2005.

The key aims of the Trust are to help the disadvantaged within the community with the provision of furniture and household effects. Since there has been a significant increase in the amount of items donated and the requests for assistance, the need for this office has been identified.

In the Technical Officer’s assessment of this grant request, she has identified that the Trust had substantial general unrestricted funds in excess of £100,000 in its account as at the end of March 2004.

**Recommendation**

That the application be refused for the following reason:-

In light of the fact that the Burnbake Trust is a well-established Charity with substantial funds, the Panel felt that this would not be an appropriate use of SWAG funds which are primarily aimed at smaller groups with access to limited funds.

**Application No: W015– Wylve Valley Art Trail**

Sum Requested:	£600 to purchase waymaker signs and roadside advertising for the Art Trail, 2005
Technical Officer:	Rachel Efemy
Officer Priority Rating	High

Kate Andrew, Secretary and Vicky Whelpton, Chairperson of the Wylve Valley Art Trail were both in attendance to speak in support of this application.

The Wylve Valley Art Trail is a biennial open arts project, which was initiated in 2001. It consists of open studios and workplaces, galleries and exhibitions by groups and other events such as talks, demonstrations and workshops. The event acts as a showcase for visual arts, which include painting, sculpture, installation, printmaking, furniture making, jewellery, ceramics, photography, digital art, glass and textiles.

It is estimated that 180 artists and craftspeople will take part and 4,410 visitors in total are expected.

The total cost of the project is £11,561, £1,200 of which is sought jointly from the Western and Northern Area Committees to purchase way maker signs and roadside advertising signs for the Art Trail (28 May – 5 June 2005). These signs are made of durable plastic and will be reused in future years.

**Recommendation**

That a grant of £600 be made in favour of the Wylve Valley Art Trail.

### **Recommendations:-**

1. That the Panel's recommendations in relation to each of the grant applications as detailed above be approved by the Western Area Committee.
2. That it be noted that despite the return of £7,643.05 to the Council's General Fund, the Area Committee would not wish to see the SWAG and Discretionary Budgets for 2005/06 reduced as a result of the Area Committee's general thriftiness.
3. That it be noted that the number of grant requests received for 2004/05 has been disappointing. The Area Co-Ordinator is therefore requested to send a letter to all Parishes within the Western Area publicizing the SWAG scheme and requesting that Parishes in turn encourage local groups within their communities to apply for funding.

### **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.