

Report

Report subject : Western Area SWAG Applications Tranche 2 2006/7
Report to : Western Area Committee
Date : Thursday 28 September 2006
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SOUTH WILTSHIRE AREA GRANTS SCHEME

Recommendations of the Western Area SWAG Review Panel–

Second tranche Grant Applications 2006 - 07

In the second tranche of the South Wiltshire Area Grants Scheme (SWAG), four applications were received. A summary of these applications, detailing the 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 the application in full together with supporting papers, these will be available on request from the Area Co-ordinator either before or at the meeting.

1. Funds available for distribution in the financial year 2006-2007

SWAG BUDGET

The SWAG Budget for the Western Area Committee 2006-07 was £16,000.
Funding spent in tranche 1 was £3,253.

DISCRETIONARY BUDGET

The Western Area Discretionary Budget for 2006 -07 is £7,500.
Funding spent on Refuse Compaction Vehicles is £2,828

TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING

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

SWAG :	£12,747
DISCRETIONARY:	£4,672

If the members are minded to approve the panels' recommendations, these total £5,000 and would leave a SWAG balance of £7,747 for distribution in tranche 3.

2. Summary of Grant Applications received:-

Application No: WAC/06-07/T2/01 – East Knoyle Village Hall Management Committee

Sum requested - £2,000 for the replacement & re-siting of an oil heating tank.
Technical Officer: John Dowsett, Village Halls Advisor – Community First
Officer Priority Rating: Medium

The members noted the following points:

The grant requested is to help the village hall replace its existing heating oil tank with a 2500 litre jell banded plastic tank complete with a new valve, filter and gauge. Due to regulations the tank needs to be re-sited and the village hall needs to purchase a new concrete pad for the tank. The new tank also needs to be extended and connected to the existing oil line, and the old tank removed and disposed of.

The total project cost has been estimated at £2,373.50 and the village hall has raised £403.50 towards this.

These costs break down as follows;

- a) £1,570+ vat in order to decommission the existing oil tank, install a new concrete base and the new oil tank and
- b) £450 + vat to drain the existing tank.

Members of the SWAG panel noted that the Village Halls Advisor has spoken to the Chairman of the Management Committee who has agreed to try to find a way of saving the cost of having the existing tank drained, thereby saving £450 + vat.

The panel also noted that the Village Hall Committee holds large reserves in case of disasters, particularly as this is an old building. The Village Hall Advisor has advised that village hall reserves are partly intended for matters such as these.

Recommendation

- (1) That the application from East Knoyle Village hall Management Committee be refused for the following reasons.
 - a) Members felt that the village hall has substantial resources (approx £12,000) and for this reason is in a position to fund this project itself.
 - b) Members felt that a number of village halls will need to undertake similar projects in order to comply with current regulations and therefore should take responsibility for this rather than requesting financial assistance from SWAG.

Application No: WAC/06-07/T2/02 – 1st Wilton Scout Group

Sum requested - £5,000 for a replacement wooden sports floor in the new brick scout hut.
Technical Officer: Amber Skyring, Principal Community Development Officer
Officer Priority Rating: High

The members noted the following points:

The Wilton Scout Group plan to build a permanent brick building to replace the existing wooden scout hut. The entire project will cost £195,000 to complete, with £105,000 having already been raised towards the project. The SWAG grant would be used to help to cover the cost of laying a hard wood sports floor in the hall, an important part of the project and the cost to carry this out is likely to be between £6,000- £8,000.

The grant money would be spent entirely on the purchase of materials required for the sports floor, as a local parent who is a carpenter has offered his services in laying the floor free of charge (with the help of others).

To maximise the use of the hall once completed it would be used for scout meetings, indoor sports facilities, dances, open days organized by Help the Aged, short mat bowls sessions, band sessions and many more.

The Panel noted that these activities and the availability of the hall would benefit many areas of the local community.

Recommendation

- 1) That 1st Wilton Scout Group be awarded £5,000 particularly in light of the fact that this project will encourage additional community use of the building.

Application No: WAC/06-07/T2/03 – Bishopstone Village Hall Management Committee

Sum requested - £2,500 for a new entrance to the hall, straight off the car park at the rear of the building.
Technical Officer: John Dowsett, Village Halls advisor – Community First
Officer Priority Rating: Medium – Low

Mr Barter - Chairman of Bishopstone Village Hall Management Committee attended the meeting. He explained to the review panel that the proposed new entrance from the car park creating access via a flat surface would provide disabled, elderly and young visitors easier access the hall. The current access involves a 9" step into the building. He informed the panel that the work was expected to cost between £10,000-£15,000.

The members noted the following points:

- 1) The two estimates provided varied considerably from £6,725 (+ vat) to £15,650 (+ vat)
- 2) No plans were included with the application
- 3) The applicant has considerable reserves (approx £12,000 confirmed by applicant to the technical officer) in the bank, which could be used for this work and future projects.

Recommendation

- 1) That the application from Bishopstone Village Hall Management Committee be refused on this occasion and that the Management Committee be asked to reapply with a new application in the third tranche, including the following information:-
 - a) Three new detailed quotes for the proposed work (containing details of what work is covered by the quote).
 - b) A plan of the proposed work.

Application No: WAC/06-07/T2/04 – Tis Vis

This application was withdrawn

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:** Bishopstone, East Knoyle & Wilton within the Western Area of Salisbury District.
- **Consultation Undertaken:** District Councillors of the Western Area Grants Review Panel and relevant Parish Councils.