

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	22nd November 2010
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 2010/11 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. Sheldon Road Methodist Church – award £4,250 to purchase items to furnish and equip the Community Café and kitchen, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place
2. Nightshift Council of Reference - Award £2,670 to introduce a Street Pastors Scheme in Chippenham, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services (27th February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. Three applications to this round have been withdrawn in order to gather additional information and will consider reapplying for the next funding round. The applicants have also been referred to the Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek alternative sources of funding. CIB work on behalf of Wiltshire Council to support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £68,917 for community grants, community partnership core funding and Area Board projects. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget is £9. This gives a **total budget of £68,926** for the 2010/2011 budget.
- 1.7. Following the awards made on 13th September 2010 the Chippenham Area Board has a balance of £23,644.
- 1.8. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.9. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2010/11• Chippenham Community Area Plan• Local Agreement for Wiltshire
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 6 rounds of funding during 2010/11. The first took place on 10th May 2010, the second on 5th July, the third on 13th September, the fourth is contained in this report and the remaining rounds will take place on:
 - 17th January 2011
 - 7th March 2011

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area Grants will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent and specifics of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Chippenham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Chippenham Area Board will have a balance of **£16,724**.

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. 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. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Sheldon Road Methodist Church	To purchase items to furnish and equip the Community Café and kitchen	£4,250

- 8.1.1. Sheldon Road Methodist Church - Award £4,250 to purchase items to furnish and equip the Community Café and kitchen, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place .
- 8.1.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2010/11.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan Update 2009 “Support village and community halls projects.”
- 8.1.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire - To create stronger and more inclusive communities “Build a strong and vibrant voluntary sector “and “encouraging participation in positive activities and the promotion of ideas about safe, cohesive and resilient communities”.
- 8.1.5. Officers are of the opinion that this project will provide a venue for a wide range of community groups to participate in a variety of activities. It will offer opportunities for all sections of the community regardless of age, gender, race or religion to engage within their local community.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Nightshift Council of Reference	Chippenham Street Pastors Scheme	£2,670

- 8.2.1. Nightshift Council of Reference - Award £2,670 to introduce a Street Pastors Scheme in Chippenham, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.2.2. This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2010/11.
- 8.2.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Chippenham & Villages Community Plan “Anti-social behaviour” and “Fear of crime”
- 8.2.4. This project demonstrates a link to Wiltshire Council’s priorities in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire “We want people to feel safer and more confident in their

own community. People of all ages have told us that being and feeling safe in their communities is of high importance to them” and “encouraging participation in positive activities and the promotion of ideas about safe, cohesive and resilient communities”

- 8.2.5. The Street Pastors scheme is an initiative spearheaded by the Ascension Trust. The scheme was the Churches response to neighbourhood problems to engage with people on the streets and in night time venues to care, listen and offer practical help.
- 8.2.6. The role of the Street Pastor is not about preaching, it is one of caring, listening and helping. Full training will be provided and volunteers will work in teams of twelve divided into three groups of four. Coats shirts and caps will be provided clearly identifying volunteers as Street Pastors.
- 8.2.7. The Street Pastor scheme does not work in isolation; it works closely with the police and local government. The project to launch the scheme in Chippenham has the full support of the Night Time Economy (NTE) Group whose membership includes representatives from Wiltshire Police, Wiltshire Council and Chippenham Town Council. The NTE Group has identified Street Pastors as a key feature to combat anti-social behaviour along with the introduction of Door Radios and Taxi Marshalls.
- 8.2.8. Street Pastors currently operate in over 80 locations across the country and evaluation has shown a reduction in street crime following introduction of the scheme.
- 8.2.9. Officers are of the opinion that this project will be of benefit to individuals, residents and the Night Time Economy of Chippenham.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Sheldon Road Methodist Church Committee Appendix 2 grant application – Nightshift Council of Reference
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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