

Report to Pewsey Area Board

Date of meeting 31 October 2016

Title of report Youth Grant Funding

Purpose of the Report:

To consider the applications for funding listed below together with the recommendations of the Local Youth Network (LYN) Management Group.

Applicant	Amount requested	LYN Management recommendation	Group
339	4220.00	Recommended for approval	

1. Background

The recommendation from the LYN Management Group has been made in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Leaders guidance for Community Area Boards on Positive Activities for Young People
- Positive Activities for Young People local Youth Network Terms of Reference
- Positive Activities Toolkit for Community Area Boards

Young people have considered this application and identified it as a priority for Area Board funding.

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that Youth Grant Funding awarded in the 2016/2017 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of it being awarded.
- 2.2. Councillors will need to decide and be assured that young people and the community will benefit from the funding being awarded and the project/positive activity proceeding. The application should meet the identified needs, priorities and outcomes for young people in the areas, as identified in the LYN Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan.
- 2.3. Councillors will need to ensure measures have been taken in relation to safeguarding children and young people.
- 2.4. Councillors will need to ensure that young people have been central to each stage of this Youth Grant Funding application.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Youth Grant Funding will contribute to the continuance and/or improvement of cultural, social and community activity and wellbeing in the community area, the extent of which will be dependent upon the individual project.

4. Financial Implications

Financial provision had been made to cover this expenditure

4.1. Pewsey Area Board was allocated £10,230 for 2016/17 with LHF of £19,330

- 4.2. The Pewsey Area Board Youth Funding balance for 2016/17 is £2767.21
- 4.3. All decisions must fall within the Youth Funding allocated to Pewsey Area Board.

1. Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

2. Human Resources Implications

There are no specific human resources implications related to this report.

3. Equality and Inclusion Implications

Ensuring that Community Area Boards and LYNs fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in designing local positive activities for young people is essential to meeting the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.

4. Safeguarding Implications

The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children and young people. The Community Youth Officer has assessed this application agreed it meets safeguarding requirements.

5. Applications for consideration

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
ID 339	Savernake Forest Scout Group	Facilities Enhancement Project	£4220

Project description:

To extend the lease on the Scout hut land for another 10 years until 2029 and purchase a metal storage container to free up space within the hut for children's activities.

About your project

- The Scout group offers local children life enhancing opportunities through adventure participation in exciting challenges and helps build social communication and life skills whilst having fun.
- The local community embraces the group which is evident in the number of volunteers that run it and the number of children that attend. There are 53 children on the register and without the Scout hut land available to hold the weekly meetings and activities the group simply would not exist.
- The current lease runs until 2019 and we have been offered a 10 year extension by the Crown to enable us to continue to offer these life changing opportunities to local children. The hut and land also brings local people together through amongst other things use by local exercise groups other local Scout groups who do not have facilities such as ours the village school for leavers parties and a local band for practice sessions.
- It is also frequently used by Duke of Edinburgh groups and local Explorer groups and gets recognition for the village through its use by visiting archaeologists. An annual firework event which has been running for 20 years is held to fundraise and is a great community event with over 400 local residents having attended last year. The Scout group also gets involved in community activities such as cleaning the village church litter picking locally and the Christmas Tree sale.

With a view to extending the lease a group of volunteers including children recently worked on

- improving the hut over 2 separate weekends by recladding the back wall and redecorating the toilets.
- Any child is eligible to join the Beaver Cub or Scout Group from any background or ethnicity and we already have a diverse mix on our register.
- Access to the land and hut meets the needs of one of our leaders who uses a wheelchair. We have a strong leadership team of volunteers who are keen to offer as many experiences as possible to the children.
- It has been the case that amongst other things the ride-on lawnmower has had to be stored within the hut causing health and safety issues. Other equipment such as canoes have been kept outside the hut at risk of damage and theft due to lack of storage.
- An actively involved member of the Scout group has a metal storage container that he no longer needs and is willing to sell to the group at a significantly reduced cost. He is also donating padlocks and support beams to go under the container. Another local volunteer has offered to bring a digger and prepare the site for its arrival.
- The Scouting association is a voluntary organisation these enhanced facilities would allow us to demonstrate to any potential volunteers the commitment that the group has to ensuring its longevity.

Safeguarding

- The Scout Association has a child protection policy that our Group adheres to and operates within. All volunteers that work with the children including parents are DBS checked and a central record of these is held. We have a Committee member dedicated to this role.
- Safeguarding the children within the Group is a responsibility of all adults involved but we do have a rigid reporting system in place for any incidents should they occur which goes up the hierarchy of the Scout Association from Group level onto District level and beyond as necessary.
- Computer facilities are not available within the scout hut and whilst on residential trips parental authorisation prohibits children from bringing devices to the camp and if they do they are removed and returned to the parent at the end of the trip. Therefore the children are not exposed to online dangers while under our care.
- Leaders are interviewed locally and asked to provide references. We have a clear code of behaviour which is given to all adults working in scouting.
- All leaders take courses in basic first aid and child protection and special training is provided if you take young people away on residential camps.

Recommendation of the Local Youth Network Management Group

That the application meets the grant criteria and is approved for the amount of £4220

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report

Report Author

Name, Ros Griffiths

Email: Ros.Griffiths@wiltshire.gov.uk