

Royal Air Force Lyneham

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21 December 2010

FAO: All Wiltshire Councillors, Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board

DETAILS OF COMMUNITY AREA GRANT UNDER SPEND BY LYNEHAM YOUTH CLUB, AND REQUEST TO RETAIN FUNDING FOR ALTERNATIVE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

On 26 May 2010, Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board was kind enough to grant £2,752 to Lyneham Youth Club via the Community Area Grants Scheme. This money was part of the cost required to run a summer holiday activity programme with a variety of activities for young people aged 8 – 16 years within Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish. The grant awarded was very much appreciated, and the Youth Club and young people involved wish to extend their sincere thanks and gratitude to all the Councillors for supporting this project.

I am writing to you on behalf of the group to report that the final cost of running the programme was less than anticipated at the time that the grant award was made. This is because there was slightly less uptake on places for some of the activities than expected, plus one of the main activities with a large expense (the second of 2 planned overnight residentials with accompanying outdoor activities) did not take place. All of the young people who wished to attend the residential event were able to be accommodated together on the first trip rather than the group being split over 2 dates, which saved a significant amount of money (£1,800).

The final overall cost of running the summer activities programme was £3,121, which was £2,706 less than the overall total of £5,827 quoted in the grant application. The total under spend from the Area Board's grant contribution amounts to the sum of £1,040. As the Youth Club is fully aware, the funds awarded to them cannot be used for anything other than the activities outlined in the original grant application without prior approval of Wiltshire Council, and so the group is more than ready to immediately refund the Council the total saving of £1,040.

However, the Youth Club is currently working with young people to co-ordinate some similar youth work opportunities to develop their programme of activities, and so the group were hoping that in this instance the Area Board would grant the necessary approval, as stated above, to permit them to retain the excess funds. This would go directly towards their continued youth work programme with the same aims and objectives, targeted at the same age group and the same geographical catchment area. The only difference is that the activities would be on later dates than stated within the original grant application. Having discussed this request with Council officers, this course of action would be absolutely permissible, if agreed by the Area Board Councillors.



The new proposed activities involve the following:

- An overnight residential in London for 20 Junior Youth Club members (aged 8 – 11 years). This will take the form of 'A Night At The Museum' in the Natural History Museum involving various interactive events and activities and a sleepover among the Museum's exhibits, with additional activities in the morning after breakfast. The overall cost to run this activity will be £1,150.00 including transport and Museum entry fees.
- A day trip to London for 10 Senior Youth Club members (aged 12 – 16 years) which involves them travelling by train and learning to use the London Underground. Once in London the young people will visit the theatre to see 'Stomp', a dance group which performs choreographed percussion, movement and comedy. They will also visit Planet Hollywood for a set meal. The overall cost to run this activity will be £1,192.00.
- A professional graffiti art workshop (using canvases) for the Junior and Senior Youth Club members, to teach the skills of this alternative art form in a structured and positive way. The overall cost to run this activity will be £585.00.
- A professional DJ skills taster session to enable the young people to learn mixing and music production skills using the existing equipment available at the Youth Club. The overall cost to run this activity will be £100.00.

The total cost of all of the above activities is £3,027.00. If the Area Board permits Lyneham Youth Club to retain the underspent £1,040 grant, the Youth Club will contribute the £1,987 shortfall to enable the activities to go ahead as soon as possible, using existing funds and a small subsidised contribution from the participating young people.

If after discussion the Councillors on the Area Board feel that this would be appropriate, please let me know and I will advise the Youth Club Committee that the money can be retained for the 'alternative activities' stated above and then tickets, transport and tutors can be booked immediately. If you would prefer that the excess money was returned, I will ensure that the Youth Club treasurer sends you a cheque for £1,040 immediately.

Once again, many thanks for your generous initial donation of £2,752, and I'd like to take this opportunity to report that the young people of Lyneham and Bradenstoke greatly enjoyed the activities we were able to offer them in the summer period, some of which would have been unavailable to them or too costly for them to participate in without the Area Board's support, which was invaluable.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Warm regards,

(Original signed)

Lisa Mitchell
Community Development Worker
Royal Air Force Lyneham

On behalf of Lyneham Youth Club