

Report to	South West Wiltshire
Date of Meeting	20/03/2019
Title of Report	Community Youth Grants

1. Purpose of the report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking funding from the South West Wiltshire Area Board.

Application	Grant Amount
Applicant: Seeds4Success Project Title: Weekend Leisure Credits Programme	£5000.00
Applicant: Salisbury & South Wilts School Project Title: Mini Marathon	£500

2. Main Considerations

Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.

Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Cabinet member for Communities, Campuses, Area Boards, Leisure, Libraries and Flooding. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.

Community Youth 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.

Community Youth Grants give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.

3. The applications

Applicant: Seeds4Success Project Title: Weekend Leisure Credits Programme	Amount Requested from Area Board: £5000.00	
This application meets grant criteria 2014/15.		
Project Summary: Leisure Credits is an initiative where young people are empowered to carry out planned jobs or projects which are of benefit to the local		

community in return for credits which can be redeemed against planned developmental reward opportunities or specific training opportunities. This scheme engages a wide range of young people aged 12 - 18 as well as a small number of 18-25 year olds with SEND providing regular sessions on alternate Saturdays where young people carry out tasks which increase their confidence and self esteem develop their practical and social skills and improve the public perception of young people locally.

Please tell us WHO will benefit and HOW they will benefit from your project and benefit your local community:

Leisure Credits is an established social action scheme which is popular with local young people and the community as it has huge benefits to many people. The project will provide a positive planned and structured activity for young people on alternate Saturdays throughout the year as well as enabling additional reward activity sessions to be offered at other times. This is a project that young people tell us they enjoy taking part in for a range of reasons and they benefit from taking part in it.

Young people engaged report increases in group work and co-operation skills, they gain practical skills, increase their knowledge about the local area and how to conserve the environment. Young People say they enjoy knowing they are making a difference to the local area and that they feel valued by members of the community.

Leisure Credits will be promoted through the various other projects delivered by S4S as well as through local schools and other partners we work with. The scheme is open to any young person aged 12 upwards and through partnership working we actively seek to engage young people who are facing additional challenges or who are at risk of falling into negative behaviours or who are suffering with low mental health. We aim to have a group of 10 young people at each work session however we know that numbers can fluctuate depending on personal commitments and some sessions may have up to 15 young people limited by seats on the minibus and we may only get a group of 6 on occasions. We would anticipate approximately 30-40 different young people to benefit from the project throughout the year. There is no charge to take part in this project and we will provide transport from across South West Wiltshire to enable young people to access the sessions.

One other huge attraction of Leisure Credits is it enables young people to be able to afford to go on group activities such as go-karting quad biking and outdoor activities or go on theme park trips or to the cinema or swimming with their friends without needing to ask parents/carers for money. This reduces pressure at home when finances are tight and enables young people to earn their place on these activities and in most cases enjoy an opportunity they would not normally be able to access. Although young people are earning credits for their time spent working in the local area this scheme does enhance the levels of community engagement and volunteering within young people. This project empowers young people to want to improve their local community and the feel good knowing they have made a difference.

Experience has proved that young people engaged in Leisure Credits go on to take a greater level of responsibility within the charity as well as the wider community. The young people also gain a greater understanding of the principles of work and

develop a positive work ethic enabling them to progress successfully into employment in the future.

The credits system was developed by young people and each young person receives their own personal score. This is based on various factors such as how well they work with others, how hard they work based on their own ability, whether the task was completed, whether they challenged themselves to take on additional responsibility within the group etc. A score of 4 is what they should expect for an average amount of work and then anything up to a maximum for the day. The highest this can be is 12, awarded based on their personal efforts. Some young people who are enrolled in the Duke of Edinburgh Award with other youth organisations come to us to ask if they can take part in leisure credits as a way of completing their service element. As there is a requirement for volunteering within this we have an arrangement where the first 4 credits they are awarded their volunteering which still leaves them the incentive to work hard to earn some credits too.

The project engages a range of community partners including local resident groups, organisations, schools, churches and parish councils, all of whom identify local projects for the team to get involved with. We work closely with Wiltshire Council Rights Of Way Team who also provide us with a list of tasks and often support with group sessions to ensure some of the more complex and labour intensive tasks are completed. In some cases the Leisure Credits team do part of a job and then local footpath groups complete other elements of the project so its a real team effort.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3191	woodford valley primary academy	Salisbury Schools Mlni Marathon	£500.00

Project Description:

A fun 2300 metre mini marathon for children from over 30 primary school and parents organised by a handful of local primary schools. Hosted on the Laverstock downs on Saturday 18th May. This event has been running for over 30 years and has grown considerably with over 1200 participant from years 3 - 6 children of all abilities. This is broadcast on local radio and is a major annual event in the schools calendar with a focus on promoting physical fitness and mental wellbeing.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

Councillors are asked to agree a contribution to this event, to add to the contributions being sought from the Salisbury, Southern and Amesbury Area Boards.

The 30 schools involved in this event are (I have emboldened those in the South West Wiltshire Community Area, 3 schools):

Alderbury, Amesbury Archer, Amesbury Primary, Bemerton St Johns, **Broadchalke**, Christ The King, Coombe Bissett, **Dinton**, Downton, Exeter House, Gomeldon, Greentrees, Harnham infants, Harnham Junior, Longford, Morgans Vale, Manor Fields, New Forest, Newton Tony, Old Sarum, Pembroke Park,

Pitton, Shrewton, Stratford, St Andrews, St Marks, St Martins, St. Nicholas, St Osmunds, Sarum St Pauls, Whiteparish, **Wilton & Barford**, Winterslow, Winterbourne, Woodford, Woodlands, Wyndham Park, St. Peter's

The School will send a representative to the area board meeting to confirm an estimate of the number of 11 year olds taking part in this event. In addition, the event will be drawing on pupil volunteers from St Edmund's School for girls to assist with various marshalling, pacing and other roles at the event.

The CEM is also consulting with the Salisbury, Amesbury and South West Wiltshire Area Boards, as each include a number of the 30 schools. So far, the Amesbury Area has suggested a contribution of £250.

Report Author:

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