

Report to	Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board
Date of Meeting	25/03/2020
Title of Report	Community Area Grant funding

Purpose of the report:

a) To ask Councillors to consider the following applications for funding listed below:

Applicant	Amount requested
Applicant: Wiltshire and Swindon Users Network Project Title: 3Ms memory and social wellbeing group View full application	£1123.35 from the Health & Wellbeing Revenue Fund.
Applicant: Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall Committee Project Title: Kissing gates View full application	£350.00
Applicant: St Mary's Church, Purton Project Title: Improved toilet facilities View full application	£5000.00
Applicant: Tea and Talk volunteers Project Title: Equipment to facilitate tea and talk sessions. View full application	£175.00
Applicant: Royal Wootton Bassett Town Hall Museum Project Title: Museum laptop and projector View full application	£450.00
Applicant: Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Project Title: Morningside Meadows Ditch Improvements View full application	£5000.00
Applicant: Purton Magazine Project Title: New Magazine Web Site View full application	£600.00
Applicant: C and DCA - Cricklade Leisure Centre Project Title: New gym equipment at Cricklade Leisure Centre View full application	£5000.00

b) To note the allocation of funds, under authority delegated to the Community Engagement Manager as follows:

	Amount allocated
Request: From the RWB&C Health & Wellbeing Group - Contribution from the Health and Wellbeing fund to support monthly sessions of the RWB&C Tea and Talk sessions, arranged in consultation with Cllr Bucknell.	£200 from the Health & Wellbeing Revenue Fund.
Request: From the RWB Environmental Group - Contribution from the Health and Wellbeing fund to support organising a venue for the 2020 RWB&C Eco Fest, arranged in consultation with Cllr Bucknell.	£225 from the Health & Wellbeing Revenue Fund.

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1. Background

Area Boards have authority to approve Community Area Grants under powers delegated to them.

Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the [Area Board Grants Guidance](#)

[The funding criteria and application forms](#) are available on the council's website.

2. Main Considerations

2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that funding awarded in the 2019/2020 year is made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of it being awarded.

2.2. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.

2.3. Councillors will need to be satisfied that applications meet the Community Area Board grants criteria.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

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 has been made to cover this expenditure.

5. Legal Implications

There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

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

7. Equality and Inclusion Implications

Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.

Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community-based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.

8. Safeguarding Implications

The Area Board has ensured that the necessary policies and procedures are in place to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

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9. Applications for consideration

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3679	Wiltshire and Swindon Users Network	3Ms memory and social wellbeing group	£1123.35
<p>Project Description: The project will provide a bi-weekly social group for people with memory loss and for those facing social isolation. The group will be peer led and members will choose a programme of activities. Activities in the past have included music singing seated exercise crafts and art as well as the occasional trip out. The aim of the group is to promote a sense of community, reduce social isolation and provide information and advice through signposting. The group currently supports between 20-25 members, but it is intended that this will be extended.</p> <p>Input from Community Engagement Manager: This application represents a request to the Health and Wellbeing Revenue fund.</p> <p>It is being reported here as the grants system awaits review to enable CEMs to process more appropriately.</p> <p>This project was discussed and supported by the RWB&C Health and Wellbeing Group, at its meeting on 19th February 2020. 'The group looked on the project positively. Everyone was aware of the benefit of the existing 3Ms group and felt that the further development and support of that group would be of great value to members of the community living with memory loss and to their carers and wider families'. The H&W group recommend that this application should be funded.</p> <p>The project is based in Lyneham; however, it is open to everyone across the community area.</p> <p>Participants and their carers can be expected to experience improved wellbeing through feeling valued as a member of a group; being with mutually supportive people who understand the challenges faced; engaging in creative activities, which are suggested to stimulate positive hormones and help counter some challenges of living with a long-term condition.</p> <p>Regular meetings in the same venue at the same time of the week, with the same group of people can create an important anchor in the lives of people affected by memory loss.</p> <p>Attending group activity sessions can provide participants with opportunities to use retained skills and to develop new skills.</p> <p>Group activities may also enhance the relationship between the members and their carers and the sessions also provide the opportunities for carers to share experiences, provide practical assistance to each other and develop a network of social and emotional support.</p> <p>This application can be linked to current RWB&C priorities relating to older people, social isolation and loneliness, support for carers, dementia, mental health, healthy life styles.</p> <p>This application has been recommended for approval by the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Health and Wellbeing Group.</p>			
<p>Proposal That the Area Board determines the application.</p>			

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Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3612	Clyffe Pypard and Bushton Village Hall Committee	Kissing gates	£350.00
Project Description: To install kissing gates to the White Horse Way at Clyffe Pypard. Input from Community Engagement Manager: This project will help to improve access to the White Horse way which runs through Clyffe Pypard Parish. Two landowners have agreed that styles can be replaced by kissing gates the land owners will install the new gates. A Wiltshire Council Countryside Access Officer has assessed this project and has reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The costs are appropriate and realistic.• It links to Health and wellbeing, Leisure and Culture, Older People, Our Community, Safer Community priorities.• The project was rated as high priority within this service area it will improve links between communities on the Rights of Way network and on a promoted route within the Wiltshire White Horse Way.• Officers are aware of this new action group and suggests that they are very enthusiastic and happy to also co-ordinate with neighbouring parishes to achieve joined up projects, which could be a further catalyst to other groups and parishes to do similar.• Officers do not feel there are any issues relating to the groups ability to deliver the project and recommends it could be a great project for this new group to get established. A grant to this project would represent approximately 35% of the total cost.			
Proposal That the Area Board determines the application.			

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3620	St Marys Church Purton	Improved toilet facilities	£5000.00
Project Description: To upgrade current toilet facilities, currently accessed from outside of the building; to increase availability and to become accessible for everyone including people living with disabilities. Input from Community Engagement Manager: This project is the initial phase of an extensive restoration work on the Church building to improve and add new facilities to extend and enhance its wider use by the community. These projects will improve heating to the building upgrade the toilets add a small kitchen servery to serve hot food and drinks and build a stage at the front of the Nave for performances. As well as being a place of worship, used widely by village families at major stages in their family life and community festivals. The church is keen to extend its wider community use for social and cultural activities e.g. for performances-recitals-concerts-exhibitions etc. These types of events are of value to those living alone or of limited means and mobility to travel to more distant venues like Swindon, Bath, Cirencester or Bristol - and the enthusiasm locally for opportunities to attend such events are evident by the success of the Celebrating Age project. The building can seat over 250 people and there are no other venues in the parish that can accommodate so many. However, the current toilet facilities are completely inadequate to meet the needs of this			

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type of use. All other projects that make up the Renewal of the church building are dependent upon the provision of improved toilet facilities that are disability compliant. The current arrangement represents a barrier to some people from using the building in at all, with just one toilet accessible from outside the building and not compliant with the Equality Act 2010 (formerly covered by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995). The applicant also believes the current arrangement presents challenges to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults (as it is necessary to leave the building to access facilities). It is hoped that new social and cultural events taking place in the church could attract audiences of up to 250 people a single toilet facility is deemed to be impractical.

The applicants have shared proposals to enhance the building facilities with local people from the village and have given everyone the opportunity to comment. 70 written responses were received with about two thirds of these specifically recognising the need for an improvement in the facilities as proposed.

It should be noted that, as St Marys church is a Grade 1 listed building, great care has to be taken to ensure that any alterations are in keeping with and appropriate to the listing. This results in higher costs for traditional materials/techniques etc to be used and to ensure that no harm is caused to the historical significance of the structure.

A grant to this project would represent approximately 10% of the total cost.

This application can be linked to Royal Wootton Bassett Area Board JSNA priorities relating to: social isolation and loneliness, support for carers, mental health, and healthy life styles and affordable access to cultural activities.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3702	Tea and Talk Volunteers	Equipment to facilitate Tea and Talk sessions for people living with Mental Health issues.	£175.00

Project Description:

To provide equipment necessary to facilitate Tea and Talk sessions for people living with Mental Health issues.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

This project initially emerged from the Wiltshire Council One Team event held as part of Mental Health awareness week in 2019. It has since been taken on by local volunteers, with support from Royal Wootton Bassett Library,

The volunteers have identified a need for some specific items of equipment to help them to facilitate a relaxed, safe and practical experience for people engaging with the sessions in the library. The volunteers are also keen to ensure that they are being as environmentally friendly as possible and so would like to be able to acquire reusable items rather than disposable.

This application has been recommended for approval by the Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Health and Wellbeing Group.

If a grant is awarded, it will cover the entire cost of the project.

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This application can be linked to Royal Wootton Bassett Area Board JSNA priorities relating to: social isolation and loneliness, support for carers, mental health, and healthy life styles.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3530	Royal Wootton Bassett Town Hall Museum	Museum laptop and projector quality improvement	£450.00

Project Description:

One of the main attractions of our museum is our large collection of historical photographs of the town going back to 1860. These photos are displayed currently via an old projector and a laptop as a slideshow.

Better equipment is now available, and we would like to improve our visitor experience by upgrading our projector and laptop. This will also enable us to take displays and talks into the community.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The applicant has said that the project will be of value to everyone who visits the museum, this includes the general public, young people's uniformed organisations, and local interest groups.

The project can be linked to Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade community area priorities relating to cultural activities.

An award to this application would represent 50% of the total cost.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3637	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	Morningside Meadows Ditch Improvements	£5000.00

Project Description:

Morningside Meadows was recently purchased by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust on behalf of the community. The site has not been fully managed for some time and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust are keen to get it back to its natural best. As part of this work they are looking at the ditch network across the site. This is a vital component of neutral meadows and management seeks to improve existing ditches but not create new drainage within the meadows.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

Wiltshire Wildlife Trust has explained that, whilst they are not seeking to create new ditches, it seems that the ditch network has not been maintained and so there is a need to undertake survey work and assessments of the drainage and or impediment to drainage on the flora of the floodplain meadows at Morningside Farm. If drainage is impeded this can lead to changes in the flora whereby rushes tend to dominate at the expense of wildflower species as the water table is retained artificially high.

The meadow is available for free public access to all local residents and visitors, who will increasingly be able to benefit by accessing it to connect with nature and enjoy the outdoor space. In addition, by restoring the ditch network there will be significant improvement in the

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natural environment of the meadows allowing flora and fauna to flourish and be restored, providing the community with access to a wildlife rich environment and open space.

Research shows this is of significant benefit to health and wellbeing both physically and mentally.

Wider benefits include the increasing bio-diversity of the flora and fauna and restoring some of the UKs 97 reduction in wildflower meadows since the 1930s.

In addition, it can be seen to link to discussions about rewilding and the importance of improving biodiversity held at the Environmental Themed area board in November 2019.

A Senior Ecologist at Wiltshire Council has assessed this application (appendix 2) and has stated that:

- It will enable the involvement of local volunteers in a project that they have an interest in which in turn will increase local knowledge of the special interest of the meadows, providing the community with education opportunities and a sense of local “ownership”.
- The project would address community priorities linking to: Environment, Health and wellbeing, Leisure and Culture, Our Community.
- The group has considerable experience in recruiting and managing volunteers to work on various projects, with great success. There is every likelihood that the project will be delivered successfully.

The officer has also highlighted technical issues within the assessment document (app2) that may be important for the applicant to take on board. Members may wish to ask that the Trust responds directly to the Landscape & Design Team with relation to those matters.

The Trust has stated that local residents have helped to raise funds towards this project and members of the public have directly contributed in excess of £60000 towards the wider project to acquire and upgrade Morningside Meadows.

An award to this project would represent less than 20% of the total cost.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3700	Purton Magazine	New Web Site for Purton Magazine	£600.00

Project Description: Purton Magazine wants to build a new web site with a searchable directory of local business advertisements alongside our monthly news events and comment from the community.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The applicant has stated that Purton has the highest number of residents aged over 65 in the county.

Nationally only around 40 per cent of over 75s use the internet to find local news and events relying instead on noticeboards word of mouth and printed news.

Purton Magazine prints around 1000 copies monthly distributed to subscribers by volunteers and on sale in local shops. It is a self-funded not-for-profit organisation raising revenue by selling advertising space and a cover price of 50p.

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Increasingly advertisers are investing in online advertising rather than renewing their printed advertisements. Local discussions suggest that a significant number of companies will buy space in the magazine if it is published online.

This project has been developed as part of a new model to create an online magazine that will appeal to a wider range of people who use the internet and, as circulation of this e-magazine develops it will encourage increased interest from online advertisers. With increased advertising, the group will be able to sustain the ongoing production and delivery of hard copies of the magazine to older members of the community.

Currently Purton Magazine has around 800 annual subscribers who receive their copies delivered each month by over 30 volunteer distributors. Approximately 200 copies are sold each month through local shops and other outlets reaching readers in Purton Stoke, Cricklade and Royal Wootton Bassett.

The applicant reports that, without a new operating model, the magazine is in danger of closure.

This project may link to Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade community area priorities relating to: Diversity and social inclusion, Social isolation and loneliness, Digital engagement, Support for Carers and Mental Health.

An award to this project would represent 40% of the total cost.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

Application ID	Applicant	Project Proposal	Requested
3709	C and DCA - Cricklade Leisure Centre	Pledge to the Leis - new gym equipment at Cricklade Leisure Centre	£5000.00

Project Description:

Following the refurbishment of the building the Leisure Centre would like to bring some new gym equipment into the extended space that has not previously been a part of the offer.

Input from Community Engagement Manager:

The applicant suggests that this project will support the competitiveness and long-term success of this important community asset.

Projected first line beneficiaries are local people in Cricklade outlying rural areas and villages who use the gym facilities which are offered at an affordable cost. New equipment will allow them to advance on their fitness journey in the most efficient and safest way. However the Centre expect there to be a cascade of beneficiaries as the Leisure Centre is an important fitness and wellbeing provider offering a range of activities for all members of the local community at reasonable rates.

By remaining competitive with up to date equipment and facilities the Centre believes it can continue to attract membership which supports its continued survival and allow it to function as a key community hub in Cricklade.

Continued success benefits wide ranging groups such as children who use the swimming facilities for lessons and social activities sport groups using the hall. The cafe bar also hosts groups such as craft clubs and those attending for childrens activities etc. The Leisure Centre also hosts a weekly Youth Club. In all the centre sees around 152,000 individual customer visits per year and has around 800 subscription members.

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The applicant states that a competitive gym offer is key to ensuring the Leisure Centre is well placed to compete for subscription customers and this regular income will support all the benefits to their users.

Wiltshire Council officers from the Community Campus & Hubs team have asked the area board to be *'aware that that Wiltshire Council is already investing £3m in the facility ...'*

This project can be linked to Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade community area priorities relating to: Positive leisure time activities for young people, Healthy lifestyles, Social isolation and loneliness and Mental Health.

An award to this project would represent 45% of the total cost.

Proposal

That the Area Board determines the application.

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

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