

Agenda Item 11a)

Bradford on Avon Area Board - Community Area Grant Scheme

End of Year Summary 2010/11 – Key Statistics

Budget and Expenditure

Grants Budget	£ 47, 075 + £ 5, 122 carried forward from 2009/10
Total Project Expenditure	£ 40, 090
Total Value of Projects	£ 137, 487 representing a leverage of x3.4 matching funding
Total Unspent	£ 12, 142 carried forward into 2011/12

Range of Projects Supported

Sports – youth football goals; outdoor cricket nets; equipment for junior rowers; new 'Back to Netball' club; contribution to sports court; launch of Walkers are Welcome; 'Come and Try It' sporting activities.

Youth – graffiti mural; youth access/transport projects

Town Centre – hanging baskets; Christmas lights

Community engagement and consultation – core costs of community partnership, village development brief, spatial planning strategy

Distribution of Grant Support

Bradford on Avon – 8 applications funded totalling £ 18, 446

Holt – 2 applications funded totalling £ 7, 825

Limpley Stoke – no applications funded

Monkton Farleigh – no applications funded

South Wraxall – no applications funded

Staverton – 1 application funded totalling £ 694

Westwood – no applications funded

Wingfield – no applications funded

Winsley – 1 application funded totalling £ 2,500

Community Area Wide – 2 applications funded totalling £ 10, 425

Scheme Review for 2011/12

The Area Board Community Area Grant's criteria have been reviewed following the second year of operation and some minor changes have been incorporated to streamline the application process and to place a greater emphasis on encouraging applications from the community and voluntary sector. The revised application forms and guidance are now available to download at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards and should be used for all applications in 2011/12.

The revised guidance makes it clearer that applications in respect of annual 'running costs' for which any organisation has an ongoing financial responsibility are ineligible for funding.

Area Boards will not consider applications from Town and Parish Councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers and that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from Town and Parish Councils which support community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the Town or Parish Council.

Grants Advisory Group

The Grants Advisory Group meets ahead of each Area Board meeting to consider any Community Area Grant applications and to provide comments to the Community Area Manager for his report on the applications. These comments are reported to the Area Board meetings and form part of the consideration of grant matters by the elected councillors.

The GAG, although consultative, is felt to be a useful sounding board for the discussion of applications and provides some comfort that issues have received proper scrutiny prior to grant decisions being made by elected members at the Area Board meetings.

The GAG is made up of interested representatives of the parish councils in the community area. Its current membership is Bil Bailey (Limpley Stoke Parish Council), Matthew Midlane (Monkton Farleigh Parish Council), Terry Biles (Westwood Parish Council) and Alan Mines (Wingfield Parish Council). To ensure inclusion and transparency, it is suggested that the membership of this group should be re-nominated at the same time as the re-election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Area Board and representatives on outside bodies in July 2011.

Recommendations

- i) The end of year summary report for 2010/11 be noted
- ii) The scheme review for 2011/12 be noted, in particular the stricter interpretation of funding eligibility to Town and Parish Councils given their precepting powers
- iii) The Grants Advisory Group be re-nominated at the July 2011 meeting of the Area Board

Peter Dunford, Community Area Manager for Bradford on Avon – April 2011