

Westbury Area Grant Report

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Westbury Area Board. These could include:
 - community area grants
 - youth grants
 - older and vulnerable people grants
 - area board initiatives
2. To document any recommendations provided through sub groups.

Area Board Current Financial Position

	Community Area Grants	Youth Grants	Older and Vulnerable People Grants
Opening Balance For 2024/25	£ 15,716.00	£ 12,892.00	£ 7,700.00
Awarded To Date	£ 9,182.80	£ 11,993.32	£ 3,270.00
Current Balance	£ 6,533.20	£ 898.68	£ 4,430.00
Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations	£ 760.70	£ -4,101.32	£ -5,370.00

Grant Funding Application Summary

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG2168	Area Board Initiative	Westbury Area Board	Storage container for the Tidy Bratton group	£1545.00	£772.50
<p>Project Summary: The Tidy Bratton Group comprises a number of community-minded residents who meet together approximately once a month to keep our village looking at its best. Anyone can join in. The dates are advertised on posters around the village, as well as by email to everyone who has asked to be included on the mailing list. Usually, about 15 people gather together for a 'tidying' morning which varies according to season but always focusses on keeping footways safe for pedestrians. Although we litter-pick, Bratton has so many residents who do this as a matter of course, that the village is generally almost litter-free. These volunteers have also 'adopted' roads and footpaths in order to litter-pick; check that salt bins are filled and to highlight any tasks which may need the attention of the group or the Parish Steward. Wiltshire Council provides the services of an excellent Parish Steward for two days a month and he clears footpaths and pavements, fills small pot holes, removes obstructions to visibility for road users etc. The group are fortunate in having an extremely supportive Parish Council and Area Board and have therefore received funding for tools with which to conduct tidying. We have wheelbarrows, spades, rakes, hoes as well as hi-vis vests and small hand tools. In addition to this, we have petrol driven strimmers and leaf blowers. Every year, Bratton participates in Wiltshire's Best Kept Village competition. and in 2022 was judged to be the 'Winner of the Winners' (known as the Laurence Kitching award). In 2023 Bratton was judged the 'Best kept large village' in Wiltshire, competed for the Laurence Kitching award in 2024, coming second by one point. We will be entering again in 2025. Whilst the equipment has historically been stored in a garden shed, the group are looking to store the less expensive equipment more centrally as transporting up into the village once a month is a laborious process. Having researched suitable containers, the proposed one is flat-packed, sturdy and has a double-locking system for extra security. It measures 3 metres by 2.1 metres and is powder coated green, has a door on the longer side for easier access and has a built in floor. It can be assembled by two people. The total cost will be £1,545.00 (without VAT), plus delivery. The Tidy Bratton group are looking for funding towards the cost of this container in order to make what we consider to be an invaluable contribution to village life a little easier.</p>					
ABG2170	Area Board Initiative	Westbury Area Board	Tea Dance Programme	£4000.00	£2000.00
<p>Project Summary: The Area Board wish to provide funding to Community Venues throughout Westbury to host a series of Tea-Dances throughout the spring and summer of 2025. By allocating £2000, community centres, village halls etc throughout the Community Area will be able to request funding from the pot, up to a maximum of £250 to fund refreshments and entertainment at the event. The aim is to provide 8-10 events throughout the year.</p>					

ABG2173	Area Board Initiative	Westbury Area Board	Westbury Environment Town Fete event	£2400.00	£1200.00
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Project Summary:

Westbury Area Board is working in partnership with Westbury Town Council, Parish Councils and community organisations to plan an Environment Town Fete event to promote our local environment, wildlife and biodiversity, and to raise awareness of our local environment community groups. The free event will be a celebration of community action to tackle climate change and protect nature and will be designed to engage all the community to make small everyday local actions. There will be the Explorer Dome delivering short environmental workshops and interactive activities for young people and families, along with a range of community information stalls, and a traditional town fete element with competitions such as the Best upcycled garment and Best home grown veg basket, which may engage our older residents in the community. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday 14th June 2025 at Grassacres Park, as part of the National campaign of Great Big Green Week.

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG2069	Community Area Grant	Westbury Leigh Community Hall	Westbury Leigh Community Hall car park repairs	£21000.00	£3000.00
<p>Project Summary: Over the course of the past 20 plus years as the car park is on a slope the existing stone has gradually slumped down To remove bottom 2-3 mts of soil clogged stone to a depth of 100mm, remove waste and replace with new 10mm stone</p>					
ABG2133	Community Area Grant	Bratton Recreation Ground Management Committee	Bratton Recreation Ground New Mower	£3000.00	£500.00
<p>Project Summary: We wish to purchase the Ransomes 2250 triple gang cylinder mower that has been used by a contractor at Bratton Recreation Ground for over 5 years. Our contractor is having to give up work for health reasons. Our volunteer maintenance team can use and maintain the mower and are keen to do so.</p>					
ABG2161	Community Area Grant	Edington Parish Hall	Lighter Weight chairs	£3000.00	£1500.00
<p>Project Summary: The existing chairs are difficult to stack because of their weight and concern has been expressed by hall users on this. We would replace them with easily stackable lighter weight chairs</p>					
ABG1982	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Westbury Lions Club	Raising prostate health awareness	£5000.00	£1500.00
<p>Project Summary: Prostate cancer is a silent killer, symptoms are often unnoticed but a simple blood test will detect early signs. Westbury Lions club are facilitating an all day session at a Westbury venue in the spring of 2025 that will offer free testing to approx. 150 men from Westbury aged 40-80. this will be made possible via an application process, we envisage 7% of those tested will need further treatment. Please note that there is currently no active screening program within the NHS for prostate cancer prevention and detection.</p>					
ABG2126	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Crosspoint Westbury	Improving mental health and resilience for older people	£24000.00	£4000.00
<p>Project Summary: Crosspoint provides a well-established subsidised counselling service. This is aimed at young people and adults of all ages who do not meet the criteria for statutory mental health services, but who nonetheless may be suffering with depression, anxiety, the impact of domestic or historical abuse, low self-esteem or difficulty in dealing with Life's challenges. The majority of those seeking counselling are referred by professionals from the White Horse Health Centre, although some individuals self-refer. The vast majority of clients are not in a position to contribute significantly towards the full cost of the service. In the past year, 11% of the counsellor fees was recouped through donations from counselling clients. Funding is being sought from the Area Board so that counselling can continue to be offered to older people who constituted 12% of the clients counselled. It is also respectfully suggested that the Area Board members note that 11% of the costs of the service could be attributed to counselling sessions for young people under the age of 19.</p>					

Application Reference	Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Total Cost	Requested
ABG2160	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Westbury Festival	Westbury Festival Putting on the Ritz Afternoon Tea and Music	£2200.00	£1100.00
<p>Project Summary: As part of the Westbury Festival taking part 14-27 July we would like to offer Westbury's older residents an afternoon tea with live music at the Leigh Park Community Centre. An opportunity to dress up in their finest and have a social afternoon. We would like to offer this free of charge to or very minimal cost (maximum of £3), and hope to cater for a total of 75 elderly people.</p>					
ABG2167	Youth Grant	4Youth South West	Detached Youth Work and Counselling support in Westbury	£33463.62	£5000.00
<p>Project Summary: We aim to continue offering one-to-one counselling support for young people, based at the East Wing Practice on Church Street. Additionally, we plan to resume our Detached Youth Work in Westbury, building on the successful delivery of this service throughout 2023 and up until November 2024.</p>					

Background

3. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria. This document is available on the council's website.
4. Three funding streams are available to the Area Board, each with an annually awarded amount. These funding streams are as follows:
 - Community Area Grants (capital)
 - Youth Grants (revenue)
 - Older and Vulnerable People Grants (revenue)
5. The Area Board will be advised of the funding available prior to their first meeting of each financial year.

Main Considerations

6. Councillors need to be satisfied that the applications meet the requirements as set out in the Area Board Funding and Grants Criteria and that the health and wellbeing and young persons funding guidelines have been adhered to.
7. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation to Area Boards.
8. Councillors need to consider any recommendations made by sub groups of the Area Boards.

Safeguarding Implications

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

Public Health Implications

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

Environmental & Climate Change Implications

11. 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.

Financial Implications

12. Councillors must ensure that the Area Board has sufficient funding available to cover the grants awarded.

Legal Implications

13. There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Workforce Implications

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

Equalities Implications

15. Community Area Boards must fully consider the equality impacts of their decisions in order to meet the Council's Public Sector Equality Duty.
16. Community Area Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes where they meet the funding criteria.

Proposals

17. To consider and determine the applications for grant funding.

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