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**Chippenham Area Grant Report**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide details of the grant applications made to the Chippenham 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**

	<b>Community Area Grants</b>	<b>Youth Grants</b>	<b>Older and Vulnerable People Grants</b>
<b>Opening Balance For 2024-25</b>	£ 33,527.00	£ 30,500.00	£ 7,700.00
<b>Awarded To Date</b>	£ 13,322.00	£ 25,492.31	£ 7,050.00
<b>Current Balance</b>	£ 20,205.00	£ 5,007.69	£ 650.00
<b>Balance if all grants are agreed based on recommendations</b>	£ 12,516.50	£ - 4,698.31	£ 0.00

**Grant Funding Application Summary**

<b>Application Reference</b>	<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Requested</b>
<a href="#">ABG2210</a>	Community Area Grant	Chippenham Folk Festival Community Interest Company	Equipment to support Folk Festival Sustainability Plan Box Office Tent Banners and Equipment	£3682.00	£1841.00

**Project Summary:**

**The Boards primary objective is to hold a successful annual Folk Festival and ensure its sustainability going forward. The purchase of this equipment will reduce costs in the future and hence make future Folk Festivals more sustainable. Each year we rent a tent to be used for the box office. The rental cost of this tent is in the region of £500pa. By purchasing a tent which will have a life span of 5 years plus it will provide an overall cost saving as well as being available to be used at other times in the year and not just over the May Bank Holiday weekend. The additional items are advertising / information banners and Display Equipment.**

<a href="#">ABG2260</a>	Community Area Grant	Zero North Wiltshire	Zero North Wiltshire Community Energy website and promotional equipment	£10000.00	£5000.00
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**Project Summary:**

**Zero North Wiltshire (ZNW) is a volunteer run Community Benefit Society which was set up to generate renewable electricity locally and use surplus income to financially support community environmental and climate change projects. ZNW, which is based in Chippenham, has a pipeline of prospective projects, including solar PV rooftops on two local (Chippenham) schools, as well as a community ownership stake in a 49.9MW ground mounted solar PV scheme. The ground mounted PV scheme is located on the edge of Chippenham at Forest Gate and we are currently working with a renewable's developer and Bath and West Community Energy, to take up a 20% community share of the scheme which was granted planning permission in March 2023. The solar project is due to be completed in Summer 2026. A description of the Forest Gate project can be found at: <https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Case-Study-Forest-Gate-1.pdf> Our plans will require us to engage with local people, promote investment in the community side of the project and undertake a share offer to enable ZNW to make the investment in the solar project. The first stage of this is to put in place the building blocks that will underpin ZNW's communications, outreach and engagement. This includes a suitably professional and functional website, ICT equipment such as a laptop and projector and equipment for workshops and drop in events such as a table, display board and pull up banners. Through our community engagement work we aim to use our resources to support community groups and other organisations to develop activities that address the climate crisis and promote energy efficiency. Building partnerships, collaborating on projects, running events and sharing useful information will play a key role, and this will be supported by our website and promotional equipment. We have already secured nearly £100k of funding from the Community Energy Fund (administered through the Southwest Net Zero Hub) for specified tasks such as financial modelling and legal agreements.**

<a href="#">ABG2266</a>	Community Area Grant	Christian Malford Village Hall	Hearing Loop system	£1695.00	£847.50
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**Project Summary:**

**To purchase a hearing loop for the village hall. The village hall has identified the need for a hearing loop to ensure visitors with hearing loss are able to take part in the activities and meetings within the hall.**

<a href="#">ABG2218</a>	Older and Vulnerable Adults Funding	Chippenham Community Eco Hub	Chippenham Health and Wellbeing Spring Event	£1300.00	£650.00
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**Project Summary:**

**This project is the collaboration between members of the Chippenham Health and Wellbeing group who come from a range of professional and community organisations working in and for the neighbourhood of Chippenham. The event is centered around a Dementia Dome which is a portable blow-up dome enabling people to have a sensory experience of what it must be like living with dementia so ideal for carers, family and friends to experience this. It is fairly expensive to hire, but can hold approx. 25 people at any one time and they recommend 3 x sessions in a day. It does require a flat surface with an electrical point and space for the following dimensions (8m x 9m, a clear ceiling height of 3.5m) so we are fairly limited to who can provide this space, but Ladyfield Church in Hungerdown Lane appears a perfect fit and is situated in the most deprived area of Chippenham. It also has enough room for us to invite other local health and wellbeing organisations to come along and set up a stand to promote their services to the residents of Chippenham We are hoping to run the day from 10-3 with 3 x dome sessions – 10.30, 11.30 and 1.30 which is all pre bookable through the Hathaway Surgery living well team. Other groups might also benefit from this event going on alongside it e.g. walking football, netball and the Friday evening youth sessions that takes place there as well – which might also facilitate**

the provision of some activities for the younger people that come along with their families. We are also engaging with the Carers groups as we hope that many people will come and bring their cared for person so that we can help with volunteers and staff to sit with the cared for person so the carer can benefit from the session and pick up some useful help and advice and maybe referrals for services they were not aware of.

<a href="#">ABG2043</a>	Youth Grant	Art Bytes managed by dot art Services	Art Bytes Championing Creativity in Chippenham	£42062.00	£1062.00
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**Project Summary:**

Art Bytes is a national EdTech programme that utilises a bespoke, immersive, virtual gallery to give young participants the opportunity to see their art exhibited online and engage with new technology from the safety and convenience of their own home or school. It builds confidence and nurtures talent, allows children and young people to see galleries as places "for them" and encourages future cultural engagement. After a shortlisting panel and an online public vote, the winning artist from each school sees their work displayed in our virtual gallery. Art Bytes culminates every June with a celebration event at a high-profile cultural venue in each of the nine regions of England, which is also available to schools to stream in the classroom or assembly. National and Regional winners are announced, certificates and prizes are presented, and the virtual gallery goes live. The competition is open to all primary (year 5), secondary (year 9) and SEND schools across England. In Chippenham we are providing an extension of our Celebration Event, in partnership with Chippenham Museum and The Arts Society Wessex, with a physical exhibition of Year 5 and Year 9 pupils art, alongside art workshops and a cultural visit to the Chippenham Museum. Last year, we hosted a similar Celebration Event at the Neeld Hall, however we are proud to continue to have The Chippenham Museum as our cultural venue partner for the Southwest! We had Deputy Mayor Kathryn Macdermid present the certificates at the event with additional support from the Wiltshire Area Board to fund three secondary schools to participate in Art Bytes.

<a href="#">ABG2096</a>	Youth Grant	Chippenham Sports Partnership	Chippenham and Para Games	£5288.00	£2644.00
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**Project Summary:**

The Chippenham Games is a two-day event which allows Young Leaders from Abbeyfield, Sheldon and Hardenhuish Schools to support year 6 pupils in an Olympic legacy event where they will experience a range of activities from archery to lacrosse. The Para Games is a follow up event aimed at SEND pupils within our Partnership of schools.

<a href="#">ABG2128</a>	Youth Grant	10 <sup>th</sup> Chippenham Scout Group	10th Chippenham Scouts temporary venue hire and storage costs	£10126.00	£5000.00
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**Project Summary:**

Our Scout hut was severely flooded on the 25th November 2024. We had about two and half feet of contaminated water inside the hut, this has caused significant damage, including; walls, floors, kitchen, insulation, storerooms and equipment. This has made our hut unusable for the foreseeable future. In the long term, we will need to build a new hut. In the short term we need to rent temporary accommodation for some significant time for our 6 sections. We also have up clean-up costs, cleaning and storage costs. We are a growing Scout Group and have over 125 young people, age 4-18 years old, twenty-six of these are aged 13-18 years. We have 6 sections (1 x Squirrel Drey, 1x Beaver Colony, 2x Cub Packs, 2 x Scout Troops). Our Scout Troops have nine 13- and 14-year-olds. We have seventeen Young Leaders, age 14-18 years, who volunteer across all our sections. We support them with their Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Scout Young Leader Training Program. This includes developing their leadership skills, first aid training, learning how to plan and

run sessions for young people, working with an adult leadership team and giving them skills for life. Squirrels have 3 Young Leaders, Beavers have 4 Young Leaders, Cubs have 7 young leaders across 2 packs, Scouts have 3 young leaders across 2 troops. Scout Troops also have two 19-year-olds who have come through our young leader training program and now volunteer as leaders with our Scout Troops. We also have one 19-year-old who is an occasional helper. To enable us to continue providing Scouting for all these young people we are now hiring 5 venues across Chippenham 4 nights a week. This comes as a huge cost to the group. The current cost is £162 a week. We meet around 40 weeks a year so an annual cost of approximately £6460. We predict that we will need to be in temporary accommodation for 2-3 years. Since the flood we have also had cleaning and clean-up costs. So far, we have spent £1166. We need to find storage solutions for all our equipment and resources. Wessex Water are storing some of our tents free of charge. We are currently researching other possible storage solutions. But we estimate this will cost around £2500 to the end of the calendar year including: storage boxes, shelving and possible hire costs. Scouting is run completely by volunteers. Scouting provides all young people with a variety of opportunities, from achieving personal challenges, to developing leadership and team building skills. Scouting gives young people a variety of experiences whether it is learning to cook, learn first aid, to be creative, try adventurous activities, or to help others within our community. Scouting gives young people skills for life. We are determined to continue supporting the young people in our Scout Group, but we need as much financial help as possible, thank you.

<a href="#">ABG2130</a>	Youth Grant	The Stay Safe Initiative CIC	The Digital Empowerment Programme	£2850.00	£1000.00
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**Project Summary:**

The Digital Empowerment Program is an educational initiative designed to equip secondary school students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the online world safely, positively, and responsibly. Targeting Year 7 and Year 9 students, as well as their families, the program aims to foster critical thinking, promote digital well-being, and strengthen online safety practices. This programme addresses the challenges of the digital age, including social media, online influence, mis/disinformation, online exploitation, and the long-term impact of digital footprints.

**\*Approved Delegated Authority**

<a href="#">ABG2264</a>	Youth Grant	Doorway Wiltshire	Doorway Pilot Youth Project	£3545.00	£1000.00
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**Project Summary:**

Doorway is piloting a youth project in Ladyfield Church in the Queens East area of Chippenham to run alongside the Doorstep sports sessions on a Friday afternoon from 4.30pm - 6pm. Doorstep is providing free access to sports and Doorway is providing food, activities and in due course peer mentoring for young people aged 8-16 free of charge.

## **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 person's 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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### Report Author

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

### Additional information:

[Area Board Grants - Wiltshire Council](#)

[Area Board Funding and Grants criteria.pdf](#)