

Report to	Warminster Area Board
Date of Meeting	8 March 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report:

To ask Councillors to consider the following applications seeking 2011/12 Community Area Grant funding.

1. Warminster Town Council Events. A request for £3,500
Officer recommendation: Approve
2. Warminster Community Radio. A request for £1,485
Officer recommendation: Approve
3. Friends of Warminster Park. A request for £3,950
Officer recommendation: Approve when certain conditions are met as detailed in section 8.3 below
4. Heytesbury, Knook and Imber Diamond Jubilee Group. A request for £291.75
Officer recommendation: Approve

Total request if all applications are allocated in line with officer recommendations:
£9,226.75

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Services (15th April, 2011). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria and/or the officer's recommendation would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons for why this should justify an exception to the criteria.
- 1.3. The emphasis in the Coalition Government's Localism agenda supports the ethos of volunteering and community involvement. With this in mind Community Area Grants should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups.
- 1.4. Area boards will not consider applications from town and parish councils for purposes that relate to their statutory duties or powers that should be funded from the local town/parish precept. However this does not preclude bids from town/parish councils, encouraging community projects that provide new opportunities for local people or those functions that are not the sole responsibility of the town/parish council.
- 1.5. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, although the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.7. All applicants are encouraged to contact Charities Information Bureau who is working on behalf of Wiltshire Council to support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.8. Paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.9. The 2011/2012 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2011/12• Warminster and Villages Community Area Plan
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Main Considerations

- 2.1 Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2011/12 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2 There have been six rounds of grants for the year 2011 / 12. For each grant round, the deadline for applications is six weeks prior to the date of the meeting.
- 2.3 The Board has £38,209 for Community Area Grants for the year 2011/12. A figure of £3,614 was rolled over from 2010/11. This makes a total of £41,823 for 2011/12.

3 Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area 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.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Awards must fall within the Area Boards budget allocated to the Warminster Area Board.
- 4.2 If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Warminster Area Board will have a balance of £10,952.23.

5 Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no specific Legal implications related to this report.

6 HR Implications

- 6.1 There are no specific HR implications related to this report.

7 Equality and Inclusion Implications

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

7.2 Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8 Officer Recommendations:

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Warminster Town Council Events	Events 2012 – Queens Diamond Jubilee – fireworks event	£3,500

8.1.1 Officer Recommendation – approve

8.1.2 The application meets the 2011 / 12 grants criteria.

8.1.3 The Town Council together with local groups and the Armed Forces will produce a two day event during the Jubilee Holiday weekend for the public to attend without entrance fees. All residents in the community area will be able to celebrate in some way. On Sunday 3 June there will be a picnic in the park followed by evening entertainment at the Civic Centre. On Monday 4 June the Events committee would like to arrange a fireworks event which will replace the lighting of a beacon. The group is requesting the funding for this aspect of the celebrations.

8.1.4 Many groups are involved and are supporting this project. All members of the community have the potential to benefit from this project and get involved in some way.

8.1.5 A significant amount of match funding (£10,000) has been provided by the Town Council. There is also funding in kind via the Armed Forces who will provide manpower and equipment to house the fireworks display.

8.1.6 The project is linked to the Community Area Plan (2005-2015) under the Culture and Leisure theme which calls for more cultural activities. It will also contribute to community cohesion in the town and surrounding villages. There will be a cultural legacy in remembering this significant event.

8.1.7 The fireworks display will be in jeopardy if funding is not received by the Area Board.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Warminster Community Radio	Warminster Voices Programme on FM Radio	£1,485

8.2.1 **Officer Recommendation: Approve**

8.2.2 The application meets the grant criteria 2011/12

8.2.3 Warminster Community Radio has recently obtained a licence to broadcast live programmes to the community and some of the surrounding villages. This proposal is to include a programme on a Saturday called "Community Chest". This will offer people the opportunity to get involved in the Area Board discussions via the radio and will particularly help those who cannot attend Board meetings due to age, being a carer or a disability etc. There will be opportunities for guests from the Area Board to promote the work of the Board and to publicise Board topics and meetings.

8.2.4 The project is an extension of the already popular Vox Pops and Warminster Voices meetings which are played to the Area Board prior to each meeting. Many members of the community will benefit from such a project as the radio traditionally meets a different type of demographic who may not be able to get involved in other ways.

8.2.5 Match funding of £1,485 is being provided in kind through presenter time, production assistance, use of the studios and equipment use.

8.2.6 The project is linked to the Warminster and Villages Community Plan through Culture and Leisure which includes supporting Warminster Community Radio.

8.2.7 If funding is not awarded, the Community Chest programme and Warminster Voices in this guise will be unable to go ahead.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Friends of Warminster Park	Jubilee Olympic Cafe	£3,950

8.3.1 Officer Recommendation: Approve on condition that:

- i. All necessary planning consents are obtained; and
- ii. Three quotes are obtained for the proposed building works

Then the Community Area Manager be granted delegated powers to approve the application in consultation with the Chair and Vice-chair of the Warminster Area Board.

8.3.2 The application meets the grant criteria 2011/12

8.3.3 The aim of the project is to convert the existing Tennis Pavilion which has not been used for many years into a new restaurant / cafe. It is estimated that £10 to £12k will be required for the project to be confirmed following the structural survey.

8.3.4 This project was the 3rd priority found in a large scale consultation carried out in 2008 by the former West Wiltshire District Council. Many people in the town and surrounding villages would benefit from this project.

8.3.5 Match funding of £8,000 has already been achieved via the Town Council, Friends of the Park, sponsorship and funding in kind.

8.3.6 The project fits within the Warminster and Villages Community Area Plan through Culture and Leisure, Economy and Tourism and through health and social care (i.e. healthy eating).

8.3.7 If funding is not obtained from the Area Board, the project will be in jeopardy and delayed significantly.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Heytesbury, Knook and Imber Diamond Jubilee Group	Diamond Jubilee Celebrations	£291.75

8.4.1 Officer Recommendation: Approve

8.4.2 The application meets the grant criteria 2011/12

8.4.3 The project will benefit all groups by bringing together residents to join a street party to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

8.4.4 Over forty residents met last year and great interest was expressed in this event. It is planned that old and young will join together to celebrate the jubilee. People will meet and get together who don't normally do so.

8.4.5 If funding is not received via the Area Board the project may not proceed.