

Report to	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	26 March 2011
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 3 application seeking 2011/2012 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. **Melksham Adventure Centre** have applied for **£1215** towards upgrading the kitchen. The recommendation is to award the funding.
2. **Melksham CAP** have applied for £500 for a project called Melksham Offers promote shopping in the town centre. The recommendation is to award the funding.
3. **Melksham CAP** have applied for **£106.80** for the purchase of a Volunteer Opportunities Board to Melksham library. The recommendation is to award the funding.

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 (27 February 2010). 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 recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. EXAMPLE Two applicants withdrew their applications and hope to reapply at a future date. One application did not meet the funding criteria and was referred to Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek funding from elsewhere. CIB work 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.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every other Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Melksham Area Board has been allocated a 2011/2012 budget of £49,762 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2010/2011 budget is £3687. This leaves a total budget of £53,449 for the 2011/2012 budget.
- 1.7. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that 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.
- 1.8. The 2010/2011 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 20010/11• Melksham Community Strategy• Grant applications
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. This will be the final round of funding during 2010/11.

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 Melksham Area Board.
- 4.2. If these community grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Melksham Area Board will have a balance of £3031.

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	Melksham Adventure Centre	Upgrading the kitchen	£1215

- 8.1.1. Recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.1.2. Application meets grant criteria 2011/12.
- 8.1.3. This application does not demonstrate a link to the Melksham community plan.
- 8.1.4. No locally agreed priorities.
- 8.1.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.1.6. The aim of the project is to provide new kitchen facilities to enable more user groups and individuals from Melksham and the surrounding area to use the centre. At the moment groups are put off using the centre because of the poor facilities.
- 8.1.7. Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: none.
- 8.1.8. If the area board does not grant funding the members would have to fund-raise or seek alternative funding sources.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Melksham Community Area Partnership	Melksham Offers – a project to promote shopping in Melksham	£500

- 8.1.9. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.1.10. Application meets grant criteria 2011/12.
- 8.1.11. This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan – ‘enhancing pride of Melksham area’ and ‘celebrate and strengthen identity – marketing campaign for Melksham’.
- 8.1.12. Locally agreed priority: concerns about the viability of the town centre have been raised in several forums especially the Melksham Independent Traders Association who are concerned that the increasing number of supermarkets are taking business away from local independent shops.
- 8.1.13. The applicant is a non for profit organisation.
- 8.1.14. The project is to promote shopping in the independent shops in Melksham town centre by producing a mini magazine, including promotional spaces for 20 independent traders and listing of events. The first edition will be run as a pilot and traders will pay £20 (half actual cost) for a quarter page advert. It will be distributed to 10,000 homes in the local area. If it is successful it will expand

and traders can continue to pay for their advertising spaces at full cost.

8.1.15. Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: none

8.1.16. If the area board does not grant funding the group would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Melksham Community Area Partnership	Volunteer Opportunities Board in Melksham Library	£106.80

8.1.17. The recommendation is to award the funding.

8.1.18. Application meets grant criteria 2011/12.

8.1.19. This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan by increasing volunteering opportunities for young people and the unemployed.

8.1.20. No other locally agreed priority.

8.1.21. The applicant is a non for profit organisation.

8.1.22. The project is to purchase a display board which will be set up permanently in Melksham library to showcase all the volunteering opportunities available locally. The information and display materials will be provided by the Wiltshire Volunteer Centre, and MCAP will update the information every two weeks. This will provide a valuable contribution to local voluntary groups as well as making opportunities available for young people and those that are unemployed.

8.1.23. Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: aimed at disadvantaged groups – young people and unemployed.

8.1.24. If the area board does not grant funding the group would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Melksham Adventure Centre Appendix 2 Grant application – Melksham CAP Appendix 3 Grant application – Melksham CAP
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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