

Report to	Marlborough Area Board
Date of Meeting	29th May 2012
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

To ask Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding. Officer recommendations:

1. **Aldbourn Cricket Club, Aldbourn. Requested: £932.20.** To erect new crickets nets at Palmer's Field, Aldbourn to allow frequent club practice at a home location and to attract younger members to the club. Recommendation: Award
2. **The Social Centre, Avebury. Requested: £1950.** To install a new bar stage lighting system for the hall to provide greater flexibility of use and to improve the Social Centre's appeal as a venue. Recommendation: Award
3. **Ramsbury Cricket Club, Ramsbury. Requested: £1,000.** To purchase sight screens for the cricket ground as part of a larger project to enhance facilities for all players at the club. Recommendation: Award

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 • Marlborough Community Area Plan, 2004-14
<p>1. Background</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.6. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>1.9. The 2012/2013 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.</p>	

2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be further rounds of funding at each of the Area Board meeting held during 2012/13. Dates of these meetings and the deadlines for applications are available on Wiltshire Council's website:
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/marlboroughareaboard.htm>

3. Environmental & Community Implications

- 3.1. 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 budget allocated to the Marlborough Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Marlborough Area Board will have a balance of £41,598.80.

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	Aldbourn Dabchicks Cricket Club	To erect cricket nets at Palmer's Field	£932.20

8.1.1 Aldbourn Dabchicks Cricket Club, Aldbourn – Award £932.20 to erect new cricket

nets at Palmer's Field as part of a larger project to establish a new cricket ground in the village.

8.1.2 This application meets the Community Area Grants Criteria for 2012/13.

8.1.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan, 2004-14 "Aim to involve young people in activities" and "Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area".

8.1.4 In the next two years, Aldbourne Dabchicks Cricket Club plans to establish a "home" venue for cricket matches at Palmer's Field within Aldbourne where the Club can train and play. This will stop Club players having to travel to Marlborough Leisure Centre for net practice. Given the number of younger players from the Club and other players who do not have access to a car, this new facility will make cricket more attractive to residents of the village.

8.1.5 If the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in the project being delayed while looking for alternative funding opportunities.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	The Social Centre, Avebury	To install specialised stage lighting	£1,950

8.2.1 The Social Centre, Avebury – Award £1,950 to install a bar stage lighting system to the Social Centre.

8.2.2 This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2012/13.

8.2.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan "Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area" and "Encourage community events that create a sense of pride and well-being".

8.2.4 The Social Centre, Avebury is a well-used venue for varied events and hosts a number of performances, including Rural Arts Wiltshire. In the past, lighting of these productions has been provided by hiring temporary equipment. This is found to be expensive and needs to be collected from companies which are not local. There has recently been a problem which highlighted the need for the Social Centre to have its own lighting equipment. This can also lead to opportunities for training of local people, including young people, in operating stage lighting and gaining a new skill.

8.2.5 The funding provided by the Marlborough Area Board is 50% of the total funding of this project, the remainder being raised locally by the applicant, local organisations and the Parish Council. This helps to demonstrate local support towards this project. However, if the Area Board decides not to fund this project it might result in

the project being delayed until alternative funding can be sought.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Ramsbury Cricket Club, Ramsbury	To fund new sight screens for the pitch	£1,000

8.3.1 Ramsbury Cricket Club – Award £1,000 to purchase sight screens for the cricket ground that will help enhance the facilities available and so help attract new players.

8.3.2 This application meets the Community Area Grant Criteria for 2012/13.

8.3.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Marlborough Community Plan “Aim to involve young people in activities” and “Aim to increase support for community facilities and events and to encourage a range of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors to the area”.

8.3.4 The new sight screens are part of a larger project from Ramsbury Cricket Club to improve and enhance the facilities offered by the club and so try to attract new players, including younger members. Other improvements include groundwork to the square and repairs to the astro-turf strip. Recent purchases include a bowling machine and portable nets. These all go to show a desire to improve the club and its facilities and make the club more attractive to players.

8.3.5 These improvements and other purchases have all been made out of the Club’s reserves, if the Area Board decides not to fund this project it will result in the project being delayed until alternative funding can be sought.

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

Appendices:	Appendix 1 grant application – Aldbourne Dabchicks Cricket Club Appendix 2 grant application – The Social Centre, Avebury Appendix 3 grant application – Ramsbury Cricket Club
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Report Author	Andrew Jack, Community Area Manager Tel: 01225 713109 E-mail: andrew.jack@wiltshire.gov.uk
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