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| <b>Report to</b>       | <b>Melksham Area Board</b>   |
| <b>Date of Meeting</b> | <b>6 June 2012</b>           |
| <b>Title of Report</b> | <b>Community Area Grants</b> |

### **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 1 applications seeking 2012/2013 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Atworth Youth Club** have applied for **£665** towards a coach trip to Thorpe Park. 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](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

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| <b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2012/13</li><li>• Melksham Community Strategy</li><li>• Grant applications</li></ul> |
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## 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.

## 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 **£27,941**.

## 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 | <b>Atworth Youth Club</b> | <b>Coach trip to Thorpe Park</b> | <b>£665</b>       |

- Recommendation is to award the funding.
- Application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- This application demonstrates a link to the Melksham community plan – ‘activities for young people’.
- Locally agreed priorities: In recent years the club has discovered that not all their members are lucky enough to be able to access these type of activities outside of Youth Club. By making this type of activity available they are helping the local community by building good relationships with young people. The trips help to reward the young people for all their efforts throughout the year hence boosting their self esteem.
- The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- The project is to involves taking members of Atworth youth club on a special annual day trip to Thorpe Park. The aim is to make this trip possible for some of our less fortunate young people who do not get the opportunity to go on holidays or day trips other than with our Youth Club. In previous years the club have offered this trip and subsidised the cost of the coach from Youth Club funds. This year the cost of the coach has increased substantially. Without financial support it is doubtful that the club will be able to run this trip at an affordable price
- Equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project: focused on young people.
- If the area board does not grant funding the club would have to fundraise or seek alternative funding sources.

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| <b>Appendices:</b> | Appendix 1 Grant application – Atworth Youth Club |
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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