

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Corsham Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>22 November 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider four applications seeking 2012/13 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. Neston Village Hall - Award £5,000 towards a total project cost of £12,336 to provide additional and modern storage space for users of the hall. Conditional upon balance of funds and any planning permission being in place.
2. Colerne Village Hall - Award £1,000 towards a total project cost of £3,258 to put in place disabled access ramps and doors. Conditional upon the balance of funding and any planning permissions being in place.
3. Colerne Sea Scouts – Award £923 towards total project costs of £1,847 to Upgrade insulation, installing door and repairs to roof. Conditional upon balance of funding being in place.
4. Colerne Luncheon Club – Award £1,017 towards total project costs of £2,035 to purchase a new industrial dishwasher. Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

## 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 Adult Care, Communities and Housing (4 April 2012). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/2013.
- 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 and the nurturing of resilient communities. With this in mind Community Area Grants (CAGs) should be encouraged from and awarded to community and voluntary groups. Likewise, Small Grants (new this year) should be awarded to similar groups, as well as un-constituted groups of people wanting to improve things near to where they live.
- 1.4. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £43,772 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Small Grants, new for this year will fund up to £350, where the total cost of the project does not exceed £350. This grant is aimed at enabling groups (including those not formally constituted) to implement projects, involving local people to make their community a better place to live.
- 1.7. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant (CAG) 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.
- 1.8. In addition to CAGs and Small Grants, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle sticky community issues and/or community identified priorities. Cabinet have emphasised that they do not wish these to be used to avoid complying with Community Area Grant criteria or for filling gaps where there are council service shortfalls. The application process and form has been updated to bring it in line with the other grants.
- 1.9. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in

the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.

- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.11. Applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau (CIB) who work on behalf of Wiltshire Council. CIB 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.
- 1.12. Paper copies of funding applications no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce paper. They are however available on the Wiltshire Council web site with the area board agenda papers and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.13. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.14. A decision was 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.
- 1.15. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete and return an evaluation form as soon as the project or activity has been completed and this should be accompanied by receipts and invoices, as well as photographs if possible. Failure to return the evaluation requested will preclude them from being considered for any future funding from the area board. This applies to all grants made by the area board.
- 1.16. A budget ring-fenced for the needs of young people will again be made available in 2012/2013. How this will be allocated will be the decision of the area board.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li><li>• Corsham Community Area Plan</li><li>• Corsham Joint Strategic Needs Document</li></ul>
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## **2. 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 will be 1 further round of funding during 2012/2013. The will take place on;
  - 24 January 2013

## **3. Environmental & Community Implications**

- 3.1. Area Board Grants 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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Corsham Area Board will have a balance of £27,786

## **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 and Small Grants will give local community and voluntary groups, town and parish council's equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes, where they meet the funding criteria.
- 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	Neston Village Hall	Additional storage provision	£5,000

- 8.1.1 Award £5,000 towards a total project cost of £12,336 to provide additional and modern storage space for users of the hall. Conditional upon balance of funds and any planning permission being in place.
- 8.1.2. This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the community plan. “By benefiting the local community and giving all users a friendlier and safer environment in which to meet.”
- 8.1.4. This group is a locally formed not for profit group charged with operating the village hall for the benefit of the community.
- 8.1.5. If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Colerne Village Hall	To put disabled access and doors in place	£1,000

- 8.2.1 Award £1,000 towards a total project cost of £3,258 to put in place disabled access ramps and doors. Conditional upon the balance of funding and any planning permissions being in place.
- 8.2.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.2.3 This application demonstrates a link to the community plan “Allowing people with mobility issues to access a valued community facility”.
- 8.2.4 This is a not for profit organisation running a valued community facility.
- 8.2.5 If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project it will be delayed until alternative funding can be found which might result in the project falling out of the time frame planned.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3	Colerne Sea Scouts	Insulation and new door	£923

- 8.3.1 Award £923 towards total project costs of £1,847 to upgrade insulation, installing a door and repairs to roof. Conditional upon balance of funding being in place.
- 8.3.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.3.3 This application demonstrates a direct link to the community plan “Places for young people to meet”.
- 8.3.4 This group is a local not for profit group affiliated to the scout movement and is respected by the parish council who have part funded this project.
- 8.3.5 If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4	Colerne Luncheon Club	To purchase new dishwasher	£1,017

- 8.4.1 Award £1,017 towards total project costs of £2,035 to purchase a new industrial dishwasher. Conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.4.2 This application meets the grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.4.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan “Places for people to meet and contributes towards health and well being”.
- 8.4.4 This group is a well established group and are well respected by Colerne Parish Council and Colerne Village Hall.
- 8.4.5 If the area board makes a decision not to fund the project it will be delayed until alternative funding can be found which might result in the project falling out of the time frame planned.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>Appendix 1 Grant application – Neston Village Hall</b> <b>Appendix 2 Grant application – Colerne Village Hall</b> <b>Appendix 3 Grant application – Colerne Sea Scouts</b> <b>Appendix 4 Grant application - Colerne Luncheon Club</b>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

<b>Report Author</b>	Dave Roberts Corsham Community Area Manager Tel: 07979 318504 E-mail <a href="mailto:dave.roberts@wiltshire.gov.uk">dave.roberts@wiltshire.gov.uk</a>
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