

Report to	Trowbridge Area Board
Date of Meeting	14 March 2013
Title of Report	Community Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider:

1. Six applications seeking Community Area Grant Funding & one application seeking small grant funding (Appendix 1)
 - 1.1 Wiltshire Armed Forces Veterans Celebrations - £886 requested towards vehicle tracking mats
 - 1.2 Trowbridge Chamber of Commerce - £4,500 requested towards the costs of running a Trowbridge Service Excellence Awards
 - 1.3 Trowbridge Learning Centre - £4,500 requested for the purchase of equipment to support a Saturday School and Adult Training & School Language Clubs
 - 1.4 Trowbridge Civic Society - £4,329 requested to support installations & a trail to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Sir Isaac Pitman
 - 1.5 Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park - £1,163 requested for Landscaping at Biss Meadows Country Park Pond Renovation Project
 - 1.6 Sounding it Out Community Choir - £5,000 requested for Building Bridges the Trowbridge Song Project
 - 1.7 Preserve Our Past - £350 requested for a small grant for dating the oldest house in Trowbridge
2. One Councillor led grant application (Appendix 1)
 - 2.1 Councillor Jeff Osborn – £5,000 requested towards the cost of a replacement security fence at Woodmarsh Football ground for Trowbridge Town Football Club

Total Amount requested = £25,728

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. 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.
- 1.5. 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.
- 1.6. 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.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every ordinary Area Board meeting.

- 1.10. 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.
- 1.11. 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.
- 1.12. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.13. 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.
- 1.14. Trowbridge Area Board has a 2012/2013 budget of £78,681 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives. Community Area Board grants and Area Board projects totalling £57,579 have been allocated so far:
 - TCAF Funding - £15,556 allocated
 - Wiltshire Mind – £1,816 for a pilot six month art therapy course -
 - World Evangelism Bible Church – £5,000 for a project to help address post traumatic disorders relating to the terminally ill
 - Friends of Southwick Country Park – £899 for free activities in Southwick Country Park
 - Cllr Peter Fuller Area Board bid - £2,220 for Trowbridge Area Campus consultation
 - Trowbridge Sea Cadet Unit – £5,000 to purchase a minibus
 - Trowbridge Town Council – £5,000 to run an Active Sports and Play Festival
 - Wiltshire People First – £500 for an Oral History & DVD project about the lives of people with learning disabilities
 - Trowbridge Town Football Club – £1,000 to purchase a mower
 - Trowbridge Town Team – £500 to run a Dickensian Market in Trowbridge
 - Trowbridge Town Team – £5,000 to purchase umbrellas for a new Trowbridge Market
 - Seymour TARA Community Hub – £350 to purchase relaxed seating for the Hub
 - Bradley Gardens Residents Association – £200 to run a Halloween event
 - Trowbridge Rugby Football Club - £5,000 towards additional sports pitches
 - Gloucester Road Allotment Association - £800 for drainage
 - Hilperton School & Community Recorder Consort - £350 to develop a recorder music library

- The Big Community Grow - £2,286 towards children’s activities for the Trowbridge Apple Festival
- The Big Community Grow - £440 for “Lets Grow” at Children’s Centres.
- The Sunday Club - £992 for the Sunday Club revamp project
- Trowbridge in Bloom - £520 for South West in Bloom Seminar 2013.
- Trowbridge Initiative - £2,050 for Supporting Tourism in Trowbridge.
- Councillor Helen Osborn – £2,100 for a Defibrillator at Trowbridge Civic Centre

This gives a current remaining total of £21,102 available to allocate. Please note there are applications being considered requesting a total of £25,728

<p>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision • Trowbridge Community Area Plan • Technical Officer report
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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 Impact of the Proposals

- 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 Trowbridge Area Board.
- 4.2. Members will need to note that there is a shortfall of £4,626 from the funding requested and the total remaining in the budget. This is reflected in any approval recommendations stating that funding be allocated up to the requested amount.

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 Diversity Implications

7.1. Community Area Grants give local community and voluntary groups, 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 where appropriate.

8. Community Area and Small Grant Applications

The full applications are available at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards

Applicant 8.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Wiltshire Armed Forces Veterans Celebrations	Towards vehicle tracking mats	£886

8.1.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.

8.1.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 4 Culture

8.1.3 The applicant will be contributing funding of £950 towards the project

8.1.4 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £886 is approved**

Applicant 8.2	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Chamber of Commerce	Towards the costs of running a Trowbridge Service Excellence Awards	£4,500

8.2.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria,

8.2.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 1 Economy

8.2.3 The applicant is contributing 50% other funding/income towards the project

8.2.4 **It is recommended that a one off grant of up to £4,500 is approved which cannot be used towards prize money.**

Applicant 8.3	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Learning Centre	For the purchase of equipment to support a Saturday School and Adult Training & School Language Clubs	£4,500

8.3.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.

8.3.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 7 Education & Lifelong Learning

8.3.3 The applicant is contributing over 50% of the funding towards the project

8.3.4 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £4,500 is approved on condition that the match funding is received.**

Applicant 8.4	Project summary	Funding requested
Trowbridge Civic Society	To support activities to celebrate the 200 th anniversary of Sir Isaac Pitman	£4,329

- 8.4.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.4.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 1 Economy
- 8.4.3 The applicant is contributing 50% funding towards the project
- 8.4.4 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £4,329 is approved on condition that the match funding is raised**

Applicant 8.5	Project summary	Funding requested
Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park	Landscaping at Biss Meadows Country Park Pond Renovation Project	£1,163

- 8.5.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.5.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 6 Environment
- 8.5.3 The applicant is contributing 50% of the funding towards the project
- 8.5.4 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £1,163 is approved.**

Applicant 8.6	Project summary	Funding requested
Sounding it Out Community Choir	Building Bridges the Trowbridge Song Project	£5,000

- 8.6.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.6.2 The applicant demonstrates links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 4 Culture
- 8.6.3 The applicant is contributing over 50% of the funding towards the project
- 8.6.5 The Council's Arts Service is supportive of this project
- 8.6.5 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £5,000 is approved on condition that all the match funding is received and a fully detailed budget & detailed schedule for the project, once all funding is received, is provided.**

Applicant 8.7	Project summary	Funding requested
Preserve Our Past	To date the oldest house in Trowbridge	£350

- 8.7.1 The applicant meets the grant criteria.
- 8.7.2 The applicant demonstrates indirect links to the Trowbridge Community Area Plan Theme 4 Culture inc Heritage
- 8.7.3 **It is recommended that a grant of up to £350 is approved.**

9. Area Board Project Applications

Applicant 9.1	Project summary	Funding requested
Submitted by Councillor Jeff Osborn	Towards the cost of a replacement security fence at Woodmarsh Football ground for Trowbridge Town Football Club	£5,000

9.1.1 Councillors will need to consider whether the application meets one or more of the following:

- Evidence of community need
- Clear links to the community plan
- Evidence that it addresses an on-going issue that has been logged via the Community Issues System

9.1.2 **It is recommended the Area Board considers the Area Board project application to determine whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget and whether to put any conditions on this funding regarding match funding.**

10. Recommendations

10.1 It is recommended that the Area Board agrees to the recommendations for the Community Area applications contained within paragraphs 8.1.4, 8.2.4, 8.3.4 & 8.4.4, 8.5.4, 8.6.5, 8.7.3 of this report.

10.2 It is recommended that the Area Board determines whether to allocate funding from the Area Board budget towards Councillor led application 9.1.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 - Community Area & Councillor led grant applications
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