

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Westbury Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>5 June 2014</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider funding applications to the community area grants fund scheme and councillor led project bids:

### **1. Applications seeking Community Area Grant Funding (appendix 1)**

- 1.1 BA13+ Community Area Partnership is seeking £6500 toward annual running costs
- 1.2 Bratton Community Orchard - is seeking £554 towards the purchase of an apple juicer
- 1.3 Edington Ringing Centre – is seeking £800 towards the purchase of a ringing simulator.
- 1.4 Westbury carer support group – is seeking £570 towards the purchase of a laptop and an event for parent carers.

**TOTAL Funding Requests: £8,424**

## **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. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015.
- 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. Westbury Area Board has been allocated a 2014/2015 budget of £31,543.19 capital funding and £5,566 revenue funding for community grants, digital literacy projects, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 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.** 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.
- 1.6.** In addition to CAGs, councillors can submit an Area Board/Councillor Led Initiative. This enables area boards to tackle 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.
- 1.7.** 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.
- 1.8.** Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.9.** 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.

- 1.10. The 2014/2015 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website  
<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areboards/areboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>
- 1.11. 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.

<p><b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Area Board Grant Guidance 2014/15 as presented for delegated decision</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">BA13 Community Area Plan</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Westbury Joint Strategic Needs Assessment</a></li> </ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2014/15 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. This meeting is the second round of funding during 2014/2015:

## 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 Westbury Area Board. **The Westbury grants fund currently stands at £31,543 (revenue) and £5,566 (capital).**
- 4.2. All awards are subject to the condition that no payment will be made until all other funding has been confirmed.

## 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 will give local community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils 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. Community Grant Applications Summary

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.0	BA13+ Community Area Partnership	Annual funding costs	£ 6,500

8.1.1 This application meets the grant criteria but exceeds the area board revenue budget of £5,566

8.1.2 The Community Area Partnership works with the area board on a wide range of projects to benefit the community.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.0	Bratton Community Orchard	Purchase of an apple juicer	£ 554

8.2.1 This application meets the grant criteria.

8.2.2 The orchard is a valuable community facility which is well used. The purchase of an apple juicer would enable an annual Apple Day to be held attracting all ages.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.0	<b>Edington Ringing Centre</b>	Purchase of a simulator	£ 800

8.3.1 This application meets the grant criteria

8.3.2 A simulator (being silent) will enable the teaching of bell handling safely. There is a shortage of ringers and it is hoped this will not only enable more training to take place but also attract more young people to the ancient art of bell ringing.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.0	<b>Westbury Parent Carer Support Group</b>	Staging of event and purchase of laptop and	£ 570

8.4.1 This application meets the grant criteria but exceeds the area board budget for revenue.

8.4.2 This is a parent run information sharing support group in Westbury which meets regularly. A laptop would be used to help keep in touch with members.

## 9.Recommendations

9.1 It is recommended that the Area Board decides whether to allocate funding to the four applicants

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