

Report to	Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board
Date of Meeting	Wednesday 23 July 2014
Title of Report	Investing in Our Community

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider the following:

- To note the area board budget and funding criteria for 2014/15
- Cricklade Cinema! – requests £1,254 towards a projection screen
- Swindon in the Great War – requests £520 towards a Royal Wootton Bassett Remembrance Wreath and Information Cards
- To note the area board current budget balances.

1. Background

1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve funding under delegated powers. Under the Scheme of Delegation, Area Boards must adhere to the [Area Board Grants Guidance 2014/2015](#).

1.2. Key aspects of the 2014/15 criteria include:

- The decision to support a funding application and to what level will be the decision of the area board, with no officer recommendation.
- Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding, however the area board will look more positively on applicants where they are able to contribute some funding towards their project.
- Amounts of £1,001 - £5,000 will be required to find matched funding.
- The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- The area board will prioritise funding to projects relating to priorities chosen by the board according to the What Matters to You? event held in March 2014, having identified them as top areas for community and area board attention during the coming year.

1.3. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any decision of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need to demonstrate that the application in question has a wider community benefit, and give specific reasons why this should justify an exception to the criteria which must be minuted.

- 1.4. In addition to CAGs and digital literacy 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.
- 1.5. There will only be a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants (CAG) and Digital Literacy grants, introduced to provide an easy step by step application process. Access to the online grants application process is [here](#).
- 1.6. Funding will be considered at every area board. There are 5 funding rounds remaining during 2014/15. Deadlines for receipt of funding applications are as follows:
 - 11 June 2014 for consideration at 23 July 2014 area board meeting
 - 20 August 2014 for consideration at 24 September 2014 area board meeting
 - 22 October 2014 for consideration at 26 November 2014 area board meeting
 - 10 December 2014 for consideration at 21 January 2015 area board meeting
 - 4 February 2015 for consideration at 18 March 2015 area board meeting.
- 1.7. Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board has been allocated a capital budget of **£47,392.98** for Community Area Grants and Digital Literacy grants, and a separate revenue budget of **£8,804.64** in 2014/15.
- 1.8. Within the capital budget, £2,500 capital is ring-fenced for digital literacy grants of up to £500 each.
- 1.9. Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board has a separate Community Area Transport Group (CATG) budget for 2014/15 of **£16,626**. The CATG will consider appropriate schemes for funding and make appropriate recommendations to the Area Board for approval.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	Area Board Community Area Grant Scheme and Digital Literacy Grants – information and funding criteria 2014/15
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that funding awarded by the area board satisfy [2014/15 area board funding criteria](#) and financial regulations of the council and can proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. On 6 July 2011 the Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board took the decision to delegate responsibility to the Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Area Board, to approve expenditure of up to £250 between meetings of the Area Board for the purpose of booking public meeting rooms for Area Board purposes. Any expenditure incurred under this delegation will be reported back to the Area Board at the next public meeting.

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 Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade Area Board.

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 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 will be outlined in section 8 of the funding report.

8. Applications for consideration

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Cricklade Cinema!	Projection screen	£1,254 capital

- 8.1.1. The application meets the Community Area Grant criteria 2014/15.
- 8.1.2. Cricklade Cinema is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers.
- 8.1.3. Currently Cricklade Cinema! borrow a portable screen from the British Heart Foundation to show their films incurring travel costs to collect and return it to Shaftesbury.
- 8.1.4. The new screen will offer better image quality and enable Cricklade Cinema to expand its repertoire to include matinees.
- 8.1.5. The screen will be fixed in place at the Cricklade Town Hall and be available to other community groups using the hall.
- 8.1.6. On average 86 people attend the film showings.
- 8.1.7. The club has committed 50% of the project costs from their own reserves.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Swindon in the Great War	RWB Remembrance Wreath and Information Cards	£520 revenue

- 8.2.1. The application meets the Community Area Grant criteria 2014/15.
- 8.2.2. Swindon in the Great War is community group looking at ways of commemorating the events or World War I. They will hold the grant should it be awarded and accountable for this specific project.
- 8.2.3. Mrs Sheridan Parsons of Royal Wootton Bassett has researched the RWB residents that gave their lives during WW1.
- 8.2.4. The project aims to lay the wreath at 11am on each person's date of death accompanied by an information card.
- 8.2.5. The project aims to provide an educative experience for current residents and visitors about the local lives that were lost.
- 8.2.6. The balance of funding for the project will be sought through fundraising and on-going maintenance costs to refresh the wreath will be provided by crowd source funding.

9. Area Board Budget Balances

Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy - Capital	£49,892.98
Revenue	£8,804.64
Community Area Transport Group	£16,626.00

Appendices	Appendix 1 – individual grant applications and supporting details
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report other than those requested in the funding criteria e.g. estimates.

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