

Report to	Chippenham Area Board
Date of Meeting	02 March 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider the following applications for funding:

Capital

1. Charter School Friends Association award £1,315 towards the Charter Primary School new ICT suite, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
2. Waste Not Want Not award £1,700 towards the Waste Not Want Not Improvements Project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
3. 10th Chippenham Scout Group award £1,000 towards Archery Equipment.
4. The Rise Trust award £931 towards the Forest Kids@Ivy Wildlife Garden Project.
5. Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers Going Digital award £2,262 towards digital equipment for the Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers for the visually impaired.

Revenue

6. Area Board Project and Councillor Initiative award £1,195 towards Communications Campaign & Toolkit to promote Events & Activities in Chippenham Community Area.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area Boards have authority to approve Area Grants under powers delegated to them. Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 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 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.
- 1.4. The area board may wish to link funding to local priorities, including those identified in their Community Plan, Community Area Joint Strategic Assessment and any other community based consultative work.
- 1.5. For the 2014/15 financial year Chippenham Area Board has been allocated a budget of **£92,383** for Community Area Grants, Digital Literacy Grants, Community Partnership Core Funding, Chippenham Area Board operational funding and Chippenham Area Board/Councillor Led Initiatives. **£1,500** was allocated to Digital Literacy funding, **£77,025** was allocated to capital funding and **£13,857** was allocated to revenue funding.
- 1.6. Following awards made by Chippenham Area Board Meeting 19th January 2015, the Chippenham Area Board balance of funding was of **£17,906.12** capital and **£1,196.86** revenue.
- 1.7. In addition to Community Area Grants 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.
- 1.8. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which do not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,001 - £5,000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.9. A ring-fenced budget of £1,500 has been provided specifically for Digital Literacy Grants, although the area board may spend more. Up to £500 per project is available for capital projects.
- 1.10. There is a single on-line application process for Community Area Grants and Digital Literacy grants, introduced to provide an easy step by step application process. The application process and funding criteria can be found under <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areboards/areboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>

- 1.11. Area boards will not consider Community Area Grant 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.
- 1.12. The decision to support applications is made by Chippenham Area Board councillors.
- 1.13. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.14. All recipients of area board funding are expected to complete an evaluation form as soon as the project has been completed and provide receipts if requested. Groups are encouraged to up-load information and photographs about their project on to the Chippenham 'Our Community Matters' website Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	<u>Area Board Grant Criteria and Guidance 2014/15 as approved by delegated decision</u>
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors must ensure that the distribution of funding is in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation outlined in Section 1 of this report.
- 2.2. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in 2014/2015 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.3. This is the final funding round of the 2014/15 financial year.

Future funding rounds and deadline for applications will take place as follows:

- 16 March 2015 for consideration on 27 April 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 Chippenham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded to all of the applications considered by Chippenham Area Board on 2 March 2015, the board will have a capital balance of **£10,697.72** and a revenue balance of **£1.86**.

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 will be outlined in section 8, "Applications for Consideration" of the funding report.

8. Applications for Consideration

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Charter School Friends Association	A new ICT suite	£1,315

- 8.1.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting Charter School Friends Association a community area grant of £1,315 towards a new ICT suite, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.1.3. The Charter School Friends Association is a group of parents who continually fundraise for Charter School. The ICT suite is in desperate need of modernising and updating with new desks chairs and equipment. Currently there is not enough hardware and the desk and chairs provided are not suitable for all the children at the school. The intention is to make it user friendly for all the children.
- 8.1.4. The children of Charter Primary School including those in the Charter Rose Centre will benefit from this project. The aim is to generally update the ICT suite and hopefully have more hardware available.
- 8.1.5. Computers are now part of everyday life. Technology is essential to their lives, at home and at work. Computer skills are essential if children are to be ready for the workplace and able to participate effectively in this digital age.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Waste Not Want Not	Waste Not Want Not Improvements Project	£1,700

- 8.2.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting Waste Not Want Not a community area grant of £1,700 towards a Waste Not Want Not Improvements Project, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.
- 8.2.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.2.3. The project aims to replace the collection and delivery vehicle and improve their showroom by updating inefficient heaters and lighting. The group need to replace worn carpets in their display windows which are the first thing customers see. Many people like to browse their window display at night prior to visiting in the week or on Saturdays. Replacing inefficient heating and lighting will benefit the charity in terms of reduced running costs. In addition to enhancing the appearance of their main window display areas, replacement of existing badly worn carpets will improve the customer experience and create a better environment for both customers and volunteers.
- 8.2.4. Waste Not Want Not plan to update their computer systems to provide even more support to our volunteers to help them search for employment. They help them with CVs and references and the new equipment will enhance their computing skills. This will benefit both the charity and volunteers as the system will help them gain valuable internet skills as they become more involved in updating their website and social media pages. Those improved skills and the ability to offer volunteers help with job searches and online job applications will help them move into employment. This will in turn create more volunteering opportunities for members of the local community. A more regularly updated website will improve customer service and should generate increased sales.
- 8.2.5. The Waste Not Want Not showroom is currently being repainted thanks to the generosity of The Chippenham Lions who have given their time and a grant towards the cost of paint and this project will help to complete the improvements mentioned.
- 8.2.6. Greensquare has recently granted funding of £15,000 to replace the collection and delivery van which is now 11 years old and unreliable.
- 8.2.7. Waste Not Want Not has applied to Chippenham Town Council for £2,000 towards this project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	10th Chippenham Scout Group	Archery Equipment	£1,000

- 8.3.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting the 10th Chippenham Scout Group a community area grant of £1,000 towards Archery Equipment.
- 8.3.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.3.3. In December 2013, two scout leaders qualified to deliver archery lessons to scouts in the group. The 10th Chippenham Scout Group are applying to purchase archery equipment as they currently have no equipment for the scouts to use and therefore have been unable to maximise the qualifications gained by their leaders. The group would like to use the grant to buy enough equipment for scouts of all ages to use regularly (indoor and outdoor) and therefore gain skills for a fraction of the cost that would be charged through an archery club.
- 8.3.4. As part of regular badge work and activities, all scouts, cubs and beavers in the scout group will benefit from the use of the equipment. Young people would not have an opportunity to engage in this kind of sport under normal circumstances and the scout group aims to enable them to have experience and gain a love of another activity which may lead to future sporting expertise as they get older. The ages of their scouts range from 6 years (beavers) to 14 years (scouts) and the group have approximately 120 young people currently enrolled in 10th Chippenham Scout Group. In addition, the group has a thriving group of older explorer scouts (approx 30 young people aged 15 - 18) who meet at the hut every Friday evening and who will almost certainly borrow their equipment for use with these young people.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.4.	The Rise Trust	The Forest Kids@Ivy Wildlife garden project.	£931

- 8.4.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting The Rise Trust a community area grant of £931 towards The Forest Kids@Ivy Wildlife garden project.
- 8.4.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.4.3. The Rise Trust aims to work with the volunteers at the existing community garden at Royal Close and develop the garden's use by providing monthly 2 hour outdoor/nature activities on Saturday mornings to engage children and families within the area. In order to run the planned Forest school sessions (run by 2 play workers) the Trust need to purchase outdoor resources. They have already explored this idea with volunteers at the garden and they are keen to see it happen. This project aims to build on The Rise Trust's partnership with Sovereign, Green Square Housing and Station Hill Baptist Church.

- 8.4.4. Parents and children aged 0-11, many of whom are hard to reach families will benefit from this project. The Rise Trust has a track record in reaching families in need (such as those living in Super Output areas 11A- Audley South and 11F- Queens East) and the Trust will ensure that they are involved. This project is located in one of the most deprived wards in Chippenham.
- 8.4.5. From previous experience of running forest school sessions, working together in these activities outdoors enhances community spirit and encourages individuals to work together to succeed in small achievable tasks. The entire community can benefit, such as improved gardens and knowledge of /access to urban wildlife).
- 8.4.6. Being out in the fresh air and getting exercise is good for health and well-being. Both adults and children benefit in this way. Also, many of the children in the area live in flats with no gardens so this will provide an opportunity for regular outdoor play activities and exercise and help to address concerns about obesity.
- 8.4.7. Children will enjoy having some quality time with their parents boosting their confidence and self esteem. The group's work has taught them that where parents play with their children and take an interest in their activities, children's self esteem improves and this often leads to better outcomes in school. Children will learn from and get to know more people in their community as a result of volunteers (with infectious enthusiasm for the garden) being involved, It is hoped children will learn how to look after their community and take more pride in the spaces they live in.
- 8.4.8. As well as enhancing community cohesion, and both children's and adult's personal and social development, this would also lead to children having knowledge (about wildlife, about environmental issues etc) and skills (gardening, keeping safe, problem solving) that are transferable into the classroom. The group's links with local schools show that many children in the area need further support in developing their listening and talking skills in order to improve their language development. Outdoors often provides a more relaxed environment where children open up and enjoy talking more so it is hoped that language skills will improve as a result of this project.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers	Digital equipment for the Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers for the Visually impaired.	£2,262

- 8.5.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers a community area grant of £2,262 towards digital equipment for the Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers for the Visually impaired
- 8.5.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **capital** project.
- 8.5.3. Currently, the Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers for Visually Impaired record the Gazette and Herald and Melksham Independent News onto cassette tapes and send them out weekly free of charge to their visually impaired listeners in Chippenham, Malmesbury, Melksham and surrounding villages. The group totally relies on donations and fund raising and now want to update their equipment and go digital.

8.5.4. By updating their equipment from cassette tapes to a digital format, the group will improve their service for our visually impaired listeners giving them weekly access to the local paper and keeping them up to date with local events and news. They get positive feedback on how much their service is enjoyed and appreciated by their listeners and this will offer Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers an improvement to the quality of what they produce. They know that sometimes their audio paper is the only link with the outside world for some listeners and the only friendly voice they hear some weeks. At the moment, they purchase tape players from charity shops to give to their listeners but this is getting more difficult. Only this year they had to try and replace a tape eraser and soon found out that they are becoming obsolete. Their service is free to listeners and they take pride in supplying them with the wherewithal to access the papers and the group want to continue this and improve it.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Area Board Project and Councillor Initiative award	Communications Campaign and Toolkit to promote Events and Activities in Chippenham Community Area	£1,195

- 8.6.1. Chippenham Area Board is asked to consider granting Area Board Funding of £1,195 towards Communications Campaign and Toolkit to promote Events and Activities in Chippenham Community Area
- 8.6.2. This application meets grant criteria 2014/15 and has been classified as a **revenue** project.
- 8.6.3. The Chippenham Arts, Culture and Events (ACE) group working in partnership with the newly appointed Marketing and Communications Officer at Chippenham Town Council will run a comprehensive communications campaign. The campaign will involve a wide variety of communications channels including Town and Parish newsletters, Community and Visitor Information Centre will display posters and are available to discuss in person or by telephone, on line via Chippenham Our Community Matters website, Town & Parish websites, Chippenham FM Radio, Twitter & Facebook. Postcards will be produced for distribution to households across the Community Area via the Door to Door postal service. The toolkit will be made available on line with hard copies available upon request.
- 8.6.4. Local groups organising events and activities will be better supported to arrange and promote their events. Members of the public will be better informed about local events and activities. Local media will be more widely used and supported.
- 8.6.5. 'Better marketing and communication of what the community area has to offer' was identified as the top priority for the area in the February 2014 JSA/What Matters to You.

Appendices	<p>Appendix 1 - Charter School Friends Association - The Charter Primary School new ICT suite</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Waste Not Want Not - The Waste Not Want Not Improvements Project</p> <p>Appendix 3 - 10th Chippenham Scout Group - Archery Equipment</p> <p>Appendix 4 - The Rise Trust award £931 towards the Forest Kids@Ivy Wildlife garden project.</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Chippenham and District Talking Newspapers for the Visually impaired - Digital equipment</p> <p>Appendix 6 - Area Board Project and Councillor Initiative - Communications Campaign & Toolkit to promote Events & Activities in Chippenham Community Area</p>
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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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