

Report to	Devizes Area Board
Date of Meeting	23 March 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Grants

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 5 applications seeking 2014/15 Community Area Grant Funding.

1. **Potterne Cricket Club** are seeking £5,000 towards enlarging and levelling of pitches
2. **Devizes and District Association for the Disabled** are seeking £598 for new hand dryers at the Nursted Community Centre
3. **West Lavington Village Hall** are seeking £3,278 towards upgrading the hall
4. **Cheverell Magna Parish Council** are seeking £900 towards a new marquee and tables
5. **Devizes Eisteddfod** are seeking £1,703.54 towards a staging system

The full applications can be viewed on the following link:
http://portal.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboard_grants/grants_list.php

All these applications meet the grants criteria and are presented to the Area Board for consideration

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 (5th April 2013). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance.
- 1.2. In 2014/15 the officer is required to only ensure that the request meets the funding criteria but not to make any recommendations.
- 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.
- 1.4. The allocation for Devizes Area Board in 2014/2015 is a capital only grants system
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1001 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 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, 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.
- 1.8. Officers are not required to provide recommendations in their funding reports. The decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.
- 1.9. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.10. 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.
- 1.11. The funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/areaboards/areaboardscommunitygrantsscheme.htm>

- 1.12. 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>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Board Grant Guidance as presented for delegated decision • Devizes Community Area Plan • Devizes Joint Strategic Needs Document
---	--

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. Councillors will need to decide whether the community benefit will warrant the request.
- 2.3. This is the final 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 Devizes Area Board.
- 4.2. All awards are subject to the condition that no payment will be made until all other match funding has been confirmed.
- 4.3. If the award is granted, there will remain £10,840 of capital money. However the

Area Board Members are also looking to find £15k in order that a BMX track can be erected alongside the skate park at Green Lane.

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 are outlined within section 8 – Officer Recommendations.

8. Officer Comments

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8	Potterne Cricket Club	Enlargement and leveling of pitches at Potterne Cricket Club	£5k towards a project costing £14,784

- I. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- II. The project is to add two extra playing pitches to the existing playing surface of six pitches. This will increase the playing capacity by a third. The scheme would also simultaneously 're-grade' the existing playing surface to improve their quality and durability.
- III. The additional funding for the project is being provided by the club's reserves and pledges from individual members.
- IV. The Club currently serves @200 members as well as being used by county and district sides for training and matches. However it is over subscribed for the size of its square.
- V. Whilst the grant application meets the criteria, the Area Board should note that Potterne Cricket club has received several grants from the area board previously as shown below. Demand for the any funding that the Area Board has is also increasing.

- £4,900 in Jan 2010
- £5,000 in Jan 2011
- £4,000 in July 2012
- £5,000 in Nov 2013

9. Officer Comments

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
9	Devizes and District Association for the Disabled	Hand dryers	£598

- I. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- II. The funding is to provide two new automatic electric hand dryers in the toilets to reduce use of paper hand towels
- III. As the application is for under £1k no match funding is required
- IV. Nursteed Centre is used by 15 groups of disabled people. Whilst the building is currently owned by Wiltshire Council, Devizes and District Association for the Disabled are responsible for the maintenance.

10. Officer comments

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
10	West Lavington Village Hall	Upgrade of hall	£3,278 towards a project costing £6,556

- I. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- II. The project is to upgrade lighting and carry out additional electrical works in the village hall.
- III. This is the first of 6 phases of work to upgrade the whole village hall
- IV. West Lavington Village Hall has applied for a grant already this financial year. However this was for the BMX track which is a different project

11. Officer comments

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
11	Cheverell Magna Parish Council	Purchase of marquee and tables	£900 towards a project costing £1,800

- I. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- II. The parish council wishes to purchase a marquee and 20 tables for use by village organisations for village events
- III. The Parish Council is providing 50% of the funding. As this is not a project that does not have to be financed from the parish precept, it can be considered by the area board

12. Officer comments

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
12	Devizes Eisteddfod	Purchase of staging	£1,703 towards a project costing £3,407

- I. This application meets the grants criteria and has been classified as a capital project
- II. The project is to purchase of a multi-level stage system to enhance the performance experience of the 1000+ young people from the Devizes area who take part in the annual Devizes Eisteddfod and its other events.
- III. The Eisteddfod receives its income from entry fees and only has enough reserves to commit to 50% of the costs
- IV. Over 1000 young people took part in the 2014 event. A staging system needed to be hired to accommodate the 'Young Choir of Wiltshire' satellite event. This was expensive and the decision has been taken to try and purchase one instead.

V. The staging will be housed at St Johns Church Devizes and being portable can be used by other local organisations in the area.

No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

Report Author	Richard Rogers Devizes Community Area Manager Tel: 01225 718626 E-mail Richard.rogers@wiltshire.gov.uk
----------------------	---