

Report to	Amesbury Area Board
Date of Meeting	30th July 2015
Title of Report	Area Board Funding

Purpose of Report

To ask councillors to consider 1 grant request:

1. Brambles Pre School – £900 towards a total project cost of £900 – To purchase and install new tables and chairs in the outside area.

1. Background

- 1.1. Area boards will allocate their delegated funds in accordance with any rules and guidance issued by the Leader of Wiltshire Council.
- 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. The community area grants budget has been approved for 2015/2016 for community area grants, digital literacy grants, community partnership core funding, area board operational funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.6. 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.

- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. 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.
- 1.9. There is 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. The application process and funding criteria can be found [here](#).
- 1.10. Area boards will not consider 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.
- 1.11. Officers provide advice on how the application meets with the scheme's criteria, but the decision to support applications is made by Amesbury area board councillors.
- 1.12. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting whilst there is money available.
- 1.13. 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 Amesbury 'Our Community Matters' [blog-site](#). Failure to evaluate projects will preclude applicants/organisations being considered for future funding.

Background documents used in the preparation of this report	Amesbury Area's Community Plan Priorities Amesbury Area Joint Strategic Assessment
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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 2015/2016 are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.3. There will be a further 3 area boards to consider funding in the 2015/16 financial year.

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 Amesbury 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 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 of the funding report.

8. Grant Requests

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1.	Brambles Pre School	To purchase and install tables and chairs	£900

- 8.1.1. This application is for £900 to purchase and install new tables and chairs in the outside area.
- 8.1.2. The application has been appraised by the Community Engagement Manager and meets the grants criteria.
- 8.1.3. This equipment will make the outside area more accessible to the children attending the pre- school.
- 8.1.4. This is a request for capital fund.
- 8.1.5. This equipment is needed to cater for the increase in numbers being experienced by the group.
- 8.1.6. If funding is not granted this project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

Appendices	Appendix 1 – Brambles Pre School
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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.

Report Author	Dave Roberts Community Engagement Manager Tel: 07979318504 Email: dave.roberts@wiltshire.gov.uk
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