

Report to	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	28 th July 2010
Title of Report	Community Area Grants

Agenda Item No.8a

Purpose of Report

To ask Councillors to consider 8 applications seeking 2010/2011 Community Area Grant Funding:

1. **Poulshot Village Trust** have applied for a grant of **£1489** towards a programme of planting large native species trees in the surrounding hedgerows. The recommendation is to award the funding.
2. **Wiltshire Guild of Spinners** have applied for a grant of **£1000** for the replacement of old wooden gates with metal security gates. The recommendation is to award the funding.
3. **St Mary's School Building management committee, Steeple Ashton** have applied for **£1370** towards improving the access to the site. The recommendation is to award the funding.
4. **Shaw and Whitley preschool** have applied for **£4000** towards the creation of an outside classroom/play area. This grant application was deferred at the area board on 3 February 2010. Planning permission has now been obtained. The recommendation is to award the funding.
5. **Melksham town cricket club** have applied for **£724** for youth equipment. The recommendation is to award the funding.
6. **Steeple Ashton village hall management committee** have applied for **£987** to relay the existing front path that is loose. The recommendation is to award the funding.
7. **Melksham community safety group** have applied for **£1000** to provide free Touch2ID cards to 350 18-25 year olds in the Melksham area. The recommendation is to award the funding.
8. **Melksham Without PC** have applied for **£3050** towards providing new allotments at Berryfield. The recommendation is to award the funding.

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 Community Services (27 February 2010). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance for funding.
- 1.2. In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, any recommendation of an Area Board that is contrary to the funding criteria would need the approval of the Leader, the appropriate Cabinet Member or the Cabinet.
- 1.3. In accordance with the Area Board Grants Guidance officers are required to provide recommendations in their report, however, the decision to support applications and to what level is made by Wiltshire Councillors on this Area Board.
- 1.4. EXAMPLE Two applicants withdrew their applications and hope to reapply at a future date. One application did not meet the funding criteria and was referred to Charities Information Bureau (CIB) for support to seek funding from elsewhere. CIB work on behalf of Wiltshire Council to support community and voluntary groups, town and parish councils to seek funding for community projects and schemes both from the Area Board and other local and national funding sources.
- 1.5. Funding applications will be considered at every other Area Board meeting.
- 1.6. Melksham Area Board has been allocated a 2010/2011 budget of £49,762 for community grants, community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. The carry forward from the 2009/2010 budget is £1,783. This leaves a total budget of £51,545 for the 2010/2011 budget.
- 1.7. A decision has been made in 2010/2011 that paper copies of funding applications will no longer appear as part of the agenda in an attempt to reduce volume of paper used. However, the application forms will be available on the Wiltshire Council web site and hard copies available upon request.
- 1.8. The 2010/2011 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website (www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards) or paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.

Background documents used in the preparation of this Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Area Grant Application Pack 20010/11• Melksham Community Strategy• Grant applications
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2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2010/11 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 2 more rounds of funding during 2010/11. The first is contained in this report the remaining will take place on 2nd February 2011. Although any grants that are time dependant can be brought to the area board meeting on Dec 1st.

3. Environmental & Community Implications

Community Area Grants will 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 Melksham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Melksham Area Board will have a balance of **£26,475**

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 give all local community and voluntary groups, Town and Parish Councils an equal opportunity to receive funding towards community based projects and schemes.
- 7.2. Implications relating to individual grant applications are outlined within section 8 – “Officer Recommendations”.

8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Poulshot Village Trust	Programme of planting large native species trees in the hedgerows	£1489

- 8.1.1. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.1.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.1.3. This application does not demonstrate a link to the Melksham community plan.
- 8.1.4. This application meets locally agreed priorities in the Poulshot conservation area statement.
- 8.1.5. The applicant is a non-profit community organisation.
- 8.1.6. This project is a programme of planting large native species trees, such as Oak, Ash and Large-leaved Lime trees in the hedgerows, especially those that border lanes and byways and some roadsides within the parish boundary.
- 8.1.7. No equality and inclusion issues will be addressed by the project
- 8.1.8. If the area board does not grant funding fewer trees would be planted in the early phases. The shortfall would be made up by extending planting into future years..

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2.	Wiltshire Guild of Spinners	Replacement of old wooden gates with metal security gates.	£1000

- 8.2.1. Recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.2.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.2.3. This application does not demonstrate a link to the Melksham community plan.
- 8.2.4. Locally agreed priorities: relieving pressure on the on-road parking outside the community shop and encouraging access and use of this important facility.
- 8.2.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.2.6. This project is part of a large project to improve the St Mary's School building. The

remaining work is to provide greater access and security to the premises, including the village community shop, by replacing the existing wooden gates which are in very poor condition. This will support the work being undertaken by the trustees in removing the barriers and allow access to the playground area for cars at the facility and relieve on-road congestion.

8.2.7. No equality and inclusion issues are addressed by this project.

8.2.8. If the area board does not grant funding the group would attempt to erect security gates with their own labour but feel that it is very important to preserve this building and the portacabins so that they do not fall into disrepair. The playground area could easily prove to be very vulnerable to casual parking and also anti-social activity. The security of the shop and the studios will be enhanced.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.3.	St Mary's School Building management committee	Towards improving access to the site.	£1370

8.3.1. Recommendation is to award the funding.

8.3.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11

8.3.3. The application does not demonstrate a link to the Community Plan.

8.3.4. Locally agreed priorities: relieving pressure on the on-road parking outside the community shop and encouraging access and use of this important facility.

8.3.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.

8.3.6. To improve access to comply with planning permission for the provision of car park facilities which involves widening the existing gateway and converting railings to double bifold gates; lowering existing entrance and manhole and adjusting slabs and setts on pavement.

8.3.7. Equality and inclusion issues: improved access for elderly and disabled.

8.3.8. If the area board does not grant funding then the group would need to raise funds from the community.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
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8.4.	Shaw and Whitney preschool	The creation of an outside classroom/play area	£4000
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- 8.4.1. This grant application was deferred at the area board on 3 February 2010. Planning permission has now been obtained. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.4.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.4.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan in terms of fulfilling young children's potential.
- 8.4.4. No locally agreed priorities identified.
- 8.4.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.4.6. The overall project is to create an outside classroom/ playarea and wildlife conservation area. This would allow the young children that use the play school to play outside in a safe environment. It would also help the group meet OFSTED requirements.
- 8.4.7. No equality and inclusion issue will be addressed by this project
- 8.4.8. If the area board does not grant funding the project will not go ahead until alternative funding is found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.5.	Melksham town cricket club	Purchase of youth equipment.	£724

- 8.5.1. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.5.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.5.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan in terms of providing the youth with sports facilities that are "free to learn".
- 8.5.4. Locally agreed priorities – the club ran after school sessions to help the young get involved, get fit, get active and have somewhere safe to socialise and enjoy themselves.
- 8.5.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.

- 8.5.6. This project is to purchase youth equipment. The club currently provide free sessions for the youth which is funded by the adult Wilts league teams. The sessions are available to all ages and both genders. If they improve the services they hope to increase the numbers taking part.
- 8.5.7. Equality and inclusion issues: The youth session is open to all ages, gender and disability. The sessions are free and accessible to all.
- 8.5.8. If the area board does not grant funding then the club would have to continue to raise money until they are able to eventually put it in place and hopefully in the meantime the youth players will continue to come and use the club. This would delay the club's growth plans and deny the youth of Melksham to develop cricket skills.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.6.	Steeple Ashton village hall management committee	Relaying the existing front path.	£987

- 8.6.1. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.6.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.6.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan in terms of providing equal access to community facilities.
- 8.6.4. Locally agreed priorities – people with wheelchairs and those with walking difficulties complained that the path was hard to use and dangerous.
- 8.6.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.
- 8.6.6. This project is to improve access for elderly and disabled people by relaying the existing front path that is loose.
- 8.6.7. Equality and inclusion issues: improved access for elderly/disabled.
- 8.6.8. If the area board does not grant funding then the organisation would have to use their own resources. However they are saving up to replace the roof in 1 to 2 years time.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.7.	Melksham community safety group	Provision of free Touch2ID cards to 350 18-25 years old in the Melksham area.	£1000

8.7.1. The recommendation is to award the funding.

8.7.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11

8.7.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan in terms of improving community safety by reducing underage drinking.

8.7.4. Locally agreed priorities – alcohol related anti social behaviour has been highlighted as a policing priority. This is issue 1225 on the issues tracker.

8.7.5. The applicant is a not for profit organisation, a subgroup of Melksham Community Area Partnership.

8.7.6. This project is to promote the use of Touch2ID in Melksham after the successful takeup in Trowbridge. Touch2id is a new way to prove age for 18-25 year olds that uses a single fingerprint sensor (biometric reader) instead of your picture to prove you are 18 or over. The free card or mobile sticker can be used across pubs, clubs and shops in town when you are buying age restricted items such as cigarettes and alcohol. Its quick and easy to use and it means no-one has to scrutinize your picture, know who you are or where you live. The Touch2id cards and stickers use 'contactless' technology as used in some of the latest credit cards or London's Oystercard for Tube travel. This enables data on smartcards to be securely read 'over-the-air' using RFID. This 'contactless' technology will also be found in the next generation of smart phones equipped with Near Field Communications (NFC) to enable mobile commerce (m-commerce). The promotion of this scheme will help the police and local businesses to ensure that people underage are not served restricted goods and hopefully reduce alcohol related anti social behaviour.

8.7.7. Equality and inclusion issues: none

8.7.8. If the area board does not grant funding then people would have to buy their own cards themselves (RRP £5) and the scheme would take longer to get established in Melksham.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.8.	Melksham Without PC	Provision of facilities to provide new allotments at Berryfield.	£3050

- 8.8.1. The recommendation is to award the funding.
- 8.8.2. Application meets grant criteria 2010/11
- 8.8.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan in terms of providing economic benefit for residents as well as encourage healthy and active lifestyles.
- 8.8.4. Locally agreed priorities –the parish council has had a waiting list of over 30 people for over 2 years.
- 8.8.5. The applicant is a parish council.
- 8.8.6. This project is to provide 36 new allotment plots on land off Berryfield Lane, Melksham without. The funding would go towards facilities to make the land viable as allotments such as connection to the water mains, fencing, legal fees and a front gate and lock.
- 8.8.7. Equality and inclusion issues: none.
- 8.8.8. If the area board does not grant funding then the parish council say that they would not be able to provide new allotments.

Appendices:	Appendix 1 Grant application – Poulshot Village Trust Appendix 2 Grant application – Wiltshire Guild of Spinners Appendix 3 Grant application – St Mary’s School building management committee Appendix 4 Grant application – Shaw and Whitney pre school Appendix 5 Grant application – Melksham Town Cricket Club Appendix 6 Grant application – Steeple Ashton village hall Appendix 7 Grant application – Melksham community safety group Appendix 8 Grant application - Melksham without PC

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

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