

Report to	Melksham Area Board
Date of Meeting	11 <sup>th</sup> December 2013
Title of Report	Community Funding

Purpose of report: To ask Councillors to consider 12 community area grant applications and 7 councillor led initiatives
Melksham 1 <sup>st</sup> Bowerhill Scouts New Minibus requesting £5,000
MTS WIFI Signal For Melksham- £450
Melksham Community Apple Press -£500
Self Defence Training – Atworth Youth Club - £300
Melksham Link Interpretation Boards - £500
Sports Equipment Atworth Youth Club - £305
Semington Village Hall New Disabled Toilet modernising existing Toilets - £2,000
Social Isolation IT project - £499
Melksham Comic Con Office Setup - £2,500
Broughton Gifford Village Magazine Replacement Laptop -£500

Steeple Ashton Studios Access to Main Premises -£2,000

Atworth Village Hall Decorating inside and out - £2,000  
Bowerhill Benches and Bins project - £2510(£24064)

**Councillor initiatives**

Semington Joint football match – Cllr Seed - £500  
Broughton Gifford Pre School Laptop and printer - Cllr Chivers -£200 + laptop  
Broughton Gifford Art for over 60s – Cllr Chivers -£250  
Atworth over 55 tea Group- Cllr Chivers -£760  
Melksham Food Bank – Cllr Chivers - £500  
You Decide Event for Young People – Cllr Hubbard - £1,200  
Youth worker and funding for 2014 You Decide Event – Cllr Hubbard £5,000 (£8410)

## 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. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.5. Melksham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £56,737 capital for community grants, and £14,492 revenue for community partnership core funding and councillor led initiatives. Allocation of funding has been made at previous Area Boards and Melksham Area Board has £50,072 Capital and £992 revenue left.( £51064)
- 1.6. A decision has been made in 2012/2013 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.
- 1.7. The 2012/2013 funding criteria now stipulates that only Capital funding is available and the criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards))

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Area Grant Application Pack 2012/13</li><li>• Melksham Community Area Plan</li></ul>
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## 2. Main Considerations

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2012/13 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 1 further round of funding during 2013/14. The next Area Boards take place on 12th February 2014

### **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 £18590

### **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, 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
9	Atworth Village Hall	To redecorate the village hall	£2,000

- 9.1.2. The application meets the grant criteria 2012/13

- 9.1.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan with regard to supporting community activities. The Outside of the Atworth Village Hall has not

been decorating and refurbished for many years. The current woodwork desperately need oiling and in several places wood needs to be replaced to stop the rot and for the hall to be returned to a good state. The inside of the hall has also not be decorated for many years and it looking old and dated. They need to re-paint it to encourage the current users to keep using the hall and to attract new users

9.1.4. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.

9.1.5. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will need to find funding elsewhere.

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.2	Melksham Town Sound	WIFI Signal For Melksham-	£450

9.2.2 The application meets the grant criteria 2012/13

9.2.3. The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan: ensure inclusion of all and raise the community spirit asking for A WIFI Signal for the community of Melksham. So people can listen to the station FREE around town on any device which has WIFI. i.e WIFI Radio / Mobile Phone / Laptop etc..

9.1.6. The application meets locally agreed/area board priorities

9.1.7. The applicant is a not for profit organisation.

9.1.8. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will need to find more funds to progress

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Melksham Community -	Apple Press	£500

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan - promoting activities This request is for a small grant to enable the already very successful Melksham Community Apple Pressing days to reach more people and potentially expand to encompass other villages in the Melksham Community Area Melksham

Community Apple Pressing Day was first held in October 2012 at Well House Manor in Melksham using a small 12 litre press owned by the group's secretary. The event was held again in 2013 and despite borrowing a second (9 litre) press from the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, a combination of good weather on the day, a good crop of apples, and much positive publicity both after the 2012 event and in advance of the 2013 event meant that we were overwhelmed by the response. Over 60 people attended, from all age-groups and right across the Melksham community area, including the outlying villages.

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

Ref 9.5	Applicant Atworth Youth Club	Project proposal Self Defence Training	Funding requested - £300
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9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.5.2. Atworth Youth Club wishes to run a self defence class run by an expert Matthew Hill of Wiltshire Martial Art. This class teaches the children avoidance techniques and techniques to help defend themselves in the event of being threatened. We ran the course last year and it was a really good day. The children got a lot out of the day, learning valuable life skills, that one day could help them to keep safe. They really enjoyed the experience, some of them so much that they joined Wiltshire Martial Arts to take up a new sport

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
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9.4	Melksham Link -	Interpretation Boards	£500
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9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan-To install 2 Interpretation Boards in Melksham, one near the Town Bridge by the proposed towpath (and current footpath) and one by the Town Weir. The purpose of the Boards being to inform the Melksham Community and visitors of details of the proposed canal link between the Kennet & Avon Canal at Semington and the River Avon at Melksham plus plans for restoration of the canal beyond Melksham towards Abingdon, as far as possible using the historic route of the Wilts & Berks Canal

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded.

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	1st Bowerhill Scout -	Group Minibus	£5,000

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan - 1st Bowerhill Scout Group currently supports the extracurricular activities and development of 50+ children living in and around Bowerhill. The group perform both indoor and out door activities and in order to provide a safe, controlled and financially robust service a 17 seat minibus would allow the group to perform more thought provoking activities. These will provide the young people of Bowerhill access to new experiences and a chance to develop as members of the community and young leaders of the future. This will truly allow the group to put the out in Scouting.

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded.

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Atworth Youth Club -	Sports Equipment	£305

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan - promoting activities  
The children who attend the Atworth Youth Club would like to have some sports equipment. They would like to purchase footballs and 2 foldable goalposts as there is a keen interest in playing football and because it is a team sport it works well to get the children playing together. They would also like some new table tennis bats and balls to use with the 2 table tennis tables they have.

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Semington Village Hall	New Disabled Toilet modernising existing Toilets	- £2,000

9.4 1 The officer recommends

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan - promoting activities

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues



9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Over 55 project Social Isolation IT project - £499	Provision of IT	£499

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan – the over 55 Club would like to extend an IT service for older people to the Melksham area. It will include training seniors in IT and provide face to face links to family and friends at distant parts. An Air Ipad with with facetime software and Wi-Fi + Cellular facilities is ideal allowing connections to the Internet using a fast mobile data connection when Wi-Fi isnt available

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation Older & vulnerable people within our community The Aims and Objectives of Melksham & District Seniors 55+ Forum are to:

Promote the welfare and interests of older people within the Melksham Community Area by promoting active ageing. Support the developments of a progressive social and culture environment aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of our local ageing society, aimed also in reducing social isolation particularly in our rural parishes. To provide a platform where matters of concern to older people can be raised and policies developed. By actively engaging and working in partnership with service providers. To act as a local umbrella organisation making meaningful representation to local, regional, national and governmental agencies and other organisations involved with the concerns of older people. To raise the profile of the needs, values and interests of senior citizens in the area of benefit and to speak up about social, economic and community issues that affect senior citizens. To act and active ageing. Support the developments of a progressive social and culture environment aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of our local ageing society, aimed also in reducing social isolation particularly in our rural parishes. To provide a platform where matters of concern to older people can be raised and policies developed. By actively engaging and working in partnership with service providers. To act as a local umbrella organisation making meaningful representation to local, regional, national and governmental agencies and other organisations involved with the concerns of older people. To raise the profile of the needs, values and interests of senior citizens in the area of benefit and to speak up about social, economic and community issues that affect senior citizens. To act and engage in ensuring Melksham remains a safe and accessible built environment To combat ageism and promote a positive image of older people regardless of colour and creed. To identify and assist those vulnerable and hard to reach older people groups in our society. Act as an information source for older people within the Melksham Community Promote policies as they affect older persons and generally put forward the views of senior citizens and pensioners To promote and assist with opportunities for senior citizens to support intergenerational and cultural activities To provide information to senior

citizens and to publish a newsletter To be democratic, non-sectarian and non-profit making organisation It shall be non-party-political and shall be able to act and liaise but not be controlled by any local authority organisation or national government The seniors are also keen to provide opportunities for older people themselves to be more involved in our community. Such activities can be invaluable in overcome loneliness and become more active in various ways that will help slow down the ageing process and improve their own health. A recent health report highlights that keeping the brain and body actively engaged helps to reduce the numbers of falls and can help to delay dementia for many seniors. Creation of a Job and Shed club by seniors actively supporting the development of skill training for young people

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Melksham Comic Con -	Office Setup	£2,500

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan - promoting activities as Melksham Comic Con continues to expand, they are finding a need for a dedicated workspace for their team to ensure the best work is done. Our major project for 2014 is to obtain and setup an office for our organisation

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

9.3.1 Officer recommends the application is awarded

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Broughton Gifford Village Magazine	Replacement Laptop	£500

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14, was brought before the Area Board at a previous meeting and the group were given a lap top from Wiltshire Council that

was subsequently returned.

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Steeple Ashton Studios Access to Main Premises	Stair Lift to promote access for all	-£2000

9.4 1 The officer recommends this grant it awarded

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan

9.4.4. The applicants are a not- for- profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues The Wiltshire Guild's occupation of St Mary's School building in 2010 has been very successful and now offers a full programme for local residents as well as Wiltshire and beyond. We have re-furbished the main Victorian school premises and established a thriving weaving and dyeing studio in the two portacabins. Access to these has been enabled with a purpose built disabled ramp. However, the main school building is the venue for many other courses which attract over 100 members. Unfortunately, access is by a staircase and now posing a problem for some of our older members who particularly benefit from this facility. We wish to install a stairlift to open up our facility to everyone.

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

Ref	Applicants	Project proposal	Funding requested
9.4	Bowerhill residents action group	Benches and bins	£2510

9.4 1 The officer recommends this grant it awarded

9.4.2 The application meets the criteria for grants 2013/14

9.4.3 The application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan

9.4.4. The applicants are a not-for-profit organisation.

9.4.5. The project addresses equality and inclusion issues Melksham Youth Advisory Group produced a video highlighting the need for bins and benches on Bowerhill. They subsequently met with the Bowerhill residents action group, (BRAG), who have agreed to work with YAG. Melksham Without Parish Council have agreed to support the project, Melksham charities have agreed a grant of £500, and TESCO express have agreed to sponsor a bench. Further sponsorship is being invited. Some benches are intended to be placed adjacent to the MUGA being paid for by Persimmon, others on the main pedestrian route through Bowerhill to Melksham Oak. This project is intended to benefit all members of the community, and as mentioned a number of groups have come together to achieve this. BRAG especially welcome the fact that younger members of the community have taken the lead on this. In addition, they will seek additional sponsorship, for benches from individuals, (for example benches as memorials), and also businesses, and ask MWOPC to insure and maintain equipment. Benches will cost £580 each to supply and install and we are looking to provide nine in total. So far one local business has agreed to sponsor the project, and a grant has been approved by Melksham charities. The shortfall we intend to make up through inviting additional sponsorship.

9.4.6. Should the Area Board make a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed as further funding will need to be sought

### **Councillor initiatives**

9.6.1. Semington Joint football match – Cllr Seed - £500 to help improve relationships between the settled community and the traveller community

Broughton Gifford Pre School Laptop and printer - Cllr Chivers -£200 + laptop to provide IT equipment and a vital learning aid for the children

Broughton Gifford Art for over 60s – Cllr Chivers -£250 replace art equipment to keep members interested in the community and active

Atworth over 55 tea Group- Cllr Chivers -£760 -4chairs suitable for the elderly and infirm 6 tables for cards and felt for the group of 20 older people to assist with loneliness and to provide an activity in the local community

Melksham Food Bank – Cllr Chivers - £500 Supporting the move of Melksham Foodbank who work to alleviate poverty in the local community

You Decide Event for Young People – Cllr Hubbard - £1,200 – to provide additional funding to support the You decide event projects that came to extended services' participatory budgeting event in November 2013

Youth worker and funding for 2014 You Decide Event – Cllr Hubbard £5,000 (£8410)

<b>Appendices:</b>	

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

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