

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Corsham Area Board</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>24 May 2012</b>
<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>Area Board Grants</b>

## **Purpose of Report**

To ask Councillors to consider 2 applications seeking 20012/13 Community Area Grant Funding and to update on the awards made towards the Jubilee and Olympic celebrations.

1. Box Rock Circus Project. Award £1,046 towards total cost £13,890 to construct an educational facility that will show how rocks formed and uses of rocks - clues to plate tectonic movement/geological time - evolution of life - dinosaur footprints to tell stories - fossils - minerals - history of Box Stone. Conditional upon balance of funds and any necessary.
2. Wiltshire Scrapstore and Resource Centre. Award £1,000 towards total cost £1,000 to create activity packs for children to make a reminder of the Olympics and Jubilee celebrations.

## **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 (4 April 2012). Under the Scheme of Delegation Area Boards must adhere to the Area Board Grants Guidance 2012/2013.
- 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 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. Likewise, Small Grants (new this year) should be awarded to similar groups, as well as un-constituted groups of people wanting to improve things near to where they live.
- 1.4. Corsham Area Board has been allocated a 2012/2013 budget of £43,772 for community grants, small grants, community partnership core funding and area board/councillor led initiatives.
- 1.5. Applications of up to and including £1,000 can be made for a Community Area Grant, which will not require matched funding. Amounts of £1,000 - £5000 will be required to find matched funding. The area board will rarely award more than £5,000.
- 1.6. Small Grants, new for this year will fund up to £350, where the total cost of the project does not exceed £350. This grant is aimed at enabling groups (including those not formally constituted) to implement projects, involving local people to make their community a better place to live.
- 1.7. 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.
- 1.8. In addition to CAGs and Small 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. The application process and form has been updated to bring it in line with the other grants.
- 1.9. Officers are required to provide recommendations in their funding reports (except in

the case of Area Board/Councillor led initiatives), although the decision to support applications is made by Wiltshire Councillors on the Area Board.

- 1.10. Funding applications will be considered at every Area Board meeting.
- 1.11. Applicants are encouraged to contact and seek funding help from Charities Information Bureau (CIB) who work on behalf of Wiltshire Council. CIB 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.
- 1.12. 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.
- 1.13. The 2012/2013 funding criteria and application forms are available on the council's website ([www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/areaboards)) and paper versions are available from the Community Area Manager.
- 1.14. A decision was 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.
- 1.15. 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.
- 1.16. A budget ring-fenced for the needs of young people will again be made available in 2012/2013. How this will be allocated will be the decision of the area board.

<b>Background documents used in the preparation of this Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Board Grant Guidance 2012/13 as presented for delegated decision</li><li>• Corsham Community Area Plan</li><li>• Corsham Joint Strategic Needs Document</li></ul>
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## **2. Main Considerations**

- 2.1. Councillors will need to be satisfied that grants awarded in the 2011/12 year are made to projects that can realistically proceed within a year of the award being made.
- 2.2. There will be 5 further rounds of funding during 2012/2013. The first is contained in this report the remaining will take place on;
  - 26 July 2012
  - 20 September 2012
  - 22 November 2012
  - 24 January 2013
  - 21 March 2013

## **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 Corsham Area Board.
- 4.2. If grants are awarded in line with officer recommendations, Corsham Area Board will have a balance of £36,726.

## **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 are outlined within section 8 – Officer Recommendations.

## 8. Officer recommendations

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.1	Box Rock Circus	Box Rock Circus	£1,046

- 8.1.1. Award £1,046 towards a total project cost of £13,890 to construct an educational facility that will show how rocks formed and uses of rocks - clues to plate tectonic movement/geological time - evolution of life - dinosaur footprints to tell stories - fossils - minerals - history of Box Stone. Conditional upon balance of funds and any necessary planning permissions being agreed.
- 8.1.2. This application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.1.3. This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan.” Circus could be part of a footpath trail - it will give enhanced facilities for young people (including all social groups) - support for local shops”.
- 8.1.4. This group, is a locally formed group brought together to deliver this project so is big society in action. This group is fully supported by Box Parsih Council and permission has been granted for the group to proceed.
- 8.1.5. If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project the project will be delayed until alternative funding can be found.

Ref	Applicant	Project proposal	Funding requested
8.2	Wiltshire Scrapstore and Resource Centre	Jubilee and Olympic celebration craft packs	£1,000

- 8.2.1 Award £1,000 to Wiltshire Scrapstore to provide educational packs to children in the Corsham Community Area.
- 8.2.2 This application meets grant criteria 2012/13.
- 8.2.3 This application demonstrates a link to the Community Plan “Craft packs comprise materials previously destined for landfill which contributes to reducing, reusing and recycling materials” also “activities for children and yopung people”.
- 8.2.5 This group is a well established group and are well respected across the whole of Wiltshire.

8.2.6 This project is about providing community groups within the Corsham area with creative activity packs which will enable them to undertake celebration activities with the children in their groups throughout this summer during the jubilee and Olympics. These packs contain enough resources for up to 30 children to take part in the activity and will allow individual creativity to their own level depending on age and ability. These packs are designed to give the children an end product which they can take home and keep as a memorable childhood activity to represent their celebrations of 2012.

8.2.7 If the Area Board makes a decision not to fund the project it will be delayed until alternative funding can be found which might result in the project falling out of the time frame planned.

## **9. Delegated Decision Jubilee Funding**

9.1 At the Corsham Area Board meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 a decision was made to set aside up to £5,000 from 2012/2013 budget to assist community groups and Town and Parish Councils who wanted to stage events to celebrate the Queens Jubilee or Olympics. Several applications were received prior to the deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> April. Corsham Area Board members met with the Community Area Manager on 19<sup>th</sup> April to consider these applications

9.2 A total of 7 applications were made. These were:

Neston Memorial Hall - £250

Colerne - £1,2500

Box - £3,000

Katherine Park Residents Association - £718

St Aldhelm's Church - £150

Corsham Town Council - £1,250

Priory Gardens Street Party - £400

The Community Area Manager, in consultation with the Area Board members, decided to fund all the above applications as follows:

Neston Memorial Hall - £250

Colerne - £1,000

Box - £1,000

Katherine Park Residents association - £718

St Aldhelm's Church - £150

Corsham Town Council - £1,000

Priory Gardens Street Party - £400

Reason for approval. All applicants fitted the criteria.

Reason for approval of less than requested. That Colerne, Box and Corsham Town Council bids had opportunities to apply for other funds.

The total funds agreed were - £4,518 from the £5,000 agreed for distribution.

<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>Appendix 1 Grant application – Box Rock Project</b> <b>Appendix 2 Grant application – Wiltshire Scrapstore and Resource Centre</b>
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No unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report.

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