

PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT PANEL MEETING

6th January 2011

Present: John Thomson; Bill Dowling; Stephen Hedley; Steve Richards; Sharon Britton; Karen Spence; Niki Lewis.

Notes of last meeting and matters arising

1. The notes of the previous meeting were agreed.
2. Karen distributed a revised document and updated everyone on how much there was available to allocate at this meeting. She also circulated an analysis of successful and unsuccessful bids by Area Boards. It was suggested that reasons for the successfulness or otherwise would be helpful to have and that this paper should be published after some additional work had been completed, to categorise the unsuccessful bids. It was also suggested that information about the amount of money raised from other sources was included in this document. It was also pointed out that the quality of the bids is so important in determining the outcome.
3. Karen will liaise with Comms re publicising the success of the scheme.
4. To bring to the next meeting – What is the value of the bids remaining in the ‘deferred’ pot?

Update on previous bids

5. **Bemerton Heath Neighbourhood Centre** – This is progressing well and their planning permission should be going through towards the end February with completion of the extension currently scheduled for July 2011. It was agreed by the Panel that if permission is granted, to save time, they would progress the final decision on the amount of funding to be allocated via e-mail, instead of having to wait for a meeting.

BIDS FOR CONSIDERATION

6. 7 bids were submitted for the Panel to consider at this meeting, and their decisions are shown below:

Application No. 68 Amesbury Area Board Bid: £41,737	<u>Wyndham Community Hall</u> Brief Description of Initiative: Until last year the Wyndham Community Hall was a derelict British Legion Hall in the centre of Amesbury. This new initiative will refurbish the Wyndham Community Hall for use as a community centre for the town, parish and people of Amesbury and its surrounding villages. It will provide a much needed hub where people of all ages and backgrounds will join together to enjoy life, give and receive support, and work for the good of others; and it will seek to promote links between the military and civilian communities in the area. Twenty-four of Amesbury’s established voluntary groups, which jointly promote health, welfare, companionship, charity, care and quality of life, already support the project. Evidence suggests that over 2000 people will directly benefit from this facility each year.
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	<p>Panel Views:</p> <p>The bid includes a list of other sources of funding but not all of this is finalised. This includes the sale of Melor Hall which will be providing a significant portion of the funding. There is good evidence of community support and a significant amount of funding has been raised from elsewhere in a short space of time. There is good evidence of community support and the panel discussed that the evidence suggests the building will get a lot of use.</p> <p>Because of the condition and position of the building, it was possible to purchase it at a reduced price. It is not an option to knock the building down and start again, this would cost considerably more. Concern was expressed about what would happen if Melor Hall doesn't sell; the project have a contingency plan and will be underwritten by the Church so will still be able to proceed.</p> <p>The panel queried the statement in the bid that the community own the Hall. This needs to be clarified, how is the ownership arranged – is it a Trust or perhaps a management committee?</p> <p>The bid states that the plans are sustainable in terms of energy. The panel would also like some re-assurance about future running costs and were surprised about the selection of gas for heating – this does not seem to be the most sustainable option. Have they thought about this?</p> <p>The panel would also like re-assurance about the disability/personal care facilities which are planned; they would expect to see more than just disabled toilets included in order to really make the facility accessible to the whole community.</p> <p>The panel have approved this bid subject to satisfactory information being provided to the performance team as outlined above.</p> <p>This scheme has good potential.</p> <p>Decision: Approved</p> <p>Total to be offered: £41,737</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
<p>Application No. 69</p> <p>Chippenham Area Board</p> <p>Bid: £8,412</p>	<p><u>Pewsham Canal Corridor</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>To enhance the area for the local community and wildlife following the dredging and re-watering of a 1200 metre stretch of the Wilts and Berks Canal at Pewsham. Interpretation boards will be installed explaining the heritage of the canal site covering the 3 locks still to be restored with dry dock, saw pit and cottage, and railings will be erected around the restored 18th/19th Century Spillweir, extra benches for walkers will be provided and bird and bat boxes to encourage nesting. A wildflower meadow of about an acre will also be planted in a field running down to the river from the canal.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>Potential large impact for amount. No feedback has been received from the Environmental Alliance which is a shame as they are the most likely partnership to have an interest in this bid. The bid is well developed with</p>

	<p>good links to ambitions.</p> <p>This is part of a big restoration project which is in progress on the Chippenham stretch of canal and considerable work has already been completed.</p> <p>The panel would be interested to know what money has been spent on the wider project so far, in order to set this bid in context.</p> <p>It was commented that the cost of the wildflower seed seemed expensive and the panel wondered whether they may not be able to arrange a better deal with a local business.</p> <p>There was also some concern about what procurement processes have been used and whether quotes had been obtained. The bid does not give any details about how many information boards they will be placing for the £5000 quoted in the bid.</p> <p>The panel have approved this bid subject to further information being provided to the performance team about the queries outlined above and some benchmarking being conducted to establish how much other organisations (e.g. Wiltshire Wildlife) pay for these kind of boards.</p> <p>The panel confirmed they would expect to be providing at least 5 boards for the £5000 quoted.</p> <p>Decision: Approved subject to satisfactory answers to the above queries and benchmarking.</p> <p>Total to be offered: £8,412</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager and conduct benchmarking as outlined above.</p>
<p>Application No. 70</p> <p>Chippenham Area Board</p> <p>Bid: £85,000</p>	<p><u>SNAP Hydrotherapy Pool</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>To build and equip a dual-use hydrotherapy pool for the use of St Nicholas School and for others within the community who can benefit from its use. St Nicholas is a Local Authority all-age day school for children with severe and profound learning difficulties, many of whom also have physical disabilities. The school is in Chippenham and the pool will be built in the school grounds.</p> <p>In out of school hours the pool will be available for use by other children and adults with disabilities, either as individuals or as groups.</p> <p>There is no other hydrotherapy pool within the area.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>There is good evidence in the bid of community support and the project has raised considerable funding already. Some concern was expressed about the potential use of a business partner to provide the community element of the usage. The project has confirmed they would ensure any such contract included clauses to ensure the community elements would remain affordable and that the ethos of the project is not compromised. They are to use £100,000 towards the project from LEA.</p> <p>There was some discussion around whether this project was a priority given that Wiltshire Council's Leisure Services review may see some leisure centres closing or transferring to community ownership.</p>

	<p>The panel agreed that this was an important facility and something that we should have at least one of in the county (currently the only facilities available are in Swindon and Bath). These are very specialist pools which cost a considerable amount to build and run, and this would seem to be a good way of funding it as so much of the money has been raised within the community.</p> <p>The panel were surprised that there was little in the current business plan to explain how they will run this as a business, particularly around the community use element. They would want to see more information about this.</p> <p>The panel would also want to see evidence of the commitment from the community groups who would be likely to use the community element of the facility (e.g. stroke groups) just to help establish that there is a demand for this amongst the groups of people identified in the bid.</p> <p>It was also suggested that the project may like to build up networks with other hydrotherapy pools in the region to learn from what they find successful in running such a facility.</p> <p>The panel decided that if this project is sustainable then it could be a good model for future provision of similar facilities.</p> <p>Decision: Approved on condition that the Performance Team receive satisfactory answers/information as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the project provides evidence of how they will ensure the wider community use element is successful and of commitment to use from community groups to establish level of need. • How will they guarantee access outside of the school? • Confirmation that any profit made from the pool will simply contribute to future running costs/improvements and developments. <p>Total to be offered: £85,000</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
<p>Application No. 71 Chippenham Area Board Bid: £75,000</p>	<p><u>Stanley Park Sports Ground</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>A new extension onto the existing changing block, this will consist of 4-6 extra changing rooms and a larger meeting/social room. This will provide the community teams and community clubs and organisations who currently use the facility somewhere safe to change and socialise, as the site has grown from 20 teams in 2004 to 70 in 2009. The goal is to have all teams and clubs calling Stanley Park their home venue all year round, for playing and social use, and give the site a multi use goal encouraging more of the community to use the site going forward. A new Floodlit 3rd Generation Synthetic full size pitch (artificial turf pitch). This new all weather pitch will help develop sport across the town and encourage locals to be more active and continue sports during the winter months, in addition it will give 60 teams a place to train safely, and keep active during this period, but will also ensure that the sports ground will be available all year round. This will also provide Wiltshire Council with its first 3rd Generation</p>

	<p>All weather pitch in their area.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>The panel felt that this project could not show a sufficient level of impact for the large amount bid for. The bid did not show evidence of much in the way of general or community involvement/support. There are other clubs etc providing similar facilities in the area – at least 3 that the panel were aware of. Whilst Thematic Delivery Partnerships were generally supportive of the bid, it was commented that this part of the county is pretty well provided for with sports facilities</p> <p>It was considered that this bid did not meet the PRG criteria as it showed insufficient level of impact for the amount of funding requested.</p> <p>Decision: Not supported</p> <p>Total to be offered: N/A</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
<p>Application No. 72</p> <p>Salisbury Area Board</p> <p>Bid: £150,000</p>	<p><u>Salisbury and South Wilts Sports Club</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>S&SWSC, which provides cricket, hockey, rugby, soccer, orienteering, golf and croquet facilities, plans to establish a multi-sport Hub Club in accordance with the Sport England model to support and promote a range of amateur sports across South Wiltshire.</p> <p>To realise the Hub Club vision they would like to replace the current dated and totally unsuitable clubhouse facility with a new pavilion providing improved changing and social areas and as a base for a full-time Sports Development Officer to support the club-based member sections and fulfil a wider role in the community in programmes for club, player, coach, official and volunteer development.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>It was apparent from the application that not all funding has been secured yet and that some of the funding may be in jeopardy as they have not met the timescales set by Sport England. We need confirmation of the answers to the questions already posed by the Performance team plus some additional information about who owns the facility and whether this will be a profit making enterprise?</p> <p>The panel felt that it was not possible for them to make a decision on this bid given its current level of development and the fact that several questions remain unanswered. If the bidders can provide a better developed bid including the answers to our questions then the panel can look at the bid again</p> <p>This is a huge amount of money and the bidders will need to show a significant level of impact for it to be successful. The panel would like to be able to support this bid but would need to see a much more comprehensive application in order to do so. There was also some concern that there was little justification in the bid as to why such an expensive facility was necessary – would it not be possible to provide something less ambitious at a much lower cost?</p> <p>Decision: Deferred to the next meeting</p>

	<p>Total to be offered: N/A</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
<p><u>The following two bids originated from Malmesbury Area Board of which Cllr Thomson is the chair. Cllr Thomson gave some brief background on these two bids and then left the room to enable the decision to be made by the remaining three panel members.</u></p>	
<p>Application No. 73</p> <p>Malmesbury Area Board</p> <p>Bid: £20,000</p>	<p><u>Amateur Boxing Club</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>To raise the building by 1.3 metres providing flooding protection at Malmesbury Amateur Boxing Club's headquarters, along with equipment replacement. To provide disabled and female access and facilities for increased participation for all. For many years the club's premises have been subject to flood damage particularly during the winter months due to the nearby river overflowing onto the Flying Monk field. As a result professional advice taken suggests that the club should raise the building to stop further flood damage and the resulting constant closures due to flooding damage.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>It is apparent from the bid that the building in really poor shape.</p> <p>The panel asked whether the club could be run out of another facility but were advised that the nature of the facility meant that this was far better provided where it is and that storage would be an issue if they were using other facilities. A real cross-section of people use this facility, it is very popular and seems to be well supported by the community. Much of the work will be done by local people and volunteers.</p> <p>The panel had some queries about the lifting/raising of the building and felt they wanted more information about how this would be done. The feeling was that this didn't seem to be a lot of money for the level of work which may be necessary. The panel wish to be re-assured that the work that is done will solve the flooding issue and help to preserve the building in the long-term rather than simply repairing the damage that has already been done. The panel would also expect to see quotations for the work; if elements of this are being done free of charge by volunteers it will need to be clear which bits</p> <p>The panel also requested some information about who owns the building and are the club paying any rent.</p> <p>The panel are generally supportive of this bid but would like to defer a decision until this information has been provided.</p> <p>Decision: Deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>Total to be offered:</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
<p>Application No. 74</p> <p>Malmesbury Area Board</p> <p>Bid: £56,580</p>	<p><u>Eilmer Bridge</u></p> <p>Brief Description of Initiative:</p> <p>The initiative is to build a bridge across the River Avon in Malmesbury linking Brooky Lane with the Old Station Yard Car Park. This ground</p>

	<p>breaking approach will (primarily) provide easy access for local residents of the Westport area of Malmesbury to the available parking in the long stay car park in Old Station Yard. This is intended to reduce the current chronic car parking/congestion difficulties in the Westport area. In the 1000th anniversary year of the celebration of Elmer's attempted flight it has been proposed that the bridge be named 'Elmer Bridge' as a memorial.</p> <p>Panel Views:</p> <p>Thematic Delivery Partnership views were that this was not a priority and that potentially there could be lots of environmental issues re conservation etc that would need to be resolved before planning permission would be granted.</p> <p>It was felt that this bid did not meet the criteria for PRG as it shows insufficient level of impact (for relatively few people in the community) in relation to the amount of funding requested. There could be other options to ease the congestion and the residents could possibly consider asking the Council to designate this as a resident's only parking area.</p> <p>Decision: Not supported</p> <p>Total to be offered: N/A</p> <p>ACTION: Karen Spence to inform Community Area Manager.</p>
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Any other business

None

The next PRG Panel meeting is an outstanding issues meeting for this tranche to be held on Tuesday 1st February 2011 at 10am.