

Date: 29 October 2008

TO: All Members of the Abingdon Area  
Committee  
FOR ATTENDANCE

TO: All Other Members of the Council  
FOR INFORMATION

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the **ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE** to be held in the **GUILDHALL, ABINGDON** on **THURSDAY, 6TH NOVEMBER, 2008** at **7.00 PM**.

Yours faithfully



Carole Nicholl  
Head of Democratic Services

Members are reminded of the provisions contained in the Code of Conduct adopted on 30 September 2007 and Standing Order 34 regarding the declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

## **A G E N D A**

A large print version of this agenda is available. In addition any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement. Contact Carole Nicholl, Head of Democratic Services, on telephone number (01235) 540306 / [carole.nicholl@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:carole.nicholl@whitehorsedc.gov.uk).

Please note that this meeting will be held in a wheelchair accessible venue. If you would like to attend and have any special access requirements, please let the Head of Democratic Services know beforehand and she will do her very best to meet your requirements.

**Open to the Public including the Press**

## Map and Vision

(Pages 5 - 6)

A map showing the location of the venue for this meeting, together with a copy the Council Vision are attached.

1. **Election of Chair**

2. **Election of Vice Chair**

3. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence.

4. **Minutes**

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Section I Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee Abingdon Area Committee held on 25 March 2008 (previously circulated with the Council Summons dated 21 May 2008).

5. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of Personal or Personal and Prejudicial Interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

Any Member with a personal interest or a personal and prejudicial interest in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct, in any matter to be considered at a meeting, must declare the existence and nature of that interest as soon as the interest becomes apparent in accordance with the provisions of the Code.

When a Member declares a personal and prejudicial interest he shall also state if he has a dispensation from the Standards Committee entitling him/her to speak, or speak and vote on the matter concerned.

Where any Member has declared a personal and prejudicial interest he shall withdraw from the room while the matter is under consideration unless

- (a) His/her disability to speak, or speak and vote on the matter has been removed by a dispensation granted by the Standards Committee, or
- (b) members of the public are allowed to make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter by statutory right or otherwise. If that is the case, the Member can also attend the meeting for that purpose. However, the Member must immediately leave the room once he/she has finished; or when the meeting decides he/she has finished whichever is the earlier and in any event the Member must leave the room for the duration of the debate on the item in which he/she has a personal and prejudicial interest.

6. **Urgent Business and Chair's Announcements**

To receive notification of any matters, which the Chair determines, should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances, which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the Chair.

7. **Statements and Petitions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

Any statements and/or petitions from the public under Standing Order 32 will be made or presented at the meeting.

8. **Questions from the Public Under Standing Order 32**

Any questions from members of the public under Standing Order 32 will be asked at the meeting.

9. **Community Grants**

(Pages 7 - 40)

**Introduction and Report Summary**

The purpose of this report is to set out the current budget position in respect of Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received.

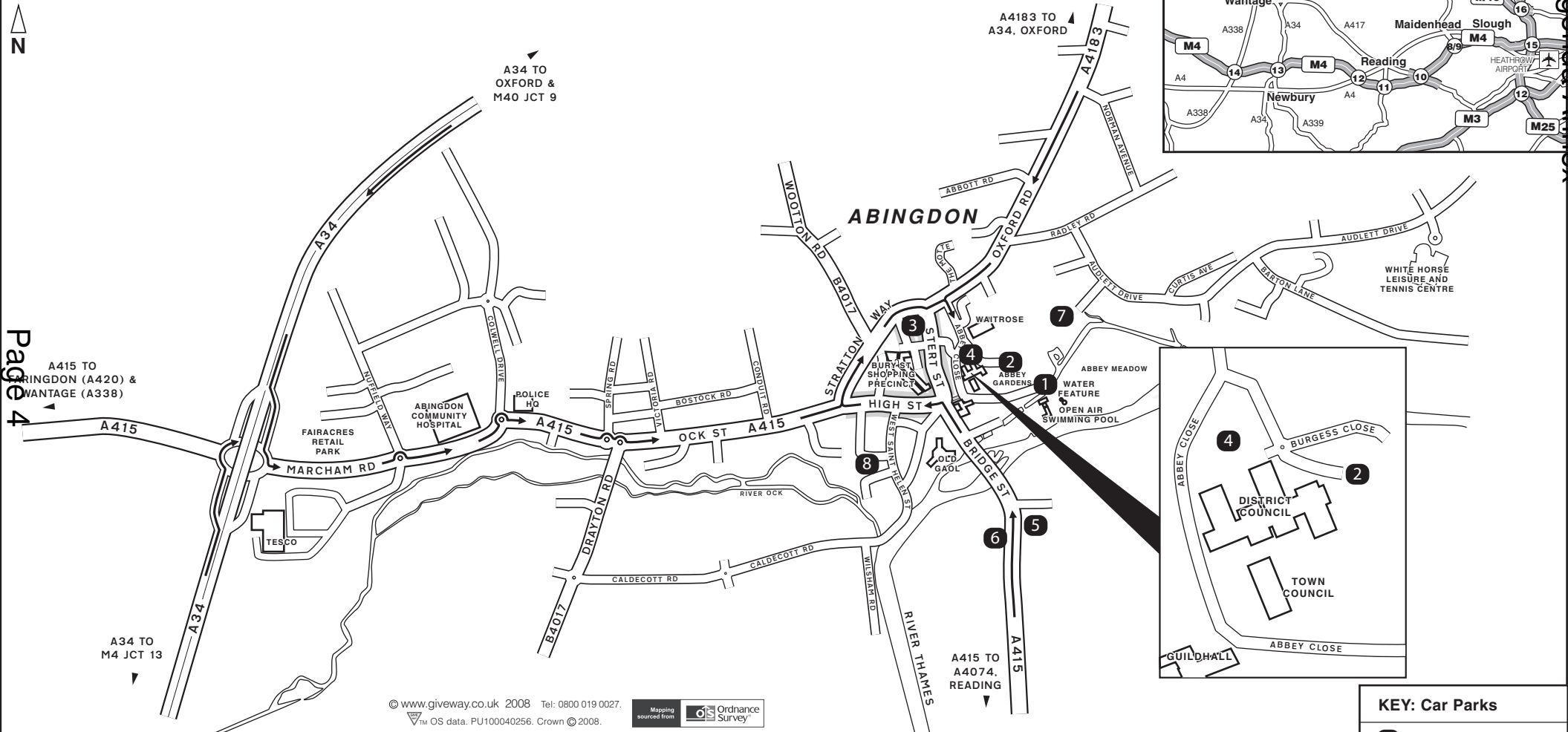
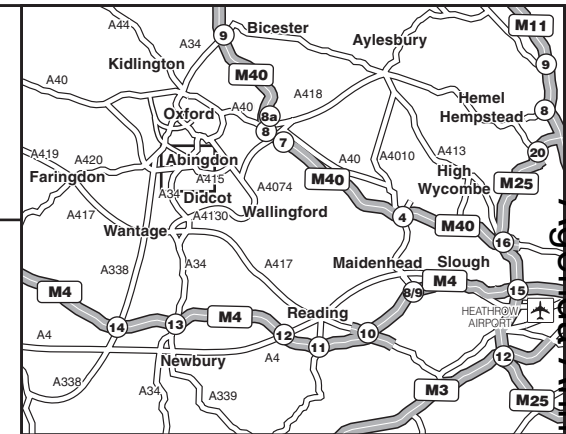
The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer (Tel: 01235 547626), **e-mail address lorna.edwards@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.**

**Recommendations**

- (a) *that Members note the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee*
- (b) *that Members agree to the payment of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) grant to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society, subject to the required monitoring information having been received*
- (c) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the applications listed in the report.*

**Exempt Information Under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972**


None.



**By rail** – the nearest main line railway stations to Abingdon are either Didcot Parkway (seven miles) or Oxford (eight miles). Radley railway station is located on the main line between Oxford and Didcot and is three miles from Abingdon town centre. For details of train times visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or call 08457 484950

**By bus** – there are a number of bus routes serving Abingdon town centre. For details of services and timetables, visit Oxfordshire County Council's website at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk). Contact details for bus operators can be found on the travel information pages on our website [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

**Parking** – details of car parks charges can be found on our website

© www.giveaway.co.uk 2008 Tel: 0800 019 0027.  
 Mapping sourced from Ordnance Survey  
 OS data. PU100040256. Crown © 2008.



## **The Council's Vision Statement**

The Vale of White Horse District Council exists to serve its Citizens across all of its three Towns and sixty-five Parishes. This new Constitution sets out the detail of how this is to be managed. Our guiding principles will continue to be as set out in our "Vision Statement", adopted by the Council on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

### ***Our Vision and Aims-***

***Our Vision is to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community***

**The Vale of White Horse District Council aims to:**

**Strengthen local democracy and public involvement through access to information, consultation, and devolution of power so that everyone can take part in our community and contribute to the decisions which affect our lives**

**Create a safer community and improve the quality of life among Vale residents**

**Encourage a strong and sustainable economy which benefits all who live in, work in or visit the Vale**

**Help disadvantaged groups and individuals within the Vale to realise their full potential**

**Provide and support high quality public services which are effective, efficient and responsive to the needs of people within the Vale**

**Protect and improve our built and natural environment**

It will be through the efforts of our staff, our Councillors, our Town and Parish Councils and by all members of our Vale community that we can, together, seek to turn this Vision into action.

*Adopted by the Vale of White Horse District Council  
16<sup>th</sup> November 2005*

**REPORT OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANNING AND COMMUNITY STRATEGY)**  
**TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE**  
**6 NOVEMBER 2008**

**Community Grants**

**1.0 Introduction and Report Summary**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the current budget position in respect of Community Grants and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received.
- 1.2 The contact officer for this report is Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer (Tel: 01235 547626), **e-mail address lorna.edwards@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

- (a) *that Members note the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee*
- (b) *that Members agree to the payment of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) grant to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society, subject to the required monitoring information having been received*
- (c) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following applications:*
- (i) **DAMASCUS Youth Project, £6,500**, towards the cost of employing youth workers, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (ii) **APAGE, £4,500**, towards printing and distributing the Arts Festival brochure, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (iii) **Abbey Brass, £500**, towards the purchase of learner instruments, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (iv) **Compass Café, £5,000**, towards the cost of employing a Youth Pastor, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (v) **Abingdon & District Musical Society, £891**, to cover any losses on a series of concerts, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (vi) **Abingdon Band, £2,500**, towards the purchase of instruments, music stands and banners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (vii) **Abingdon Concert Band, £550**, towards the purchase of new music and display boards, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (viii) **Abingdon Town Council, £2,957**, towards the cost of updating and reprinting the mini-guide of Abingdon, Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (ix) **The Vale of White Horse Foyer, £1,670**, towards the cost of an outward bound personal development course, Social Agenda, Access priority
  - (x) **Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee, £4,000**,

- towards the purchase of furniture and curtains, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (xi) **Age Concern, Oxfordshire, £8,608**, towards the cost of additional community development in Abingdon and surrounding villages, Social Agenda, Access priority
- (xii) **Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce, £1,500**, towards the cost of staging the Abingdon Extravaganza evening, Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (xiii) **The owner, 26 Pagisters Road, Abingdon, £211.50**, towards maintenance of trees which are subjects of a Tree Preservation Order, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (d) that Members consider grant applications which were awarded a grant by the Executive on 17 October and are being referred to the Area Committees for possible additional support:
- (xiv) **Oxfordshire Play Association, £5,673**, towards core costs of providing support services to play settings in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority (£1,500 awarded)
- (xv) **South & Vale Carers Centre, £7,938**, towards core costs of providing a support service to carers, Social Agenda, Access priority (£3,214 awarded)
- (xvi) **Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire, £3,000**, to impart a love of reading to children in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority (£1,000 awarded)
- (xvii) **Oxfordshire Playbus, £6,000**, towards a replacement sensory vehicle for children with special needs, Social Agenda, Access priority (£2,000 awarded)

### 3.0 Relationship with the Council's Vision, Strategies and Policies

This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities in that it supports creating a cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or any Council policy.

Furthermore, the award of grants to community and voluntary sector groups helps to deliver actions set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy which aims to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Vale.

### 4.0 The Community Grants Budget

4.1 The current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee is as follows:

Budget b/f 2007/08	Budget 2008/09	Total budget 2008/09	Environment -al Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionary Proportion
£3,727.97	£25,997.00	£29,724.97	£9,098.95	£9,098.95	£2,599.70	£5,199.40 + £3,727.97
	Allocated	£7,087.50	£1,087.50	£6,000	£0	£0
	Remaining	£22,637.	£8,011.45	£3,098.95	£2,599.70	£8,927.37

4.2 The meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee scheduled for 26 June was cancelled as no applications had been received.

4.3 Nonetheless the budget table above shows that £7,087.50 has already been allocated. Of this £1,087.50 was allocated at the March meeting of the Committee towards additional parish cleansing in 2008/09. Since the beginning of the current financial year two applications have been considered under officer delegation and in consultation with the Chair. A grant of £500 was awarded to Abingdon Pubwatch towards setting up a web-site with a further £500 being awarded to the MG Car Club Abingdon Works towards the costs of an exhibition on MG at the Abingdon Museum. In addition £2,500 has been allocated to Abingdon Town Council and £500 to the Drayton Twinning Society both towards twinning activities. Finally, a grant of up to £2,000 was awarded by e-mail to the Preston Road Community Centre as third party WREN funding towards the refurbishment of the men's toilets. The remaining budget is £22,637.47.

### **5.0 Twinning partnership grants (Service Level Agreements)**

5.1 In accordance with the decision of the Executive at its meeting on 6 August 2004 (Minute Ex.83) twinning associations are partners in service provision and have signed a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to this effect. The funding for the SLA is allocated from Area Committee budgets. In the Abingdon Area the allocation is:

**Abingdon Town Council £2,500**  
**Drayton Twinning Society £500**

5.2 The twinning associations, in common with all SLA partners, are asked to provide specified information to enable officers to monitor that the partnership is meeting its commitments under the SLA. This information has been received from Abingdon Town Council and is expected soon from the Drayton Twinning Society.

5.3 Members are asked to agree to the payment of the SLA grant to Abingdon Town Council and Drayton Twinning Society, subject to the required monitoring information having been received.

### **6.0 New grant applications**

6.1 Applications totalling £39,387.50 have been received from the following organisations:

- (i) **DAMASCUS Youth Project, £6,500**, towards the cost of employing youth workers, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (ii) **APAGE, £4,500**, towards printing and distributing the Arts Festival brochure, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (iii) **Abbey Brass, £500**, towards the purchase of learner instruments, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (iv) **Compass Café, £5,000**, towards the cost of employing a Youth Pastor, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (v) **Abingdon & District Musical Society, £891**, to cover any losses on a series of concerts, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (vi) **Abingdon Band, £2,500**, towards the purchase of instruments,



- music stands and banners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (vii) **Abingdon Concert Band, £550**, towards the purchase of new music and display boards, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (viii) **Abingdon Town Council, £2,957**, towards the cost of updating and reprinting the mini-guide of Abingdon, Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (ix) **The Vale of White Horse Foyer, £1,670**, towards the cost of an outward bound personal development course, Social Agenda, Access priority
  - (x) **Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee, £4,000**, towards the purchase of furniture and curtains, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (xi) **Age Concern, Oxfordshire, £8,608**, towards the cost of additional community development in Abingdon and surrounding villages, Social Agenda, Access priority
  - (xii) **Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce, £1,500**, towards the cost of staging the Abingdon Extravaganza evening, Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
  - (xiii) **The owner, 26 Pagisters Road, Abingdon, £211.50**, towards maintenance of trees which are subjects of a Tree Preservation Order, Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

6.2 A grant narrative for these applications is included in Appendix A to this report. Members are requested to consider and determine the grant applications presented.

## 7.0 Applications referred from the Executive

7.1 At the meeting of the Executive on 17 October six grant applications were considered. A grant was awarded to five of the six applicants and the leader of the Council requested that all the applications be taken to the Area Committees for further consideration so that they could award an additional grant if they so wished. One of the applicants received the total grant requested and another applicant was seeking funding towards events which are in specific locations in the Vale but not in Abingdon. These two applications are not included but the Committee may wish to consider the four applications listed below.

7.2 In view of the timing of the October Executive meeting in relation to the Autumn meetings of the Area Committees, the Abingdon Area Committee is the only one which will have an opportunity to consider the applications at its Autumn meeting. The South East Area Committee had already met on 14 October and the agenda for the North East Area Committee meeting of 20 October had already been distributed, which meant that it was not possible for the committee to consider these applications. Nonetheless, the members of the latter committee were made aware of the leader's request and agreed to consider the applications at the committee's meeting in March 2009. The West Area Committee, scheduled to meet on 11 November, had been cancelled as the value of the grants being sought was less than £4,000.

- (xiv) **Oxfordshire Play Association, £5,673**, towards core costs of providing support services to play settings in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority (£1,500 awarded)

- (xv) **South & Vale Carers Centre, £7,938**, towards core costs of providing a support service to carers, Social Agenda, Access priority (£3,214 awarded)
- (xvi) **Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire, £3,000**, to impart a love of reading to children in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority (£1,000 awarded)
- (xvii) **Oxfordshire Playbus, £6,000**, towards a replacement sensory vehicle for children with special needs, Social Agenda, Access priority (£2,000 awarded)

A grant narrative for each of these applications is provided under Appendix B to this report.

TOBY WARREN  
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

RODGER HOOD  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANNING AND COMMUNITY STRATEGY)

Background Papers: Grant applications and supporting documents

## APPENDIX A

### (i) Applicant: DAMASCUS Youth Project

**Years in existence:** 9 Years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** The DAMASCUS Youth Project is seeking funding towards the cost of employing Youth Workers, whose objectives are:

- To enable young people to challenge and change the way communities perceive young people who congregate outside shop fronts/on street corners and get them to take young people seriously as potential young community leaders
- To raise young people's aspirations and build their confidence and skills to articulate and present their points of view at meetings with adults in community settings
- To train a small group of young people as young community leaders.
- To enable young people to reach their full potential and, where appropriate, connect them to existing provision where they have not been able to access it due to lack of confidence, awareness etc.

There is a recognition that the support young people are given must be an integral part of their life in the community and not just a service delivered through schools or community centres. The youth workers are ex-beneficiaries of DAMASCUS so they are all credible role models for the young people involved in the project. They have done an excellent job in befriending some of the most hard to reach young people in the area, giving them a sense of purpose and even transforming their lives.

To reach out to all young people a variety of provision is offered such as a mobile drop-in bus, youth clubs/drop in, street work, specific activities.

The project is at a critical stage in that all community stakeholders and young people are engaged and full of excitement at the potential for community involvement. This work relies heavily on the current youth work staffing and will receive an enormous setback should it not be possible to renew the employment contracts. The project is applying to the BIG Lottery for funding for the youth workers but will not know the outcome until at least July 2009. The Parish Councils and Champion Recruitment are providing ongoing funding. This application is to make up the shortfall until the outcome of the Big Lottery application is known. The project expects that their financial support for the youth workers will reduce in about one year's time as the current work starts to bear fruit and less facilitating support will be required by young people.

A grant application for £3,500 was submitted to the South East Area on 14 October towards this project as it covers two parishes in the South East Area. The full amount requested was awarded.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Safe & supportive Communities, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

**Area of the Vale covered:** Drayton, Appleford, Sutton Courtenay (Abingdon Area) and Steventon, Milton (South East Area)

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 400+

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Nominal fee of £1 for youth clubs and sports' activities. No charge for the bus (funded by a lottery grant) or for the outreach work on the street.

**Total estimated project cost:** £55,744.00 excl VAT, £56,047.00 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

**Balances:** £53,602.04 as at 04.05.08

**Running costs:** £39,935.50

**Own Contribution:** £6,574

**Grant Sought:** £6,500

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £3,500 awarded by South East Area Committee October 2008 towards this project

**Parish Council Support:** £7,000 has been awarded from the five "DAMASCUS" Parish Councils

**Parish Precept:** Drayton £24,000 (Band D £25.33)

Appleford £6,200 ( Band D £38.47)

Milton £18,000 ( Band D £37.23)

Sutton Courtenay £34,513 (Band D £35.00)

Steventon £23,500 (Band D £37.42)

**Other Support:** This is the final nine months of funding from the Big Lottery Fund (£12,873 this year), Parochial Church Councils and All Saints' Sutton Courtenay £9,000, Champion Recruitment £10,000

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£6,000
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Safe & supportive Communities, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This project supports and develops initiatives that break the cycle of deprivation, encourages young people to participate in decisions within the community and seeks to reduce anti-social behaviour. These are all key priorities for action in the Sustainable Community Strategy.

**ii) Applicant: Abingdon Performance Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE)**

**Years in existence:** 11 years

**Type of organisation:** Association

**Project, service or event details:** APAGE is seeking a grant towards the printing and distribution of the Abingdon Arts Festival brochure 2009. The brochure is being distributed to every household in Drayton, Sutton Courtenay, Wootton, Marcham, Radley as well as Abingdon.

The brochure comprised 32 pages in 2008 and is attracting more events each year

The Festival's aim continues to be to encourage people not yet involved in the arts to become participants. The Arts Festival has become a popular and well supported highlight of the year and has made a significant contribution to the community.

The Festival will take place from 19 March – 4 April 2009.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Access to Services

**Area of the Vale covered:** Centred in Abingdon, delivered to surrounding villages.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 36,000

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Brochure entry fee £30 or £40 for multiple entries

**Total estimated project cost:** £9,900.00 excl of VAT, of which £5,000 is For brochure printing and distribution.

**Balances:** £4,128.91 as at 31.04.08

**Running costs:** £11,758.47 year ending 31.04.08

**Own Contribution:** £4,900 from donations and fees and charges. This covers the cost of event support. All management and accounting for the Festival is undertaken by volunteers. Design, valued at £1,000, is provided as in-kind support

**Grant Sought: £4,500.00**

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £4,000 has been awarded in each of the last five years.

**Parish Council Support:** Has applied to Abingdon Town Council for £500 (awaiting decision)

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Other sources are sought and used for funding events but not for brochure printing and distribution. Will contact OCVA for advice on possible sources of funding.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,550
<b>Reasons:</b>	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Access to Services
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions.
Other comments	This application supports priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: the brochure aims to raise awareness of a cultural opportunity available in the Vale and should encourage more people to become involved in the arts.

**(iii) Applicant: Abbey Brass**

**Years in existence:** 30 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** Abbey Brass is seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing additional learner instruments. Learner instruments have a useful playing life of some 5-7 years.

The band provides teaching, instruments and playing opportunities to any person willing and able to play.

During the year the band has conducted an advertising campaign in local papers to attract new members with the support of a grant from the Abingdon Area Committee. As a result several new members have joined and there have been 15 applications from adults and children to learn to play brass instruments. Consequently new learner groups for beginners will start in October. Children from previous learner groups are now moving up to the Training Band.

Brass instruments deteriorate especially quickly when they are consigned to the care of young inexperienced players. The numbers of new players is such that there are no longer sufficient instruments to cater for them.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 65

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** £50.00 annual subscription though this can be waived when individual circumstances make payment difficult.

**Total estimated project cost:** £1,500.00

**Balances:** £12,069.00 as at 31.03.08

**Running costs:** £6,537.00 year ending 31.03.08

**Own Contribution:** £500.00

**Grant Sought:** £500.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £400.00 granted last year which resulted in new members hence the need for new instruments.

**Parish Council Support:** An application has been sent to Abingdon Town Council of £500.00 (awaiting decision).

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Is seeking advice from OCVA.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£150
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions plus subject to seeking funding from other sources via OCVA.
Other comments	This application supports priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it encourages community cohesion and encourages people to become involved in cultural activities.

**(iv) Applicant: Compass Cafe, Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon**

**Years in existence:** 1.5 years (plus 5 years as Eclipse Café)

**Type of organisation:** Youth Club

**Project, service or event details:**

On 25 October 2007 a grant of £5,000 was awarded to the Compass Café by the Abingdon Area Committee towards the cost of employing a part-time youth worker. Due to problems in recruiting to the post the £5,000 grant has not yet been taken up. However, following changes to the role (hours, job title) the Café readvertised the post and interviewed candidates in the middle of October. It is hoped that a full-time Youth Pastor will be appointed soon. The Café will then claim the £5,000 grant awarded.

Compass Café currently runs a session every Wednesday for 14-17 year olds and a session every Thursday for 11-13 year olds. The cafe provides a venue to meet, an opportunity to play games, watch films on a big screen and participate in other activities when arranges, such as dance and DJ workshops. In the absence of a part-time youth worker, the weekly session for the older age group has been run by volunteers with the help of police officers in their spare time. However, this is not maintainable as the café has to close if insufficient police officers are available.

This new application from Compass Café is for a grant towards the cost of employing the full time Youth Pastor in order to run the café on a second evening each week. A number of teenagers attending Compass Café have difficulties with school; one or two have been excluded from school. A group of 16-19 year olds, who are in regular contact with local police, are known to be involved in anti-social behaviour. The youth pastor would keep regular contact with these young people and be able to offer advice and support when



needed, as well as help staff at Compass Café. Compass Café provides the only evening venues open in North East Abingdon that offer something for teenagers to do.

A thorough community survey was carried out three years ago that indicated the need for youth facilities and support. This need was supported by feedback from local councillors and police.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Safe & supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 90

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** None

**Total estimated project cost:** £18,000.00

**Balances:** To be advised

**Running costs:** To be advised

**Own Contribution:** Plan to raise £1,000 through various activities.

**Grant Sought:** £5,000.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £5,000.00 awarded in 2007/08

**Parish Council Support:** Will be submitting an application to Abingdon Town Council. (£500 awarded in 2007/08).

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Members of Peachcroft Christian Centre have already given £6,000.00. All Saints Methodist Church is considering supporting the project and matching the £6,000.00 but this has yet to be confirmed.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£4,000
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Safe & supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality
Remaining budget	£22,637.47

Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions. Any grant awarded would have to be reduced by the amount awarded by All Saints Methodist Church during the first year of the post as the Vale is a funder of last resort.
Other comments	£4,000 recommended which, added to the £5,000 grant already awarded, represents 50% of the cost of employing the youth pastor. This application supports priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it seeks to reduce anti-social behaviour, provide access for young people to non-judgemental advice and encourages faith groups to play their full part in community life.

**(v) Applicant: Abingdon & District Musical Society (ADMS)**

**Years in existence:** 62 years

**Type of organisation:** Musical society, registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** ADMS is seeking a grant towards potential losses on a series of four concerts being held between 15 November 2008 and 6 June 2009.

The musical society with its choir and orchestra was set up to 'foster public knowledge and appreciation of music and to develop local musical amateur talent both choral and instrumental'. There are 4-5 concerts for held in the District each year including a charity concert in Trinity Church, Abingdon. There are approx 75 members in the choir and 35 members in the orchestra. The programme of concerts for 2008-9 involves expensive pieces of music to stage but will offer much to the performers and the audience. ADMS is forecasting a loss of £891 based on typical audiences.

ADMS believe they are the only music society in the Vale with both a choir and orchestra which are led by a professional conductor and leader. They recently put on a performance of Mozart's Requiem from scratch (ie a rehearsal and concert all on the same day) which they made available to all choirs and singers in the area. Approximately one hundred singers took part, half of whom were from other choirs in the area.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon and surrounding villages

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 110

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Members subscription £95 per year. £10/£12 adult, £1 for children's tickets to concerts

**Total estimated project cost:** £7,805.00 excl VAT; £7,900 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

**Balances:** £7,189.68 at 30.06.08

**Running costs:** £22,198.17 (taken from unaudited 2007/08 accounts)

**Own Contribution:** Money is raised from tickets sales, programmes and interval drinks – expect to raise £6,864 in 2008/09.

**Grant Sought:** £891.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £800 awarded in 2007/2008

**Parish Council Support:** Application submitted to Abingdon Town Council for £400.00 (awaiting decision).

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** £1,000 in sponsorship has been secured for November's Concert.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	No
Amount recommended	
Reasons:	Although the concerts are an important part of the cultural life of Abingdon, the Committee's budget is limited and other applications meet more important priorities.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	The concert programme which is the subject of this application forms part of the cultural offer available to local residents and contributes towards the vitality of the town.

**(vi) Applicant: Abingdon Band**

**Years in existence:** over 40 years

**Type of organisation:** Club

**Project, service or event details:** Abingdon Band is seeking a grant towards the purchase of additional instruments (1 trombone and 2 cornets), new music stands and two stage banners.

Due to an influx of younger band members who want to play the trombone and cornet the band's existing range and quality of instruments need to be updated. A number of the instruments used by the training band are now beyond economical repair. The band proposes to purchase new instruments for main band players to release theirs for training band use. The band also needs to purchase new music stands to allow them to replace the broken and old ones. They hope to purchase 2 stage banners to help advertise the band and encourage even more new players.

Abingdon Band encourages younger members of society to mix with older generations. Providing musical instruments stands and uniforms free of charge to encourage interest in music. The band takes part in local events such as Remembrance Day Parade, Mayor Making and Last Night of the Proms which all attract a high turnout and local support.

Abingdon Band works with other bands where possible and they provide mutual support. However, it is difficult to collaborate to a greater extent as this would have logistical implications for example with regard to music and instruments.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 35

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** £60.00 Full band member  
£45.00 Training band member

**Total estimated project cost:** £5,500.00

**Balances:** £15,071.26 as at Sept 2007

**Running costs:** £14,163.57 as at Sept 2007

**Own Contribution:** Balance after grants raised from activities organised throughout the year

**Grant Sought:** £2,500.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £1,000.00 in 2007/08 towards the purchase of music and new instruments.

**Parish Council Support:** An application has been sent to Abingdon Town Council for £1,000.00 (awaiting decision).

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Is seeking advice from OCVA.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£750
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it encourages community cohesion (building understanding between people of different ages, circumstances and backgrounds).

**(vii) Applicant: Abingdon Concert Band**

**Years in existence:** 30 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** Abingdon Concert Band is seeking a grant towards the purchase of new music and display boards.

New music will extend the band's musical range, broadening its diversity and appeal to more members of the public than many of the older pieces in their existing library. The new display boards will greatly assist in promoting the band to the general public and in attracting new players.

Abingdon Concert Band forms an important part of Abingdon's cultural activities. With a blend of woodwind and brass instruments they have a musical repertoire which is distinct from other groups in the local area.

Abingdon Concert Band is attracting larger audiences in the local area. A capacity audience (approx 200) attended the Proms concert, jointly staged at

Abingdon Guildhall with the Abingdon Town Band last October. This figure represents a significant increase over previous audiences (typically 60 – 70 in total in 2004). It is recognised that an audience of this size is not guaranteed, however, to maintain the interest of the existing audience and to promote the band to new audiences up-to-date music is required. This will help secure the band's future and continuing contribution to the cultural environment in Abingdon and surrounding area.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning

**Area of the Vale covered:** Band members and audiences come primarily from Abingdon and surrounding villages but band membership and concerts are open to anyone.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 100

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** £35 per term, concessionary rate £20 per term; tickets to concerts £7 full rate, £5 concessionary rate.

**Total estimated project cost:** £950.00

**Balances:** £4,633.08 as at 31.08.08 (£200 set aside for music – own contribution – but rest needed to cover running costs)

**Running costs:** £8,107.87 year ending 31.08.08

**Own Contribution:** £200.00

**Grant Sought:** £550.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £700 awarded in 2007/08; £1,000 was awarded in 2005/06 but due to the successful application to Awards for All the VWHDC grant was not required.

**Parish Council Support:** Applying to Abingdon Town Council for £200.00.

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Band is in the process of writing to local businesses for donations/sponsorship. In previous years, has raised approximately £100 in this way.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£165
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes

Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it encourages community cohesion (building understanding between people of different ages, circumstances and backgrounds).

**(viii) Applicant: Abingdon Town Council**

**Project, service or event details:** Abingdon Town Council is seeking a grant to reproduce and update the Abingdon on Thames mini guide. This project is part of the drive to promote Abingdon's economic welfare.

A recent study, commissioned by the Joint Economic Forum to look at the vitality of the town, identified the need for a campaign to market Abingdon. The study recommended that the economic vitality of the town could best be promoted by a portfolio of publications covering different aspects of what the town has to offer. A shoppers' guide has just been re-printed and has proved to be very popular with the local community, visitors and businesses alike. The updated mini guide will form part of the portfolio.

It will contribute to the Town Centre Action Plan by championing and developing Abingdon's unique identity and assets to customers, potential investors, new businesses, local citizens and visitors.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Town & Village Vitality

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** potentially whole population of Abingdon plus visitors and investors

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Nominal fee of 50 pence per copy may be charged in future to fund future reprints and updates.

**Total estimated project cost:** £3,057.00 excl VAT; £3,591.98 incl VAT for a 20,000 print run. (VAT can be reclaimed)

**Own Contribution:** £100.00 agreed.

**Grant Sought: £2,957.00**

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 2004/05 £5,000 awarded but only £3,000 claimed towards professional advice on the Old Gaol and £1,000 awarded towards security cameras at Abingdon Museum (not yet claimed as work not yet undertaken)

**Parish Council Support:** See own contribution

**Parish Precept:** Abingdon £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Sponsorship is being sought from town businesses such as ASK.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,000
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: the mini-guide promotes the town to residents and visitors and will help to improve the economic prosperity of the town.

**(ix) Applicant: Vale of White Horse Foyer (Guinness Care & Support Ltd)**

**Years in existence:** 4 years

**Type of organisation:** Charitable Industrial & Provident Society

**Project, service or event details:** The Foyer is seeking a grant towards the cost of an outward-bound personal development weekend in the Malvern Hills for 10 marginalised young people in Spring 2009.

The Foyer is a supported housing project for 16-25 year old young people who have been homeless or otherwise in housing need, providing safe, secure accommodation, and a holistic needs-based support and personal development plan.

Outdoor education provides an opportunity for these young people to try a range of new physical challenges, develop a host of vital teamwork and



communication skills and enhance their self-esteem and confidence. Outdoor activities also encourage an interest in the natural environment and promote a healthy lifestyle to young people who rarely get the opportunity to leave Abingdon. The motivational boost from a single weekend residential course can therefore translate into significant life-changing outcomes in health and education terms.

Activity planning is a regular item on the agenda at monthly Foyer residents' meetings, and a residential outward bound weekend has consistently been requested.

Following the success of the last course it has been agreed that the outward-bound residential weekend should be the centrepiece of the annual training programme, and should also serve as an incentive and reward for resident participation. The cost of this single event is the reason for applying for separate community grant funding. A similar weekend residential course was run in spring 2008 and those residents that attended all gave extremely positive feedback.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

**Area of the Vale covered:** The Foyer is based in the centre of Abingdon and is open to anyone who has a local connection with the Vale.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 21

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** No charge though a small refundable deposit may be asked for to reserve a place.

**Total estimated project cost:** £1,841.28 excl VAT; £2,090 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

**Balances:** £13.2 million year ending 2007/08

**Running costs:** £166.1 million year ending 2007/08

**Note:** The figures are taken from the entire trusts accounts as accounts are not produced for individual residencies. The group accounts provided show that a large percentage of funds are already committed to repaying loans etc.

**Own Contribution:** £420 in staff time for 2 members of staff to accompany the 10 young people (costed at 7 hours per day). Staff are also giving their own time as they are on duty throughout the weekend.

**Grant Sought:** £1,670.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £1,050 awarded in 2005/06 towards similar personal development course.

**Parish Council Support:** Abingdon Town Council has awarded £4,000 towards residents' activities in 2008/9 so has not been approached for

funding for this specific project.

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** Currently exploring other possible funding sources for this project with OCVA, but is not optimistic as the most obvious funder is Oxfordshire Youth Opportunity Fund from whom the Foyer has received an award in 2008/09 for dance lessons.

The Foyer has already obtained funding for other projects from a range of Funders in the current financial year including:

Foyer Federation- health & wellbeing programme & Christmas party

Abingdon Town Council - residents' activities and life skills training programme

Guinness Charitable Fund- refurbishment of residents' lounge

Christ's Hospital of Abingdon- training room IT facilities

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£1,400
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This project supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it helps to break the cycle of deprivation by helping to improve the health and wellbeing of residents who are economically and socially disadvantaged.

**(x) Applicant: Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee**

**Years in existence:** 50 years

**Type of organisation:** Parish Council and registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** The grant is requested to purchase new tables, chairs and curtains for the recently refurbished and extended village hall and for constructing new terracing and landscaping to the area surrounding the hall. The improvements that have been carried out to the village hall have provided enhanced social facilities for all residents of the

village and in particular for those residents with disabilities. Better sporting facilities are also now available for all residents.

The new furniture and furnishings inside the hall and the landscaping outside will provide greater comfort and an improved environment for users of the village hall..

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure Town & Village Vitality

**Area of the Vale covered:** Appleford and surrounding villages

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:**  
Village population 270 approx

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Hall hire is charged at £5 per hour or £10 per hour for non-residents of the village.  
£1,000 a year membership for football team for all fixtures and practice sessions.

**Total estimated project cost:** £8,613.00 excl VAT (VAT can be reclaimed)

**Balances:** £1,484.25 as at 30.09.08

**Running costs:** £501.03 plus £39,220.00 on hall refurbishment year Ending 30.09.08

**Own Contribution:** £631.00

**Grant Sought:** £4,000.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 2007/08 £6,000.00 towards extending and refurbishing the hall.

**Parish Council Support:** No funds available this year but £13,000 was granted towards the refurbishment of the hall in 2007.

**Parish Precept:** Appleford £6,200.00 (Band D £38.47)

**Other Support:** Village Trust £4,000.00. Has approached RWE Didcot Power Station but no funds are available until after January 2009.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£1,000
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure Town &

	Village Vitality
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions and subject to costings being provided.
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: it seeks to improve the quality of existing leisure facilities in partnership with the parish council.

**(xi) Applicant: Age Concern Oxfordshire**

**Years in existence:** Over 20 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** Age Concern Oxfordshire is seeking a grant to add value to the work carried out by the community development worker in Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford.

The community development approach seeks to promote independence, health and wellbeing of older people, “adding life to years” by connecting older people to a range of activities, opportunities and services which will increase their ability to remain in their own homes with choice and control over how they live their lives. This approach facilitates and encourages local community ownership of initiatives in order to ensure sustainability.

The development work planned will bring socially inclusive activities and opportunities to older people in Abingdon and surrounding villages, thus addressing the difficulty that many older people face in accessing services. Age Concern has recently established two new “hubs” in Abingdon in partnership with the Churches of Abingdon and the Fitzharris Arms Pub. These provide a coffee morning and lunch club respectively. In response to feedback from people attending these activities Age Concern aims to develop activities and opportunities to keep people physically and mentally fit. This will include: developing an activity library of sports equipment, reprinting a directory of resources for older people and their carers, information sessions on community safety, healthy eating, keeping warm in winter and benefits advice. Mindful of the difficulties faced by older people in accessing the existing hubs, Age Concern plans to develop its outreach approach and build on capacity of its Local Link volunteers.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Health & Wellbeing, Access to Services, Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Safe & supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning,

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtney & Appleford

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 400

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** No charge

**Total estimated project cost:** £19,672.00

**Balances:** £513,759 at 31.03.08 for the whole of Oxfordshire.

**Running costs:** £1,916,200 year ending 31.03.08 for the whole of Oxfordshire. The accounts do not break down expenditure by district or office.

**Own Contribution:** Support provided to Community Development Worker.

**Grant Sought:** £8,608.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £1,000 awarded by Executive in April 2008 for a singing for health project

**Parish Council Support:** Applied to Abingdon Town Council for £500.

**Parish Precept:** Abingdon £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28), Drayton £24000 (Band D £25.33), Sutton Courtenay £34513 (Band D £35.00), Appleford £6200 (Band D £38.47)

**Other Support:** £10,564.00 awarded by the Big Lottery

In addition, the organisation has secure funding to sustain the organisational structure needed to underpin this community development programme, which they have received from Oxfordshire County Council, charitable donations, trusts and foundations.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£4,000
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Health & Wellbeing, Access to Services, Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Safe & supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning.
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community

	Strategy: the project is responding to needs expressed by older people and will improve their quality of life; it will promote and support healthy lifestyle choices.
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**(xii) Applicant: Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce**

**Years in existence:** 86 years

**Type of organisation:** Association

**Project, service or event details:** Abingdon Chamber of Commerce is seeking a grant towards the costs of staging the Abingdon Extravaganza evening on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2008. In particular, the grant is being sought to pay for security, entertainers and fireworks.

The Extravaganza is a themed evening of entertainment, community involvement, including children and adult community groups participating in the parade and festivities. All local schools, scouts and guide groups are invited to take part and last year over 20 groups took part in the parade. There are street entertainers and a small Children's Fair in the Market Place.

This is the tenth year this event has been held and it has always been well attended. The Chambers sees the event as an opportunity to promote the town and its businesses and to encourage more residents to shop in Abingdon thus creating a more vibrant town centre.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Town & Village Vitality

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon and surrounding villages

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** Approx. 500 but open to all residents of Abingdon and beyond

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** None

**Total estimated project cost:** £3,500.00

**Balances:** To be advised

**Running costs:** To be advised

**Own Contribution:** Time and in kind

**Grant Sought:** £1,500.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** None

**Parish Council Support:** Abingdon Town Council has awarded £2,000 and provides a lot of in-kind support.

**Parish Precept:** £996,133.00 (Band D £81.28)

**Other Support:** In previous years, the event has secured sponsorship from local businesses, however, due to the current economic climate this has not been possible this year.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£500
Reasons:	Less than the amount requested due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions plus subject to all requested information being provided (accounts information)
Other comments	This application supports a priority identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy: the event helps to maintain and enhance the health & vitality of the town centre.

**(xiii) Applicant: The owner, 26 Pagisters Road, Abingdon**

**Brief outline of work:** The work is to reduce by 35-40% three Lombardy poplars in the rear garden at 26 Pagisters Road and remove sections of deadwood.

The Lombardy poplars which run along the rear of Pagisters Road and Corn Avill Close are all covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). There have been several instances of illegal pruning here (not at 26 Pagisters Road), one of which is currently under investigation.

**Financial Information:** Total cost of work: £450 plus VAT £78.75 (Total: £528.75) – lowest quote

**Officer comment (George Reade, Arboriculture Officer):**

The owner of 26 Pagisters Road is adhering to the correct legal process to carry out work on trees which are the subject of a TPO. He is employing an arboricultural contractor who will reduce the trees but still maintain their public amenity value. This should be encouraged.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
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Amount recommended	£100
Reasons:	Less than the amount under the former scheme due to limited budget.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	N/A; formerly separate grant scheme with own criteria which this application meets
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, healthier and safer community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Environment
Remaining budget	£22,637.47
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions for trees with a TPO.
Other comments	Under the former scheme, a grant of 40% of the cost was awarded. This would amount to £211.50. The correct maintenance of trees helps to maintain a high quality natural environment and helps to ensure a low carbon Vale, both of which are priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy.



## APPENDIX B

**(iv) Applicant: Oxfordshire Play Association, based in Oxford Road, Cowley, Oxford**

**Years in existence:** 33 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** Oxfordshire Play Association (OPA) is seeking a grant towards core running costs.

OPA aims to improve conditions of life for children in Oxfordshire by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. It is an umbrella organisation which provides a range of practical and specialist support services to after-school clubs, holiday playschemes, nurseries, pre-schools, childminders and other play organisations which are members. This support includes the provision of play boxes and resources, playwork training, payroll services, outreach play support visits. Two new services offered are emergency staff cover for when play staff are ill or on training courses and the delivery of play boxes to settings (venues where the play is taking place).

The association has moved to larger and more central premises making it easier for play settings across Oxfordshire to access the services; they have also employed additional staff. This has led to an increase in core costs. There is an established membership of approx 150 play settings of which 47 members are within Vale district. These members use the play box and delivery service on a regular basis as well as the payroll and outreach services. Regular meetings and training are arranged for both members and non-members within the Vale district for both qualification and practical training courses.

OPA works closely with play and early years environments to encourage fully inclusive provision by providing support, guidance, training and play opportunities which are accessible to all. Training includes equal opportunities and anti-racism, cultural and religious awareness courses to help settings look at their own practice and identify any areas for improvement.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

**Area of the Vale covered:** Vale-wide

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 5,500

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Membership fee £15 a year, play box hire weekly charge £5

**Total estimated project cost:** £59,995.00 for the Vale

**Balances:** £117,386.00 as at 31.03.08 for the whole of Oxfordshire

**Running costs:** £186,485.00 year ending 31.03.08 for whole of Oxfordshire

**Own Contribution:** £32,442 from reserves for the service provided in the Vale. OPA is funded by grants, donations and membership fees.

**Grant Sought: £5,673.00** based on proportion of member play settings within the Vale

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 2008/09 £1,500 from Executive; 2007/08 £2,000.00, 2006/07 £2,500.00

**Parish Council Support:** OPA has not applied to town or parish councils for a grant towards core funding, however, they plan to approach them for funding towards specific projects which are included in their business plan for the next three years.

**Other Support:** Grants have been awarded by: West Oxfordshire DC £2,250.00, Cherwell DC £2,250.00, County Council £13,200.00 towards core costs. South DC funding stream has changed so OPA is unable to apply at the moment. Oxford City Council declined their application as they no longer have a fund for play.

Cherwell DC has also awarded a project-specific grant of £5,000 to purchase play equipment.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

**(xv) Applicant: South and Vale Carers' Centre, based in Didcot**

**Years in existence:** 13 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** South & Vale Carers' Centre is seeking a grant towards core running costs of their Outreach Service for adults and young carers. This service provides information, advice and support for

anyone who is looking after a friend or relative, who because of age, illness or disability cannot look after themselves. Carers are offered: home visits, emotional support and someone to talk to, benefit checks and help with form filling to maximise income, training courses, an advocacy service and the chance to have a break from their caring role.

The service provides invaluable support to young carers, the elderly and people from ethnic minorities. Young carers, for example, often grow up in difficult circumstances and can lose their childhood as a result of their caring responsibilities. The Centre offers advice, information, emotional support and organises day trips so that young carers have a break. Young carers are also helped to fulfil their educational potential through early intervention.

Many carers have low incomes because they are not able to go out to work. The Centre provides an Outreach Service to help carers and their families to maximise their income.

Last year the Centre supported 917 carers in the Vale and provided information to over 4,000.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Health & Wellbeing and Access to Services

**Area of the Vale covered:** Vale-wide

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** over 4,000

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** None

**Total estimated project cost:** £162,573 (a further £244,463 is earmarked for specific projects and services)

**Balances:** £72,062 as at 31.03.08

**Running costs:** £143,144 unrestricted (ie core service) plus a further £137,410 restricted funding, year ending 31.03.08

**Own Contribution:** The Centre has set itself a fundraising target of £25,000.

**Grant Sought:** £7,938.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 2008/09 £3,214 from Executive; 2007-08 £2,957.00 was awarded towards outreach workers.

**Parish Council Support:** South & Vale Carers' Centre applies to all town and parish councils annually in September. In the last financial year they received £6,235.00 and they hope to receive about the same this year. This amount is included in the Centre's £25,000.00 fundraising target.

**Other Support:** Core grant from Oxfordshire County Council £100,000.00, SLA grant from South Oxfordshire District Council

£21,135.00, Bank interest £8,500.  
Oxfordshire Community Foundation £1,500 – included in the £25,000.00 fundraising target.

Funding from the PCT and additional funding from Oxfordshire County Council cover specific projects and services (restricted funding).

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Health & Wellbeing; Access to Services
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

**(xvi) Applicant: Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire (ARCh), based in Market Square, Bicester**

**Years in existence:** Established in April 2008 to continue the service previously offered by Volunteer Reading Help, a countrywide charity which withdrew from 5 branches in Southern England due to financial difficulties.

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** ARCh is seeking a grant towards the costs of expanding its service in the Vale which offers a life-changing opportunity for children and volunteers.

ARCh recruits, trains and supports volunteers from all walks of life to work with the neediest children in Oxfordshire primary schools, with the aim of imparting a love of reading, thereby improving their life chances. Each child selected for assistance benefits from two thirty minute personalised sessions with their volunteer every week throughout the academic year. Many of the volunteers used to work for Volunteer Reading Help so bring with them a wealth of experience.

Volunteers currently work with over 400 children in more than 80 primary schools throughout the county including a significant number in the Vale. They provide support in schools in Abingdon (5 schools), Faringdon, Longcot & Fernham, Grove, Shrivenham and Sutton Courtenay and other schools are waiting for volunteers. It is to meet this demand that ARCh is seeking to expand its service in the Vale by providing 8 additional volunteers who will work with a total of 24 children.

The benefits of the service provided are far-reaching. Regular and sustained mentoring support from a designated volunteer helps the child to overcome difficulties in his/her life which have hitherto hampered reading progress and

had a negative impact on the child's attitude to learning. By intervening at primary school level it is possible to improve the child's prospects and self-confidence and indirectly his/her interaction with the community as a whole. Benefits for the volunteer are also great – for retired volunteers it provides contact with the younger generation, friendship and involvement in the community.

Results of a survey undertaken in July 2008 indicated that 100% of the children working with an ARCh volunteer had improved in their reading performance, confidence and attitude and 96% had improved in overall achievement.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing

**Area of the Vale covered:** Vale-wide

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 24 children and 8 volunteers

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** Schools are charged £275.

**Total estimated project cost:** £6,720 to recruit, train and support 8 volunteers

**Balances:** Not available as charity set up in 2008

**Running costs:** See above

**Own Contribution:** Recruiting, training and supporting volunteers

**Grant Sought:** £3,000

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 2008/09 £1,000 from Executive; Volunteer Reading Help was awarded £1,000 in 2006/07

**Parish Council Support:** ARCh is asking all parish councils to sponsor a book box, which costs £264 to resource, for the volunteer in their local school, at a cost of £50.

**Other Support:** Oxfordshire County Council Children's Fund £9,761 to support 38 volunteers in Oxfordshire until March 2009, including 8 volunteers in the Vale; St Michael's & All Saints Charity £5,000 towards volunteers countywide  
Mid Counties Co-op £500 to sponsor 10 book boxes for the volunteers

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Reasons:	

Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

**(xvii) Applicant: Oxfordshire Playbus, based in Upper Heyford, Bicester**

**Years in existence:** 29 years

**Type of organisation:** Registered charity

**Project, service or event details:** Oxfordshire Playbus is seeking a grant towards the cost of replacing their Sensory Bus. The bus has been running since 2003 for pre-school children with special needs, children with special needs in mainstream education, children who are excluded from education because of emotional/behavioural problems and adults with dementia/Alzheimer's disease.

The Sensory Bus has helped about 400 children and adults per year. Due to limited funding when the Sensory Bus was built, Oxfordshire Playbus were obliged to use a second-hand vehicle as the base. The core of the bus, now almost 30 years old, broke down permanently last summer and it is impossible to find replacement parts. This has led to the decision to fundraise to buy a new replacement vehicle to form the base upon which to build the Sensory Bus.

The Sensory Bus provides a unique sensory environment for people who do not normally have a chance to access static sensory rooms because of distance, affordability or overcrowding.

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Access to services, Health & Wellbeing, Recreation, Culture & Leisure

**Area of the Vale covered:** Vale-wide

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** 100

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** None

**Total estimated project cost:** £116,850 excl VAT; £137,299 incl VAT

**Balances:** To be provided

**Running costs:** To be provided

**Own Contribution:** £2,000 from fundraising campaign

**Grant Sought: £6,000**

**Previous Awards (Vale):** No previous community grants but Oxfordshire Playbus receives a partnership grant of £2,970 p.a. under a Service Level Agreement towards the provision of the “Big Bus” and “Sensory Bus” service throughout the Vale.

**Parish Council Support:** Oxfordshire Playbus has applied to all town and parish councils in the Vale but has received few replies to date.

**Other Support:** Oxfordshire County Council’s Rural Children’s Centre will provide approximately £30,000. Applying to West Oxfordshire, South Oxfordshire and Cherwell District Councils for £25,000 each.

**Officer recommendation (Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy):**

Recommend support	Yes
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Access to services, Health & Wellbeing, Recreation, Culture & Leisure
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	