

Date: 11 March 2009

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, 19TH MARCH, 2009** 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 Claire Litchfield, Democratic Services Officer on 01235 540306 or by email Claire.litchfield@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

(Page 4)

A map showing the location of the venue for this meeting is attached.

The Council's vision is to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community.

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Minutes

(Pages 5 - 20)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Section I Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee Abingdon Area Committee held on 6 November 2008 (attached).

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. Community Grants

(Pages 21 - 39)

To receive and consider report 175/08 of the Strategic Director and Head of Community Strategic.

8. Targeting Grants for the Abingdon Area

(Pages 40 - 45)

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

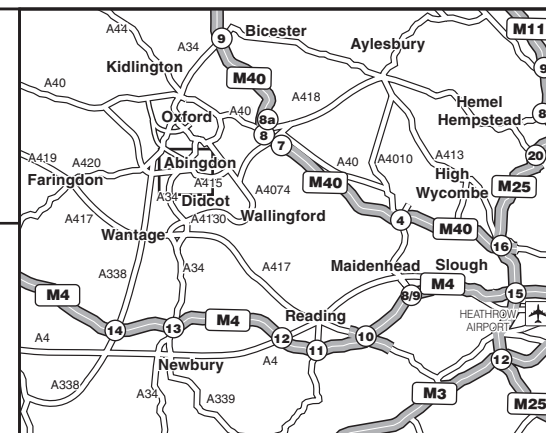
None.



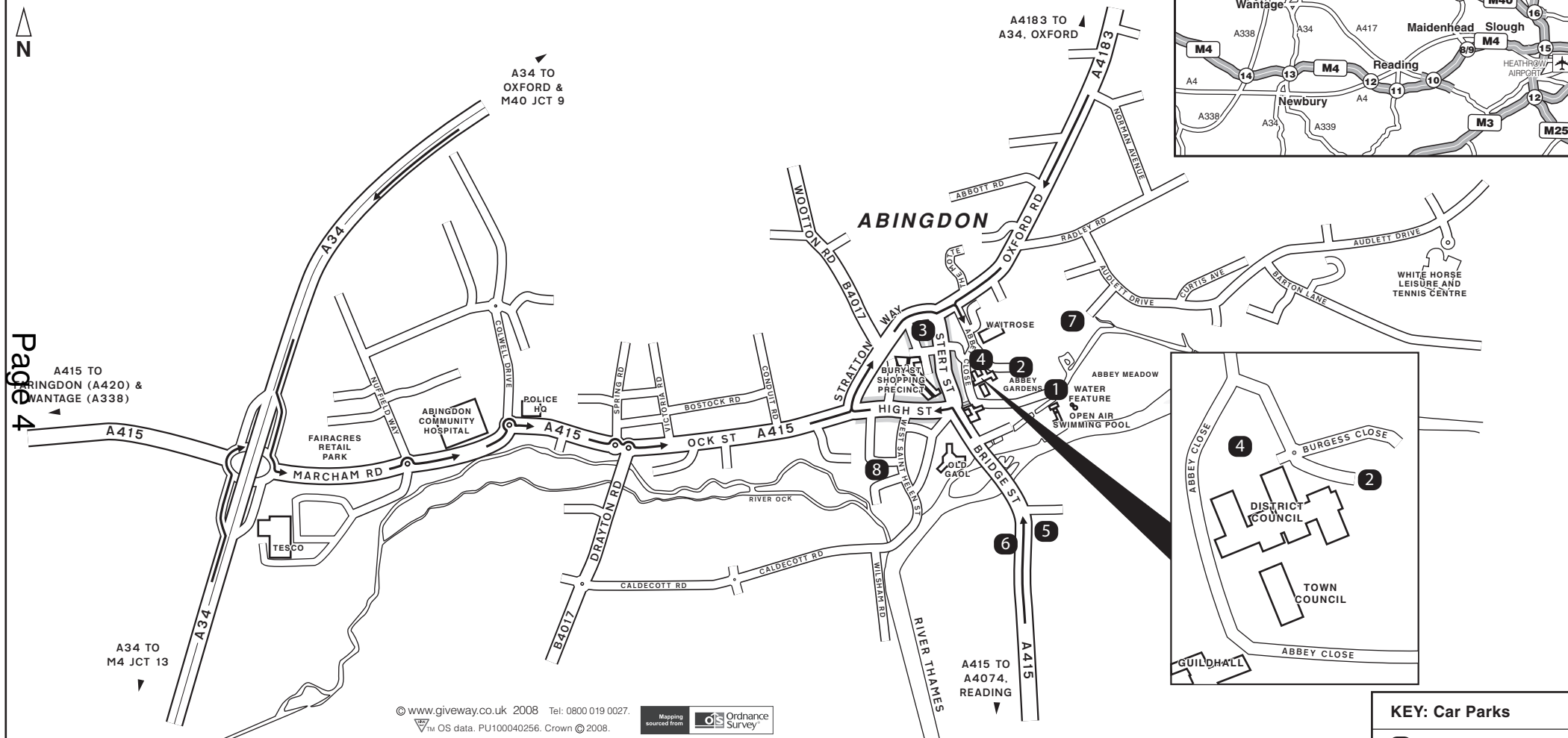
**Vale
of White Horse**

Vale of White Horse District Council
Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, OX14 3JE

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Agenda Annex



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 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. Contact details for bus operators can be found on the travel information pages on our website www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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

KEY: Car Parks

- 1 Abbey Close
- 2 Cattle Market
- 3 Charter Multi-storey
- 4 Civic
- 5 Rye Farm
- 6 Hales Meadow
- 7 Audlett Drive
- 8 West St Helen Street

Ab.28

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE GUILDHALL,
ABINGDON ON THURSDAY, 6TH
NOVEMBER, 2008 AT 7.00PM

Open to the Public, including the Press

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Councillor Angela Lawrence (Chair), Beth Fleming (Vice-Chair), Mary de Vere, Tony de Vere, Gervase Duffield, Jim Halliday, Pat Lonergan, Julie Mayhew-Archer, Alison Rooke, Tim Smith and Richard Webber

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lorna Edwards, Toby Warren and Carole Nicholl

NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 9

Ab.27 ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor Pat Lonergan, seconded by Councillor Tony de Vere and

RESOLVED

that Councillor Angela Lawrence be elected Chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the remainder of the 2008-2009 Municipal Year.

Councillor Angela Lawrence – In the Chair

Ab.28 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor Alison Rooke, seconded by Councillor Richard Webber and

RESOLVED

that Councillor Beth Fleming be elected Vice-Chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the remainder of the 2008-2009 Municipal Year.

Ab.29 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded from Councillors Sam Bowring, Paul Burton, Richard Gibson, Janet Morgan and Laurel Symons.

Ab.30 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee held on 25 March 2008 were adopted and signed as a correct record.

Ab.31 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members declared interests in report 112/08 – Community Grants (minute Ab.33 refers) as follows: -

<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Type of Interest</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Richard Webber	Personal	DAMASCUS	He represented Drayton and worked quite closely with the project.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	DAMASCUS	She had raised money for the project in her former capacity as Chairman of the Council and as such a number of people associated with DAMASCUS were known to her.
Alison Rooke	Personal	APAGE	In so far as she was a member of the Operatic Society.
Tony de Vere	Personal	APAGE	In so far a number of the organisers were known to him.
Jim Halliday	Personal	APAGE	In so far as a number of the organisers and deliverers were known to him.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	APAGE	In so far as a number of people involved with APAGE were known to her.
Tony de Vere	Personal	Abbey Brass	In so far as a number of people involved with were known to him.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	Abbey Brass	In so far as a number of people involved with Abbey Brass were known to her.
Jim Halliday	Personal	Abbey Brass	In so far as he knew the Band Leader and some Members.
Alison Rooke	Personal	Compass Café	In so far as some of the helpers were known to her.
Mary de Vere	Personal & Prejudicial	Compass Café	In so far as she was a member of All Saints Church which gave funding to the Café project.

Tony de Vere	Personal & Prejudicial	Compass Café	In so far as he was a member of All Saints Church which gave funding to the Café project.
Beth Fleming	Personal & Prejudicial	Compass Café	In so far as her husband was on the Peachcroft Management Committee, the centre where the Café was sited.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	Abingdon and District Musical Society	In so far as a number of people associated with the Society were known to her.
Alison Rooke	Personal	Abingdon Band	In so far as the Band Master was known to her as an employee of the Town Council and she was a Member of the Town Council.
Angela Lawrence	Personal	Abingdon Band	In so far as the Band Master was known to her as an employee of the Town Council and she was a Member of the Town Council.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	Abingdon Band	In so far as the Band Master was known to her as an employee of the Town Council and she was a Member of the Town Council.
Jim Halliday	Personal	Abingdon Band	In so far as the Band Master was known to him as an employee of the Town Council and he was a Member of the Town Council.
Pat Lonergan	Personal	Abingdon Band	In so far as the Band Master was known to him as an employee of the Town Council and he was a Member of the Town Council.
Pat Lonergan	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Angela Lawrence	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.

Alison Rooke	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Jim Halliday	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Pat Lonergan	Personal & Prejudicial	The Vale of White Horse Foyer	In so far as the Foyer was one of his supported charities in his capacity as Mayor of Abingdon Town Council.
Angela Lawrence	Personal & Prejudicial	The Vale of White Horse Foyer	In so far as she was the Town Council's representative on the Management Board of the Foyer.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal	The Vale of White Horse Foyer	In so far as she was the District Council's representative on the Advisory Committee of the Foyer.
Gervase Duffield	Personal	Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee	In so far as he was an Appleford Parish Councillor. However, he was not involved in the Village Hall Committee.
Jim Halliday	Personal	Age Concern	In so far as his Ward was one of the areas which benefited from this group and he knew a number of people affected.
Pat Lonergan	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor and the Town Council ran the Chamber.
Angela Lawrence	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor and the Town Council ran the Chamber.
Alison Rooke	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor and the Town Council ran the Chamber.

Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor and the Town Council ran the Chamber.
Jim Halliday	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor and the Town Council ran the Chamber.
Pat Lonergan	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council - Service Level Agreement	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Angela Lawrence	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council - Service Level Agreement	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Alison Rooke	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council - Service Level Agreement	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Julie Mayhew Archer	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council - Service Level Agreement	In so far as she was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Jim Halliday	Personal & Prejudicial	Abingdon Town Council - Service Level Agreement	In so far as he was an Abingdon Town Councillor.
Richard Webber	Personal & Prejudicial	Drayton Twinning Society - Service Level Agreement	In so far as he was a Drayton Parish Councillor.

Ab.32 URGENT BUSINESS AND CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

Ab.33 STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER
32

Notice had been given of five statements from members of the public which were made as follows: -

1. Rita Atkinson on behalf of the DAMASCUS Project

Rita Atkinson, joined by 5 members of the project made a statement setting out examples of the work of the project such as building a sun dial at a Millennium Green, confidence building with young people and support given. The Committee was asked to support the grant application presented.

2. Reverend Peter Bennett on behalf of the Compass Cafe

Reverend Bennett asked the Committee to support the grant application made in respect of Compass Café explaining that the initiative benefited young people. He reported that funds were needed to finance a centre based youth worker. He explained that there were volunteers at the café and that it was a safe place for young people to go, where they were welcomed and supported by adults. He reported that the work of the café was well co-ordinated but that the employment of a youth worker would significantly benefit the young people. Finally he commented on the benefits of the project giving details of how young people can improve their confidence.

3. Malcolm Ross on behalf of APAGE

Mr Ross thanked the Committee for the grant awards in previous years and asked Members to be supportive again this year. He reported that the main aim of the festival was to introduce arts to as many people as possible in the Vale and that the leaflet produced would be circulated in Abingdon and the surrounding areas. He reported that funding was needed towards printing and distribution of leaflets. He commented that he believed that the brochure this year would be bigger and better encouraging more people to attend.

4. Mavis Gotch on behalf of Appleford Village Hall Committee

Mrs Gotch reported that she was the administrator of the hall. She reported that the Parish Council had extended and refurbished the village hall but funding was required towards curtains, furniture and some smaller items. She commented that the hall was used regularly by many organisations.

5. Roger Wilkinson on behalf of Abingdon Concert Band

Mr Wilkinson commented on the membership of the band explaining that new players were sought and that events had been held in some 150 venues. He reported that there was usually a good attendance at events. He commented that the Band was reliant on donations and grants and that the funding sought now was towards new contemporary music which would hopefully improve the appeal of the band.

The Chair thanked everyone for their statements.

Ab.34 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER 32

None.

Ab.35 COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Committee received and considered report 112/08 – Community Grants and detailed comments were made as set out below. In considering the application, Members took into account the statements made by members of the public earlier in the meeting. Those applications were considered first.

One Member commented that in view of the limited finances available consideration of the applications referred to the Committee by the Executive for additional funding should be deferred and this was supported by the Committee. It was also suggested that only 50% of the Committee's budget should be awarded at this meeting with each grant application being reduced proportionately so that 50% of the budget would be available for the last meeting of the financial year, in March 2009. However this was not supported it being considered that each application should be considered on its merits and a grant awarded accordingly.

Abingdon Town Council – Service Level Agreement

Councillors Pat Lonergan, Angela Lawrence, Alison Rooke, Julie Mayhew Archer and Jim Halliday had each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and they left the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor Beth Fleming the Vice-Chair took the Chair for this item.

Members supported the grant subject to the appropriate monitoring information being received. It was suggested that a report back on this to Members of the Committee would be useful.

Drayton Twinning Society – Service Level Agreement

Councillors Richard Webber had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and he left the meeting during its consideration.

Members supported the grant subject to the appropriate monitoring information being received.

(i) DAMASCUS Youth Project

Councillors Richard Webber and Julie Mayhew Archer had each declared a personal interest in this application.

One Member referred to the "Chill Out" fund held by the County Council suggesting that this was a project which might receive grant assistance from that fund. It was commented that the County Council had primary responsibility for youth activities and that funding should be sought from the "Chill Out" fund.

It was commented that the funding was required now for the project and that it would not be possible to defer consideration of the application to the next meeting in March which would be too late. One Member suggested that there should be evidence of local support for the project and that a provisional grant should be awarded payable if a grant application to the County Council was unsuccessful.

However, other Members considered that an initial grant should be offered with a further amount should a grant request to the County Council be unsuccessful.

On consideration of this application, Members commented that feedback on the "Chill Out" fund would be of interest and use to Members and should be

reported in the Members' Information and Action Sheet. It was commented that it was hoped that the County Council would show a commitment to youth activities by supporting this and other projects in this area.

One Member commented that DAMASCUS should approach the County Council for funding in the first instance and this Council thereafter in the future.

(ii) APAGE

Councillors Alison Rooke, Tony de Vere, Jim Halliday and Julie Mayhew Archer had each declared a personal interest in this application.

Some Members expressed support regarding the costs involved considering that the printing costs could be reduced by planning ahead over the next few years. However, the application was supported it being noted that promoting the Arts festival had an economic effect on Abingdon and the surrounding area drawing visitors in thus assisting in the vitality.

One Member commented that the event was becoming more and more successful and should be encouraged. It was agreed that APAGE should be supported.

(iii) Abbey Brass

Councillors Tony de Vere, Julie Mayhew Archer and Jim Halliday had each declared a personal interest in this application.

Members supported the application. It was commented that the level of grant should be similar to the level given to other bands. However, other Members considered that the level should be different it being noted that that grant was sought towards musical instruments rather than music, which would be used by young people.

(iv) Compass Café

Councillor Alison Rooke had declared a personal interest in this application.

Councillors Mary de Vere, Tony de Vere and Beth Fleming had each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and they left the meeting during its consideration.

It was reported that funding in the sum of £3,000 had been awarded from All Saints Church. Figures for the balance and expenditure for the year for the Peachcroft Christian Centre were reported as £4,886 and £57,882 respectively. It was commented that it was not possible to identify specific information for the Compass Café as the accounts submitted had not been separated out.

Members supported the application but considered that funding should first be sought from the County Council's "Chill Out" fund which is was believed would

fund such projects. It was suggested that if such grant funding was not received from the County Council then this Council should agree a grant.

(v) Abingdon and District Musical Society

Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer had declared a personal interest in this application.

One Member expressed concern that this application was to support a shortfall in revenue income from concerts and that approval would set a precedent for other similar applications.

In response to a question raised the Officers reported that last year most of the £800 funding offered to cover shortfall had been taken up.

Some Members supported the application commenting that had the applicant sought funding for some item of expenditure such as music rather than towards a loss of income, the application might sound more appealing. However, it was noted that it was not unusual to underwrite a loss for events.

One Member spoke against the application commenting that there was no evidence of fund raising.

(vi) Abingdon Band

Councillors Alison Rooke, Angela Lawrence, Julie Mayhew Archer, Jim Halliday and Pat Lonergan had each declared a personal interest in this application.

Members supported the application.

(vii) Abingdon Concert Band

Members supported the application.

(viii) Abingdon Town Council – Mini Guide

Councillors Pat Lonergan, Angela Lawrence, Alison Rooke, Julie Mayhew Archer and Jim Halliday had each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and they left the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor Beth Fleming the Vice-Chair took the Chair for this item.

One Member noted the limited grant award from the Town Council towards this project but it was reported that the Town Council was currently contributing to a major campaign to revitalise the town centre and as such funds were limited.

Another Member suggested that the scheme did not meet the Council's grant criteria and that no grant should be offered. Other Members agreed commenting that the Town Council could either increase its precept to fund

such projects in the future, or it could seek contributions from small businesses which would benefit from the publication.

(ix) The Vale of White Horse Foyer

Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer had declared a personal interest in this application.

Councillors Pat Lonergan and Angela Lawrence had each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and they left the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor Beth Fleming the Vice-Chair took the Chair for this item.

In response to a question raised the Officer confirmed that different people to those who had previously taken part would be going on any trip. It was considered that this was another application where funding might be available from the County Council's "Chill Out Fund". It was suggested that information on this fund should be sought from the County Council and circulated to all Members of the Council. The Officers advised that applicants were referred to the Council's Community Funding Advice Service where it was hoped that this and other funds were raised and discussed. It was highlighted that the applicant was exploring alternative funding options from the County Council but it was not hopeful that more funding would be forthcoming.

(x) Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee

Councillor Gervase Duffield had declared a personal interest in this application.

One Member commented that the parish precept was very low and the hire charges of the hall were also very low. It was suggested that the parish precept and the hall hire fees might be increased. However, it was noted that the Parish Council had funded major refurbishment works which had substantially reduced its reserves.

(xi) Age Concern

Councillor Jim Halliday had declared a personal interest in this application.

Members supported the application. It was considered that the remaining budget for the year should be awarded. This application was therefore considered after the other grant applications.

(xii) Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce

Councillors Pat Lonergan, Angela Lawrence, Alison Rooke, Julie Mayhew Archer and Jim Halliday had each declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this application and they left the meeting during its consideration.

Councillor Beth Fleming the Vice-Chair took the Chair for this item.

Members supported the application but considered that none of any grant awarded should be spent on fireworks.

(xiii) Owner, 26 Pagisters Road, Abingdon

Some Members spoke against the application considering that its approval could lead to other similar applications which would be hard to refuse. It was noted that the grant would benefit a private owner rather than a number of individuals.

Other Members supported the application suggesting that a grant would encourage tree maintenance which was to the benefit of the area and the enjoyment of many people.

RESOLVED

- (a) *that the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee be noted;*
- (b) *that the payment of the Service Level Agreement (SLA) grants to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society be approved, subject to the required monitoring information having been received; (Abingdon Town Council Grant - proposed by Councillor Tony de Vere, seconded by Councillor Tim Smith and agreed by 6 votes to nil with 5 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of the application and Drayton Twinning Society Grant – proposed by Councillor Tony de Vere, seconded by Councillor Julie Mayhew-Archer and agreed by 10 votes to nil with 1 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of the application);*
- (c) *that the grant applications received be dealt with as follows: -*

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Purpose of Grant</u>	<u>Agenda & Priority</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
DAMASCUS Youth Project	Towards the cost of employing youth workers	Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority	£4,000 with up to an additional £2,000 to be awarded should an application to the County Council be unsuccessful	Councillor Pat Lonergan proposed and Councillor Gervase Duffield seconded £4,000 which was agreed by 7 votes to nil with 4 abstentions. It was then proposed by Councillor Pat Lonergan, seconded by Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer that up to a further £2,000 be awarded should an application to the County Council be unsuccessful and this was agreed by 8 votes to nil with 3 abstentions.
APAGE	Towards	Social	£3,000	Councillor Alison Rooke proposed and

	<i>printing and distributing the Arts Festival brochure</i>	<i>Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>		<p><i>the Chair seconded £2,250 but on being put to the vote this was lost by 8 votes to 3.</i></p> <p><i>Councillor Tim Smith proposed and Councillor Pat Lonergan seconded £2,550 but on being put to the vote this was lost by 6 votes to 2 with 3 abstentions.</i></p> <p><i>Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer proposed and Councillor Mary de Vere seconded £3,000 and on being put this was agreed by 7 votes to 1 with 3 abstentions.</i></p>
<i>Abbey Brass</i>	<i>Towards the purchase of learner instruments</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>£300</i>	<p><i>Councillor Pat Lonergan proposed and Councillor Tim Smith seconded £150.</i></p> <p><i>By way of an amendment Councillor Beth Fleming proposed and Councillor Mary de Vere seconded £500 but on being put the amendment was lost by 5 votes to 4 with 2 abstentions.</i></p> <p><i>By way of a second amendment Councillor Jim Halliday proposed and Councillor Richard Webber seconded £250 but on being put the amendment was lost by 5 votes to 4 with 2 abstentions.</i></p> <p><i>By way of a third amendment Councillor Angela Lawrence proposed and Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer seconded £300 and on being put the amendment was carried by 8 votes to 2 with 1 abstention. On being put the Substantive Motion was carried by 9 votes to nil with 2 abstentions.</i></p>
<i>Compass Café</i>	<i>Towards the cost of employing a Youth Pastor</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>no grant at this time but that the applicant be requested to seek a grant from the County</i>	<p><i>Councillor Alison Rooke proposed and the Chair seconded £1,500 with a further £1,500 to be awarded should a grant request to the County Council be unsuccessful.</i></p> <p><i>By way of an amendment Councillor Pat Lonergan proposed that £5,000</i></p>

			<p><i>Council and if such application is unsuccessful a grant of up to £3,000 be offered.</i></p>	<p><i>be offered but this was not seconded.</i></p> <p><i>By way of an amendment Councillor Jim Halliday proposed and Councillor Gervase Duffield seconded that no grant be offered at this time and that the applicant be requested to seek a grant from the County Council and if such application is unsuccessful a grant of up to £3,000 be offered. On being put the amendment was carried by 7 votes to 1.</i></p>
<p><i>Abingdon & District Musical Society</i></p>	<p><i>To cover any losses on a series of concerts</i></p>	<p><i>Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i></p>	<p><i>£250</i></p>	<p><i>Councillor Pat Lonergan proposed £315 but this was not seconded.</i></p> <p><i>Councillor Alison Rooke proposed and Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer seconded £500.</i></p> <p><i>By way of an amendment, the Chair proposed £150 but this was not seconded.</i></p> <p><i>By way of a further amendment Councillor Beth Fleming proposed and Councillor Gervase Duffield seconded that no grant be offered. On being put to the vote this amendment was lost by 5 votes to 4 with 2 abstentions.</i></p> <p><i>By way of an amendment Councillor Richard Webber proposed that no grant be offered at this time but that consideration of the application be deferred to the next meeting. However, this was not seconded.</i></p> <p><i>By way of a further amendment Councillor Jim Halliday proposed and Councillor Pat Lonergan seconded £250. On being put this amendment was carried by 5 votes to 4 with 2 abstentions. On being put the Substantive Motion was carried by 8 votes to 1 with 2 abstentions.</i></p>
<p><i>Abingdon</i></p>	<p><i>Towards</i></p>	<p><i>Social</i></p>	<p><i>£750</i></p>	<p><i>Proposed by Councillor Pat Lonergan,</i></p>

<i>Band</i>	<i>the purchase of instruments, music stands and banners</i>	<i>Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>		<i>seconded by Councillor Tim Smith and agreed by 11 votes to nil.</i>
<i>Abingdon Concert Band</i>	<i>Towards the purchase of new music and display boards</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>£250</i>	<i>Proposed by Councillor Pat Lonergan, seconded by Jim Halliday and agreed by 6 votes to 3 with 2 abstentions.</i> <i>Councillor Alison Rooke had proposed and Councillor Gervase Duffield had seconded an amendment of £150 but this was lost by 8 votes to 2 with 1 abstention.</i>
<i>Abingdon Town Council</i>	<i>Towards the cost of updating and reprinting the mini-guide of Abingdon</i>	<i>Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Proposed by Councillor Mary de Vere, seconded by Councillor Gervase Duffield and agreed by 3 votes to 2 with 1 abstention with 5 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of the item.</i>
<i>The Vale of White Horse Foyer</i>	<i>Towards the cost of an outward bound personal development course</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Access priority</i>	<i>£1,000 with up to an additional £670 to be awarded should an application to the County Council be unsuccessful</i>	<i>Councillor Tony de Vere proposed and Councillor Alison Rooke seconded £1,670. By way of an amendment Councillor Tim Smith proposed and Councillor Richard Webber seconded £1,000, with the balance of up to £670 to be awarded should an application to the County Council be unsuccessful. On being put the amendment was carried by 7 votes to 1 with 1 abstention with 2 of the voting Members not being present. On being put, the Substantive Motion was carried by 7 votes to 1 with 1 abstention with 2 of the voting Members not being present.</i>
<i>Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee</i>	<i>Towards the purchase of furniture and curtains</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>£1,000</i>	<i>Proposed by Councillor Gervase Duffield, seconded by Councillor Tim Smith and agreed by 11 votes to nil.</i>

<i>Age Concern, Oxfordshire</i>	<i>Towards the cost of additional community development in Abingdon and surrounding villages</i>	<i>Social Agenda, Access priority</i>	<i>£5,817</i>	<i>Councillor Pat Lonergan proposed and Councillor Jim Halliday seconded £4,000. By way of an amendment Councillor Tony de Vere proposed and Councillor Tim Smith seconded £5,817. On being put the amendment was carried by 11 votes to nil. On being put the Substantive Motion was carried by 11 votes to nil.</i>
<i>Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce</i>	<i>Towards the cost of staging the Abingdon Extravaganza evening</i>	<i>Economic Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>£500 (subject to none of the grant being spent on fireworks)</i>	<i>Proposed by Councillor Mary de Vere, seconded by Councillor Tim Smith and agreed by 4 votes to nil with 2 abstentions with 5 of the voting Members not being present during consideration of the application.</i>
<i>The owner, 26 Pagisters Road, Abingdon</i>	<i>Maintenance of trees which are subjects of a Tree Preservation Order</i>	<i>Environmental Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority</i>	<i>£100</i>	<i>Proposed by Councillor Julie Mayhew Archer, seconded by Pat Lonergan and agreed by 9 votes to 1 with 1 abstention. Councillor Beth Fleming had proposed and Councillor Richard Webber had seconded an amendment that no grant be offered but this was lost by 7 votes to 3 with 1 abstention.</i>

- (d) *that consideration of the following grant applications which have been awarded a grant by the Executive at its meeting held on 17 October 2008 and referred to this Committee for possible additional support be deferred (proposed by Councillor Richard Webber, seconded by Councillor Pat Lonergan and agreed nem com): -*
- (i) *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);*
 - (ii) *South & Vale Carers Centre, £7,938, towards core costs of providing a support service to carers, Social Agenda, Access priority (£3,214 awarded)*
 - (iii) *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)*
 - (iv) *Oxfordshire Playbus, £6,000, towards a replacement sensory vehicle for children with special needs, Social Agenda, Access priority (£2,000 awarded).*

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

None.

The meeting rose at 9.45 pm

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (MATT PROSSER)
TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE
19 MARCH 2009

Community Grants

1.0 Introduction and Report Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for this Committee in respect of Community Grants for the remainder of 2008/09 and in 2009/10, to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received since the last meeting.
- 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 Committee's remaining budget for 2008/09*
- (b) *that Members consider and determine the grant application, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following:*
- (i) **Abingdon Music Festival Association, £475**, towards a masterclass in conducting, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (ii) **Drayton Hall, £1,000**, towards replacement doors, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
 - (iii) **Oxford Film & Video Makers, £1,390**, towards Summerscreen 2009 activities, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (c) *that Members consider grant applications which were awarded a grant by the Executive on 17 October 2008 and were referred to the Area Committees for possible additional support:*
- (iv) **Oxfordshire Play Association, £3,373**, towards core costs of providing support services to play settings in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority
 - (v) **South & Vale Carers Centre, £3,724**, towards core costs of providing a support service to carers, Social Agenda, Access priority
 - (vi) **Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire, £1,105**, to impart a love of reading to children in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority
 - (vii) **Oxfordshire Playbus, £3,000**, towards a replacement sensory

vehicle for children with special needs, Social Agenda, Access priority

(d) that Members request that the Executive approves the carrying forward of any unspent grant budget from 2008/09 into 2009/10

(e) that Members note the Abingdon Area Committee's budget for 2009/10

(f) that Members determine the applications for additional parish cleansing in 2009/10 to be paid from the 2009/10 budget

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

3.1 This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities. It also supports the Vale Community Strategy. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or policy.

4.0 Community Grants

4.1 Budget

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

Budget b/f 2007/08	Budget 2008/09	Total budget 2008/09	Environmental 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 = £8,927.37
	Allocated	£27,655.25	£1,337.50 + £5,691.73 to Social	£26,317.75	£2,599.70 to Social	£8,927.7 to Social
	Remaining	£2,069.72	£2,069.72	£0	£0	£0

4.2 At the end of the last meeting of the Committee all of the remaining budget for 2008/09 had been awarded or allocated in case the applications to the County Council's Chill Out Fund to be submitted by DAMASCUS Youth Project, The Vale of White Horse Foyer and the Compass Café, were unsuccessful. These three applicants were advised to apply to the Chill Out Fund and DAMASCUS Youth Project has been awarded £1,000, which was the balance in the Chill Out Fund for 2008/09. As a result £1,000 has been returned to the Committee's budget. The Vale of White Horse Foyer and the Compass Café have been advised to apply to the Chill Out Fund in the new financial year.

4.3 A further £969.72 has been returned to the budget from the grant of £2,000 awarded to the Preston Road Community Centre Association in Autumn 2008. The grant had been requested as third party funding to secure and release a grant from WREN.

- 4.4 Throughout 2008/09 a total of £2,219.72 has been returned to budget.
- 4.5 In view of the amount returned to budget since the last meeting of the committee, officers have considered an application from Sustrans and in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, have awarded a grant of £150 towards the reprinting of the leaflet on The Hanson Way cycle route which passes through Abingdon en route between Oxford and Didcot.
- 4.6 After taking into account the grant returned to budget and the grant awarded under officer delegation, the remaining budget for 2008/09 is £2,069.72, as shown in the table above.

5.0 New grant applications

Applications totalling £2,865.00 have been received from the following and there are narratives providing additional details at Appendix A.

(i) **Abingdon Music Festival Association, £475.00**, towards a conducting a masterclass, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

(ii) **Drayton Hall, £1,000**, towards replacement doors, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

(iii) **Oxford Film & Video Makers, £1,390**, towards Summerscreen 2009 activities, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

6.0 Grant applications referred from the Executive

- 6.1 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 so no further consideration is necessary. The sixth application, where no grant was awarded by the Executive was withdrawn.
- 6.2 In view of the large number of new applications received and considered by the Abingdon Area Committee at its meeting on 6 November 2008 all of the Committee's remaining budget for 2008/09 was allocated with the result that consideration of the applications referred by the Executive was deferred to the March meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee.
- 6.3 The referred applications are as follows and a narrative is included at Appendix B. The grant requested and awarded by the Executive is shown on the narratives. The amount of grant requested from the Area Committees, shown below, is the balance after the award from the Executive and other funding received since the Executive meeting.

(iv) **Oxfordshire Play Association, £3,373**, towards core costs of providing support services to play settings in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority

- (v) **South & Vale Carers Centre, £3,724**, towards core costs of providing a support service to carers, Social Agenda, Access priority
- (vi) **Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire, £1,105**, to impart a love of reading to children in the Vale, Social Agenda, Access priority
- (vii) **Oxfordshire Playbus, £3,000**, towards a replacement sensory vehicle for children with special needs, Social Agenda, Access priority

7.0 The 2009/10 Community Grants Budget for the Abingdon Area Committee

- 7.1 Following the meeting of Council on 25 February 2009 and the approval of the Council's budget for 2009/10, Members are advised that the Community Grants budget for the Abingdon Area Committee in 2009/10 will be £26,096.00.
- 7.2 The Abingdon Area budget for 2009/10 has been calculated based on the electorate in the Abingdon Area on 1 January 2009. The same principle has been applied to determine the budget for the other Area Committees.
- 7.3 The details for the Abingdon Area and other Areas are shown at Appendix C.

8.0 Carry forward of unspent grant

Members are invited to request that the Executive approves the carrying forward of any unspent grant budget from 2008/09 into 2009/10.

9.0 Additional Parish Cleansing applications for 2009/10

- 9.1 At the meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee on 25 March 2008 two applications for additional parish cleansing were considered. In view of the reduced level of grant funding now available and likely in the future it was agreed that grants for additional parish cleansing in the Abingdon Area would be phased out over two years. Both parish councils who submitted applications for 2008/09 were advised of this decision. The final year for awarding such grants is therefore 2009/10.
- 9.2 An application has been received from Appleford Parish Council and Drayton Parish Council, details of which are provided in the table at Appendix D.
- 9.3 Members are requested to consider and determine the applications received. Any grant awarded will be allocated from the committee's 2009/10 budget.

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

MATT PROSSER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

Background Papers: Appendices A, B and D - Application Details

APPENDIX A

(i) Applicant: Abingdon Music Festival Association

Years in existence: 11 years

Type of organisation: Registered Charity

Project, service or event details: Abingdon Music Festival Association is seeking a grant towards the costs of running "Maestro", a one-day masterclass, in particular to fund the nineteen young musicians who will form the orchestra upon which the eight masterclass participants will practice their conducting skills. The aim is to attract university music students who are based in and around Abingdon to form the orchestra. By publicising the masterclass in local schools the intention is to attract local sixth form music students.

The class will be held on 19 April 2009 in the Silk Hall, Radley College and will be led by Peter Stalk, series consultant to "Maestro", the BBC2 series broadcast in August and September 2008. The series comprised classes where celebrities with musical ability were assigned expert conductors as mentors and trained in the art of conducting. Due to the series the profile of conducting has been raised and several local young people have expressed interest in participating in the masterclass. The masterclass will not be competitive but will focus more on the skills required to conduct effectively and will aim to inspire the young musicians who take part and give them lasting techniques and knowledge for their musical futures.

A 19-strong ensemble of locally-based young musicians will perform Haydn symphonies under the baton of each participant, culminating in a concert performance of a movement by each young musician. The public will be encouraged to come to all or any part of the day to gain an insight into how conducting works.

The Abingdon Music Festival Association's object is to advance the education of the public in the Arts and in particular in the art of music. In furtherance of the object they present and promote public performances, concerts and recitals. Their main event is an annual festival in May.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Mainly Abingdon.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 77

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Participants' entry fee £30.00, audience fee £5.00

Total estimated project cost: £1,340.00 including VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £5,008.12 as at 30.04.08

Running costs: £2,711.62 year ending 30.04.08

Own Contribution: The Association will make up any shortfall after grants.

Grant Sought: £475.00

Previous Awards (Vale): 2007/08: £500 for Concerto class.
2006/07: application submitted towards choral workshop but due to successful Awards for All application withdrew Vale application. 2005/06: £400 for Concerto class. 2004/05: £375.00 composers workshop.

Parish Council Support: £350 from Abingdon Town Council

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

Other Support: None sought

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes but see comments.
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	£2,069.72
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	Applicants are expected to seek funding from sources other than the Town Council and District Council. Although it is not easy to find other sources of funding to support this type of event, recommend that applications are made to local trusts.

(ii) Applicant: Drayton Hall

Years in existence: 35 years

Type of organisation: Village Hall

Project, service or event details: Drayton Hall is seeking a grant towards the replacement of two pairs of doors in the small hall. Currently the door frames are rotten and the room is uninviting, with no natural light. During the replacement of the doors reinforced glass panels/windows will be installed. The hall is a regular venue for various groups including two youth clubs, brownies and a mother and toddler group.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Drayton

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 108

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Amounts vary depending on areas of the building, hours used etc. As an example, hourly rate for small hall £8-£12.

Total estimated project cost: £4,800.00 (VAT can be reclaimed)

Balances: £7,920.00 as at 31.03.08

Running costs: £27,074 as at 31.03.08

Own Contribution: £500

Grant Sought: £1,000

Previous Awards (Vale): Previously applied but due to funds awarded from other sources no monies claimed.

Parish Council Support: Drayton Parish Council has agreed to contribute 25% of the cost.

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

Other Support: Applied to Doris Field Trust for £1000 (awaiting outcome), approached Corneville Trust for a general donation (reply awaited). In the past an annual contribution has been received from Drayon Enterprises (bar operation) but this has now been wound up. Applications to Grass Roots and Elizabeth Jane Foundation were not successful.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
Reasons:	
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	£2,069.72
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(iii) Applicant: Oxford Film and Video Makers (OFVM)

Years in existence: 25 years

Type of organisation: Charity

Project, service or event details: Oxford Film and Video Makers are seeking a grant towards the running of activities in the Vale area as part of Summerscreen 2009, the film festival for young people in Oxfordshire. This year the festival will be running from 18th -26th July 2009. In the Vale there will be:

2 days of Flash Animation workshops at John Mason School. 30 people
 3 days of BBC mini movies with the Damascus youth centre in Sutton Courtenay. 8 people
 7 days of TV news training for young people in the Vale between 15-18 years who have some media experience.

At the end of the week on 26th July all work produced will be shown at the Phoenix Picture House as part of the Best of the Fest free screening event.

The festival was launched in 2004 and has continued to grow and expand ever since. Each year bringing together 20 local organisations to deliver film activities to more than 2000 people across the county.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Access to Services, Recreation, Culture ad Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning

Area of the Vale covered: Milton, Steventon, Sutton Courtenay, Drayton, Appleford & Abingdon

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 50

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Only workshops at John Mason school will have a charge of £12.00 all other activities will be free.

Total estimated project cost: £6,000.00

Balances: £57,102.00 as at 31.03.08

Running costs: £207,055.00 as at 31.03.08

Own Contribution: £200.00

Grant Sought: £1,390.00

Previous Awards (Vale): £1,000.00 was awarded in 2008, £1,500.00 in 2007, £500.00 in 2006 all from Executive.

Parish Council Support: Applying to Sutton Courtenay Parish Council and Abingdon Town Council, advised to apply to Milton and Steventon, Drayton and Appleford Parish Councils.

Parish Precept: Milton £18,000 (Band D £37.23), Steventon £23,500 (Band D £37.42), Appleford £6,200 (Band D £38.47), Sutton Courtenay £34,513 (Band D £35.00), Drayton £24,000 (Band D £25.33), Abingdon £996,133 (Band D £1.28)

Other Support: Applying to South East Area Committee for £700.00.
Applying to Youth Opportunities Fund through County Council for £1,500.00 (this amount was awarded last year).

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Access to Services, Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£2,069.72
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

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 from Executive: £5,673.00 based on proportion of member play settings within the Vale; £1,500 awarded
North East Area Committee awarded £800

Grant sought from South East, Abingdon Area and West Area Committees: £3,373.00

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. £800 awarded from North East Area Committee.

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, if budget available
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
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
Remaining budget	£2,069.72
Remaining committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	N/A
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(v) 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 from Executive : £7,938.00; £3,214 awarded

North East Area Committee awarded: £1,000

Grant sought from South East, Abingdon Area and West Area

Committees: £3,724.00

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. North East Area Committee awarded £1000.00.

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, if budget available
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
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
Remaining budget	£2,069.72
Remaining committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	N/A
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(vi) 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 from Executive: £3,000; £1,000 awarded
North East Area Committee awarded: £250

Grant sought from South East, Abingdon Area and West Area Committees: £1,105

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. £645 awarded from Faringdon Town Council

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. North East Area Committee £250.00.

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

Recommend support	Yes, if budget available
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
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
Remaining budget	£2,069.72
Remaining committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	N/A
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	

(vii) 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
(Raised to date: £42,000)

Balances: £78,639.00 at 31/03/08

Running costs: £235,035.00 year ending 31/03/08

Own Contribution: £2,000 from fundraising campaign

Grant sought from Executive: £6,000; £2,000 awarded

Grant sought from Area Committees: £3,000

North East Area Committee awarded £1,000

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. North East Area Committee awarded £1,000.

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

Recommend support	Yes, if budget available
Amount recommended	Committee to determine
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
Remaining budget	£2,069.72
Remaining committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	N/A
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	Oxfordshire Playbus has raised £42,000 to date towards the new bus. When they reach £58,425 they can apply to other funders for match funding.

Community Grant Budget Apportionment 2009/10

Area committees share of budget is apportioned to take account of the electorate in each area on 1st January

Area	Electorate 1st January 2007	Electorate 1st January 2008	Electorate 1st January 2009	Difference 2008 to 2009
Abingdon	29,158	29,402	29,669	267
North East	21,012	21,068	20,507	-561
South East	25,569	25,545	25,840	295
West	16,274	16,370	16,856	486
Total	92,013	92,385	92,872	487

Area	% of Electorate 01.01.07	% of Electorate 01.01.08	% of Electorate 01.01.09	Apportionment	Budget 2008/09	Budget 2009/10	Change from 08/09 to 09/10
Executive	n/a	n/a	n/a	21.00%	£21,714	£21,714	£0
Abingdon	31.70%	31.83%	31.95%	25.24%	£25,997	£26,096	£99
North East	22.80%	22.80%	22.08%	17.44%	£18,628	£18,037	-£591
South East	27.80%	27.65%	27.82%	21.98%	£22,587	£22,728	£141
West	17.70%	17.72%	18.15%	14.34%	£14,474	£14,826	£352
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	£103,400	£103,400	£0

NB Percentage figures have been rounded to two decimal places; budgets have been rounded to nearest whole £

To areas 2009/10 79% £81,686

[illegible]

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report No:176/08

Wards affected – All wards in the Abingdon Area

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR (MATT PROSSER) **TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE** **19th March 2009**

Prospectus to Target Grants for the Benefit of the Abingdon Area

1.0 Introduction & Report Summary

- 1.1 A grants 'prospectus' will help to create greater awareness of the types of projects that are a priority for support by the area committee. The document will not need to be overly long and it could be structured around the priorities of the new Vale Community Strategy.
- 1.2 This report provides information about a draft prospectus. The appendix consists of a copy of a draft prospectus which has been prepared by officers. This information will assist the committee in deciding if it should have a prospectus. If it is resolved to have a prospectus the information will assist in finalising the form and content of the prospectus.
- 1.3 The contact officer for this report is Toby Warren, Head of Community Strategy (Tel: 01235 547695 Email toby.warren@whitehorsedc.gov.uk).

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 *(i) Members are requested to determine if the committee should have a grants prospectus.*
(ii) If members resolve to have a prospectus they are requested to determine the final content of the prospectus.

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

- 3.1 This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities. It also supports the Vale Community Strategy. It does not conflict with any Council strategy or any Council policy.

4.0 The Prospectus

- 4.1 The draft prospectus is intended to make the voluntary and community sector and others more aware of the types of projects that are a priority for support by the area committee.
- 4.2 The draft prospectus is designed to fit with the priorities of the Vale Community Strategy. The Vale Community Strategy sets out how the

Council and its partners will work together to improve the quality of life of everyone who lives in, works in or visits the Vale.

4.3 The Vale Community Strategy has the following priorities:

- social progress which recognises the needs of everyone:

- Healthier communities;
- Improving quality of life for older people;
- Safer communities;
- Fostering a greater sense of community;
- A good understanding of town and parish priorities;
- Involving young people;
- Helping those without cars to access jobs and services;
- Affordable homes;
- Good quality homes; and
- Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities.

- maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment:

- Addressing economic weaknesses;
- Building on our economic strengths, and
- Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres.

- effective protection of the environment and wise use of natural resources:

- A low carbon Vale;
- Living with extreme weather conditions;
- Using resources wisely;
- Reducing waste and increasing recycling, and
- A high quality natural and historic environment.

4.4 The strategy contains details of actions that will help to achieve the priorities. The draft prospectus helps to identify priorities and actions that are particularly important for the Abingdon of the Vale

4.5 The draft prospectus helps to identify priorities and actions where the award of a grant will address a gap in provision (e.g. Reducing the risk of flooding is an important priority in the Abingdon and the Council has introduced a grant scheme for Community Flood Groups; so there is less need for the Abingdon Area Committee to award grants for local flood prevention works. However it may wish to support a good neighbours scheme which provides support to vulnerable people who are affected by extreme weather conditions.).

- 4.6 The length of the draft prospectus is intended to make it 'user friendly'. The wording hopefully makes the document understandable and readable.

5.0 Consultation & Distribution

- 5.1 The prospectus draws on the Community Strategy priorities which were agreed following a period of extensive community consultation. The final version will also draw on committee members' knowledge of their local communities.
- 5.2 Once the final version has been approved it could be launched with a press release which will help to create awareness. Distributing copies of the prospectus to local voluntary and community groups and libraries will also help to create awareness.
- 5.3 At the end of the year an opinion survey of grant applicants and voluntary and community groups who have not applied for grants could be conducted. The survey would assist members in determining the value of the prospectus and in agreeing the shape of the 2010-2011 prospectus.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 The area committee can demonstrate its community leadership role by championing projects that promote community self help and are consistent with the priorities of the Vale Community Strategy.
- 6.2 The prospectus will act as guide for applicants as it will indicate the committee's priorities for support. However when the prospectus is published it should be made clear that each application is determined on its individual merits and the committee is free to support project activity which is not mentioned in the prospectus.

Background Papers:

The Vale's Strategy for Sustainable Communities - 2008 to 2016

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

MATT PROSSER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR

The Abingdon Area Prospectus 2009/10

The Council's Abingdon Area Committee supports residents to develop projects which improve their community. The area covered is Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford.

The elected district councillors for the wards of the Vale of White Horse District, that make up the Abingdon Area Committee have a limited budget which can be used to give small grants towards the cost of starting community projects. In the financial year 2008/09 the Abingdon Area Committee gave grants to twenty different projects. The grants helped with arts, sports and young peoples' activities. Grants also helped to improve community buildings.

The Committee's budget for the financial year 2009/10 is just over £ 26,000. The table on the following page provides information about the kind of local community led projects that the Committee would like to support in 2009/10. The table is organised to fit with the priorities of the Vale Community Strategy. The Vale Community Strategy sets out how the Council and its partners will work together to improve the quality of life of everyone who lives in, works in or visits the Vale. The table shows how the Abingdon Area Committee plans to contribute to the Vale Community Strategy. Councillors consider that quality of life in the Abingdon of the Vale will improve if there are more of the kinds of community projects that are listed in the table.

The Abingdon Area Committee recognises that there are other kinds of community projects which may not be mentioned in the table. The Committee is more than willing to consider these projects, as all projects are determined according to their individual merits. However given the Committee's limited budget, it would like to focus its grant giving on projects that it feels will make an important contribution to community life.

If you are a member of a community group in the Abingdon area of the Vale who is interested in applying for a grant towards the cost of starting a priority project visit the Council's website:
http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/community_support_and_advice/Community_grants/default.asp or telephone the Community Strategy Officer (Direct Dial 01235 547626).

VALE COMMUNITY STRATEGY PRIORITIES	PRIORITIES IN THE ABINGDON AREA IN 2009/10 The Abingdon Area Committee aims particularly to support suitable groups who are able to take these projects forward
Healthier communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing sports activities that are interesting and affordable • Providing maps and guides to encourage cycling and walking
Improving quality of life for older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing befriending and good neighbour schemes • Providing lunch clubs and other social activities
Safer communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reassuring people that the Vale is a relatively safe place so that they do not live in fear of crime
Fostering a greater sense of community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging interaction between residents of different ages, circumstances and backgrounds • Improving community buildings • Using local school facilities to provide wider community benefits
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing parish action plans
Involving young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing positive leisure time activities
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing or improving community transport schemes • Providing local service directories or websites; voluntary sector advice 'road shows' visiting village halls
Affordable homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
Good quality homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing pro-active housing advice for 'hard to reach' groups (young, disabled, ethnic minorities)
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving sport and leisure facilities that are open to all • Improving open spaces • Providing new cultural activities that are open to all
Addressing economic weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing after school clubs
Building on our economic strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging residents to support shops and other businesses in the area's villages
A low carbon Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be determined
Living with extreme weather conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing good neighbour schemes for older people and other vulnerable groups
Using resources wisely	

VALE COMMUNITY STRATEGY PRIORITIES	PRIORITIES IN THE ABINGDON AREA IN 2009/10 The Abingdon Area Committee aims particularly to support suitable groups who are able to take these projects forward
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging more re-cycling (e.g. community swap-shops)
A high quality natural and historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing listed buildings that are open to all • Enhancing parks and gardens that are open to all • Improving the appearance of the villages in the area