

Report of Head of Corporate Strategy

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To: Abingdon Area Committee

DATE: 22 April 2013

Capital Community Grants

Recommendation

that the committee approves the officer recommendations for the seven capital community grant applications referred to in paragraph 5 of the report.

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is for the committee to consider the officer recommendations for the seven applications the council has received for capital funding.

Strategic Objectives

2. The council has a corporate priority to offer support to local communities by offering grants to voluntary and community organisations who are delivering projects and services that support it's own objectives or those in need.

Background

3. The committee's budget for capital community grants in 2012/13 was £26,514. £6,011 was awarded during the first round of funding in December 2012 leaving a balance of £20,503. The budget for 2013/14 has been set at £26,514 and the balance of £20,503 carried forward making a total of £47,017 available to allocate during this round and a future round of funding in November 2013.
4. The capital community grant scheme opened on 21 January 2013 and closed on the 28 February 2013.

5. Officers received seven valid applications requesting a total of £14,269, a summary of these is shown below and an officer appraisal for each application is attached at **appendix 1** of this report.

Ref:	organisation	project	project cost £	total points scored	grant requested £	officer recommendation £
1053	2121 (Abingdon) Air Training Corps	Computer purchases	£6,854	120	£3,427	£3,427
1050	Abingdon Sea Cadets	Safety boat replacement	£4,792	120	£2,392	£2,392
1051	Preston Road Community Centre	Replacement room partitions	£16,410	110	£1,650	£1,650
1064	Dunmore Pre-school	ICT package	£5,072	110	£2,500	£2,500
1063	Abingdon DAMASCAS youth project	Street display equipment	£2,886	110	£2,886	£1,443
1055	Arch (assisted reading for children)	Book box provision	£2,400	115	£700	£700
1065	North East Abingdon Community Association	Lighting upgrade	£1,427	125	£714	£427
				Total	£14,269	£12,539

6. Officers used a scoring system¹ to help in evaluating each application. The scoring system is a fair and transparent way of evaluating applications. Details of the scoring system approved by the cabinet member for finance are attached at **appendix 2**.
7. The recommendations from officers for all capital community grant applications are based on the scoring criteria shown below.

Approved Scoring Criteria	
Total points score	
100 or more	officers recommend the project is a funding priority
80 or more	officers recommend the project receives some funding
79 or less	officers recommend the project does not receive funding

Financial Implications

8. The council can only award funding towards projects that meet its budgetary and audit requirements for capital expenditure. Officers have removed any revenue costs included in these applications from the amounts requested and the revised figures are used in the officer appraisals. The award recommendations will only be made on capital expenditure.

¹ The cabinet member for grants approved the scoring system on 2 July 2012

Legal Implications

9. The area committees have delegated authority from the previous executive to determine grant applications. There is also a delegated authority for the head of corporate strategy in consultation with the chair of the relevant area committee to determine grant awards up to £1,000.

Risks

10. There are no risk implications arising from this report.

Conclusion

11. The Abingdon Area Committee is requested to consider and determine the seven grant applications received.

Appendix 1 Vale Capital Community Grants Officer Evaluation

Ref no.	Organisation	Scheme	Scheme Cost £	Grant Sought	% total project cost requested	Broadening the range	Community Participation	Meeting local need	Community Benefit	Viability	Score	Recommended Award	recommended award % of total project cost
1053	2121 (Abingdon) air training corps	Computer purchases	£6,854	£3,427	50.00%	15	15	15	15	60	120	£3,427	50.00%
1050	Abingdon Sea Cadets	Safety boat replacement	£4,792	£2,392	49.92%	15	15	15	15	60	120	£2,392	49.92%
1051	Preston Road Community Centre	Replacement room partitions	£16,410	£1,650	10.05%	15	10	10	15	60	110	£1,650	10.05%
1064	Dunmore Pre-school	ICT package	£5,072	£2,500	49.29%	15	15	15	15	50	110	£2,500	49.29%
1063	Abingdon DAMASCAS youth Project	Street display equipment	£2,886	£2,886	100%	15	15	10	15	55	110	£1,443	50.00%
1055	Arch (assisted reading for children)	Book box provision	£2,400	£700	29.17%	15	15	20	15	50	115	£700	29.17%
1065	North East Abingdon Community Association	Lighting upgrade	£1,427	£714	50.00%	15	15	15	20	60	125	£427	29.92%
Total				£14,269							Total	£12,539	
											Budget	£47,017	
											Remainder	£34,478	
100 or more		funding priority											
80 or more		some funding											
79 or less		no funding											

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1053			
2121 (Abingdon) Air Training Corps			
ULTI Learn			
In order for young people in the community to develop their potential and access the full range of opportunities open to them, they need to be able to fully participate in the learning programme on the internet which is specific to the ATC and pass exams, which are completed on the computer. This includes the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and requires equipment which can cope with systems and not crash			
Grant officer comments and recommendation: The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation, local need and community benefit areas. The application scored full marks in the viability area.	Recommended award	£3,427	
	Recommended %	50.00%	
	Amount requested	£3,427	
	% requested	50.00	
	Total project cost	£6,854	
	Organisation's contribution	£3,427	
	Organisation's closing balance at year end	£7,578	
	Town or parish contribution	£0	
	Other secured funding	£0	
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
Qualifications are important to young people to show on their CV. We offer BTEC in Public Service, Music and Aviation; the Duke of Edinburgh award is now completed on the internet and young people can complete all levels. Not every household has a computer and on project night young people who need to complete their homework are allowed to use the current computers when they work. In addition all young people attend Heart Start and learn CPR with a further opportunity to broaden their first aid skills.		Score	15/20
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
Questionnaires have been completed by all members regarding the current equipment and the general consensus is that the lack of capability with the current old computers is limiting their opportunities; when they have worked hard to take an exam and the computer crashes, they feel demoralised.		Score	15/20
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
Currently there is a waiting list of young people who are interested in joining but are too young. The current equipment is old and breaks down, interrupting young people learning. To keep youngsters interested, to help them develop into well rounded people with the abilities to communicate, gain qualifications, develop self-confidence, we need to give them reliability.		Score	15/20
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
All young people who are now involved and join in the future. They will gain		Score	

experience and qualifications which will be useful in their future lives from Heart Start to Duke of Edinburgh's to BTECs. They learn how to work in a team through adventure training, sports, and become self-disciplined adults.			15/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	We are involved with the development of young people, giving them opportunities to grow and become sensible, confident members of society. To achieve this they need to have reliable equipment to learn and access. 4 will be in main office not accessible to cadets for confidential reasons.		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	Because new equipment is reliable which means young people can have confidence when using it and by enabling young people to access huge opportunities through learning new skills and obtaining qualifications. Desk tops are less likely to be stolen and easier to repair.		
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	Yes if we can obtain 50% of the total costs.		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	There is an IT specialist on staff who is working on a programme to train staff and young people on the maintenance of the equipment. Desktops have been chosen because they are more robust, easier to repair and less likely to be stolen. All electrical equipment is annually PAT tested.	Score	60 /60
Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding		Total Score	120/140

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1050		
Abingdon Sea Cadets		
Replacement of Safety Boat		
<p>Abingdon Sea Cadets needs to replace its existing Safety Boat and trailer. The current boat has been deemed no longer fit for purpose and retired by the Unit's Boats Officer. The replacement boat is Royal Yachting Association Approved and is the make of boat recommended by Sea Cadet Headquarters. The trailer will be needed to facilitate transport to various locations where water-borne training takes place.</p>		
<p>Grant officer comments and recommendation:</p> <p>The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation, local need and community benefit areas.</p> <p>The project scored full marks for viability.</p>	Recommended award	£2,392
	Recommended %	49.92%
	Amount requested	£2,392
	% requested	49.92%
	Total project cost	£4,792
	Organisation's contribution	£1,400
	Organisation's closing balance at year end	£8,894
	Town or parish contribution	£0
	Other secured funding	£1,000
Project Information		
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?	
<p>The targeted new replacement boat is larger. A larger boat will allow more cadets to access to training. No replacement means NO water-borne activities could be delivered as to do so without would mean a breach of RYA and Health and Safety regulation. The replacement boat will allow the delivery of training, nautical adventure and fun. We aim to deliver to cadets 30 hours on the water per cadet a year (average) with all cadets achieving one external water-borne qualification. We could not attempt to achieve this without a new safety boat.</p>		<p>Score</p> <p>15/20</p>
2	How did you consult with the local community?	
<p>This project is necessary to maintain our ability to offer safe water-borne activities and does not lend itself to open consultation. I have included in our additional documents a letter from the Boats Officer alerting the management committee to the need to replace the current boat. This letter mentions that other members of Instructional Staff have been consulted and they too agree with his recommendation. Vice Chair has met with the Boats Officer, examined the current boat and supports the need to source a replacement.</p>		<p>Score</p> <p>15/20</p>
3	How do you know that the community need this project?	
<p>I attach a copy of a letter to Management Committee written by CPO (SCC) Peter Young (Abingdon Sea Cadets Boats Officer) which outlines the case for replacement. Replacement had already been noted in the longer term plans of the Unit Management Committee but deterioration in the condition of the current boat means replacement has become a matter of priority to maintain the high standard of water-borne training undertaken at Abingdon Sea Cadets.</p>		<p>Score</p> <p>15/20</p>

4	Who will benefit from your project?		
	All of our current cadets and Staff will be able to continue safe use of the Thames for water-borne activities. Future cadets will also benefit as we expect the new boat to have a life of at least fifteen years. The new larger safety boat will mean that we can offer to assist with Safety Boat provision to events held on the Thames by groups other than our own. New and attractive equipment demonstrates to cadets and staff that their time and efforts are valued. This also aids cadet recruitment.	Score	15/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	As Abingdon Sea Cadets will soon be left without a dedicated Safety Boat if this project does not happen we believe it to be fully reasonable and appropriate to the area.		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	The choice of replacement boat has been made following recommendation of Sea Cadet Headquarters. There is only one quote attached with this application. This is from the UK agents for Rigidflex who offer special prices for Sea Cadet Units below retail, in this case just over £1000 below retail price.		
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	Yes. At present, should this application yield the full 50% of the project cost, only £97 is needed to reach the remaining 50%. Any shortfall will be pursued through applications to local Charitable Trusts such as Christ's Hospital and The Cumber Family Charitable Trust.		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	The new boat and trailer will be maintained as part of our annual boat maintenance programme carried out by the Boats Officer, Staff and volunteer parents. Costs will be budgeted for in our accounts. The boat itself is a low maintenance boat needing little work within its first years of service.	Score	60/60
Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding		Total Score	120/140

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1051			
Preston Road Community Centre			
Replace room partitions			
<p>Replace the room partitions with new ones with better sound proofing. At present there are partitions between the medium and small hall and between the medium hall and lounge. One is damaged and neither provides enough sound proofing for the different areas of the centre to be hired out independently without noise disturbance from one function disturbing another function.</p>			
<p>Grant officer comments and recommendation:</p> <p>The application scored well in the broadening the range area.</p> <p>The application lost points in the consultation area and local need areas as minimal consultation results or evidence of the need for sound proofing was provided.</p> <p>The application scored well in the community benefit area.</p> <p>The project scored full marks for viability. The organisation is currently awaiting a decision from Awards for All grant application to help fund this project.</p>	Recommended award	£1,650	
	Recommended %	10.05%	
	Amount requested	£1,650	
	% requested	10.05%	
	Total project cost	£16,410	
	Organisation's contribution	£1,650	
	Organisation's closing balance at year end	£28,515	
	Town or parish contribution	£1,000	
	Other secured funding	£4,000	
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
<p>We have recently had to refuse bookings from a church group, a possible beaver cubs group and a cancer charity because of possible noise disturbance from one activity to another.</p>			<p>Score 15 /20</p>
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
<p>Groups who have used the facility in the past have experienced the noise problem.</p>			<p>Score 10/20</p>
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
<p>Because we have had to alert people to the problem when they were thinking about making a booking so that people were able to make a considered choice and there could be no backlash.</p>			<p>Score 10/20</p>
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
<p>Whoever wants to book in the future will benefit and the centre will be able to be used more efficiently.</p>			<p>Score 15/20</p>
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	<p>It improves an existing facility so it can be used by more groups at the same time without interference.</p>		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		

	It will provides good sound proofing whilst maintaining flexible usage of the community centre	
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?	
	Yes. If we do not receive enough funding to do both partitions we will only do one.	
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?	
	Volunteers will oversee the installation and once in place bookings will continue as now.	Score 60/60
	Officer scoring point system: 100 or more – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or more – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding	Total 110/140

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1064			
Dunmore Pre-school			
New complete ICT Package			
To buy an ICT package of equipment for the pre-school			
Grant officer comments and recommendation: The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation, local need and community benefit areas. The application scored well in the viability area and the organisation should be able to cover any gap in funding through fundraising or using their own funds.		Recommended award	£2,500
		Recommended %	49.29%
		Amount requested	£2,500
		% requested	49.29%
		Total project cost	£5,072
		Organisation's contribution	£2,000
		Organisation's closing balance at year end	£43,759
		Town or parish contribution	£0
		Other secured funding	£0
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
Children develop ICT skills through meaningful experiences that cover all areas of learning and development. We believe technology is now an important part of all young children's lives and should be an everyday experience. Children need the opportunity to experience, explore and play with ICT equipment and technological toys as with any other toy. Young children enjoy pressing buttons and making things work. Using appropriate technology enhances this learning and gives opportunities to develop independent skills.		Score	15/20
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
Questionnaire sent out to families. Talking to families, staff and children Staff and management meetings		Score	15 /20
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
In the past the pre-school has only had old donated ICT systems. These have always eventually broken down or need repair. The pre-school community needs a system that is up to date, suitable for small hands/young children to use. Using appropriate technology enhances learning and opportunities to develop independent skills. Also the pre-school needs to be able to produce our own posters, advertising, news letters etc to communicate with the local community.		Score	15/20
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
Pre-school children, staff and families will all benefit from the project.		Score	15/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	At the moment we have no ICT equipment in pre-school due to equipment breakdown. The EYFS		

	states that children should have the use of ICT to enhance learning and development. staff will use equipment to research and plan activities and learning for children		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	We have investigated different options and the packages we have decided on appears to be the best value for the equipment we need.		
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	Easter fundraiser of sponsored events Summer Fete/family day Christmas bazaar Quiz nights Sponsored events		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	Purchase of equipment and setting up of ICT space. Equipment will be under warranty	Score	50/60
	Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding	Total Score	110/140

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1063			
Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project			
YCAT on the Streets			
<p>Street work is a great tool to engage and identify the issues that young people face. It gives the opportunity to do needs analyses and develop bespoke support. We want to purchase a sturdy pop up gazebo with some foldable furniture and tea/coffee making facilities to create a mobile mini community hub that can be used for street work and also engage passing adults. This is vital for work in inclement weather when young people are hanging out in isolated places for shelter.</p>			
<p>Grant officer comments and recommendation:</p> <p>The project cost was originally £5,886 but was reduced to £2,886 when revenue costs of £3,000 were removed. The organisation has requested 100 per cent of the updated total project cost (£2,886) and have supplied a statement (attached to précis) to put forward their case to receive more than the usual maximum of 50 per cent.</p> <p>The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation and community benefit areas.</p> <p>The application lost points in the local need section as minimal reference about how or why the community need this specific facility was given in the application.</p> <p>The project scored well in the viability area; however they have sufficient funds available to fund the whole project. They have requested 100% of the project costs but have £500 earmarked towards the project themselves and have requests for funding in to other charities towards this project.</p>	Recommended award	£1,443	
	Recommended %	50.00%	
	Amount requested	£2,886	
	% requested	100%	
	Total project cost	£2,886	
	Organisation's contribution	£500	
	Organisation's closing balance at year end	£96,592 (£77,445 unrestricted)	
	Town or parish contribution	£0 but give revenue support	
	Other secured funding	£0	
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
<p>We are a voluntary registered charity based in five village communities and also work with young people from South Abingdon and Didcot who come to these villages. This project will broaden our capacity to deliver street work all the year round and will result in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Increased community engagement (stronger communities) •Improved access to support An opportunity to build and share expertise and knowledge •An environment that young people can feel safe in and express themselves in a positive way – leading to better life chances 		Score	15/20
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
<p>Through our existing work we engage with more than 300 young people and also adults in the communities. We discuss with young people their 'hopes and dreams' and their visions of their communities. We have run intergenerational workshops to identify blockers to community engagement. Adults have told us that they would feel more confident about engaging with young people in a gazebo setting rather than just stand outside the shops and engage - over a cup of tea or some board games they might have more to talk about.</p>		Score	15/20
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
<p>The recurrent feedback from young people is - people think we are stupid because we mess about; somewhere to go; adults don't know us. Through our own involvement we know that large groups of young people heighten the perception of fear of crime and danger. Residents get fed up by the noise and litter. Young people are aware but seem unable to control their group behaviour and this deters a lot of adults from engaging in street work. Young people are at</p>		Score	10/20

risk hanging out in isolated places would be good to have a warm place in bad weather.			
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
All young people and their communities in the DAMASCUS villages (population about 7500) and also the nearby towns of Abingdon and Didcot. Young people from South Abingdon come in to Drayton and from Didcot in to Sutton Courtenay. DAMASCUS is an acronym for Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon. YCAT is an acronym Youth and Community Acting Together.		Score	15/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	Young people are at risk when they hang out in dark isolated areas behind village halls etc. It also encourages anti social behaviour with consequences for them and the community. Gazebo staffed by youth workers is a responsible focal point for positive engagement with challenging young people.		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	The capital expenditure in the project is for off the shelf equipment. We have spent a considerable time researching prices on the Internet and also asking organisations (e.g. police) who have similar gazebos about their experiences. As trustees we have put time to make sure that we get best value.		
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	The funds that are not as yet secured will not hold us back from starting the project as it is for transport of the gazebo - in the interim we will be able to start it with the funds that we are putting towards it.		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	This is a small discrete project to buy a gazebo and use it in our youth work across the communities. It also gives the opportunity to use it at public events and raise our profile in Abingdon and Didcot. The management of the buying will be overseen by one of the trustees with procurement experience	Score	55 /60
Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding		Total Score	110/140

Statement from applicant on following page



9 Chapel Lane
Sutton Courtenay
OXON OX14 4AN

6 March 2013

An initiative of the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

DAMASCUS is an acronym for Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon

ritaatkinson@googlemail.com

Carole Cumming
Grants Officer
Grants Team,
Abbey House, Abbey Close
Abingdon, OX14 3JE

Your Ref: 1063; Community Capital Grant Application

Dear Carole

YCAT on the Streets

Thank you for your letter dated 6 March 2013. I understand that as you cannot count the revenue element of our project (contributed by us) in the overall project, you have amended our application to remove this element from the total project cost resulting in a reduction from £5,886 to £2,886. Further under the 50% rule it entitles us only to a potential grant of £1,443. We would like to make an exception request to be considered for over 50% grant funding for the project.

In this letter I set out arguments which I hope the area committee members will consider as justifying a contribution significantly more than 50% support to the project.

I have set out arguments for maximum benefit under the criteria used in the guidance note.

Broaden the range – Although DAMASCUS Youth Project works in the five rural villages of Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon, we have a track record of supporting other communities. Two examples are Harwell where we worked with the community and young people to set up youth provision and Chalgrove where we supported adult volunteers to get know some of their toughest young people through street work in support of their Community led Plan. We help the Early Intervention Service based at the Hub in Abingdon with their youth work in Berinsfield. We have had requests from schools for support to them and we have led workshops on youth consultation for the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council.

In other words as YCAT on the Streets is essentially a mobile youth project it will enable us to broaden the range not just in our five villages but in any of the Vale's and South Oxfordshire's villages and towns.

The DAMASCUS project is at present supported by:
Parish Councils of Drayton, Milton, Sutton Courtenay and Steventon
Parochial Church Council of All Saints' Sutton Courtenay



Registered Charity Number 1098966

Community participation – Through our discussions with The Bridge in Abingdon and from our work with the police and community safety we are aware that there is a need for increased positive grassroots engagement in Abingdon for example. It is well known that all towns and villages have groups (size of group may vary) of young people that are either anti social in behaviour or perceived as a threat to the community and residents would like to see the issues addressed. We have recently been nominated by the residents of Sovereign Vale Housing for an award for our work in bringing communities together. The gazebo has the potential to help us deliver street work in a more structured way in communities new to us.

Meeting a local need – To our knowledge there is no street work provision of the type that we deliver and by setting up YCAT on the Streets we are in a position to better support other communities meet their local need. We work with Karen Tolley, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils' Young People's Co-ordinator in Corporate Strategy, to support the district councils in their consultations with young people and through her are aware of the needs as well.

Community benefit – the big advantage of a mobile provision using the gazebo is that there are no barriers to access. Our youth workers are highly qualified and experienced in working with young people and this mobile provision is an opportunity to break down barriers with the wider community.

Viability – By being able to purchase this gazebo not only do our five communities benefit but we have the opportunity to benefit many other communities and establish this as a viable service which potentially could attract funds for DAMASCUS. We have already been asked by the Oxfordshire Play Association Playday events in Abingdon and Didcot from April through to August.

Finally, we would be carrying the District Councils logo on the gazebo and that would be a very visible acknowledgement of the support that the councils give to youth work.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Rita Atkinson MBE

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1055			
ARCh (Assisted Reading for Children)			
Book Box sponsorship (14 book boxes in Vale @ £50 a box)			
ARCh recruits, trains and supports volunteers who work 1:1 with selected children in primary schools across the Vale, the aim being to impart a love of reading which will lead to improved educational outcomes and overall life chances for these children			
Grant officer comments and recommendation: The application does not provide answers to the questions for the specific project to purchase books, but has answered for their service as a whole. No quotes for the books have been provided. The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation and community benefit areas and full marks in the local need area. The application scored well in the viability area although they could potentially afford the project without grant funding and have not specified that they will contribute any funds themselves.		Recommended award	£700
		Recommended %	29.17%
		Amount requested	£700
		% requested	29.17%
		Total project cost	£2,400
		Organisation's contribution	£0
		Organisation's closing balance at year end	£86,216
		Town or parish contribution	£0 but have received support in the past
		Other secured funding	£0 but some book donations
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
Often the children we work with do not have anyone to share reading with at home, indeed they may not have any books of their own, they may lack confidence and not see themselves as readers. ARCh volunteers open a whole new world of reading to the children they work with by finding exciting books (supplied by the charity) which can inspire them to read.		Score	15/20
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
ARCh works in partnership with the majority of primary schools within the Vale, prioritising those in areas of most need. Schools select the children who they know will benefit most from ARCh support.		Score	15/20
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
Although the situation is gradually improving, 2012 SATs results from Oxfordshire primary schools indicated that around 12% of children left primary school with a reading age below the government expected. This demonstrates the need for our service.		Score	20/20
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
The children working with ARCh volunteers and the volunteers themselves.		Score	15/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
The ARCh service is unique in Oxfordshire. We are fortunate in this area to have many high calibre volunteers (ex teachers, health professionals, academics, publishers etc) with the common aim of sharing their love of reading with children less fortunate than themselves.			

2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	Each volunteer commits to 3 hours in school a week which equates over 39 weeks of term to 117 hours. If paid at £10 per hour this would cost a school £1170. ARCh asks schools to make a contribution towards the service (usually £375 per volunteer per year)		
3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	ARCh is expanding - the charity began in 2008 with 120 volunteers helping 360 children and has doubled in size in 5 years, now with 240 volunteers helping almost 700 children across Oxfordshire.		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	Ongoing management. We are asking the Vale to help fund books and other equipment for 8 book boxes in use across Abingdon. Each book box costs £300 to resource. It is vital that we continue to offer up to date and attractive resources to engage children's interest.	Score	50/60
	Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding	Total Score	115/140

Vale Capital Community Grants

Officer Evaluation

1065			
North East Abingdon Community Association			
Lighting Upgrade			
To refurbish and upgrade lights in the small bar area that have been in place since 1990 with more efficient and energy saving LED lights.			
Grant officer comments and recommendation: The application scored well in the broadening the range, consultation and local need areas and scored full marks in the community benefit area. The application scored full points for viability although they could potentially afford the project without grant funding. As the organisation have allocated £1,000 of their own funds toward they only require £427 in funding, not £714 as requested. The recommended award has therefore been reduced to meet the gap in funding of £427.	Recommended award	£427	
	Recommended %	29.92%	
	Amount requested	£714	
	% requested	50.00%	
	Total project cost	£1,427	
	Organisation's contribution	£1,000	
	Organisation's closing balance at year end	£90,551	
	Town or parish contribution	£0	
	Other secured funding	£0	
Project Information			
1	How will your project broaden the range of activities/facilities on offer to the community?		
The existing lighting system has been in place since 1990. Upgrading to a modern energy efficient lighting system will enable continued use of the facilities for many years with the knowledge that the lighting system is to modern standards.			Score 15/20
2	How did you consult with the local community?		
The community and the nearby Christian Centre are the hub of North East Abingdon and provide facilities based on its Constitution and results of periodic surveys.			Score 15/20
3	How do you know that the community need this project?		
Results of surveys confirm the need for a Community Centre. Ensuring that the facilities are maintained to modern standards provides confidence to user groups.			Score 15/20
4	Who will benefit from your project?		
Inhabitants of North East Abingdon			Score 20/20
Project Viability			
1	How is your project reasonable and appropriate for the area?		
	To upgrade and provide safe and energy efficient lighting system to enable continued used of Community Centre for many years to come.		
2	How does your project deliver best value for money?		
	Reducing energy bills and maintenance costs.		

3	Is your project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months?		
	Yes		
4	How will your organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?		
	Project management by member of elected committee. Facilities managed by elected Committee.	Score	60/60
	Officer scoring point system: 100 or 140 – officers recommend that the project is a funding priority 80 or 99 – officers recommend that the project receives some funding 79 or less – officers recommend that the project does not receive funding	Total Score	125/140

Appendix 2

Capital Grant Policy and Procedure (revised April 2012)



Scoring criteria

Assessment methodology for capital grant applications

The council has a corporate objective to support local communities and their representative bodies to create opportunities to localise service delivery. It aims to offer grants to voluntary and community organisations who are delivering projects and services that support our own objectives or those identified as being in need. All applications will be assessed using the scoring system shown below.

Local issues up to 80 points

Scores of up to 20 points are available for each of the four categories shown below:

Broadening the range	<p>Is this more of the same or will the project enable new activities to take place?</p> <p>This will involve an assessment of the added value that the proposal brings. To score points a project must include evidence to show that a wider range of people will use the facility.</p>
Community participation	<p>To what extent has the relevant community been consulted and participated in putting the proposal together? Is the project identified in a local parish plan?</p> <p>A community need does not have to be geographically based and participation is not a headcount – the relevant community will vary in size dependent upon the project being proposed.</p>
Meeting a local need	<p>How well is this evidenced/detailed?</p> <p>Need and demand are different - this is about a proven lack of something that the project provides.</p>
Community benefit	<p>Who will benefit? This will go beyond a simple number count, to take account of the imbalance in size between different communities.</p> <p>Community benefit also includes wider social, economic and environmental benefits that contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and energy saving in the district.</p>

Viability of project**up to 60 points**

Scores of up to 60 points are available dependent on the viability of the project.

Viability	Is the project reasonable and appropriate for the area? Does the project deliver best value for money? Is the project likely to secure full funding and progress within 12 months? Will the organisation be able to manage the project now and in the future?
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Summary of scoring system

The maximum score is 140 made up as follows:

Assessment factor	Maximum points available
Broadening the range	20
Community participation	20
Meeting a local need	20
Community benefit	20
Viability	60
Total	140