

Abingdon Area Committee Agenda



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Date: 26 October 2009
Website: www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

A meeting of the
Abingdon Area Committee
will be held on Thursday 5 November 2009 at 7pm
Guildhall, Abingdon

Members of the Committee:

Councillors

Julie Mayhew-Archer (Chair)
Beth Fleming (Vice-Chair)
Samantha Bowring
Julia Bricknell
Paul Burton
Mary de Vere
Tony de Vere
Gervase Duffield

Councillors

Richard Gibson
Jim Halliday
Angela Lawrence
Pat Lonergan
Janet Morgan
Alison Rooke
Laurel Symons
Richard Webber

A large print version of this agenda is available. In addition any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement.

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 Democratic Services Officers know beforehand and they will do their very best to meet your requirements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Reed".

Margaret Reed
Head of Legal and 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.

Agenda

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. A link to information about nearby car parking is http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/transport/car_parking/default.asp

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

To adopt and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 02 July 2009 (previously circulated).

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 councillor 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 councillor 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 councillor 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 councillor can also attend the meeting for that purpose. However, the councillor 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 councillor 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, petitions and questions from the public affecting the Abingdon Area Committee

Any statements, petitions or questions from the public under standing order 32 will be made or presented at the meeting.

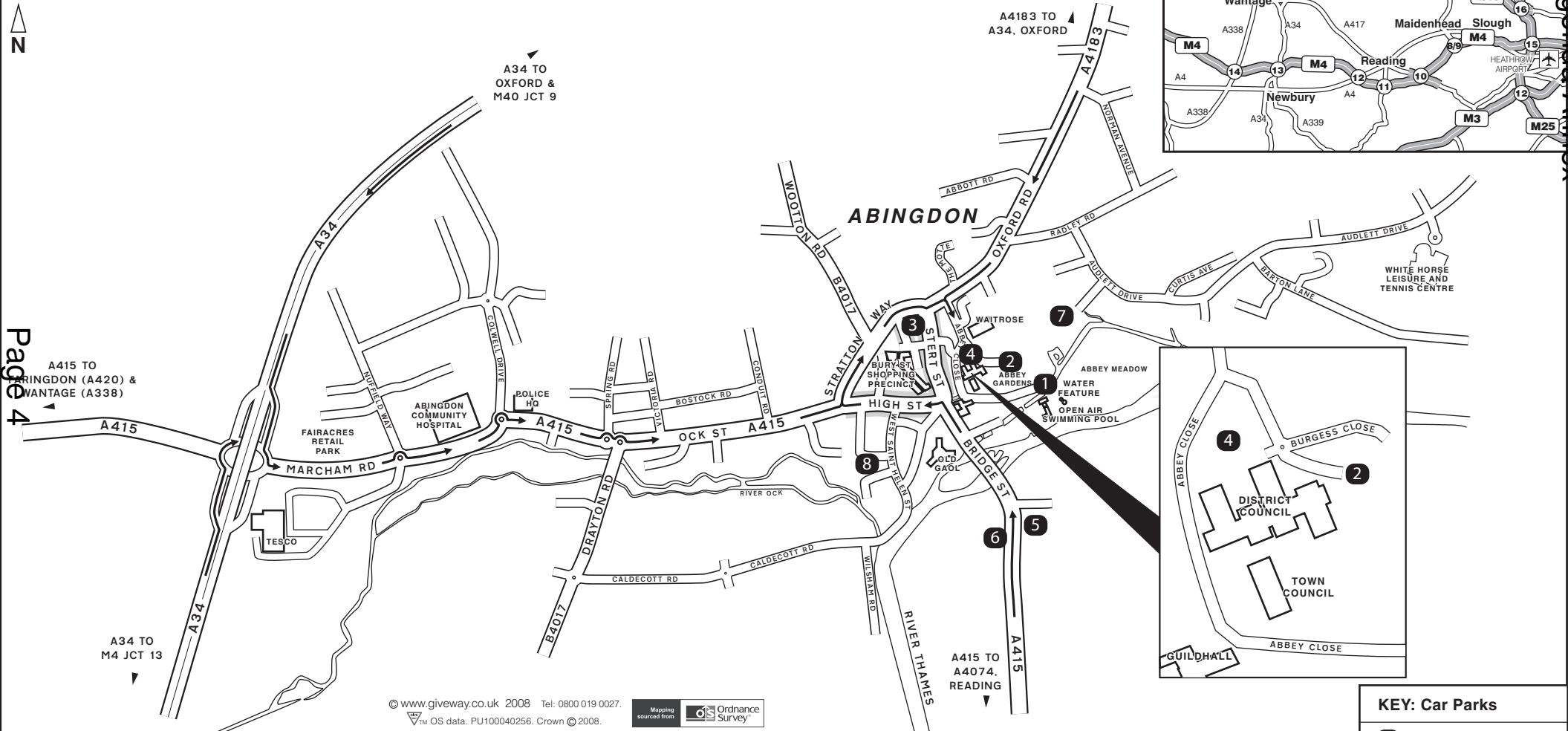
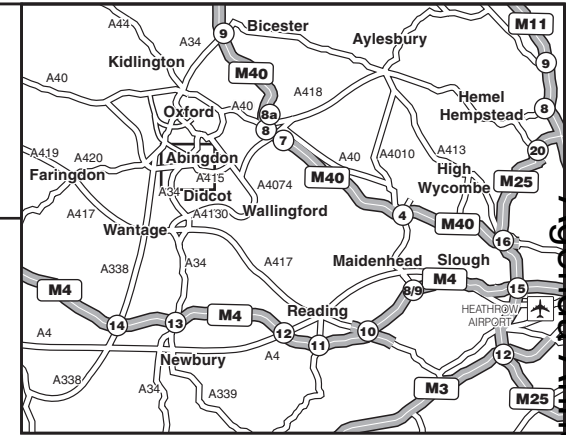
6. Community Grants

(Pages 5 - 25)

To receive and consider report 68/09 of the Head of Corporate Strategy (attached).

Exempt information under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972

None



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OS data. PU100040256. Crown © 2008. Mapping sourced from Ordnance Survey

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

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

Report to the ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE



5 November 2009

Report of **Head of Corporate Strategy**

Report No. 68/09

Author: **Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer**

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E-mail: **lorna.edwards@whitehorsedc.gov.uk**

Executive Portfolio Holder: **Councillor Tony de Vere**

Telephone: **01235 540391**

E-mail: **tony.devere@whitehorsedc.gov.uk**

Wards Affected
All wards in the Abingdon
Area

Community Grants

Recommendations

- (a) that the Abingdon Area Committee notes the remaining budget for community grants in 2009/10 for the Abingdon area of the Vale*
- (b) that the committee agrees payment of the Service Level Agreement grant to the two twinning organisations in this area*
- (c) that the committee considers the draft Service Level Agreement with APAGE and decides whether it wishes to enter into the agreement now or alternatively to award a community grant for the 2010 Abingdon Arts Festival*
- (d) that the committee considers and determines the new applications which have been received and appraised*
- (e) that the committee agrees to delay a decision on the need to re-establish the Abingdon Area Forum until the impact of the Choose Abingdon Partnership launch event has been fully evaluated*

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee in respect of community grants, to invite the committee to consider and determine grant applications and grant awards under Service Level Agreements and to consider delaying the re-establishment of the Abingdon Area Forum.

2. Relationship with Corporate Plan

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

3. The community grants budget

- 3.1 The table below shows the budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee before the Executive met on 2 October to discuss the community grants budget. The figure for the grants allocated to date, £13,245, includes two commitments (£3,000 and £670) which were carried forward from 2008/09 following a decision at the March meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee. These commitments were for the Compass Café and The Vale of White Horse Foyer respectively, and were allocated in case the organisations were unsuccessful in obtaining funding from the County Council's Chill Out Fund.

Budget b/f from 2008/09	Budget 2009/10	Total budget 2009/10	Allocated to date	Budget remaining to allocate
£1,764.72	£26,096.00	£27,860.72	£13,245.00	£14,615.72

- 3.2 The Abingdon Area Committee is aware that the council is facing a difficult financial situation. Budget monitoring of the cost centre from which community grants are funded has identified a deficit of £12,000. This deficit has arisen due to a commitment to increase grant payments to Abingdon Citizens Advice Bureau and Wantage Independent Advice Centre by the annual rate of inflation.
- 3.3 Executive considered a report on 2 October and agreed with the recommendation to reduce the community grants budget by £15,000 to address the deficit of £12,000 with an allowance of £3,000 for any unforeseen costs.
- 3.4 Executive agreed to apportion the budget reduction between Executive and the four area committees in the same way that the annual community grants budget is apportioned. The Executive receives 21 per cent of the budget and the remainder is apportioned according to the percentage of the electorate in each area on 1 January 2009. Therefore the agreed budget reduction has been apportioned as follows:

	Reduction in budget	Remaining budget rounded up/down
Executive	£3,150	£8,314
Abingdon Area Committee	£3,786	£10,830
North East Area Committee	£ 2,710	£13,670
South East area Committee	£3,264	£8,531
West area Committee	£2,090	£413
Total	£15,000	£41,758

- 3.5 After the reduction has been taken into account the Abingdon Area Committee's remaining community grants budget for 2009/10 is £10,830. As outlined in paragraph 3.1, this figure includes a total commitment of £3,670 which may not be needed if

applications to the Chill Out Fund from Compass Café and The Vale of White Horse Foyer are successful. Applications to the Chill Out Fund will be considered on 4 November. Officers will advise the committee verbally at the meeting if the outcome is known.

- 3.6 In the past the budget has been apportioned into different agendas and a discretionary proportion in order to guide Executive and area committees in the allocation of the budget. However, the community grants scheme is a discretionary scheme and Executive agreed on 2 October that in future the community grants budget should be allocated to support the Corporate Plan and Vale Sustainable Community Strategy rather than the three former agendas.

4. Twinning partnership grants (Service Level Agreements)

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

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

- 4.2 The original SLAs ran from 2004-2007 and came to an end on 31 March 2007. The Executive agreed that all SLAs should be extended. The SLAs have been extended on an annual basis for the last three years pending a review of all service level agreements. The twinning associations, in common with all SLA partners, are asked to provide specified information to enable officers to monitor that the partnership is meeting its commitments under the SLA. Both twinning associations have submitted the required monitoring information for 2009/10.
- 4.3 Members are asked to agree the payment of the SLA grants to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Association.
- 4.4 If the allocations for twinning SLAs are agreed in full by the Abingdon Area Committee, the remaining budget for the committee will be £7,830.

5. Consideration of a new Service Level Agreement (SLA) with APAGE

- 5.1 At the last meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee Members discussed the funding of arts groups in the Abingdon Area. Members resolved to support, in principle, a 3-year Service Level Agreement with Abingdon Performing Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE) of £3,000 per annum towards the Abingdon Arts Festival. Officers were asked to meet with Malcolm Ross, APAGE's treasurer, to discuss terms and conditions and were requested to seek assurances regarding the printing of the festival brochure.
- 5.2 The purpose of an SLA is to provide some stability of funding to a voluntary or community sector organisation for a specified period. The organisation does not then have to apply for a grant each year under the Community Grants Scheme, but it does have to provide the monitoring information set out in the SLA in order to claim the grant.
- 5.3 An SLA is not a contract. A grant awarded under an SLA is subject to the budget being available, so it may not be possible in subsequent years to pay the level of grant agreed at the time of entering into the SLA. Any grant awarded to APAGE under an

SLA would be allocated from the Abingdon Area Committee's budget before any new grant applications were considered. As in the case of the SLAs with the twinning organisations, officers would report each year to the committee and seek agreement to pay the grant.

- 5.4 Members are advised that officers recently held a meeting with Malcolm Ross and have drafted an SLA based on their discussions. The draft SLA is attached under Appendix A. Most of the SLA is standard for all organisations but those sections which were the subject of discussion between officers and APAGE are highlighted in yellow.
- 5.5 Members are requested to consider and agree the highlighted sections of the draft SLA and to decide if they wish to enter into the SLA for three years beginning on 1 January 2010 with a grant of £3,000 per annum, or another amount. The SLA grant for the first year of the agreement could be agreed in this financial year but allocated from the committee's 2010/11 budget.
- 5.6 If Members decide that, because the budget for 2010/11 has not yet been set, they do not feel it appropriate to enter into an SLA with APAGE at this stage, they are advised that APAGE would wish to be considered now for a community grant for the 2010 festival. As the Abingdon Arts Festival is held in March - April each year, APAGE usually submits its application for a community grant to the autumn meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee. APAGE has not submitted an application on this occasion pending the outcome of the decision on an SLA.
- 5.7 If the committee does not enter into an SLA starting on 1 January 2010, Members are requested to allocate an amount towards the 2010 festival either from their remaining 2009/10 budget or from their 2010/11 budget, as yet unknown. If the former, the award should be subject to an acceptable community grant application being received before 31 December 2009. A grant narrative for APAGE's grant application submitted in 2008/09 for the 2009 festival, is included in Appendix B for information. Updated information relating to the 2010 festival will be provided at the committee meeting.

6. New grant applications

- 6.1 Applications totalling £6,139 have been received from the first two applicants listed below. Narratives providing additional details are in Appendix C:

- **Abingdon Sea Cadets, £1,139**, towards the purchase of a boat trailer
- **Abingdon Rugby Football Club, £5,000**, towards a new rugby pitch and floodlighting

- 6.2 Members are requested to consider and determine the new grant applications received.

7. Options

- 7.1 There are no alternative options to the consideration and determination of the grant applications received.

8. Abingdon Area Forum

- 8.1 At the area committee meeting on 2 July a request was made for a discussion about the re-establishment of the Abingdon Area Forum. Members are advised that the newly-

established Choose Abingdon Partnership is holding a launch event at Abingdon Guildhall on 30 November. The Partnership Board is made up of representatives of the town, district and county councils together with the chamber of commerce. The Board has also co-opted a number of local business representatives. The aim of the Partnership is to bring together the town's key players to co-ordinate a range of initiatives and activities that will help to boost the town's vitality.

- 8.2 Representatives of the public, private and voluntary sector are being invited to the launch event. The format of the launch event will be very similar to the format that has been used for forum meetings and it will include discussion about ideas for the improvement of Abingdon. It is likely that the Partnership will arrange regular consultation meetings so that it has a good understanding of the issues that are affecting Abingdon.
- 8.3 It is therefore proposed that members delay a decision on the re-establishment of the Abingdon Area Forum until after the impact of the Choose Abingdon Partnership launch event has been fully evaluated.

9. Financial, legal and any other implications

- 9.1 Grant awards, if any, will be allocated from an Abingdon Area community grants budget and prior to determination the committee will be advised of the amount available to allocate.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1 The Abingdon Area Committee is requested to consider and determine the new grant applications received.

Background Papers

Community grant applications and supporting documents

Appendices:

Narratives summarising the applications received

Draft Service Level Agreement

APPENDIX A

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL

PARTNERSHIP GRANTS - SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made the 1st day of December 2009 between *Abingdon Performing Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE)* ("the Organisation") of c/o Mr Malcolm Ross, Treasurer, 44 Shelley Close, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1PR and **Vale of White Horse District Council** ("the Council") of Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3JE

Recitals

- (1) The Council is the Local Authority for the area in which the Organisation operates.
- (2) The Council has the statutory power to offer grant assistance to the Organisation under section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 (the power to promote economic, social and environmental well being).
- (3) The Council considers it reasonable and appropriate in exercising the above powers to offer grant assistance to the Organisation for the period of the agreement.
- (4) This is a Service Level Agreement and is not intended to create a legally binding contract between the parties but is intended to regulate the relationship between them.

1 Parties

The parties to this agreement are the Organisation and the Council and this agreement is personal to them.

2 Object and Grant

The object of this agreement and the grants to be made (with or without conditions) by the Council to the Organisation is the object and grant sum set out in Schedule 1 below .

3 Status of the Agreement

This agreement is not legally binding on the Council or the Organisation but sets out the expectations of the parties over the period of the agreement but both parties recognise that as this agreement is not a contract the grant arrangements may finish earlier.

4 Period of the Agreement

The parties intend that grant assistance will be given to the Organisation for up to the period of years set out in Schedule 1 below subject to the right to terminate these arrangements as set out in paragraph 14 below.

5 The Parties Obligations

The Organisation agrees to provide the services set out in Schedule 2 subject to the grant conditions and the Council agrees to make the grant payments in accordance with the said Schedule 3.

6 Status of the Organisation

The Organisation is not an agent of the Council, but a significant partner that enhances the delivery of the Council's relevant Strategies set out in Schedule 1 below.

7 Management of the Organisation

The status and management arrangements of the Organisation are set out in Schedule 1 below.

8 The Parties' Representatives

The lead officers for the Council and the Organisation are identified in Schedule 1 below along with their respective responsibilities. The Organisation and their Lead Officer will be expected to comply with all reasonable requests in relation to the delivery of the services from the Council via their Lead Officer but if there is any dispute over the reasonableness of any request then any dispute may be resolved in accordance with paragraph 14 below.

9 Staffing

The Organisation may employ staff to assist in the provision of the services but will be expected to comply with the Health and Safety at Work legislation and provide a safe system of work for their staff.

10 Health and Safety

The Organisation will be expected to comply with the Health and Safety at Work and Child Protection legislation when delivering the services. In particular the Organisation will carry out risk assessments and take all measures to ensure the health and safety of those receiving the

services in accordance with their health and safety statement, a copy of which has been provided to the Council.

11 Statutes and Human Rights

The Organisation will be expected to comply with all relevant statutes and regulations related to their status and the Organisations objects and will also be expected to comply with all relevant statutes and regulations relating to the delivery of the said services. In particular they will have regard to the following legislation:-

- (a) Crime and Disorder Act
- (b) Data Protection Act and the Freedom of Information Act
- (c) Human Rights Act
- (d) Race Relations Acts
- (e) Sex Discrimination Act

12 Quality Assurance

Both the Council and the Organisation wish to ensure the quality and effectiveness of the partnership between them. Therefore the services to be provided by the Organisation will be evaluated through feedback forms from recipients of the services which will feature in the yearly evaluation report to be submitted with each grant request as set out in Schedule 3 below.

13 Insurance

The Organisation will be expected to maintain insurance to the respective sums set out in Schedule 1 below during the period of this agreement.

14 Dispute Resolution

In the unlikely event of a dispute between the Council and the Organisation relating to the interpretation of this agreement or the delivery of the services, both parties will use all reasonable endeavours to resolve the dispute at a meeting to be held between the Lead Officers mentioned in paragraph 7 to Schedule 1 below or another nominated representative from each party. If the dispute cannot be resolved within one month of the said meeting then the parties may refer the dispute to the mediator referred to in Schedule 1 below for the purposes of resolving the dispute. But, it is acknowledged between the parties that they have the right to bring the grant arrangements to an end in accordance with paragraph 15 below.

15 Review, Renewal, Variations and Cessation

- (a) At the date of this agreement both parties anticipate the grant arrangements will continue for the full period of the agreement.
- (b) But the parties recognise that their corporate objectives and financial position or the needs of those living or visiting the area may change which may affect the delivery of the services or the continuation of the grant arrangements. The parties will before the end of each financial year review the delivery of the services and decide whether or not the grant arrangements should continue for a further year.
- (c) If both parties are agreed that the services should be delivered in the following financial year then the Council will pay to the Organisation the following year's grant in accordance with Schedule 3 below.
- (d) Any variations to the services to be delivered shall be agreed in writing between the parties.
- (e) If at any time either party decides that the services should not be delivered by the Organisation for the remainder of the period of the agreement then they will give to the other party the required notice to bring to an end the grant arrangements set out in this agreement.

16 **Special Matters**

The Council and the Organisation have agreed to deal with the special matters listed in Schedule 1 below in the way set out in that Schedule.

Schedule 1

1. **Object of the Grant**

To support Abingdon Arts Festival

2. **The Grant**

£3,000

3. **Grant Conditions**

There should be a minimum of three quotes for the printing of the festival brochure.

The support of VOWHDC should be acknowledged in all publicity.

4. **Period of Agreement and Commencement Date**

The agreement will continue for a period of three years and will commence on 1 January 2010

5. **Relevant Council Strategies**

Corporate Strategy, Community Strategy

6. **Management of the Organisation**

Constituted body with management committee of six volunteers elected annually

7. **Lead Officers and their Responsibilities**

Lorna Edwards, Community Strategy Officer, Vale of White Horse District Council
Malcolm Ross, Arts Festival Coordinator/Treasurer

8. **Insurance Sums**

Public and Employers Liability (details to follow)

9. **Mediator**

Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance or its appointed representative

10. **Required Notice**

Six months

11. **Special Matters**

The council will be advised of estimated printing costs for annual event brochure prior to order being placed for printed brochure

Schedule 2

Service Objectives and Specifications

1. Bringing arts to a wider audience in Abingdon
2. Encouraging participation in arts
3. Providing focus to professional and amateur arts groups

The Services

Annual arts festival with a programme agreed in consultation with the council, with every household in Abingdon, Radley, Cumnor, Sutton Courtenay, Marcham, Wootton, Drayton, Shippon and Cothill receiving a brochure.

Schedule 3

Financial and Resourcing Arrangements

APAGE will apply for the annual grant following an annual monitoring meeting in November of each year

Monitoring Arrangements

1. APAGE will attend an annual monitoring meeting with the Council's contact officer
2. APAGE will provide a copy of the annual report and accounts to the Council and an invitation for the Council's contact officer to its Annual General meeting
3. The availability of APAGE staff (by prior appointment) to meet with Council officers and/or councillors as required

Declaration

We (as the undersigned) hereby agree to the terms set out in this agreement

Signed on behalf of the Organisation

..... (Signature)

..... (name printed)

..... (position)

Signed on behalf of the Council

..... (Signature)

..... (name printed)

..... (position)

Equality and diversity charter

This Charter sets out how community and voluntary organisations receiving funding from the Vale of White Horse District Council will help to build and safeguard a fair, open and compassionate community.

At the Vale of White Horse District Council, we are committed to delivering our services to residents and valuing our employees equally, irrespective of their ethnicity, gender, age, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation or any other irrelevant factor.

Providing our services and employment opportunities in an equal way does not mean treating everybody in the same way. It means that we recognise and value difference and respect our staff and service users as individuals. We therefore strive to provide our services and employment opportunities in ways which meet people's needs in a positive and proactive way.

Any projects receiving funding from the Council will need to be delivered in a way that reflects these principles. Full details about the Council's approach to promoting equality and diversity are set out in its Equality and Diversity Scheme. A copy, along with a summary version, are available on the Council's website (with hard copies available upon request) – www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

The Council also expects grant recipients to act within the law (details about relevant equalities legislation are outlined in the Council's Equality and Diversity Scheme).

Grant recipients will need to inform all their relevant staff/volunteers/trustees about this Charter so they are clear about their responsibilities.

If they are using Council funding to help fund a new post, the Council will expect them to go through a fair and open recruitment process.

In addition, where appropriate, organisations may decide to do one or more of the following to improve access to their services and/or employment opportunities:

- take part in training to further strengthen their understanding of equality and diversity issues
- check that their services are accessible by monitoring how people are using them according to their ethnicity, disability, gender and age

DRAFT

- check that their services are accessible by monitoring how satisfied people are with them, according to their ethnicity, disability, gender and age

If our application is successful, we,

_____, [the voluntary or
community group/organisation receiving Council funding] will adhere to this
Charter.

Signed _____ Date ____/____/____

For more information about the Council's equality and diversity work, please contact Katharine Doherty (Equalities Officer) on 01235 520202 extension 407 or email katharine.doherty@whitehorsedc.gov.uk. She can also help your organisation or group if you need any further advice about how to implement this Charter.

APPENDIX B

GRANT NARRATIVE FOR APAGE NOVEMBER 2008

Applicant: Abingdon Performance Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE)

Years in existence: 11 years

Type of organisation: Association

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Balances: £4,128.91 as at 31.04.08

Running costs: £11,758.47 year ending 31.04.08

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

Grant Sought: £4,500.00

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

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

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

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

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

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

APPENDIX C

APPLICANT - ABINGDON SEA CADETS

Years in existence

16

Type of organisation

Registered charity

Project, service or event details

The Sea Cadet Unit is seeking a grant towards the purchase of a new boat trailer capable of transporting two of the Unit's boats. Such a trailer is vital to transport boats to and from the Unit's boating station and its moorings on the Thames. Boating is a big part of activities in the summer months. The Unit has been unable to transport the heavier power boat since 2007. A new trailer will mean that the Sea Cadets can reintroduce the teaching of power boating skills during the summer months. In the more immediate future, the trailer is required to move the boats off the Thames for winter storage on dry land to help prolong the life of the boats and facilitate maintenance.

Abingdon Sea Cadets is part of the Sea Cadet Corps, a nationwide voluntary youth organisation, open to all young people aged 10 to 18, run by enthusiastic adult volunteers. Amongst the Abingdon membership there are currently cadets with special educational needs.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities

Healthier communities	X
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	X
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	X
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	

Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered

Although membership is open to young people throughout the Vale, the vast majority of the members come from Abingdon town and the surrounding area.

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

Thirty two (current membership), mainly in the 10-15 year age bracket

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

Cadets pay a subscription of £10 per month. This money goes towards the administration and work of the unit which is entirely self-financing.

Total estimated project cost

£1,860 excluding VAT. £2,139 including VAT. VAT cannot be reclaimed

Balances

£6,505.67 is the expected balance on 21 August 2009

Running costs

Unknown as the organisation has no audited accounts for 2007/08 and 2008/09 due to the way the Unit was managed during that period. The new management team was elected in June 2009. They are all new members with no connection to the previous incumbents and are starting afresh with the financial administration of the Unit.

Own Contribution

£500

Grant requested

£1,139

Previous awards (Vale)

None

Parish council support

Abingdon Sea Cadets has applied to Abingdon town council for £500. No decision has yet been made.

Town/Parish council precept

£1,079,737. Band D £86.70

Other support

The Unit is in the process of identifying other potential funding opportunities.

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	£1,000
Reasons	New volunteers have stepped in to run the Unit and get the finances back on track so that young people can continue to benefit from this leisure activity making use of the natural environment of Abingdon.
Meets CG Scheme criteria?	Yes
Supports Council corporate priority(ies)?	Work in partnership to sustain vibrant market towns.
Supports Community Strategy?	Encouraging positive leisure time activities for young people is an agreed action of the Sustainable Vale Community Strategy.
Remaining budget	£10,829.72
Remaining committee meetings	To be confirmed
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions. Subject to a grant from Abingdon Town Council.
Other comments	

APPLICANT - ABINGDON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Based at Southern Town park, Abingdon

Years in existence

78

Type of organisation

Limited company and registered Community Amateur Sports Club

Project, service or event details

Abingdon Rugby Club is seeking a grant towards the cost of installing floodlighting at the club. This is part of a larger project to improve facilities at the ground.

The club has already secured funding for, and started work on developing a new rugby pitch on the current site. Both of these new facilities – the floodlighting and the new pitch - have been identified by the club as being crucial to expanding participation in all age ranges, as well as facilitating and encouraging participation by females. The club aims to increase player participation from the current 421 to 543 by 2013. At the same time it aims to increase the number of club volunteers (coaches, referees and parent helpers) from 84 to 122.

The project has been identified by Oxfordshire County Rugby Football Union (RFU) as a priority for rugby development in Oxfordshire. There are other rugby clubs in the Vale (such as Grove) but Abingdon is the club identified by the RFU as the priority location for this development, due to club size and issues with the current training facilities (heavy subsidence as a result of being on a landfill site).

Abingdon Rugby club is a major club in the Vale area and is accredited as meeting the requirements of the Active Sports 'Seal of Approval' and the Sport England 'Clubmark' standards. These are both national awards covering governance and organisation of sports clubs.

Supports the following Vale community strategy priorities

Healthier communities	X
Improving quality of life for older people	
Safer communities	
Fostering a greater sense of community	X
A good understanding of town and parish priorities	
Involving young people	X
Helping those without cars to access jobs and services	
Affordable homes	
Good quality homes	
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	X
Addressing economic weaknesses	
Building on our economic strengths	
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	
A low carbon Vale	
Living with extreme weather conditions	
Using resources wisely	
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	
A high quality natural and historic environment	

Area of the Vale covered

Abingdon and surrounding villages such as Drayton & Sutton Courtenay.

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

Four hundred and twenty one males, aged from seven to 60. The majority of these in the 7 - 15 age-group.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?

Use of the club facilities is included in the annual membership cost. The charges for 2009/2010 are £50 for seniors, £40 for juniors and £25 for students and unemployed members.

Total estimated project cost

£49,954 excluding VAT; £57,791 including VAT. VAT cannot be reclaimed. This comprises £41,630 including VAT for floodlights and £16,161 including VAT for pitch improvements.

Balances

£22,599 for the year ending 30 April 2009. This has been calculated as their net current assets plus surplus for the year. Fixed assets i.e. the value of the clubhouse and equipment have been excluded.

Running costs

£61,129 for the year ending 30 April 2009

Own Contribution

£7,000

Grant requested

£5,000

Previous awards (Vale)

None

Parish council support

The club has applied to Abingdon Town Council for a £1,000 grant. A decision will be made in November

Town/Parish council precept

£1,079,737. Band D £86.70

Other support

Rugby Football Union (Capital Investment Projects) has awarded a grant of £30,000 in total and £20,830 of this has been earmarked for the floodlighting.

The Rugby Football Foundation has agreed in principle a grant of £6,000

An application to WREN was unsuccessful due to a change in WREN policy

The remaining £1,800 after all grants (if successful) will either be funded from the club reserves or an interest-free loan from the Rugby Football Union.

Officer recommendation

Recommend support?	Yes
Amount recommended	£5,000
Reasons	These improvements will enable the club to attract a significant number of new players and volunteers to the club, thereby providing a healthy activity for young and older people. As a knock-on effect more people (mostly parents) will be encouraged to volunteer and thus get involved in their local community. The club has substantial funding support from the national body, the Rugby Football Union, towards improving the facilities. A grant is recommended to help meet the shortfall.
Meets CG Scheme criteria?	Yes
Supports Council corporate priority(ies)?	Work in partnership to sustain vibrant market towns.
Supports Community Strategy?	Seeking improvements to the quality of existing sport facilities, encouraging positive leisure time activities for young people, and supporting volunteering opportunities are all agreed actions of the Vale Sustainable Community Strategy.
Remaining budget	£10,829.72
Remaining committee meetings	To be confirmed
Recommended conditions to grant award	Standard conditions
Other comments	