

Date: 15 October 2007

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, 25TH OCTOBER, 2007** at **7.00 PM**.

Yours faithfully

Terry Stock
Chief Executive

Members are reminded of the provisions contained in Part 2 of the Local Code of Conduct, and Standing Order 34 regarding the declaration of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

A G E N D A

A large print version of this agenda is available. In addition any background papers referred to may be inspected by prior arrangement. Contact Carole Nicholl, Head of Democratic Services, on telephone number (01235) 547631 / carole.nicholl@whitehorsedc.gov.uk.

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

Open to the Public including the Press

Map and Vision **(Page 5)**

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

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies for absence.

2. **Minutes**

(Pages 6 - 12)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee held on 25 July 2007 (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 13 - 27)

To receive and consider report 90/07 of the Strategic Director and Monitoring Officer (attached).

Introduction and Report Summary

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

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

Recommendations

- (a) *that Members note that the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee is £23,871.63;*
- (b) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following: -*
 - (i) *Dorchester Sailing Club, £2,000, towards the cost of building new on-shore facilities, Social Agenda, Access to Services priority.*
 - (ii) *Compass Café, £5,000, towards the cost of employing a part-time youth worker, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority,*
 - (iii) *Abingdon Concert Band, £700, towards the cost of new banners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority*
 - (iv) *Abingdon Performance Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE), £4,000, towards the cost of producing and distributing the 2008 festival brochure, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority*
 - (v) *Abingdon Festival Music Association, £500, towards the cost of holding a*

concerto class, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

- (c) *that Members note the update from the North East Abingdon Community Association and agree that the grant amount previously awarded by the Abingdon Area Committee is still available for the amended project as outlined in the narrative at Appendix B to this report.*

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

None.



OUR VISION AND AIMS

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

The Vale of White Horse District Council aims to:

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

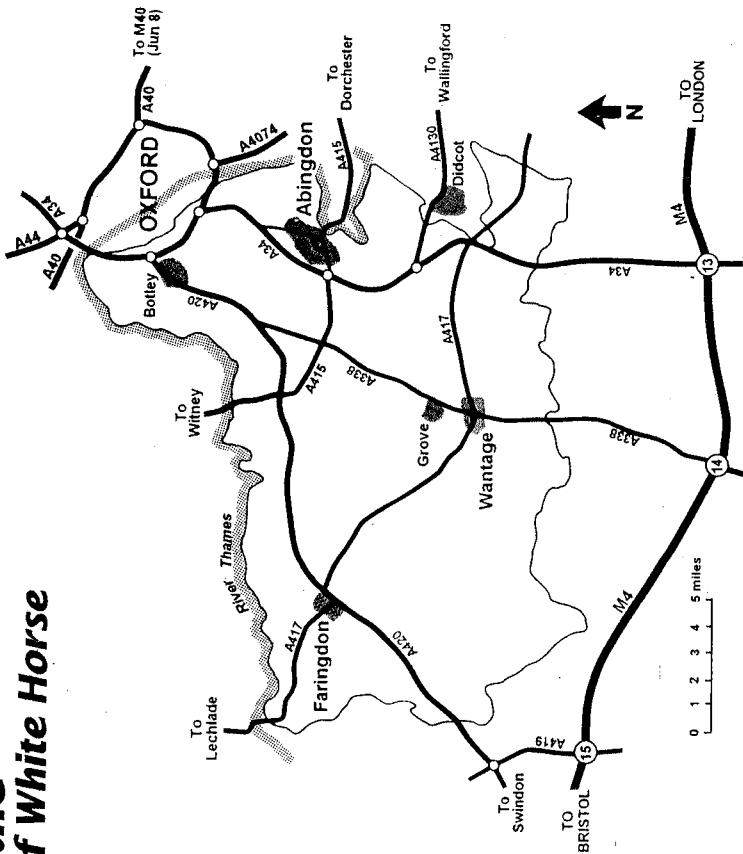
Create a safer community and improve the quality of life among Vale residents

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

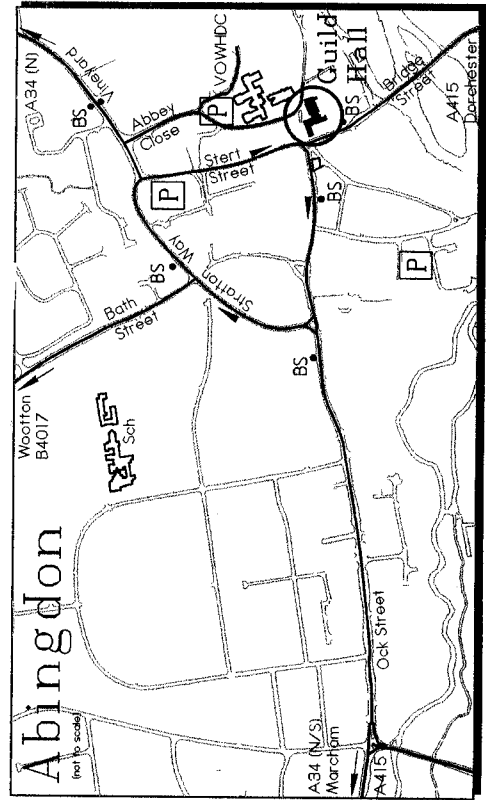
Help disadvantaged groups and individuals within the Vale to realise their full potential

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

Protect and improve our built and natural environment



Abingdon, Guildhall



KEY : BS = Bus Stop

LOCATION MAP



Ab.1

**MINUTES OF A MEETING
OF THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT THE GUILDHALL,
ABINGDON ON WEDNESDAY, 25TH
JULY, 2007 AT 7.00PM**

Open to the Public, including the Press

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Councillors Burton, Gervase Duffield, Richard Gibson, Jim Halliday, Lawrence, Lonergan, Janet Morgan, Alison Rooke, Laurel Symons, Mary de Vere, Tony de Vere and Webber.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Carole Nicholl and Toby Warren

NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 3

Ab.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor Alison Rooke, seconded by Councillor Angela Lawrence and

RESOLVED (nem con)

that Councillor Richard Webber be elected Chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

Councillor Richard Webber – in the Chair

Ab.2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

It was proposed by Councillor Angela Lawrence, seconded by Councillor Laurel Symons and

RESOLVED (nem con)

that Councillor Alison Rooke be elected Vice-Chair of the Abingdon Area Committee for the 2007/08 Municipal Year.

Ab.3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were recorded from Councillors Samantha Bowring; Beth Fleming; Julie Mayhew-Archer and Timothy Smith.

Ab.4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee held on 22 March 2007 were adopted and signed as a correct record.

Ab.5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were made in respect of report 46/07 – Community Grants (Minute Ab.10 refers) as follows: -

Councillor	Type of Interest	Item	Reason
Jim Halliday Angela Lawrence Pat Lonergan Alison Rooke	Personal and Prejudicial	Twinning Partnership Grant - Abingdon Town Council	They were Members of Abingdon Town Council the applicant.
Richard Webber	Personal and Prejudicial	Twinning Partnership Grant – Drayton Parish Council	He was a Member of Drayton Parish Council the applicant.
Jim Halliday Angela Lawrence Pat Lonergan Alison Rooke	Personal	Grant application – Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society	They were Members of Abingdon Town Council and the applicant was proposing to use premises owned by the Town Council.
Gervase Duffield	Personal	Grant application – Appleford Parish Council and Village Hall Committee	He was a resident of Appleford and a Member of the Parish Council, but he was not a Member of the Village Hall Committee.
Toby Warren – Head of Community Strategy	Personal	Grant application – Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project	He was acquainted with Liz Sale a supporter of the application in so far as she was the Vice-Chair of the Vale Partnership.
Pat Lonergan	Personal	Grant application – Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project	He had attended a quarterly Farmoor Reservoir Leisure Liaison meeting.

Ab.6 URGENT BUSINESS AND CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

Ab.7 STATEMENTS AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER 32

Liz Sale and Bill Proctor had each given notice that they wished to make a statement at the meeting in support of the grant application in respect of the Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project.

Bill Proctor made a statement seeking support for the application commenting on how disabled people had to be carried into the boats. He reported that the proposal would enable better access for sailors, their carers and families. He explained that the water level could drop significantly and therefore the proposal incorporated an electric lift for use when the ramps could not be used safely. There would be an increased harbour area which would enable increased use. He reported that the scheme was divided into phases and he explained the shortfall in the funding required.

The Chair thanked Bill Proctor for his statement advising that it would be taken into account by members when they considered the application later in the meeting.

Ab.8 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC UNDER STANDING ORDER 32

None.

Ab.9 GRANTS CRITERIA

The Community Strategy Officer outlined details of the Grants Criteria, explaining that folders containing the Community Grants Scheme were available at each meeting. In response to a question raised it was explained that Members were welcome to peruse the folders but were asked to return them to the Head of Community Strategy to ensure that they were updated and available for Members at other Area Committee Meetings.

RESOLVED

that the report be received.

Ab.10 COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Committee received and considered report 46/07 of the Strategic Director and Monitoring Officer which set out the budget position at the beginning of 2007/08 for this Committee in respect of Community Grants and invited Members to consider and determine the grant applications received.

The Committee discussed the report as follows: -

(1) Twining Partnership Grant – Abingdon Town Council

(Councillors Jim Halliday, Angela Lawrence, Pat Lonergan and Alison Rooke had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 they withdrew from the meeting during its consideration).

In response to a question raised the Officers advised that the required monitoring information was awaited. One Member requested sight of this information commenting that it was essential to know how funding had been spent last year. She further questioned the award of grants in view of the different twinning arrangements. The Head of Community Strategy commented that the agreement would need to be reviewed, with a report thereon to the

Executive and that grant awards could only be made subject to the fund available.

It was further commented that the Council should be consistent in terms of grant awards to the Town Council and the Twin Towns Society.

Members had some reservations in awarding a grant without the benefit of viewing the required monitoring information. It was therefore considered that the Chair of the Committee and the Council's representative on the Abingdon and District Twin Towns Society should view this information prior to the grant being awarded.

(2) Twining Partnership Grant – Drayton Parish Council

(Councillor Richard Webber had declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 he withdrew from the meeting during its consideration).

Councillor Alison Rooke the Vice-Chair took the Chair for this item.

Members supported the application.

(3) Grant Application - Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society

(Councillors Jim Halliday, Angela Lawrence, Pat Lonergan and Alison Rooke had declared a personal interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 they remained in the meeting during its consideration).

The Committee was advised that the Abingdon Joint Environmental Trust had offered a grant of £250 towards the exhibition.

In response to a question raised, the Committee was advised that the application was for cases to enable artefacts to be displayed.

Reference was made to the detail in the application and it was commented that applicants should be encouraged to include sufficient information in their applications for grant assistance.

(4) Grant Application - Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee

(Councillor Gervase Duffield had declared a personal interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 he remained in the meeting during its consideration).

The Committee was advised that further works had been identified in the sum of £4,000 and that the project had now been split into two phases.

Members supported the application noting that there would be facilities which would be available to the wider community, including sports facilities. The

Committee commended the applicant in the level of funds raised to date and agreed that a grant award should be made.

(5) Grant Application - The Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project

(Councillor Pat Lonergan had declared a personal interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 34 he remained in the meeting during its consideration).

(Toby Warren had declared a personal interest in this item and in accordance with Standing Order 35 he remained in the meeting during its consideration).

Further to the report, Members were advised that the West Area Committee at its meeting held on 17 July 2007 had awarded £1,000 towards the Project.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee at the beginning of the financial year be noted;
- (b) that the payment of the SLA grant to Abingdon Town Council and the Drayton Twinning Society subject be agreed in principle as follows: -

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>
Abingdon Town Council	£2,500 subject to the required monitoring information having been received and viewed by the Chair of the Committee and the Council's representative on the Abingdon and District Twin Towns Society.
Drayton Twinning Society	£500 subject to the required monitoring information having been received and viewed by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

- (c) that the grant applications received be determined as follows:-

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Reason for Grant</u>	<u>Agenda and Council Priority</u>	<u>Grant Awarded</u>
Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society	Towards an exhibition about the history of Ock Street.	Social Agenda, Town and Village Vitality priority	£250 (proposed by Councillor Alison Rooke, seconded by Councillor Pat Lonergan and agreed by 12 votes to nil)
Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall	Towards the refurbishment and	Social Agenda, Town and	£6,000 (proposed by Councillor Angela Lawrence, seconded

<i>Committee</i>	<i>extension of the village hall.</i>	<i>Village Vitality priority;</i>	<i>by Councillor Richard Gibson and agreed by 11 votes to nil with 1 abstention).</i>
<i>The Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project</i>	<i>Towards the construction of a pontoon for sailors with disabilities.</i>	<i>Social Agenda, and Access priority</i>	<i>£6,000 (Councillor Angela Lawrence proposed and Councillor Pat Lonergan seconded £7,000. By way of an amendment £6,000 was proposed by Councillor Alison Rooke, seconded by Councillor Janet Morgan and agreed by 7 votes to 5. On being put, the Substantive Motion was carried by 12 votes to nil).</i>

Ab.11 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE VALE PARTNERSHIP AND THE OXFORDSHIRE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The Committee received and considered report 38/07 of the Strategic Director and Monitoring Officer which advised that following the publication of the White Paper on the Future of Local Government ('Strong & Prosperous Communities') in the autumn of 2007, the Vale Partnership Board (comprising the District Council and key agencies to influence quality of life in the Vale) had commenced a review of the Vale Community Strategy 2004-2008. The Oxfordshire Partnership had also commenced a review of the Oxfordshire Community Strategy, in preparation for negotiations with central government on the priorities and targets in the next Oxfordshire Local Area Agreement.

The report provided further information on the reviews of the Vale Community Strategy and the Oxfordshire Community Strategy and also gave an opportunity for Members to provide information in respect of the social issues and priorities for the Abingdon area.

One Member made reference to climate change. He noted that whilst climate change was mentioned in the matrix, he considered that it should be given more emphasis and should be specific to areas. He considered that climate change should be incorporated into the Core Strategy.

Another Member welcomed the report noting that there were some minor typographic errors. The Officers responded that the document was a working document and would be redrafted for public consultation.

One Member emphasised the need for measurability and reporting back. She referred to the example of teaching English as a foreign language and questioned who would provide the teaching, who would monitor it, who was it aimed at, what were the benefits and how would these be measured. She stated that there needed to be achievable, realistic and measurable targets with reporting back being included.

Some Members commented that they required further time to read the report and submit their comments on the Strategic Matrix to the Head of Community Strategy outside of the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the information contained in report 38/07 be noted;*
- (b) that the comments made on the strategic matrix (a background paper to report 38/07) in respect of the social issues and priorities as set out above be noted; and*
- (c) that it be agreed that additional comments be made by Members to the Head of Community Strategy by no later than 13 August 2007 on the strategic matrix in respect of the social issues and priorities.*

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

None.

The meeting rose at 8.20 pm

**REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER
TO THE ABINGDON AREA COMMITTEE**

25 October 2007

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 and to invite Members to consider and determine the grant applications received.

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

2.0 Recommendations

(a) *that Members note that the current budget position for the Abingdon Area Committee is £23,871.63;*

(b) *that Members consider and determine the grant applications, the agenda and the Council priority in respect of the following: -*

(i) ***Dorchester Sailing Club, £2,000, towards the cost of building new on-shore facilities, Social Agenda, Access to Services priority.***

(ii) ***Compass Café, £5,000, towards the cost of employing a part-time youth worker, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority,***

(iii) ***Abingdon Concert Band, £700, towards the cost of new banners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***

(iv) ***Abingdon Performance Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE), £4,000, towards the cost of producing and distributing the 2008 festival brochure, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***

(v) ***Abingdon Festival Music Association, £500, towards the cost of holding a concerto class, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority***

(c) *that Members note the update from the North East Abingdon Community Association and agree that the grant amount previously awarded by the Abingdon Area Committee is still available for the amended project as outlined in the narrative at Appendix B to this report.*

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

This report supports the Council's Vision and Priorities and the Vale Community Strategy. It does not conflict with any Council Strategies.

4.0 Community Grants

4.1 Budget

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

Budget b/f 2006 /07	Budget 2007/08	Total budget 2007/08	Environmental Agenda Proportion	Social Agenda Proportion	Economic Agenda Proportion	Discretionary Proportion
£11,398.63	£28,388.00	£39,786.63	£9,935.80	£9,935.80	£2,838.80	£5,677.60 + £11,398.63 = £17,076.23
	Allocated	£15,915.00	£665.00	£9,935.80 (+ £5,314.20 from Discretionary)	£0	£5,314.20 to Social Agenda
	Remaining	£23,871.63	£9,270.80	£0	£2,838.80	£11,762.03

5.0 New grant applications

5.1 Applications totalling £12,200 have been received from the organisations listed below. These include one application for £500 or less, which would normally have been considered under officer delegation in consultation with the Chair of the Committee. However, since the meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee is scheduled for less than two weeks hence, the Head of Community Strategy has decided to bring this application to the Committee for consideration with the other grant applications received.

- (i) **Dorchester Sailing Club, £2,000**, towards the cost of building new on-shore facilities, Social Agenda, Access to Services priority
- (ii) **Compass Café, £5,000**, towards the cost of employing a part-time youth worker, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (iii) **Abingdon Concert Band, £700**, towards the cost of new banners, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (iv) **Abingdon Performance Arts Group Enterprise (APAGE), £4,000**, towards the cost of producing and distributing the 2008 festival brochure, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority
- (v) **Abingdon Festival Music Association, £500**, towards the cost of holding a concerto class, Social Agenda, Town & Village Vitality priority

5.2 Grant narratives for these applications are set out in Appendix A to this report.

5.3 Members are invited to consider and determine the applications, the agenda and Council priority for these applications.

6.0 Request from the North East Abingdon Community Association (NEACA) concerning a previous grant award

- 6.1 Information on the background to the application from NEACA, submitted in 2004/05 and for which a grant of £50,000 was awarded by the Abingdon Area Committee on 25 May 2004, is included under Appendix B.
- 6.2 Members are asked to note that the aims of the project have not changed and that the location of the proposed log cabin is on the same site as the existing building. Members are asked to agree to the grant of £50,000 awarded by the Abingdon Area Committee in 2004/05 being used towards the construction of the log cabin and refurbishment of the existing facilities, subject to planning permission being granted.

TOBY WARREN
HEAD OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY

TIM SADLER
STRATEGIC DIRECTOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

Background Papers: Grant applications and correspondence from applicants

(i) **Applicant:** Dorchester Sailing Club, based in Abingdon Road, Dorchester

Years in existence: 49 Years

Type of organisation: Not for profit company limited by guarantee, now registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC). This is a scheme recognised by the Inland Revenue which allows amateur sports clubs 80% mandatory rate relief, gift aid on donations and exemption from some levels of corporation tax. In order to register clubs have to comply with certain criteria including having a constitution which requires that profits from the club go back to the club and that membership is open to the whole community.

Project, service or event details: Dorchester Sailing Club is seeking a grant towards the cost of building a new clubhouse which will provide changing and showering areas, toilets, a kitchen, a dining and social area, disabled facilities and a club and training room with a hearing loop. The existing building, which reached the end of its life some years ago, will be converted to a secure workshop and storage location. The new unit will be a modern 'fit for purpose' onshore facility to support the continuation and development of a fuller and wider range of year-round activities for all the local community especially for the disabled, children and young people in the community.

Dorchester Sailing Club is the only club in the south of Oxfordshire which offers year round water sports. Other organisations will be encouraged to use the facilities when not required to support sailing and related activities, for example a Bridge Club has already expressed an interest in hiring the new facilities. These open facilities will be of particular interest to residents in Abingdon and the surrounding villages. The club has 190 family members and, if the relatives who are active from time to time are included, this rises to 320.

The club is the only local club recognised by the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) as an "On Board" club. This is due to its commitment to widening access, through water sports, to an active lifestyle for young people through school and youth group links. "On Board" relates directly to the Government's Physical Education School Sports Club Links initiative and to the Department of Culture, Media and Sports Public Service Agreements with Sport England. The club works to agreed set targets for levels of initial introduction to the sport and ongoing participation. It aims to reach out to disadvantaged teenagers in the Vale (and South Oxfordshire) through this scheme.

The District Council's Sports Development Officers were very pleased to be able to use Dorchester Sailing Club's facilities at short notice for their summer canoeing activities when Abingdon marina became unavailable due to the flooding.

Although the RYA does not directly provide capital funding for large projects, the club receives some revenue funding on a "matched" basis and low cost access to training courses for its volunteers.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Access to Services, Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Safe & Supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality, Environment, Health & Wellbeing

Area of the Vale covered and estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: The club is open to everyone in the Vale who is interested in watersports; in addition the new club-house will be available for hire to everyone in the Vale, although the

benefits of both will primarily be felt in Abingdon and the surrounding villages. Abingdon Sea Scouts use the facilities on a regular basis.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Around 35% of the current membership lives in the Vale.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Joining fee £60.00, Family Membership £100.00 pa, Boat usage/storage £49 pa. Special arrangements for OAPs, disadvantaged adults and young people.

Total estimated project cost: £212,729.00 excl VAT; £249,957.00 inc. VAT (VAT may be reclaimed)

Balances: £98,098.00 as at 30/06/06

Running costs: £21,418 for year ending 30/06/06

Own Contribution: £90,957.00

Grant Sought: £2,000.00

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Town/Parish Council Support: Has applied to Parish Councils (total £1,500.00) and Abingdon Town Council (£1,000.00) – outcome awaited

Other Support: SODC £110,000.00 awarded Application to Sport England £19,500.00, TOE £1,000.00 - awaiting outcome.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£ 500
Reasons:	The club does provide sailing facilities for residents in the Abingdon area but the majority of members live outside the Vale
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 & Leisure, Safe & Supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality, Environment, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£23,871.63
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£10,100
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(ii) **Applicant:** Compass Café, based at the Peachcroft Christian Centre, Abingdon

Years in existence: 5 years as Eclipse Café, reopened in new building as Compass Café April 2007.

Type of organisation: Youth Club.

Project, service or event details: Compass Café is seeking a grant towards employing a part-time youth worker to enable the Café to extend its activities to 16-19 year olds twice a month. Two local police officers have promised to help run these sessions. A group of 16-19 year olds, who are in regular contact with local police, are known to be involved in anti-social behaviour. The part-time trained youth worker would keep in regular contact with these young people and be able to offer advice, friendship and support to 11-19 year olds when needed outside the Café opening hours, as well as help to run the Café.

Currently Compass Café runs every Wednesday evening for 11-16 year olds providing a venue to meet, play games, watch films on a big screen and participate in other activities when arranged, such as dance and DJ workshops. It is the only evening venue open in North East Abingdon which offers something for teenagers to do. A number of teenagers who attend Compass Café have difficulties with school and a couple are excluded from school.

This grant would be supported by some limited existing funds. The Café aims to advertise the post soon with a view to employment starting on 1 January 2008 for one year. It is hoped that the church and other supporters will be in a better position to support a youth worker at least half-time from 2009.

A thorough community survey was carried out two years ago and the feedback indicated a need for youth facilities and support. Local councillors and local police officers have visited the Café and discussed local needs and they are encouraging this application.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Peachcroft and North East Abingdon

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 56+

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

Total estimated project cost: £9,000.00 (VAT does not apply)

Balances: to be advised

Own Contribution: Minister's time running and organising Compass Café and a well-motivated team of adult helpers.

Grant Sought: £5,000.00

Previous Awards (Vale): None for the Café, but Peachcroft Christian Centre has received £15,000 from this Committee and £10,000 as a capital grant from the Executive, both in 2005/06

Town/Parish Council Support: £500.00 awarded by Abingdon Town Council

Parish Precept: £854,185.00 (Band 'D' £68.57)

Other Support: £2,000.00 from members of Peachcroft Christian Centre

Oxfordshire County Council's Local Network Fund granted £5,000.00 for the provision of cinema and games equipment (now in weekly use)

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£ 5,000
Reasons:	The project is well supported by the local community
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Safe & Supportive Communities, Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town and Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£23,871.63
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£5,600
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(iii) **Applicant:** Abingdon Concert Band, Abingdon

Years in existence: 30 years

Type of organisation: Club

Project, service or event details: Abingdon Concert Band is seeking a grant towards the purchase of a set of new banners which include its new logo to mark the band's 30th anniversary year. The existing banners are over 25 years old and showing obvious signs of wear and tear.

Abingdon Concert Band forms an important part of Abingdon's cultural activities with its distinct sound and musical repertoire, based on its mix of woodwind and brass instruments.

The band continues to go from strength to strength and has recently attracted new players and larger audiences. The existing members recognise the importance of recruiting young members into the band to secure the long term future of the band and its continued contribution to Abingdon's cultural life. They intend to build on this growth and maintain the appeal and viability of the band for the future by improving their image. The new banners will give the band a fresh, more professional and consistent identity and as such will play an important role in marketing the band and promoting their concerts and activities.

Abingdon Concert Band is pro-actively looking at ways to work better with other local organisations to promote the cultural life of Abingdon as witnessed by their joint concert at the Guildhall with Abingdon Town Band on 13 October which is expected to draw a capacity audience.

The new banners will be stored safely in a dedicated area at Dunmore Junior School and will be covered under the Band's insurance policy. It is anticipated that the banners will last for as long as the old ones.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Membership of the band and attendance at concerts is open to anyone but members and audiences are drawn predominantly from Abingdon and the surrounding area.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: There are 34 direct band members but audiences for the concerts generally number about 80 people and there are over 100 on their mailing list.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: A reasonable charge of £7.00 is made to attend the concerts in order to cover costs. There are concessionary rates (£5.00) for those with low incomes.

Band membership costs £105 p.a. with a concessionary rate of £60 p.a.

Total estimated project cost: £1,600 excl VAT; £1,900.00 incl VAT (VAT can not be reclaimed)

Balances: £4,199.40 at 31/08/07

Running costs: £4,936 for year ending 31/08/07

Own Contribution: £700.00

Grant Sought: £700.00

Previous Awards (Vale): An application for funding for timpani drums and assistance with a Play Day workshop was made in December 2005. A provisional allocation of £1,000.00 was agreed by the Abingdon Area Committee but was not needed as other grant applications were successful.

Parish Council Support: £300.00 awarded by Abingdon Town Council

Parish Precept: £854,185.00 (Band 'D' £68.57)

Other Support: Local businesses have donated £200.00 in return for advertising in the programmes and free concert tickets. Unsuccessful Awards for All Lottery application made in early 2007. Applications have been submitted to the Doris Field Trust, the Schuster Charitable Trust and the Golsoncott Foundation (outcome awaited)

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£ 700
Reasons:	Group has demonstrated that there is good community support for its activities
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town and Village Vitality, Education and Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£23,871.63
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£9,900
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

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

Years in existence: 11 years

Type of organisation: Association of Arts Organisations in Abingdon and surrounding area; it organises the Abingdon Arts Festival by co-ordinating and publicising the individual events, sponsoring specific events such as the opening and closing events, and introducing new, speculative events.

Project, service or event details: APAGE is seeking a grant towards funding for the printing, design and distribution costs associated with the brochure for the Abingdon Arts Festival 2008 which will be held from 1-15 March. 19,000 copies will be printed and distributed to every house and business in Abingdon and the surrounding villages. Copies will also be placed in information points and libraries throughout the Vale. APAGE now has 10 years of success to build upon and is committed to continuing to hold an annual event.

At the meeting of the Abingdon Area Committee on 19 October 2006 when the last grant application from APAGE was considered, the Committee resolved that any future financial support from the Council will be dependent on the production and distribution of future brochures having been subject to a competitive tendering exercise. For the current application APAGE has tried to negotiate sponsorship of part of the printing costs with its chosen printer but has been unsuccessful. APAGE will now be undertaking a competitive tendering exercise similar to the exercises undertaken in the past where three tenders were sought from different local companies including a new company each year. The cheapest tender was the one accepted which has resulted in five different printing companies being used since the first festival.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Abingdon, Sutton Courtenay, Drayton, Radley, Wootton, and Marcham

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Events are open to everyone but are specifically aimed at people who have previously had little exposure to the Arts.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: The grant application is for the publicity brochure only. Event organisers are charged a nominal sum of £25.00 for their entry in the brochure.

Total estimated project cost: £9,000.00 excl VAT (VAT does not apply)

Balances: £460.83

Own Contribution: The surplus from last year will again go to supporting the event and providing cover in case of loss.

Grant Sought: £4,000.00

Previous Awards (Vale): 2004/05 £4,000.00 + £2,400.00 but the latter amount was not needed
2005/06 £4,000.00

2006/07 £4,000.00 awarded but £3,979.00 claimed

Parish Council Support: Application submitted to Abingdon Town Council for £250.00 awaiting outcome.

Parish Precept: £854,185.00 (Band 'D' £68.57)

Other Support: Other sources have at present committed £2,850.00 to particular events. Negotiations with the printer to sponsor a part of the printing costs have been unsuccessful.

Applicant advises that sponsors are more willing to give if they know the District Council has awarded a grant.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Maximum £ 4,000
Reasons:	The Abingdon Arts Festival is one of the town's most important and prominent cultural events
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	£23,871.63
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£6,600
Recommended conditions to grant award	The production and distribution of the brochure is subject to a competitive tendering exercise.
Other comments	

(v) **Applicant:** Abingdon Festival Music Association

Years in existence: 10 Years

Type of organisation: Charity

Project, service or event details: Abingdon Festival Music Association is seeking a grant towards the costs of running a concerto class in 2008. The concerto class was introduced in 2005. Candidates perform a concerto movement accompanied by a professional pianist. Professional adjudicators select a winner to play in a public concert with the Abingdon Symphony Orchestra and two runners up play in an open rehearsal with the orchestra.

The enthusiasm generated at the first concerto class led the Abingdon Festival Music Association to repeat the venture in 2006. The two winners gave a stunning public performance of the Poulenc double piano concerto.

Although several local festivals offer a concerto class, only the Abingdon Festival Music Association is working in collaboration with the town's symphony orchestra and as a result is able to provide this unique opportunity for young people to perform with a symphony orchestra locally. The 2008 concerto class will be held at Radley College.

The Association's aim is to advance the education of the public in the Arts, and in particular the art of music. It intends to run the concerto class on a biennial basis, depending on the orchestra's programme needs.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Audiences are primarily from Abingdon

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Audiences vary between 200-300 people of all ages. Candidates for the concerto class will be under 19 years old.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: £20.00 entry fee for the concerto class

Total estimated project cost: £1,573.00

Balances: £3,820.06 at 30.04.07

Own Contribution: A committee of volunteer members who give considerable time to running the Abingdon Music Festival throughout the year.

Grant Sought: £500.00

Previous Awards (Vale): £ 495.00 Composers' workshop 2004, £375.00 composers' workshop 2005, £400.00 Concerto class 2006; an application submitted in 2006/07 towards a choral workshop was withdrawn before it reached the Committee as the Association was successful in obtaining an Awards for All grant.

Town/Parish Council Support: Awaiting outcome of application to Abingdon Town Council for £300.00

Parish Precept: £854,185.00 (Band 'D' £68.57)

Other Support: Awaiting outcome of application to 'Smile' fund of Infinium UK, Milton Hill for £500.00

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£ 400
Reasons:	In line with the amount awarded for the class in 2006
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	£23,871.63
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£10,200
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

Applicant: North East Abingdon Community Association (NEACA)

Background

On 25 May 2004 the Abingdon Area Committee considered a grant application from NEACA for a grant towards the cost of providing a multifunctional facility for educational and recreational use and awarded a grant of £50,000.

The application was also considered by the Executive on 4 June 2004 and an award of £25,000 was made from the Lottery and Other Grants Support Fund to help NEACA in its application to the Lottery for a major portion of the project funding.

As fundraising for a large-scale project can take several years, the project was divided into three phases. Phases I and II and part of Phase III have been carried out. Following the unsuccessful outcome of NEACA's Lottery bid, the Phase III extension was put on hold so that other funding could be raised and alternative solutions explored.

Current situation

After researching various options NEACA has decided not to proceed with an extension to the existing building but to go ahead with the construction of a log cabin produced by Cabinco and a refurbishment of the current facilities.

The log cabins are being used widely for the provision of community facilities and additional classrooms. They are purpose-designed, economic to build, heat and maintain. The log cabin can be made and delivered within eight weeks from the date of the order which would mean that, subject to planning permission being granted, the cabin could be built before the end of the financial year.

The refurbishment would include the installation of a new heating and ventilation system and bringing the existing hall up to modern standards in terms of décor, thus making it more attractive for the use of local residents on a daily basis. Previous use has been restricted due to pre-school activities.

The estimated cost is £230,000 for the purchase and installation of the cabin, the cabin furnishings, the new heating and ventilation system and refurbishment of the current hall.

The financing of the revised Phase III project is as follows:

Funding source	Amount
NEACA Phase III Fund	£55,000
ORCC	£9,000
WREN	£50,000
Loan to be repaid by Social Club	£41,000 (or £91,000 if WREN application is unsuccessful). Note: for the Phase II extension a loan of £76,000 was repaid over a period of 10 years.
VWHDC grant, subject to approval of its use for revised project	£75,000 (£50,000 from Abingdon Area Committee and £25,000 from Lottery and Other Grants Support Fund via Executive)
TOTAL	£230,000

The funding awarded to NEACA by the District Council has been accrued for three financial years as a result of the setbacks in fundraising. NEACA is still committed to achieving the original aims of the project, namely to provide the pre-school with dedicated and appropriate facilities; to engage young people in valuing their local facilities and area and reduce anti-social behaviour, to provide young people and the elderly with somewhere safe to meet, and to encourage understanding and acceptance between differing elements of the local population. There are clear benefits for the community if the project could be completed without further delay.