

(i) Applicant: Wantage Stage Musical Company

Years in existence: 8 years and a further 12 years prior to that as Wantage Operatic Society

Type of organisation: Club

Project, service or event details: Wantage Stage Musical Company is seeking a grant to purchase 3 wipe tracks used to hold stage backcloths and two scaffold towers to erect and hold scenery. This will enable the Company to transform the school hall they hire into a professional stage for their main productions at a saving of several hundred pounds on each occasion which should contribute to the future balancing of accounts.

Unfortunately Wantage Civic Hall does not lend itself to the used of wipe tracks and associated scenery, but the two scaffold towers will permit the mounting and moving of scenery there, thus enabling the Company to hire it as a venue for productions in 2007 and 2008.

The Company gives much pleasure and benefit to a wide section of the community: to members in terms of providing the means to develop skills and interests, to the local community through the provision of dance, drama and singing lessons.

The Company also provides a supportive framework for at least four members who have special needs. Local disability groups of all types regularly attend performances.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Wantage, Grove and surrounding villages

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: approximately 1,000 cast and audiences

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Tickets are sold for each performance. The Company has set up a Friends Scheme. There is also a membership fee.

Total estimated project cost: £1,632 excl VAT, £1,918 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: The productions currently make a loss

Running costs: Details not submitted with application but should be available at the meeting

Own Contribution: None

Grant Sought: £1,918

Previous Awards (Vale): None

Parish Council Support: Applicant will apply to Wantage Town Council

Parish Precept: £119,000 (Band D: £31.07)

Other Support: Applicant has not sought other funding. Last year they received grants from Awards for All and the Co-op. Applicants cannot apply to Awards for All in consecutive years.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£500
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	£9,827.88
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£2,000
Recommended conditions to grant award	Must seek contribution from other sources including Wantage Town and Grove Parish Councils
Other comments	

(ii) Applicant: East Challow Parish Council

Project, service or event details: The Parish Council is seeking a grant towards the cost of installing safety surfacing as part of a larger project to purchase and install new play equipment in the village play area. The majority of the play area was installed in the 1960s and requires replacement and updating to comply with current safety and disability legislation. The proposed play area will comprise a range of equipment suitable for different age groups spanning 2-14 years. The equipment has been chosen because it is fun but also promotes fitness, balancing skills, mental agility, physical co-ordination and competitive spirit.

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

Area of the Vale covered: East Challow

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

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

Total estimated project cost: £22,800 excl VAT, of which £6,687 is towards the cost of safety surfaces

Own Contribution: Third Party Funding (£1,760) for WREN grant plus shortfall after grants

Grant Sought: £2,000

Previous Awards (Vale): Grant awarded in 2000 towards replacement tennis court

Parish Precept: £18,000 ('Band D': £44.42)

Other Support: WREN £16,000

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,000
Reasons:	

Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing, Safe & Supportive Communities
Remaining budget	£9,827.88
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£500
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(iii) Applicant: The owner, Lyford Manor Farm, Lyford

Brief outline of work

Pollarding of up to 37 willows, which are publicly visible, along the banks of the River Ock on privately-owned land.

Financial Information:

Total cost of work: £2,750

Officer comment (George Reade, Arboriculture Officer):

Willows need to be pollarded on a regular basis to preserve them in tact. If this is not done the trees collapse. Pollarded willows are an important part of the rural landscape of the Vale and are to be found growing along the banks of many of the streams and watercourses.

As there is a history of flooding on this part of the Ock the owner of Lyford Manor Farm is anxious to maintain the trees in a condition which provides the maximum support to the river bank.

This row of willow is not the subject of Tree Preservation Orders but the trees are visible from a public place.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the application
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	N/A; formerly separate grant scheme with own criteria which this application meets
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, healthier and safer community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	-
Remaining budget	£9,827.88
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£2,500
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	Please refer to Arboriculture Officer's comment

(iv) Applicant: Wantage Summer Festival

Years in existence: 12 years

Type of organisation: Umbrella co-ordinating organisation run by volunteers

Project, service or event details: Wantage Summer Festival is seeking a grant towards the cost of coordinating the festival from 9 June – 8 July 2007 in Wantage and its surrounding area. The festival aims to involve approximately 45 arts, crafts and community groups. The Youth Service will also be creating a showcase for music groups to offer specialised family entertainment. As in previous years, the month-long programme of activities has been devised and supervised by local volunteers. The festival confirms Wantage and the Vale as a centre of local artistic excellence and opportunity, enhancing community spirit and reinforcing individual group efforts. It involves a large number of schools, churches and artistic groups and societies.

Wantage Summer Festival is an umbrella organisation which funds all workshops, programmes, tickets and all publicity materials. All entrance and ticket fees go to the individual groups involved.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Takes place in Wantage, involves many local people but event is open to anyone

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Approx 1,000

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: There is a charge to attend most events and the income from ticket sales goes to the participating groups

Total estimated project cost: £4,300 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £4,220

Running costs: 2006 festival expenditure: £3,345

Own Contribution: Volunteer time and labour

Grant Sought: £3,200

Previous Awards (Vale): £2,500 2006/07
£2,500 2005/06
£3,500 2004/05

Parish Council Support: Awaiting confirmation of £1,100 from Wantage Town Council

Parish Precept: £119,000 (Band D: £31.07)

Other Support: Donation expected from the local youth organisation

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£2,000

Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	N/A because 07/08 budget
Remaining Committee meetings	0
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	