

(i) **Applicant: Oxfordshire My Life My Choice Association, based in Park End Street, Oxford**

Years in existence: 10 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: My Life My Choice is seeking grant funding towards the running costs of two self-advocacy groups in Abingdon and Wantage and one Women's and one Men's group based in Abingdon. The groups are open to residents throughout the Vale and are fully accessible because travel costs are covered by the organisation. Self-advocacy gives people with learning difficulties the platform to learn and talk about their rights, including access to services, health, housing, leisure and transport; it also gives people with learning difficulties the means to support each other in making decisions and it empowers them to make decisions for themselves.

Being a self advocacy organisation, My Life My Choice responds to the opinions of people with learning difficulties and these show that the four groups in the Vale are needed. Three of the groups in the Vale have increased in numbers but the men's group has proved less successful. This is being addressed by running a men's health Roadshow.

My Life My Choice has built closer links with other Oxfordshire based agencies but remains independent of them. It provides training about self-advocacy and encourages other local service providers to refer people with learning difficulties to My Life My Choice. The charity has worked hard over the last twelve months to become more sustainable. It is training people with learning difficulties to become trainers, inspectors and "easy readers" (making documents easy to read) and to inspect social care homes and day centres throughout the UK. It is estimated that this work will bring in about £90,000 in fees. By the end of 2007 the charity will be employing up to 12 people from the Vale with learning difficulties to carry out these activities.

Self-advocacy groups are paramount in ensuring the social inclusion of people with learning difficulties into the community. This type of project is unique to the Vale and to the whole of Oxfordshire.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 60

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

Total estimated project cost: £53,727.32 for 4 groups in the Vale

Balances: £45,992 at 31/03/06

Running costs: £120,104 for 9 groups in Oxfordshire year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: Balance after grants

Grant Sought: **£2,686.36** (this is 5% of the cost of running the 4 groups in the Vale)

Previous Awards (Vale): 2006/07 £1,000
2005/06 £1,000

Parish Council Support: Has applied to Abingdon and Wantage Town Councils for £300 each (outcome awaited)

Other Support:

Oxfordshire County Council £934.96 confirmed
 Ridgeway Partnership Charitable Funds £600 confirmed
 Comic Relief £2,250 confirmed
 Learning Disabilities Development Fund £3,100 (awaiting confirmation)

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Access to Services, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(ii) Applicant: Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA)/Volunteer Centre Oxfordshire, based in Floyds Row, St Aldate's, Oxford

Years in existence: 74 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: OCVA is an organisation one of whose aims is to increase the level of volunteering in Oxfordshire and the Vale. Many local voluntary groups report that they have insufficient volunteers to cope with the demand for their services. At present OCVA has a Volunteer Centre Manager who is working with volunteer-involving organisations to help them develop and advertise their volunteering opportunities and to help them to train and manage volunteers. A volunteer information point has been established in Wantage and other venues have been identified in Abingdon and Faringdon. OCVA needs funding to handle an increasing number of enquiries from Vale voluntary groups. The OCVA directory lists 105 voluntary groups local to the Vale and 75 countywide groups that operate in the Vale.

OCVA also wish to encourage employee volunteering because there is a recognised shortage of volunteers in Oxfordshire, partly because of full employment. Employee volunteers recruited through OCVA provided Wantage Day Centre with a garden 'makeover'.

Volunteer-involving organisations wishing to advertise opportunities will be expected to be members of OCVA. This currently costs £25 a year but is free for groups with an annual income of less than £5,000. The membership entitles them to the full range of OCVA services so is not included in the specific budget for this project.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Potentially the whole population of the Vale could benefit from either becoming volunteers or being supported by volunteers.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: There will be a charge for any training event of £20 per person but is free for groups with an annual income of less than £5,000. OCVA does not charge volunteers themselves.

Total estimated project cost: £57,583 (inc. VAT which is not reclaimable)

Balances: £412,090 at 31/03/06

Running costs: £554,739 for year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: £4,000 from training charges

Grant Sought: **£5,000**

Previous Awards (Vale): £2,500 in 2005/06
£2,500 in 2006/07

Parish Council Support: Applying to town councils

Other Support: Capacity Builders grant (for countywide activity) £45,017
Entering into service level agreement with S.Oxfordshire DC.
Grant provided reduces need for funding towards administrative overheads.
Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire PCT & Oxford City Council contribute to core costs.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing,
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(iii) Applicant: Neighbourhood Watch, Thames Valley Police, based in Abingdon

Neighbourhood Watch will receive a grant of £8,200 in 2007/08 under a Service Level Agreement with the Council. This application is for a grant towards increased costs due to an expansion in the Neighbourhood Watch and Ringmaster schemes.

There are now about 1,000 watch schemes in the Vale including Countrywatch and Pubwatch. The service is operated and funded in partnership with South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) and Thames Valley Police. Around 25% of households in SODC and the VWHDC are members of the scheme.

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme is to combat all criminal activities including racial crime, distraction burglary etc. Neighbourhood Watch is a nationwide project supported at all levels of government. Ringmaster is a messaging system that can send messages to all neighbourhood watch co-ordinators to alert them to potential crimes in the area. These schemes provide social cohesion, mutual protection from crime, reduction in the fear of crime and an information-sharing process leading to the detection of crime.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Potentially the whole population of the Vale can benefit

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

Total estimated project cost: £40,634

Balances: N/A

Running costs: £33,331 projected at 31/03/07 (but actual costs £28,061 due to loss of staff)

Own Contribution: £11,161 plus office costs including recruitment and management

Grant Sought: £2,033

Previous Awards (Vale): £8,200 partnership grant in 2006/07
£9,700 partnership grant in 2005/06
£9,700 partnership grant in 2004/05

Parish Council Support: N/A

Other Support: South Oxfordshire District Council £13,970

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Safe & Supportive Communities, Town & Village Vitality, Health & Wellbeing,
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(iv) **Applicant: Root and Branch, Westmill Farm, Watchfield**

Years in existence: 4 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: Root and Branch is seeking funding towards the purchase of a new computer to set up a new 'administration' project to teach members office-based skills. At present there are no supported employment services for people with mental health problems in the Vale that teach administration. Funding is also being sought towards the cost of an additional wood lathe to extend the charity's woodworking project in response to a need identified by its current client group.

Root and Branch is a therapeutic gardening and rural craft project that supports people living in the Vale of White Horse who experience mental health difficulties. It was established in May 2001 in response to research by the Vale Social Services Mental Health Development Worker. The client group is also vulnerable to poor physical health, poverty, social isolation, discrimination and unemployment. The aims of Root and Branch are to help people develop skills, recover mental health, develop social networks and employment experience, gain confidence and improve their physical health.

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

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 30

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

Total Project Cost: £1,523.47 incl VAT; £1,256.87 excl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)
Of this £552.34 excl VAT (£649 incl VAT) is for a computer and £744.23 excl VAT (£874.47 incl VAT) is for the lathe

Balances: £21,227 at 30/09/06

Running Costs: £72,906 year ending 30/09/06

Own Contribution: £150

Grant Sought: **£1,073.47**

Previous Vale Awards: 4 one-day art workshops provided by Strategic Arts Development Officer in 2006/07
£350 2005/06
£200 2004/05
£1,000 2003/04

Parish Council Support: Has written to all parish councils in the Vale. To date has been awarded: £50 Watchfield, £50 Shrivenham, £25 Shellingford, £100 Cumnor, £75 Kennington

Other Support: PCT (Primary Care Trust) – outcome awaited

(iv) **Applicant: Oxfordshire Play Association, based in Witney**

Years in existence: 32 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: Oxfordshire Play Association (OPA) is a registered charity with over thirty years experience in play and play work. Its objectives are the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupations for children which will improve their quality of life by promoting their physical, mental and spiritual well-being. OPA works closely with play settings to encourage inclusive provision by providing support, guidance and play opportunities that are accessible to all.

OPA is seeking a grant to support its core work with After School Clubs, Holiday Playschemes and other play organisations within the Vale. The work includes the following services:

- Activity boxes and other materials
- Outreach play support visits
- Playwork training, both qualification and practical workshops
- Payroll services
- General advice on all aspects of play
- Support to playworkers

OPA has an established membership of approximately 150 After School Clubs, Holiday Playschemes etc, of which 44 clubs and schemes are located in the Vale. There is also regular use of training, activity box and outreach services in the Vale.

OPA is working closely with other voluntary organisations that work with children and young people to form a network group which will facilitate partnership working and provide mutual support.

Following a complete re-structure due to funding changes last year, OPA has considerably reduced its estimated expenditure for 2007/08.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 4,730

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: A membership fee of £15 p.a is charged and there is a modest fee for hiring activity boxes (£2.50 per day or £10 per week).

Total estimated project cost: £33,665

Balances: £74,554 at 31/03/06

Running costs: £149,948 year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: £650

Grant Sought: **£4,535**

Previous Awards (Vale):	2006/07	£2,500
	2005/06	£2,500
	2004/05	£500
	2003/04	£4,000
	2002/03	£4,000

Parish Council Support: Has not applied to parish councils but plans to apply to parish councils for specific projects in their areas

Other support:

Applied to all district councils for grants based on proportion of play settings in each.
 Cherwell £4,675 (outcome awaited)
 West Oxon £4,675 (under discussion)
 South £6,745 (none awarded)
 City £6,885 (none, due to incomplete application)
 County Council Learning & Culture £5,500 awarded

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer, healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Safe and Supportive Communities, Town and Village Vitality, Education and Lifelong Learning, Health and Wellbeing.
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(vi) Applicant: Oxfordshire Visual Arts Festival Ltd (known as "Artweeks")

Project, service or event details: Oxfordshire Visual Arts Festival Ltd is the co-ordinating organisation for Artweeks, the county-wide open art studio festival which is the largest and longest running annual visual arts event in the UK. The event is divided into three regional areas with each area having its own Artweek. The Vale district is included in the South Oxfordshire Artweek which in 2007 will be held during the week beginning 14 May.

The organisers are seeking a grant towards the cost of producing 50,000 copies of the Artweeks Guide 2007.

Artweeks allows many artists from all levels of practice and many different art forms to exhibit their work in a diverse range of places across the district including village halls, barns and houses in rural areas thus increasing access for the rurally isolated and encouraging participation by those sections of the community who do not normally visit art galleries and museums. This activity encourages local vitality, tourism, cultural identity and economic growth.

Workshops aimed at children and young people are run to encourage and promote their creativity. There is no charge for visiting any of the studios or exhibitions or for participating in the workshops reflecting the organisers' policy of making the event accessible to all and encouraging as many people as possible to experience and enjoy art.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: It is estimated that about three hundred people in the Vale will take part in the festival as artists and approximately nine thousand people will visit the exhibitions and events organised.

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

Total estimated project cost: £79,300 (countywide)

Balances: £18,529 at 31 July 2006

Running costs: £69,998 for year ending 31 July 2006

Own Contribution: Members subscriptions/fees £60,000 & time given by volunteers organising the event

Grant Sought: £1,000

Previous Awards (Vale): £1,000 2006/07
£1,000 2005/06
£ 2,500 2004/05
£2,050 in 2003/04
£2,000 in 2002/03

Parish Council support: None sought

Other Support: Making applications to Oxfordshire County Council and other district councils (for activities in their districts). Seeking £ 7,800 in grants (including this application) Advertising £ 11,500 Holywell Press – discounted price for printing guide Eye Division and Oxlink – reduced rates for maintaining Artweeks web-site Gow’s Farm, Appleton – one month’s free storage space for guides E W Beard’s Building Contractors – distribution of guides to all TICs free of charge and reduced rates for building work such as construction & erection of display screens

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation Leisure & Culture, Town & Village Vitality
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(vii) Applicant: Oxford Film and Video Makers, based in Catherine Street, Oxford

Project, service or event details: Oxford Film and Video Makers (OFVM) acts as an information centre for film, video and digital media in Oxford and the county as well as the key centre for independent film makers to train, gain access to production support, gain screening opportunities and meet up with others with similar interests.

OFVM is seeking a grant towards Summerscreen 2007, a film and digital media festival which will be held between 28 July – 5th August 2007 in venues across the district. The festival comprises workshops and open-air film screenings.

Following on from last years' success, the programme for the Vale will include 3 days of film making workshops at the Vale and Downland Museum, and 3 days of BBC Mini Movie workshops at Abingdon and Witney College.

The BBC will provide support and guidance of professional film makers for the Mini (minute) Movie workshops to help 8 young people to develop and produce films of one minute in length. All films produced will be placed on the BBC website and screened at the 'Best of the Fest' screening at the Phoenix Cinema on 30 July. The organisers will work with the Vale's Arts Development Manager to identify and recruit young people who do not normally have these sorts of opportunities. There is no charge for participation in the workshop.

Over the last two years the Minute Movies workshops have been funded by the Community Foundation but their policy prevents them from providing support for a fourth year. The workshops have always been oversubscribed.

The Summerscreen 2007 festival also includes free film screenings in different parks. OFVM has run films in the parks in Oxford City for over 8 years. Last year Summerscreen visited Memorial Park, Wantage. The event proved very popular, with 600 people turning up to view the film. A similar screening is planned for this year, again in Memorial Park, Wantage.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 500

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

Total estimated project cost: £9,900

Balances: £53,534 at 31 March 2006

Running costs: £158,857 for year ending 31 March 2006

Own Contribution:

Grant Sought: £2,400

Previous Awards (Vale): £1,900 in 2006/07

Parish Council Support: None sought

Other Support: Youth Media Fund £1,450
In Kind (BBC) £1,500 and £350 (venue)
Applying to other district councils for activities in their area

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

Recommend support	Yes
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Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation Leisure & Culture, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(viii) **Applicant: Oxfordshire Chinese Community and Advice Centre (OCCAC), based in Oxford**

Years in existence: 16 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: OCCAC will receive a grant of £4,675 in 2007/08 under a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Council to provide an assisted information and advice service.

OCCAC is seeking a one-off grant of £3,276 towards the increased overhead costs of £14,700 which it faces in 2007/08 in order to provide this service. Most of these costs are due to a sharp increase in rent.

OCCAC bilingual advice service specifically addresses the needs of minority ethnic people, issues of access, low income and the elderly. The service is mainly concerned with helping non English-speaking Chinese to gain access to services, especially to housing and welfare benefits for those on low income.

As a result of accessing the bilingual advice service Chinese residents are made aware of and can benefit from other services provided by OCCAC including adult computing and English classes, vocational training (basic food hygiene, first aid, health & safety), weekly day care and luncheon club for elderly Chinese as well as cultural and community activities such as the Chinese New Year celebration.

OCCAC has recently been successful in an application to the Big Lottery's Reaching Communities Programme and has been awarded approx £50, 000 p.a. for five years for integration and health projects. This funding is restricted to the specified projects and cannot be used for the information and advice service, ie for the Centre's core funding.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: An estimated fourteen percent of the Centre's clients, some 750 people, are from the Vale district.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: The bilingual advice service is provided free of charge to clients but there is a small charge for other activities such as the luncheon club.

Total estimated project cost: £123,689

Balances: £12,162.67 at 31/03/06

Running costs: £109,126.04 using unrestricted funds, plus
£107,101.80
using restricted funds, year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: £25,000 through fundraising within the Chinese
community

Grant Sought: **£3,276**

Previous Awards (Vale): £4,675 in 2006/07 (SLA) plus £1,000 one-off
£5,500 in 2005/06 (SLA) plus £1,500 one-off
£5,500 in 2004/05 (SLA) plus £4,500 one-off
£5,500 in 2003/04

Parish Council Support: Has written to all parish councils (outcome awaited)

Other Support: For advice and community work:
£38,027 Oxford City Council
£24,189 Oxfordshire County Council Social & Health
Care – funding may not be provided beyond 2007-08
Grants have been sought from Cherwell and West
Oxfordshire District Councils and the outcome is
awaited
South Oxfordshire District Council has declined

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Access to Services, Safe & Supportive Communities, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(ix) **Applicant: Wantage Diving Club**

Years in existence: 30 years

Type of organisation: Club

Project, service or event details:

Wantage Diving Club is seeking a grant to replace several items of “Try Dive” SCUBA diving equipment which will not pass their next service.

The club provides the opportunity to experience SCUBA diving in a local swimming pool. Regular visitors include local community groups such as scouts, guides, South & Vale Carers. In addition the club provides diving sessions as raffle prizes to local community groups to support their fundraising efforts.

The Try Dive experience is the club’s principal method of recruiting new members.

Area of the Vale covered: Takes place in Wantage, involves many local people but is open to anyone throughout the Vale as it is the only diving club in the Vale.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Approx 160

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: For individuals £15 per person, £25 per couple but typically no charge for community groups.

Total estimated project cost:	£2,976 excl VAT; £3,500 incl VAT, of which £1,500 is for the purchase of equipment and £2,000 is for 5 year’s maintenance costs
Balances:	£4,049 at 31/08/06
Running costs:	£9,604 year ending 31/08/06
Own Contribution:	£2,000 (member subscriptions and fundraising activities)
Grant Sought:	£1,500
Previous Awards (Vale):	£1,500 2002/03 for a compressor
Parish Council Support	Have applied to a number of parish and town councils but no response to date
Other Support:	None

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer, healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure; Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(x) **Applicant: Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau**

Years in existence: 39 years in Abingdon

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: The Bureau receives a grant of £80,535 p.a. towards core funding under a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Council. Since no other body will fund the Bureau's running costs the Council is its main funder. In 2005/06 and 2006/07 the Bureau was awarded additional grants to cover the increase in rent, service charges and other running costs.

The Trustee Board is seeking a grant to cover the shortfall in its core funding for 2007/08. The shortfall in funding is due to increases in service charges, salary rises and pension contribution increases. (Paid staff are employed on Local Government terms). The Bureau's SLA grant will be increased in 2007/08 by an estimated 3.3% as a result of contract inflation which increases the grant to an estimated £83,193. After town and parish council grants, bank interest and donations have been taken into account the Bureau's shortfall will be an estimated £7,477.

The Bureau was obliged to take some difficult financial decisions in 2006/07 in order to keep within its budget, resulting in the non-replacement of the manager who retired, a reduction in the hours of paid staff and reduced opening hours. The Bureau was audited in summer 2006 and achieved very good results for its quality of advice, governance and administration. The results of a Client Satisfaction Survey provide evidence of overwhelming support for the Bureau's work and the quality of advice given by its staff.

In 2005/2006 the Bureau helped over 6,000 Vale residents. Following the 23% reduction in opening sessions each week in 2006/07 the number of Vale residents helped has inevitably reduced. The figure for 2006/07 is estimated at 5,000.

The Bureau aims to ensure that individuals do not suffer due to lack of knowledge of their rights and responsibilities or of the services available to them or through an inability to express their needs effectively. Main enquiry and casework areas are money, debt, employment, welfare benefits, housing, relationship breakdown, tax and consumer.

The bureau works closely with the Wantage Independent Advice Centre and provides a service to all residents of the Vale of White Horse.

The table below shows the level of SLA grant and additional one-off grants awarded over the last two years and the level of grant being sought for 2007/08.

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
SLA towards core funding	£80,535	£80,535	£80,535 +£2,658 = £83,193 (estimated inflation of 3.3%)
Additional amount awarded/being sought for rental assistance	£3,022	£4,140	£4,140
Additional amount awarded/being sought for non-rental costs assistance	£2,015	£2,565	£3,337
Total additional amount awarded/being	£5,037	£6,705	£7,477

sought			
Total amount awarded/being sought	£85,572	£87,240	£90,670

Total Project Costs: £103,235

Balances: £23,198 at 31/03/06 of which £10,147 is unrestricted funds and the balance is for specified projects

Running costs: £111,609 year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: 1,016 voluntary hours per month

Grant Sought: **£7,477**

Previous Awards (Vale):

2006/07	£87,240
2005/06	£85,572
2004/05	£80,535
2003/04	£76,700
2002/03	£74,825

Town & Parish Council Support: Abingdon Town Council £9,000
 Has applied to about half the parish councils in the district; has not applied to small parishes, mostly beyond Wantage & Faringdon as rarely see clients from these areas.
 Total awarded from parishes to date:£1,915 (*an additional £750 is anticipated, making a total of £2,665*)
Grand total from parish and town councils to date: £10,915 (anticipated total: £11,665)

Other support: Donations and bank interest £900

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the amount
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Access to services, Health and Wellbeing
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(xi) **Applicant: Oxfordshire Children's Information Service (OCIS), based in Witney**

Years in existence: over 5 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: OCIS provides information for parents and professionals about childcare, early education, play, activities, and the comprehensive range of services for children, young people and their families that are available throughout the county. It is the only organisation managing and providing information about registered childcare in the county.

Oxfordshire County Council grants (Early Learning and Childcare Service) enable OCIS to deliver basic helpline and outreach services to the Vale (and other districts) and an enhanced service in a particular district is funded by a contribution from the district council. County Council funding will also cover the production of 4,000 copies of the new Vale Local Information Guide in December 2007.

OCIS is seeking funding to support the following:

- (i) **OCIS Outreach and Helpline** – target of helping 1,200 Vale enquirers through the Helpline, conducting 200 face to face contacts through Outreach work and holding 8 outreach events
- (ii) **Oxfordshire Services Directory (OSD)** – 1 week's Information Officer salary to improve the information on low cost activities in the Vale; the information will be maintained and updated by OCIS
- (iii) Print 1,000 additional copies of OCIS **new Vale Local Information Guide**
- (iv) Contribution to printed **Summer Holiday Playscheme information**

OCIS's services aim to be universal, provided for all people who can benefit from them in Oxfordshire. In recognition of the numerous potential barriers preventing some groups or individuals gaining full access, OCIS delivers information and advice in a range of ways; it also tailors its information and advice to target particular groups which are not accessing the services.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: over 1,400

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

Total estimated project cost: Helpline and outreach service £182,580; Information Officer £20,000; Vale Local Information Guide £6,820; Summer Holiday Playscheme publication £10,000

Balances: £181,535 at 31/03/06

Running costs: £403,213 year ending 31/03/06

Own Contribution: Will subsidise Information Officer costs for week spent on improving information coverage of the Vale; reserves used in 2006/07 to finance move to new premises and create a new post

Grant Sought: **£5,000**, broken down as follows:
£3,000 towards enhanced helpline and outreach service, £450
Information Officer time, £550 for printing additional copies of
guide, £1,000 towards Summer Holiday Playscheme publication

Previous Awards (Vale): 2006/07 £1,000 for core Information and Outreach work and OSD development
 2005/05 £300 for Local Information Guides
 2003/04 £1,500 for core Information and Outreach work

Parish Council Support: Has applied to all Vale parish councils; if successful aims to provide some additional targeted outreach work in the parishes which contribute

Other Support: Contract with Oxfordshire County Council to deliver core information and outreach service in 2007/08 plus grant funding from County Council to re-produce Vale Local Information Guides; contract with County Council and PCT to deliver Oxfordshire Services Directory

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the amount
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Access to services, Health and Wellbeing
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(xii) Applicant: Sunningwell School of Art

Years in existence: 33 years

Type of organisation: Registered charity

Project, service or event details: The Sunningwell School of Art has been advised by the services engineer to renew the central heating system as soon as possible as the existing one is old and inefficient. Energy is currently wasted and a new system would save 30% or more on heating bills. The students, tutors, models and staff plus other community groups that use the building would benefit from improved conditions which an efficient heating system would provide.

Area of the Vale covered: Vale-wide

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 441 students of which approximately 50% are from the Vale

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Fees are charged for the courses; discounts are given to children who live in the local community

Total estimated project cost: £8,743.13 excl VAT; £10,560.62 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Balances: £57,213 at 31/08/06

Running costs: £173,918 year ending 31/08/06

Own Contribution: £4,560 (from donations from students and fundraising activities including a concert)

Grant Sought: **£3,000**

Previous Awards (Vale): 2006/07 £1,000 towards installation of disabled toilet

Parish Council Support: Has applied to all Vale parish and town councils plus a further 7 surrounding the Vale

Other Support: Has applied to Award for All (outcome awaited)

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports Vale Community Strategy strand(s)	Environment
Remaining budget	
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

(xiii) Applicant: Accessible Sailing operating as The Farmoor Reservoir Pontoon Project

Years in existence: 5 years

Type of organisation: Accessible Sailing is a registered charity

Project, service or event details: This application was considered by the North East Area Committee on 8 March 2007 when a grant of £10,000 was awarded. In view of the significance of the project for residents throughout the Vale, the Committee requested that the application be referred to the Executive and the other Area Committees at their first meeting of 2007/08 for consideration.

Accessible Sailing is seeking a grant towards the cost of building a pontoon which has been specifically designed to meet the needs of sailors with disabilities. It has been designed as a wheelchair-friendly floating jetty that will enable disabled sailors and their helpers to access their boats easily and safely.

The pontoon will be 65 metres long and 5 metres wide with a sloping walkway and access bridge linking the shore to the main pontoon. A lift will enable access at low water. There will also be a drop-deck with two short jetties for trimaran-type boats.

Accessible Sailing, of which the pontoon project is a part, has been set up to provide or assist with the provision of sailing or sailing-related activities for people without access due to their youth, age, infirmity or disablement. The aim of the project is to improve their quality of life.

At present disabled sailing boats are launched into the water from the "beach" end of the reservoir. Volunteers lift disabled sailors into the boats and then wade thigh-high into the water, pushing the boats until afloat. The existing pontoon is made of rubber blocks, is unstable and is only accessible via a flight of steps to water level. It is totally inaccessible for anyone with the slightest disability of lack of confidence.

The three organisations currently using Farmoor Reservoir for sailing activities are Oxford Sailability (the local disabled sailing organisation); Oxford Sailing Club and Oxford & District Schools' Sailing Association (ODSSA) who help disabled children to learn to sail. All three organisations are united in their acknowledgement of the need for better facilities for disabled and disadvantaged users and they are all working in partnership to raise funds for the pontoon.

All the necessary permissions and approvals of the installation design have been obtained.

The project has been split into stages and it is hoped to raise the first £116,000 (plus VAT) by the Autumn in order to be able to start phases 1 and 2 of the project which includes the construction of the pontoon. The sum raised so far is approximately £91,000 including the £10,000 from the North East Area Committee.

Area of the Vale covered: Based in the North East Area but available to residents throughout the Vale

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: Nearly 300

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

Total estimated project cost: £200,000 excl VAT; £235,000 incl VAT (VAT cannot be reclaimed)

Own Contribution: £12,200 from own fundraising activities including the sale of planks for the pontoon and guided tours of Oxford by pontoon committee member

Grant Sought: £5,000

Previous Awards (Vale): £10,000 awarded by North East Area Committee 08/03/07

Parish Council Support: Has written to all parish councils in the district and followed up with a telephone call; to date grants of £200 awarded by Kennington Parish Council and £10,000 by Cumnor Parish Council

Other Support: Since the launch of the project in 2002 Thames Water has provided £100,000 in funding and in-kind donations
Doris Field Trust £5,000
Great Northern Run 2006 participant with BUPA matched funding £1,200
Savill's Charity of the Year 2006/07 £3,300
Duke of Marlborough via Trusthouse Charitable Foundation 2006 £500
Blackwell Publishing 2005 £500
Private donation from concert 2004 £5,500
Three Peaks Race 2006 £1,650

Cumnor Stores Book Stall (ongoing) £500
 Chair of VOWH's Farewell Dinner 2004 £1,400
 Saddles £1,330
 Peter Harrison Foundation – awaiting outcome
 Sport England/Lottery – application in progress
 The Money Pot Grant, Fox FM - declined

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	Members are requested to determine the grant
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£
Remaining Committee meetings	1
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	Thames Water, a member of the Vale Partnership Board, is very supportive of this project as witnessed by the significant level of funding and in-kind support provided.