

**(i) Applicant: Abingdon Area Archaeological & Historical Society (AAHS)**

**Years in existence:** 40 Years

**Type of organisation:** Society

**Project, service or event details:** Abingdon Area Archaeological & Historical Society is seeking a grant towards the costs of setting up an exhibition on the history of Ock Street, Abingdon. This is intended to take place at the Abingdon Museum from 12th January 2008 to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008. It will be the second major exhibition put on by the Ock Street heritage Group of the AAHS. The first, in 2006, attracted an estimated 800-900 visitors. There was disappointment that it only lasted three days, and there have been many requests for a repeat. The museum offers a longer time period, but required a very different style of display and therefore further expenditure.

Previous activities on the history of Ock Street have shown that interest is general, but that the theme is particularly attractive to older people who lived there before the slum clearances, and to their now-elderly second generation. To the latter it gives a sense of belonging and community. A secondary target group is the residents of new developments in and about Ock Street, many of whom are anxious to understand the district they now live in and to put down roots of their own. Local schools will also be approached. Public meetings in 2004 attracted some 50 people with as many being turned away. A repeat in 2005 was full to capacity with 80 attendees. The present Ock Street research Group within AAHS emerged spontaneously from these meetings.

The encouragement and support for continued activity came especially from members of the Abingdon and Vale Councils.

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

**Area of the Vale covered:** Abingdon in general, but especially Ock Street and the Saxton Road area to which residents were re-housed in the 1940s.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** Difficult to predict but they expect several hundred visitors based on public meetings held in 2004, 2005 and on the 2006 exhibition.

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** There will be no charge for entry. There may be limited sales of literature which will be at or close to cost price.

**Total estimated project cost:** £851.06 exl. VAT; £1,000 including VAT (VAT can NOT be reclaimed by the society).

**Balances:** As of 31/08/06 £8,930.38

**Own Contribution:** £250; in addition in-kind support is being provided by members of the work group for research, archive work and developing the exhibits. This involves travel costs – some archives are in Reading and artefacts are stored in Standlake. The work group co-ordinator is a professional local historian and is not charging for his time or expenses.

**Grant Sought: £500**

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £500 awarded in 05/06 towards the exhibition but only £150 claimed

**Parish Council Support:** £250 awarded by Abingdon Town Council

**Parish Precept:** £854,185 (Band 'D' £68.57)

**Other Support:** Joint Environmental Trust £250 (awarded in principle, subject to further information) since this application was submitted. Preparing application to 'Awards for All' but they advise award is unlikely in view of £900 grant awarded towards the 2006 exhibition.

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

Recommend support	Yes, provided Members feel application meets criteria
Amount recommended	£250
Reasons:	Confirmed amounts awarded by Abingdon Town Council and Abingdon JET leave shortfall of £250. Applicant advises that the Society's balances are sufficient to maintain current routine activities but is unable to contribute more to special projects such as the exhibition.
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Members may feel that application is not eligible (see criteria c) of non-eligibility criteria: "Activities which are already receiving funding from a department within the Council"). Abingdon Town Council awarded a grant; subsequently a grant was awarded by JET (funded by VWHDC and Abingdon Town Council)
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer & healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality, Education & Lifelong Learning
Current budget	£36,121.63
Remaining Committee meetings	2
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£13,000
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

**(ii) Applicant: Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee**

**Years in existence:** Over 50 years

**Type of organisation:** Parish Council & Charity

**Project, service or event details:**

Background

This project is the result of several years of discussion and negotiation in the village. In December 2004 the Council had agreed to set aside the sum of £27,500 from the Council's Lottery & Other Grants Support Fund when the applicant entered WREN's annual challenge competition to build a new village hall with a first prize of £250,000. The sum of £27,500

would have been required to release the £250,000 if the applicant was successful. The applicant secured a prize of £50,000. The Council reduced the earmarked sum to £14,300 when it subsequently became clear that the project to build a new village hall would not attract sufficient WREN funding to enable it to proceed. Now WREN has agreed a grant of £50,000 towards refurbishment of the village hall so £5,500 of the £14,300 earmarked will be provided as third party funding.

Appleford Parish Council & Village Hall Committee is seeking a grant towards the refurbishment of Appleford village hall to enhance the facilities for the local community. This will include an extension to the current hall, the provision of changing rooms and showers and new toilet facilities, including disabled facilities. In addition to a committee meeting room with new ancillary storage there will be a substantial improvement to the hall which will provide much needed sports facilities. There will also be a new kitchen. The new access at the front of the building, together with the new footpath from the car park, will provide the required access for people with disabilities.

A grant of £50,000 from WREN allows the first phase of the project to go ahead. Fundraising is continuing for the second phase of the project and it is for this second phase that the applicant is seeking £6,000 funding.

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

**Area of the Vale covered:** Appleford and surrounding villages primarily.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** Village population approx. 270

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** There are charges to groups and individuals hiring the hall.

**Total estimated project cost:** £120,086 exl. VAT (VAT can be recovered) includes £64,500 for the first phase.

**Balances:** £1,387.24 at 30/09/06

**Own Contribution:** £1,500

**Grant Sought:** £6,000 in addition to the £5,500 third party funding from the Lottery and Other Grants Support Fund

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £2,200 awarded as 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding for WREN grant 2004/05 towards new safety surfacing and dog proof fencing of children's play area

**Parish Council Support:** £13,000

**Parish Precept:** £6,200 (Band 'D' £68.94)

**Other Support:** Oxfordshire County Council £10,000, Football Foundation £19,000, Awards For All £10,000  
WREN £50,000 awarded towards first phase of the project

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£6,000
Reasons:	The WREN grant will enable the first phase of the project to be completed; the Council's support is needed towards the second phase of the project.
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 and Leisure, Town & Village Vitality.
Current budget	£36,121.63
Remaining Committee meetings	2
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£7,250
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	

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

**NOTE:** An application for £10,000 from Accessible Sailing was initially submitted to the North East Area Committee in March 2007 and a grant for the full amount was awarded. The North East Area Committee recognised the project as an excellent example of partnership working, which met the Council's corporate priorities and would provide a safe facility suitable for disabled and able-bodied sailors, fishermen and birdwatchers. The members of the North East Area Committee suggested that the application be submitted to the Council's Executive meeting in April and the other Area Committees at their first meeting of the new financial year, noting that the facility would benefit residents from across the District.

The Executive considered the application for £5,000 at its meeting in April 2007 and awarded a grant of £2,500 and endorsed the suggestion for the application to be submitted to the other three Area Committees.

**Years in existence:** 5 years

**Type of organisation:** Accessible Sailing is a registered charity.

**Project, service or event details:** 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 or lack of confidence.

The three organisations currently using Farmoor Reservoir for sailing activities are Oxford Sailability (the local sailing organisation for people with disabilities); Oxford Sailing Club and Oxford & District Schools' Sailing Association (ODSSA) who help children with disabilities 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 £120,000 plus £21,000 VAT by Autumn 2007 in order to be able to start the project with the construction of the first two phases of the pontoon. The sum raised so far is approximately £99,500. *In view of the positive feedback from the North East Area Committee and the Executive, the project organisers have submitted an application for £7,000 to each of the West, South East and*

*Abingdon Area Committees to cover the shortfall which would leave them with the VAT of £21,000 to fundraise from other sources.*

**Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands:** Recreation, Culture & Leisure, Health & Wellbeing, Environment, Education & Lifelong Learning, Access to services

**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 disabled sailors and helpers plus an estimated 3000 children, novice sailors, bidwatchers and flyfishermen.

**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:** £15,000 from own fundraising activities including the sale of planks for the pontoon and guided tours of Oxford by pontoon committee member

**Grant Sought:** **£7,000** (see narrative above)

**Previous Awards (Vale):** None

**Parish Council Support:** Have written to all parish councils in the district and followed up with a telephone call; to date grants have been awarded by Cumnor Parish Council (£10,000), Kennington P.C. (£200), Fyfield and Tubney P.C. (£200), North Hinksey P.C. (£200), Drayton P.C. (£150), Appleton with Eaton P.C. (£100), Longworth P.C. (£25).

**Other Support:** Since the launch of the project in 2002 Thames Water has provided £100,000 in funding and in-kind donations.

Additional support, totalling £99,475, has come from a variety of sources, namely:

Businesses:	£42,000
Employees' activities, supported by business:	£7,000
Private donations:	£7,500
Sale of commemorative 'planks':	£8,600
Raffles and sales of small items:	£2,000
Talks to individual groups:	£1,000
Fundraising from other sporting activities:	£3,000
Other fundraising:	£3,500
Cumnor Stores Book Stall:	£500
Open Weekend, including Trysailing	£1,000
Parish and District Council donations	£23,375

Other sources of funding explored:

Peter Harrison Foundation – awaiting outcome

Sport England/Lottery – application in progress

South Oxfordshire District Council – application in progress

Oxfordshire County Council – application in progress

West Oxfordshire District Council – Application in progress

Oxford City Council – Application in progress

The Money Pot Grant, Fox FM - declined

The Oxford Times Gannett Foundation – Declined

WREN landfill scheme – Declined

TOE landfill scheme – application in progress

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£7,000
Reasons:	Important project with significant benefit to people with disabilities as well as novice sailors; project has received widespread financial support including from Vale's N E Area Committee and Executive.
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, Access to services
Current budget	£36,121.63
Remaining Committee meetings	2
Total amount recommended for other applications being considered	£6,250
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.