# (i) Applicant: Oxfordshire Association for the Blind (OAB), based in Gordon Woodward Way, Abingdon Road, Oxford

## Years in existence: 130 Years

**Type of organisation:** Charity (entirely independent local organisation, not affiliated to the RNIB)

**Project, service or event details:** Oxfordshire Association for the Blind is seeking a grant towards the running costs of providing a continued service to the blind and partially-sighted residents of the Vale which aims to improve their quality of life and help them to access services. The number of visually impaired people is rising as people live longer leading to an increasing demand for the services of OAB. Blind and partially-sighted people are most often elderly, frequently have additional disabilities, poor health, lack of access to facilities by reason of poor mobility and lack of information in appropriate formats, and they regularly have limited family support.

OAB addresses these needs by providing information, advice, equipment and support services to enable blind and visually-impaired residents to retain their independence and reduce their isolation. The Association works in partnership with the statutory agencies to supplement their provision in the following ways:

- Providing a Welfare Officer and a team of volunteers support the members of 3 selfhelp groups.
- Running a Resource Centre offering telephone advice, information leaflets, an award winning quarterly newsletter in appropriate formats, specialist equipment, often including free loan of expensive items, and counselling/emotional support.
- Providing a Counselling/Advice Worker based at the John Radcliffe Hospital to support patients immediately following a consultation.

Support for the services provided by the OAB is forthcoming from The Oxford Eye Hospital, Oxfordshire County Council's Social and Community Services, The Macular Disease Society, The Guide Dogs for the Blind and the Low Vision Services Committee of Oxfordshire. Some of these organisations have gathered evidence of need from local surveys they have carried out.

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Access to Services, Health & Wellbeing

## Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide

## Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit in the Vale: 990

**Charge to public for using the project/service/event?:** All services provided are free with the exception of specialist equipment which is for sale. An item can often be made available on loan to anyone experiencing financial hardship.

**Total estimated project cost:** £20,713.00 (VAT can not be reclaimed)

Balances: £398,631 at 31/03/07 of which £75,167 is restricted funds.

**Running costs:** £341,256 for year ending 31/03/07

**Own Contribution:** £12,213.00 through fundraising and they will continue to seek funding from a variety of sources both charitable and statutory. They are extending their fundraising capabilities with the setting up of a Patron's Circle lead by their Patron the Countess of Macclesfield. They also plan to start generating income by selling consultancy and training services, now that they have the appropriately trained personnel.

## Grant Sought: £5,000.00

**Previous Awards (Vale):** £2,000.00 in 2006/07 towards services and the scoping of a future volunteer visitor service which they hope to commence as soon as other funding is secured.

- Parish Council Support: Have applied to all the Parish Councils in the Vale area and have been awarded £415 to date, as follows: Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor £50, Watchfield £50, North Hinksey £180, Sunningwell £50, Shellingford £25, West Hendred £10, Kennington £50
- **Other Support:** Support has been sought from a number of trusts for the OAB's work throughout Oxfordshire and a total of £12,500 has been raised to date. The proportion of the service users in the Vale area is 28.6% (994 people in the Vale out of 3,470 in the whole of Oxfordshire), therefore, approximately £3,500 of this amount will be used for work in the Vale. The outcome is awaited from another trust. Applications to a further five trusts have been unsuccessful.

South Oxfordshire District Council has awarded £4,730 towards OAB's work in that district. Applications have been submitted to the other district councils to support work with their residents and the outcome is awaited.

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier
	community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Access to services, Health & Well-being
Remaining budget	£5,914.00
Remaining Committee meetings	None
Total amount recommended for	N/A
other	
applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant	
award	
Other comments	

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

## (ii) Applicant: South and Vale Carers, based in Lydells Road, Didcot

Years in existence: 13 years

Applicant: South and Vale Carers, based in Lydells Road, Didcot

Years in existence: 13 years

**Type of organisation:** Charity constituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee and is governed by a Memorandum & Articles of Association

**Project, service or event details:** The South and Vale Carers Centre is seeking a grant towards the running costs of providing an Outreach Service for adults and young carers in 2007/08. The Outreach Service provides information, advice and support for anyone who is looking after a friend or relative who, because of age, illness or disability can not look after themselves. The Outreach Workers offer home visits to carers which reduces social exclusion. They offer benefit checks as one way of helping carers maximise their income. They also offer emotional support and give carers the opportunities to discuss their options.

According to the 2001 census there are around 11,000 people caring in the Vale with around 4,000 people becoming carers each year. In feedback from carers 97% thought the service was good or very good and would recommend the centre to a friend. Typical of the feedback is the following comment from one carer: "I can't tell you what a relief it is to speak to people like you who understand and are able to give concrete advice. At last I feel we're heading in the right direction"

Supports following Vale Community Strategy strands: Access to Services, Health & Wellbeing

Area of the Vale covered: Vale wide.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** Last financial year they supported 395 new carers; they have supported 4,079 clients in the Vale since the Centre was established.

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

**Total estimated project cost:** £271,000.00 excl VAT (can not reclaim VAT)

Balances: £99,212.00 at 31 March 2006

**Running costs:** £244,075 for year ending 31/03/06

**Own contribution:** Unable to allocate money from reserves because expect that Carers Support Grant from government may no longer be ringfenced in next financial year which would have an impact on county council funding to the Centre

**Grant Sought:** £10,000.00

Previous Awards (Vale): £539.00 in 2006/07 towards the outreach service.

Parish Council Support: Applications are made to all town and parish

councils once a year. This has raised  $\pounds710.00$  to date and raised  $\pounds5,000.00$  last year.

**Other Support:** Carers Support grant from Oxfordshire County Council £218,000.00 (government funding) South Oxfordshire District Council £20,000.00 (Service Level Agreement) towards running costs Rayne Foundation – refused Awards for All – refused Divisional Youth Forum £1,595.00 for a sessional Youth Worker to support Young Carers. Henry Smith – awaiting decision Esmee Fairbairn Foundation – awaiting decision Garfield Weston Foundation – awaiting decision

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	
Reasons:	
Meets CG Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier
	community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Access to Services, Health & Wellbeing
Remaining budget	£5,914
Remaining Committee meetings	None
Total amount recommended for	N/A
other	
applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant	
award	
Other comments	

# Lottery and Other Grants Support Fund

# (iii) Applicant: Charney Hall & Field Trust, Charney Bassett

Years in existence: 51 years

Type of organisation: Charity

**Project, service or event details:** Charney Hall and Field Trust (CHAFT) is seeking a grant towards redeveloping the hall as a central facility meeting the different demands of the varied user groups across all ages and needs. The Trust's objectives include extending the main hall, adding an external terrace and replacing the kitchen to comply with Health and Safety regulations. This will improve the community activities space. By installing appropriate toilet, flooring, acoustic and sight facilities together with a baby changing unit the trustees will meet accessibility needs. They would like to deliver more attractive and eco-friendly premises by removing unsightly outbuildings and annexes, installing environmentally-efficient systems and improving storage for key community resources.

A past referendum in the village identified the villagers' preference for the existing premises as the village hall. CHAFT needs to address disability and health and safety requirements in order to meet its constitutional responsibility. Consultation with and feedback from regular user groups, statistics on patterns of demand and discussions with the wider community on redevelopment proposals have all provided evidence that the hall is used widely by the local community.

Currently the hall hosts a toddler group, a youth group, local area Village College adult education classes, various recreation, sport and exercise classes, a coffee group (serving mainly the over-60s), the Vale Islanders Dance Group (drawing members from across the Vale), as well as public and parish meetings.

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

**Area of the Vale covered:** The facilities are available to organisations vale-wide but especially serve the local communities of Charney Bassett, Lyford, Cherbury and Gainfield Benefice.

## Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: 279

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Yes  $\pounds$ 3.50 per hour for residents,  $\pounds$ 10.00 for others.

**Total estimated project cost:** £164,441.00 incl full VAT (some aspects of the project may be granted exemption from VAT); £139,950 excl VAT

## Balances: £11,902.94 as at 31/03/07

**Own Contribution:** £5,000.00 from reserves plus nearly £11,000.00 from fundraising events and donations. (This represents an average of £100.00 per household in Charney Bassett to date). Fundraising will continue. In addition members of the community are providing in-kind support in terms of administration, financial management, temporary accommodation during construction, onsite volunteer help as needed.

**Grant Sought:** £5,000.00 third party funding to release TOE grant (The trust originally applied to TOE for £10,000.00 but subsequently raised it to £50,000.00 on TOE's advice)

**Previous Awards (Vale):** 1998/1999: £5,000.00 towards the structural assessment costs and essential wall and roof repairs to the original Victorian Chapel element of the hall. This generated increased use of the hall within the village.

Parish Council Support: £500.00 awarded

**Parish Precept:** £2,700 (Band 'D' £18.96)

## **Other Support:**

£500.00 Doris Field Trust awarded

Outcomes are awaited from the following applications: £50,000 TOE (Trust for Oxfordshire Environment)

£10,000 Government's Low Carbon Energy Programme
£7,500.00 Oxfordshire County Council (agreed in principle, to be ratified)
£10,000 Awards for All
£15,000 other local and national bodies
£8,000 donations (Local Charney Challenge target)
£7,000 projected from planned future events
£15,000 local business sponsorship

Big Lottery Community Fund – application commended but unsuccessful.

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£5,000
Reasons:	This modest sum will unlock a far larger
	grant which will make a significant
	difference to the fundraising effort.
Meets Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier
	community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality, Access to
	Services, Recreation, Culture and
	Leisure, Environment, Education and
	Lifelong Learning, Health and
	Wellbeing.
Remaining budget	£22,500
Remaining Committee meetings	N/A
Total amount recommended for	£10,318.83
other	
applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant	
award	
Other comments	TOE requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> party funding of 10%
	of the sum sought, to unlock a grant.
	This amount goes direct to TOE and is
	not counted as part of the funds raised
	towards the total project cost.

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

# (iv) Applicant: Sutton Courtenay Parish Council

Years in existence: 113 years

Type of organisation: Parish Council

**Project, service or event details:** Sutton Courtenay Parish Council is seeking a grant towards Phase 2 of the village hall refurbishment project. The projects aims are two-fold: to increase the flexibility of the facilities and make them more user-friendly; and to ensure that the facilities meet the current and proposed future standards of accessibility and fire, health and environmental safety. Whilst these outcomes will benefit the whole community, specific elements of the project will address the special needs of the young and elderly, issues of access and health and disability.

This work to be carried out will include rewiring the electrical installation to meet current safety standards, using energy-efficient heating and lighting; installing an audio and loop induction system; expanding the storage facilities and improving access to them; increasing the usable space in the hall; improving roof insulation to reduce heat loss; replacing worn out and unsafe chairs, tables, curtains and carpets; installing a secure cycle rack to encourage the use of cycles.

The village hall is managed on behalf of the Parish Council (Custodian Trustees) by Sutton Courtenay Village Hall Management Committee with income generated from hire charges, a Parish Council grant, fundraising events and grants for specific projects.

Currently over 2000 people make use of the village hall's facilities each year and it is hoped to increase this number as the hall's amenities are improved. Wide consultation with, and feedback from, users and the wider village community shows that the village hall is a valued facility, that the phase 1 improvements were long overdue and that the planned phase 2 refurbishment is essential.

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

**Area of the Vale covered:** Sutton Courtenay and the surrounding villages. It also serves as a venue for one-off public information events organised by the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council and Youth services for residents of the Vale area.

**Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit:** The population of Sutton Courtenay (25,000) and surrounding towns and villages.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Main hall £8 per hour, Kitchen £2 per hour, Committee Room £6 per hour

**Total estimated project cost:** £133,888.00 incl VAT, £113,947 excl VAT (VAT may be reclaimed)

Balances: £25,619 at 31 March 2007

**Own Contribution:** £5,604.00

**Grant Sought:** £5,318.83 as third party funding for the WREN grant application.

**Previous Awards (Vale):** In 2004/05 a grant of £4,759 was awarded (third party funding for a WREN application plus an element of direct funding for Phase 1 of this project).

**Parish Council Support:**  $\pounds$ 2,000. In addition, the Parish Council gives an annual grant ( $\pounds$ 2,000 in the current financial year) towards the running costs of the village hall.

Parish Precept: £34,513 (Band 'D' £34.53)

**Other Support:** Locally raised funds £5,604.00 (plus an amount to unlock TOE funding) Sutton Courtenay (National Power) Charity £4,000.00 awarded Applications to WREN £48,353.00 COMMA (Community Aggregates Fund) £26,565.00, TOE £19,425.00, Awards for All £10,000.00. Decisions on the above-listed applications expected by mid December.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£5,318.83
Reasons:	This modest sum will unlock a far larger
	grant which will make a significant
	difference to the fundraising effort.
Meets Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town & Village Vitality, Access to Services, Recreation, Culture and Leisure, Safe and Supportive Communities
Remaining budget	£22,500
Remaining Committee meetings	N/A
Total amount recommended for other	£10,000
applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant award	
Other comments	WREN requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> party funding of 11% of the sum sought, to unlock a grant. This amount goes direct to WREN and is not counted as part of the funds raised towards the total project cost.

# (v) Applicant: Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre, Besselsleigh Road, Wootton

## Years in existence: 60 years

Type of organisation: Not for profit company limited by guarantee and a charity

**Project, service or event details:** Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre is seeking third party funding to obtain a grant of £50,000 from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE) towards the redevelopment of the community centre which is in need of major renovation. Internal modifications will make the facilities far more flexible enabling a combination of rooms to be used for larger functions and events. The modified structure will be based on high standards of disability access and facilities as well as energy efficiency. Particular attention will be paid to sustainability and environmental issues.

A wide range of groups catering for all ages currently use the community centre. Consultations with potential users have been held over a number of years starting with a village appraisal in the early 1990s. In the last year a survey of the whole community has been undertaken. Responses to all surveys and consultations over the years have shown a strong degree of agreement about the facilities, space and appearance.

Besides increasing the number of regular user groups (currently around twenty) the enhanced facilities will be attractive to occasional users and the additional income will make a significant financial contribution to the running costs of the community centre.

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

**Area of the Vale covered:** Wootton village, Cothill, Dry Sandford, ward of St Helen Without Parish Council and surrounding areas.

Estimate of number of people the project/service/event will benefit: over 1,000 current regular users but potentially a much larger number of people.

Charge to public for using the project/service/event?: Small charge for use of facilities

**Total estimated project cost:** £596,000.00 excl VAT; £700,000.00 including VAT (VAT can not be reclaimed by the committee).

#### Balances: £196,108.00 as at 31 March 2007

**Own Contribution:** £5,000.00 plus outcome of public appeal fundraising at a later stage. A working party comprising about ten people has met on a regular basis over the last two years to plan this project.

Grant Sought: £5,000.00 as third party funding to secure a TOE grant

Previous Awards (Vale): None

**Parish Council Support:** Wootton Parish Council has committed  $\pounds$ 30,000.00; an additional  $\pounds$ 45,000.00 in section 106 income is designated for the project.

**Other Support:** BIG lottery fund: £25,000.00 development grant awarded following stage one submission to assist in preparing stage two submission for £470,000.00.

TOE, in addition to considering the application under their own grant scheme (£50,000.00 maximum), has offered assistance in applying to Biffaward for the same amount.

Oxfordshire County Council £10,000.00 from their Village Hall Support Scheme will be considered from next year's budget.

Discussions underway for funding through the Low Carbon Buildings Programme.

A pre-application has been submitted to the Football Association for a £70,000.00.

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

Recommend support	Yes
Amount recommended	£5,000
Reasons:	This modest sum will unlock a far larger
	grant which will make a significant
	difference to the fundraising effort.

Meets Scheme criteria	Yes
Supports Council priority(ies)	Cleaner, greener, safer and healthier
	community and environment
Supports prospectus strand(s)	Town and Village Vitality, Recreation,
	Culture and Leisure
Remaining budget	£22,500
Remaining Committee meetings	N/A
Total amount recommended for	£10,318.83
other applications being considered	
Recommended conditions to grant	
award	
Other comments	TOE requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> party funding of 10%
	of the sum sought, to unlock a grant.
	This amount goes direct to TOE and is
	not counted as part of the funds raised
	towards the total project cost.