

Area East Community Funding Support Schemes 2015/16

Assistant Director: Helen Rutter, Assistant Director (Communities)
Service Manager: Tim Cook, Area Development Lead - East
Lead Officer: Tim Cook, Area Development Lead - East
Contact Details: tim.cook@southsomerset.gov.uk 01963 435088

Purpose of the Report

To give a summary of community projects and activities from across the area supported with grants during 2015/2016 and to highlight some of the outcomes for communities.

Public Interest

The report and presentation identify the community benefits of the community projects supported in Area East last year.

Recommendation

That Members note the report.

Background

The provision of grant aid is a key part of the work that we do to support and help improve the work of voluntary community organisations in the towns and villages across Area East. Community and Leisure Capital Grant applications are considered twice a year in June and December. Capital projects requiring grants of up to £1,000 can be dealt with at any time and are subject to Ward Member agreement.

Requests from community organisations for non-capital works are now restricted to small grants of up to a maximum of £1,000.

The approach that we promote is to encourage applicants to use SSDC funding to encourage investment from other external sources. As a result of advice given to groups the proportion of Area East funding required can be reduced significantly and leverage figures are presented in the report. A number of groups have also received non-financial support (photocopying, equipment, loans etc) throughout the year.

Overview of projects supported

The attached appendices detail the Community projects that have been supported through the Area East Community Grants programme during 2015-16

The information has been compiled from the following budgets:

- Area East Capital
- Community grants budgets

Funding Leverage

SSDC grants policies allow a contribution of up to 50%. However, Neighbourhood Development Officers work with local groups to identify and secure other sources of funding in order to maximise external investment and minimise the call on grants budgets.

Area East Committee agreed contributions totalling £46,058 towards 17 projects with combined total project costs of £370,888. SSDC spend represents 13% of total project costs.

Small grants awards from the Community Development budgets supported 10 groups with grants totalling £7445. This equates to 24% of the total project costs. A further £10,000 was awarded to the Balsam Centre towards the 'Like Minds' project.

Seven capital grants totalling £38,613 were awarded to project with a total cost of £337,993 which clearly demonstrates how SSDC grants can be used to encourage community activity and financial investment in the area.

Of the 14 projects supported by Area East through the Small grants scheme, 12 have been completed.

Of the 7 projects supported through the Community & Leisure Capital budget, 5 have been completed.

In addition to the grants awarded, support and advice has been given to community groups in Area East to enable them to complete projects within their Town or Parish without the need for grant assistance. Each case is discussed to agree the type of support needed to help them achieve their goals.

Section 106

In addition to SSDC grant support, £18,763.82 secured through local development through section 106 has been spent as a contribution towards village hall and playing field improvements in Barton St David.

Financial Implications

No additional implications – all grants are met out of existing budgets.

Corporate Priority Implications

This work contributes towards increasing economic vitality and prosperity and ensuring safe, sustainable and cohesive communities.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications

Improved local provision of facilities and activities within each village or town and increasing local participation reduce the need to travel.

Equality and Diversity Implications

All grant applications are assessed against a set of criteria and equality is a significant factor of the assessment process.

Other Implications: None.

Background Papers: *Funding Support Applications, Files and Area East Financial Spreadsheets*

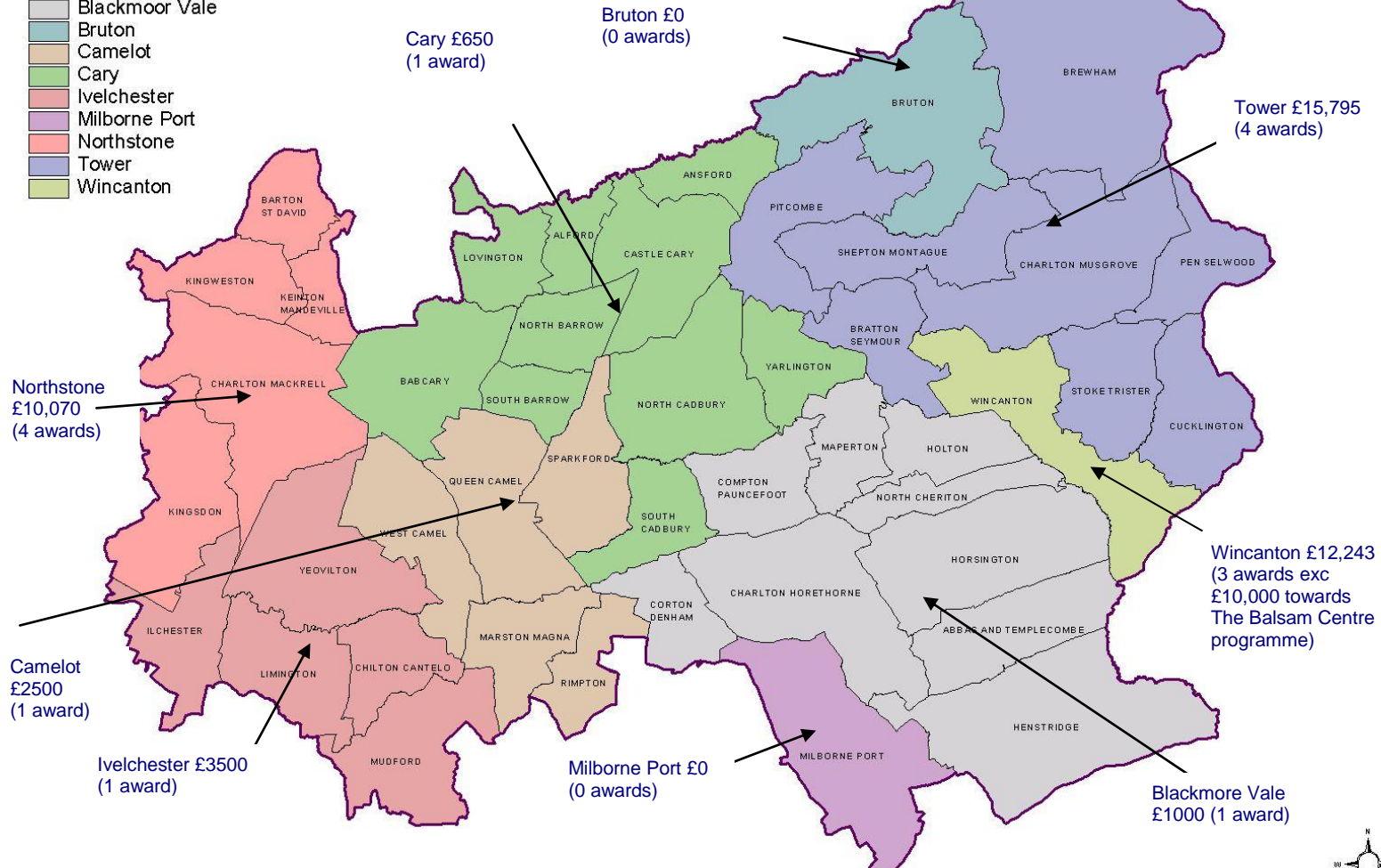
Appendix 1

COMMUNITY & LEISURE CAPITAL GRANTS						
Applicant	Ward	Project	Amount of award £	Total project costs £	Project complete	Status
Sparkford Cricket Club	Camelot	Kitchen/toilets/store project	2500	5230	Yes	Work complete
Mudford Parish Council	Ivelchester	Flashing Speed signs	3500	8010	Yes	Signs installed
Bayford Mission Hall Society	Tower	Purchase and refurb of Bayford Chapel	11000	76000		Purchase complete, work due to start.
Trustees of Hadspen Village Hall	Tower	Storage at Hadspen VH	3000	11,100		Work started.
Barton St David VH&PF charity	Northstone	Playground improvement	1570	30089	Yes	Work complete
Wincanton Town Council	Wincanton	Cale Park	10,043	184,043	Yes	Completed. Formal opening on 25 th Aug. 2016.
Kingsdon Centre Ltd	Northstone	Improvements to Village shop	7000	23521	Yes	Work complete.
SMALL GRANTS						
Applicant	Ward	Project	Amount of award £	Total project costs £	Project complete	Status
Chapel Cross Tea Rooms	Cary	Programme of community arts projects	650	2200		Community Opera taken place. Other events planned.
The Charltons Parish Council	Northstone	Parish Plan	500	1200		Work on the plan is ongoing. Due to be completed by the end of 2016.
Milborne Port Parish Council	Milborne Port	Parish Plan update	1000	2000		Planning for Real exercise at MP fete was a success. Questionnaire being produced.
Charltons Parish Council	Northstone	Car park improvements	1000	6126		Work completed. Grant to be claimed.

Pitcombe PC	Tower	Parish Plan	956	2099		Plan complete and endorsed.
Charlton Musgrove PC	Tower	The Smithy Project	839	1839		Surveys completed.
Wincanton Carnival Club	Wincanton	Startup costs of new carnival	1000	2300		Carnival was a success and grant claimed.
Wincanton Community Church	Wincanton	Holiday Club	200	610		50 young people attended the week of activities.
Wincanton British Legion	Wincanton	Tribute Book	1000	3020		Book completed.
Life Education Wessex	Various	Programme of school visits	300	11700		School visits undertaken

Funding awards made in Area East 2015/16

- Parishes
- Area East Wards
- Blackmoor Vale
- Bruton
- Camelot
- Cary
- Ivelchester
- Milborne Port
- Northstone
- Tower
- Wincanton



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