

## 12. Milford Community Association (Executive Decision)

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### Purpose of the Report

To consider funding towards a community newsletter and community garden in the Milford area of Yeovil.

### Recommendation

That members agree an award of £5,250 from the revenue grants budget.

### Background

Milford Community Association had their official launch in November 2008. The aim of the association is to facilitate a growing community spirit through the supporting of local residents/users in activities and initiatives to enhance life for all the community.

The group have organised a number of community events including family football days, bingo and a very successful Christmas Fair. The group have also taken a proactive role in the design and promotion of the redevelopment of Milford Hall.

### Project

The committee has regular meetings within the community to discuss local issues. Community initiatives and events have been run to raise awareness but the committee see the creation of a newsletter as a new way of spreading the word and increasing awareness of the association. The committee understand the need to link more with the wider community and a newsletter would be the first step on a road towards achieving this goal. A newsletter was also something residents raised during the 'Planning For Real' consultation, as residents felt they were not aware of the activities or support available in their area. The funding requested will go towards the designing and printing of three newsletters per year.

The second part of the project is the development of a community garden. This project is working with St.Marks Church in Milford and with the Community Health and Well being Project Manager who is currently working on the South Somerset Together inequalities programme in the area. The association want to set up a community garden for the residents of Milford to come together, learn new skills on how to grow and cook their own vegetables, herbs and fruits. The programme will look at developing new courses for the community and be a focal point for other support services to use as part of the community awareness and support programmes. It will help educate families to make a change in their lives and make healthy choices.

The Church have offered to lease their garden to the association for the project but the area needs re-landscaping and the committee need to buy tools, plants and seeds. The group hope to develop self-sustaining products for the garden such as compost,

captured rainwater for watering, cutting for replanting and the development of community mentoring schemes and gardening clubs to help support any further development or maintenance of the site.

### Ward Members Comments

It is hopefully the start that we would hope for in the community now that the lead has been taken for the renovation/build of the hall. The community coming together in any shape or form is certainly a great leap forward and we should be encouraging them in every way.

### Assessment Scoring

Below is the summary table from the grant assessment form. It is recommended that funding is only awarded to projects scoring 22 points or more.

Category	Score	Maximum score
<b>A Eligibility</b>	<b>Y</b>	
B Target Groups	3	7
C Project	5	5
D Capacity of Organisation	14	15
E Financial need	3	7
F Innovation	3	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>

### Funding Breakdown

Funding Sources	% Funding of the Total Project Cost	Amount of Funding (£)	Status
Other Grants/Fundraising	50	5250	Secured
SSDC Area South Grants	50	5250	This application
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>10,500</b>	

### Financial Implications

The uncommitted 2009/10 budget stands at £13,526 If members agree this award of £5,250, it will leave a balance of £8,276.

### Corporate Priority Implications

The project contributes to the following Key Target Area:

3.14: Increase satisfaction of people over 65 with both home and neighbourhood

3.23: Work with partners to develop a team approach to tackle health inequalities, to be piloted in Yeovil by December 2009.

4.18: Increase perception that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration

4.20: Increase % of people who feel that they can influence decisions in their locality

### **Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)**

None

### **Equality and Diversity Implications**

None

**Background Papers:** Milford Community Association funding application file.

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