

The Abingdon Area Prospectus 2009/10

The Council's Abingdon Area Committee supports residents to develop projects which improve their community. The area covered is Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford.

The elected district councillors for the wards of the Vale of White Horse District, that make up the Abingdon Area Committee have a limited budget which can be used to give small grants towards the cost of starting community projects. In the financial year 2008/09 the Abingdon Area Committee gave grants to twenty different projects. The grants helped with arts, sports and young peoples' activities. Grants also helped to improve community buildings.

The Committee's budget for the financial year 2009/10 is just over £ 26,000. The table on the following page provides information about the kind of local community led projects that the Committee would like to support in 2009/10. The table is organised to fit with the priorities of the Vale Community Strategy. The Vale Community Strategy sets out how the Council and its partners will work together to improve the quality of life of everyone who lives in, works in or visits the Vale. The table shows how the Abingdon Area Committee plans to contribute to the Vale Community Strategy. Councillors consider that quality of life in the Abingdon of the Vale will improve if there are more of the kinds of community projects that are listed in the table.

The Abingdon Area Committee recognises that there are other kinds of community projects which may not be mentioned in the table. The Committee is more than willing to consider these projects, as all projects are determined according to their individual merits. However given the Committee's limited budget, it would like to focus its grant giving on projects that it feels will make an important contribution to community life.

If you are a member of a community group in the Abingdon area of the Vale who is interested in applying for a grant towards the cost of starting a priority project visit the Council's website: http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/community_support_and_advice/Community_grants/default.asp or telephone the Community Strategy Officer (Direct Dial 01235 547626).

VALE COMMUNITY STRATEGY PRIORITIES	PRIORITIES IN THE ABINGDON AREA IN 2009/10 The Abingdon Area Committee aims particularly to support suitable groups who are able to take these projects forward
Healthier communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing sports activities that are interesting and affordable • Providing maps and guides to encourage cycling and walking
Improving quality of life for older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing befriending and good neighbour schemes • Providing lunch clubs and other social activities
Fostering a greater sense of community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging interaction between residents of different ages, circumstances and backgrounds • Improving community buildings • Using local school facilities to provide wider community benefits
Involving young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing positive leisure time activities
Access to good quality green spaces, sport, cultural and leisure facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving sport and leisure facilities that are open to all • Improving open spaces • Providing new cultural activities that are open to all
Addressing economic weaknesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing job clubs
Maintaining and enhancing the health and vitality of the Vale's market town centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging residents to support shops and other businesses in the area's villages
A low carbon Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting groups that promote energy efficiency
Living with extreme weather conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing good neighbour schemes for older people and other vulnerable groups
Reducing waste and increasing recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging more re-cycling (e.g. community swap-shops)
A high quality natural and historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing listed buildings that are open to all • Enhancing parks and gardens that are open to all • Improving the appearance of the villages in the area