

Report

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Report to:	Enterprise Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	22 January 2013
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund – Grant Applications - Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust and the Clyde River Foundation
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ consider applications to the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund from Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust and the Clyde River Foundation.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that a grant be awarded to Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust of up to £18,300 towards the implementation of property improvement works and upgrading of display infrastructure, subject to confirmation of match funding for the project being received.
- (2) that a grant be awarded to the Clyde River Foundation of up to £48,417 towards the delivery of the Trout at Transition project to primary schools within the 15km Clyde Wind Farm Community Fund area, subject to confirmation of match funding for the project being received.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Enterprise Resources Committee of 17 March 2010, approved the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund and to the administrative arrangements associated with the allocation of funds.
- 3.2. The Fund is financed from payments from Scottish Hydro (formerly SSE Renewables) who operate the Clyde Wind Farm. To date, Scottish Hydro has made payments into the Fund totalling £1,308,387. The fund will receive income for a duration of 25 years which will rise annually in line with the Retail Price Index.
- 3.3. The Clyde Wind Farm Fund is administered by Regeneration Services who have responsibility for advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered.

3.4. Grant awards from the main Community Fund require approval at the Council's Enterprise Services Committee, with grant awards of 50%-90% of eligible costs being achievable. Grant awards for successful applications to the Community Fund Small Grant Scheme (up to £5000) and all awards from the Development Fund are delegated to the Head of Regeneration Services for approval.

3.5. While applications to the Small Grant Scheme (up to £5000) benefit from a grant intervention level of 100% of eligible costs, applications to the Development Fund can receive 50% match funding up to a maximum grant award of £25,000.

4. Proposal

Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust – Preservation and Refurbishment Project

- 4.1. Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture was adopted as a Charitable Trust in 1999 and opened as a museum in 2000. Over the past 12 years it has built up an extensive and unique collection, giving an insight to past life in the village and rural Southern Uplands. The museum attained registered status in 2004 and full accreditation from Museums and Galleries Scotland in 2011. It is managed by the Trustees, helped by a growing group of volunteers. The organisation is supported by The Friends of Crawfordjohn Heritage, a separate charity who raise funds on behalf of the Trust by way of collecting annual memberships and holding charity events.
- 4.2. The aim of the project is:
- To preserve the building
 - To protect the collection of artefacts
 - To improve access
 - To create a more comfortable environment for visitors and volunteers
 - To attract a wider audience and increase visitor numbers
- 4.3. The museum, a former church, was purchased for £100 in 1988 and is in need of refurbishment if the organisation is to conserve the museum for future generations. In order to do this, priority has been given to securing the external fabric of this old property, in particular, repointing of the external stone walls, replacement and refurbishment of the numerous leaded windows and draught exclusion works have also been identified. It is intended to install secondary glazing to all the windows which will conserve heat and give further protection to the collection - particularly the large selection of paper documents, photographs, costumes and textiles that are prone to damage if not kept in appropriate conditions.
- 4.4. To encourage a wider group of visitors to the building it is intended to carry out improvements to an underused entrance to create a new wheelchair friendly access. Plastering, re-decoration and refurbishing one of the display areas will improve the interior of the museum and blinds on the south facing windows will protect the collection from light damage when the museum is closed.
- 4.5. It is a requirement of the Clyde Wind Farm Fund that a consultation on all applications to the Community Fund, small and main schemes, will be undertaken with the Clyde Wind Farm Community Group, a constituted group with representatives from 6 Community Councils within the eligible area of the Community Fund. The consultation response is supportive of the application.

- 4.6. The total eligible costs within the project budget are £31,617 and the Trust is seeking £18,300 from Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund. This application scored 77% during the assessment process. This score permits intervention level of up to 75% of eligible costs. The organisation has indicated that it has made further external funding applications to fund the delivery of the project.

5. Clyde River Foundation.

- 5.1. The Clyde River Foundation is a registered charity which researches the ecology of the Clyde and its tributaries, and promotes environmental education throughout the catchment area. The Foundation employs five full-time scientists plus a number of placements and is based at the University of Glasgow. The organisation has undertaken significant scientific work over the past ten years and is currently working through the actions identified during the production of the River Clyde Fishery Management Plan. The most significant achievement to date is the success of its education and community involvement programmes. Environmental education leads to increased community involvement in practical conservation and the organisation seeks to undertake and promote both.
- 5.2. Since 2001, the organisation's principal education project "Clyde in the Classroom" has involved a large number of children from the eight Council areas across the river catchment. The huge success of Clyde in the Classroom has given the organisation the confidence to expand and adapt the project to deliver more of the type of outdoor learning being championed by the Curriculum for Excellence.
- 5.3. Through funding support from Clyde Wind Farm the organisation proposes to develop the project further on two fronts: by working with the whole learning cluster of Biggar High School (ie. all eligible primary schools); and by targeting a new third phase specifically at the Primary 7 children in transition to high school. The proposal for a "Trout at Transition" project will strengthen the links between the children in their Primary/Secondary transition and details of this project are set out at Appendix 1.
- 5.4. This is an opportunity to allow children to engage with their local environment and use the experience to support outcomes from the Curriculum for Excellence. The combination of science and art, of school-based and field-based activities makes this a truly inclusive project. The project has been trialled successfully elsewhere.
- 5.5. The eligible schools within the Biggar High School Learning Community are: Biggar High School, Biggar Primary School, Abington Primary School, Crawford Primary School, Coulter Primary School, Lamington Primary School, Tinto Primary School, Leadhills Primary School, Crawfordjohn Primary School, Libberton Primary School and Wiston Primary School.
- 5.6. A consultation was undertaken with the Clyde Wind Farm Community Group, but no consultation response was received within the permitted timescale of 3 weeks. Separately Scottish Hydro have indicated their support for this project.
- 5.7. The total eligible costs within the project are £74,487, with the applicant seeking up to 86% or £64,887. This application scored 80% during the assessment process. As the application is for more than £5000 it is recommended that a grant intervention level of up to 65% of eligible costs is agreed equating to a maximum possible grant of £48,417 from the Community and Development Fund. The organisation has indicated that it will be able to deliver the project on this basis with in-kind support and other grant awards.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. To date, SSE has made payments into the Clyde Wind Farm Fund of £1,308,387.
- 7.2. The Community Fund (70%) has received income of £915,870. Applications with a value of £336,425 have already been approved for implementation leaving a balance of £579,445.
- 7.3. Therefore, there are sufficient funds available to the Community Fund to meet the grants awards of £18,300 for Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust and £48,417 for the Clyde River Foundation.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The risks associated with the projects are focussed on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programmes. The applicants have indicated that any cost increases will be managed within present budgets subject to agreement from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund on any changes to their proposed projects. This is unlikely to have an impact on the Council.
- 8.2. Delays to the programmes will have no impact on the Council. Without the contributions from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund, it is highly unlikely that the projects outlined will proceed.

9. Equality Impact Arrangements and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. All necessary consultation arrangements have taken place.

Colin McDowall

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

12 December 2012

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- Improve health and increase physical activity
- Effective and efficient use of resources
- Partnership working, community leadership and engagement

Previous References

- Report to Enterprise Resources Committee of 20 May 2009 – Clyde Wind Farm - Community Benefit Agreement
- Report to Enterprise Resources Committee of 17 March 2010 – Clyde Windfarm Fund

List of Background Papers

- Completed application form and associated information from Crawfordjohn Heritage Venture Trust
- Completed application form and associated information form the Clyde River Foundation

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information please contact:

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Appendix 1

'Trout at Transition' education programme

1. Launch day at the Glasgow Science Centre in January 2013.
2. Classroom Hatchery installed and operational in February and March 2013.
3. Weekly visits by Clyde River Foundation scientists to each school while the hatcheries are in situ.
4. Fish released to the river closest to each Primary school in March/April 2013.
5. "Meet Your River" Day with each Primary school in May/June 2013 (half day science field work plus half day art project).
6. Ongoing support for independent project documentation/video production/webpage production by each primary school class.
7. Production and installation of riverside interpretation boards.
8. Transition Project at Biggar High School for S1 pupils in April/May 2014 (this will involve the teaching of three lessons per group of 40 children by CRF scientists). There will be two 50-minute classroom-based lessons and one half-day field trip per class; these activities will compare and contrast three local landscapes and their rivers by studying overlapping themes (eg. biodiversity and how it is affected by geomorphology, pollution effects, and land use/physical alteration) and will provide access to scientific specialists for both the teachers and the pupils.
9. Interactive Website development will continue throughout to encourage community cohesion. A series of 12 interviews will be carried out with local residents and workers who are intimately associated with the River Clyde (eg. farmers, anglers) and these will be developed as teaching materials.
10. Development of legacy projects throughout (eg. each Primary will be encouraged to produce a work on the theme of the "Big Broon Troot", and this will be developed at High School by the S1 pupils into a community art project "Water Shed - The Biggar Broon Troot"). Biggar High School will also be provided with scientific support to allow independent development of the themes explored by Trout at Transition.
11. Feedback collated and Final Report produced by 30 July 2014.