

Report

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| Report to: | Community and Enterprise Resources Committee |
| Date of Meeting: | 12 December 2017 |
| Report by: | Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) |

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| Subject: | Strathaven Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) – Grant Application |
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Inform the Committee of a grant application to Strathaven CARS from Michelle and Kris Paterson (t/a Say It Baby Gifts)

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded to Michelle and Kris Paterson (t/a Say It Baby Gifts) of up to £50,375 from Strathaven CARS towards the external fabric improvements, including shopfront works, at 2 Townhead Street, Strathaven.
- (2) that the above grant is subject to match funding being secured and written confirmation of this being received by the Council.

3. Background

- 3.1. Historic Environmental Scotland operate a Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) which provides financial assistance, over a five year period, for regeneration and conservation based initiatives undertaken by Councils, National Parks, Community Groups and Third Sector organisations.
- 3.2. South Lanarkshire Council submitted a bid for funding to undertake such a regeneration scheme in the Strathaven Conservation Area in August 2014 which was approved in January 2015 with an award of £625,000 of support from Historic Environmental Scotland.
- 3.3. A key eligibility requirement is the need for the development of a partnership between South Lanarkshire Council and a range of local community groups. This partnership has been strengthened over the past three years with consultation events reflecting strongly the desire to support the CARS proposal.
- 3.4. The CARS project is delivered through a partnership between the Council and community representatives drawn from Avondale Civic Society, Strathaven Community Council, Strathaven Business Association and the Rotary Club of Strathaven. This links into established community / Council governance structures, such as the Strathaven Town Group, and the activities and priorities that they are pursuing.

- 3.5. Enterprise Resources Committee on 16 May 2016 approved the Strathaven CARS project and a mechanism for award of grant funding, similar to existing renewable community benefit fund processes with authority delegated to the Head of Planning and Economic development for grants up to £20,000 and Community and Enterprise Resources Committee for grants above £20,000.

4. Proposals

- 4.1. Strathaven CARS
Michelle and Kris Paterson (t/a Say It Baby Gifts) - £64,584
Proposed Grant Award – £50,375 – Intervention rate 78%
- 4.2. The applicants own the property at 2 Townhead Street which accommodates the business, Say It Baby Gifts, and are seeking a grant for a range of external fabric improvements.
- 4.3. The proposed works include re-roofing of the property, stone repairs, new rainwater goods, new leadwork and flashings and new shop signage.
- 4.4. The proposed works have been developed in conjunction with John Gilbert Architects, a Conservation Accredited Architect.
- 4.5. The application passed the assessment process and an intervention rate of up to 80% of eligible costs is permitted under the terms of the project.
- 4.6. The total cost of the project is £64,584 with £14,209 of funding from the applicant's own funds. Strathaven CARS will contribute an award of up to £50,375, representing an intervention rate of 78%.
- 4.7. The works are scheduled to begin in early 2018 with completion by July 2018.

5. Employee Implications

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

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. Strathaven CARS has sufficient resources to meet the proposed grant award commitment detailed in this report.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. The risks associated with the project are focused on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programme. The applicant has agreed that any cost increases will be managed within their present budget subject to agreement on any changes to the proposed project. This is highly unlikely to have an impact on the Council.
- 7.2. There are no implications for sustainability in terms of the information contained within this report.

8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. All necessary consultation arrangements, including any community consultations, have taken place.

Michael McGlynn
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

21 November 2017

Link(s) to Council Values/Objectives

- ◆ Improve the quality of the physical environment.
- ◆ Develop a sustainable Council and communities
- ◆ Strengthen partnership working, community leadership and engagement
- ◆ Efficient and effective use of resources
- ◆ People focused

Previous References

- 15 December 2015 – Planning Committee
- 17 February 2015 – Enterprise Resources Committee
- 17 May 2016 – Enterprise Resources Committee

List of Background Papers

- Strathaven CARS Application Form.
- Strathaven CARS award letter.
- Completed Grantvisor Strathaven CARS Grant Application Form, associated information, supporting documents received from Michelle .
- Assessment and decision documents on Grantvisor

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:- Stuart Hodge, Project Development Officer, Planning and Economic Development Services Ext: 4759 (Tel: 01698 454759)
E-mail: stuart.hodge@southlanarkshire.gov.uk