

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 June 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Community Grant Applications
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ request approval for the allocation of community grants to 2 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2021/2022 community grant budget
- ◆ advise on community grants approved by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, in the period from the last Area Committee on 24 March 2021 to the end of the financial year on 31 March 2021

2. Recommendation(s)

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

(1) that community grants be awarded as follows:-

(a) Applicant:	Hillhouse Link Tenants' and Residents' Association, Hamilton (HA/1/21)
Amount Requested:	£600
Purpose of Grant:	Equipment, administration and publicity costs
Amount Awarded:	£400

(b) Applicant:	Low Waters Miners Welfare Bowling Club, (HA/2/21)
Amount Requested:	£1,500
Purpose of Grant:	Materials
Amount Awarded:	£300

(2) that the action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to approve the award of community grant(s) in the period from the last Area Committee to the end of the financial year 2020/2021 to the group(s) detailed in Appendix 1, be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Council operates a community grants scheme to support local constituted community groups and voluntary organisations. All applications require to be supported by a constitution, audited accounts or annual income and expenditure accounts, a bank statement, and confirmation that the group/organisation will adhere

to the conditions of the grant award. Applications are invited continually throughout the year.

3.2. The main aims of the community grants scheme are to:-

- ◆ fund activities and projects which bring community benefit
- ◆ involve people in the community by bringing them together to enjoy educational, recreational, leisure and other community activities or to improve the local environment

3.3. Support can be provided for a range of activities including administration and publicity costs, purchase of equipment and materials, annual outings and entrance fees, start-up costs and special events.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. None.

5. Applications Approved Under Delegated Authority

5.1. At its meeting held on 24 March 2021, the Area Committee authorised the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to approve any further community grant applications in the period from 25 March 2021 to 31 March 2021. This was subject to applications meeting the Council's criteria for receipt of funding. It was also agreed that a report on any awards made would be submitted to the next meeting of the Area Committee for noting.

5.2. In line with the decision taken at the previous meeting of the Committee, 3 applications, as detailed in Appendix 1, for £1,450 were approved by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, during the period 25 March to 31 March 2021.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. The current position of the community grants for the Hamilton Area Committee area in 2021/2022 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Community Grants	£25,750
Community grants allocated in this report	£700
Remaining balance	*£25,050

* see paragraph 6.2 below

6.2. On the basis that the playscheme grants detailed in a separate report on this agenda amounting to £1,800 are approved, the remaining balance for allocation throughout the year is £23,250.

6.3. There is currently approximately £0.060 million of unspent money in the 2020/2021 community grants budget which is distributed by Area Committees. Area Committees have expressed that, in this unusual year due to the pandemic, they would not want groups to lose access to those funds. The Executive Committee on 28 April 2021 considered a proposal that the unspent balances be carried forward at the end of the financial year to be managed as part of the year end final transfer to reserves.

6.4. Formal approval to carry forward those unspent monies will be recommended in the 2020/2021 year-end report to be submitted to the Executive Committee on 23 June

2021. In relation to this Area Committee, the unspent monies in 2020/2021 amounted to £12,272.05.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The risk to the Council is that grant funding is not utilised for the purpose of which it was intended. This risk is mitigated by internal controls including audit procedures and conditions of grant agreement.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. All the necessary consultation with the community groups has taken place.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

24 May 2021

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent. Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ Hamilton Area Committee – 24 March 2021

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Individual application forms

Contact for Further Information

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

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Community grants approved by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) in consultation with the Chair, in the period from 25 March to 31 March 2021

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| (a) | Applicant: | Larkhall Burns Club (<i>HA/26/20</i>) |
| | Amount Requested: | £784 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment |
| | Amount Awarded: | £700 |
| | | |
| (b) | Applicant: | Low Waters Miners Welfare Bowling Club Ladies Section, Hamilton (<i>HA/27/20</i>) |
| | Amount Requested: | £259 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment and materials |
| | Amount Awarded: | £250 |
| | | |
| (c) | Applicant: | Quarter In Bloom, Hamilton (<i>HA/28/20</i>) |
| | Amount Requested: | £500 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Environmental project |
| | Amount Awarded: | £500 |