

# Report

Report to:	<b>Hamilton Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>27 January 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Community Grant Applications</b>
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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 3 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget
- ◆ advise the Area Committee of action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to 5 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget, to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic

## **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:        | Dalserf Village Garden Club, Larkhall (HA/18/20)                        |
|     | Amount Requested: | £350  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Environmental project   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |
|     |                   |   |
| (b) | Applicant:        | Hillhouse Link Tenants' and Residents' Association, Hamilton (HA/19/20) |
|     | Amount Requested: | £600  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Materials   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £400  |
|     |                   |   |
| (c) | Applicant:        | 112 <sup>th</sup> Lanarkshire Scout Group, Hamilton (HA/20/20)          |
|     | Amount Requested: | £485  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Materials   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |

**(2)** that the action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to support community groups with their response to the COVID-19 pandemic, be noted, as follows:-

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant:        | Beacons   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Family support with addictions and self care packs                          |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (b) | Applicant:        | The Haven   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Digital wellbeing support services  |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (c) | Applicant:        | Cadzow Parish Church  |
|     | Amount Requested: | £802.95   |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £802.95   |
| (d) | Applicant:        | Hillhouse Community Council   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Children's Gift Packs   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (e) | Applicant:        | The Parent and Child Support (PACS) Group                                   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Outdoor activities and materials for children with Additional Support Needs |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |

### **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.
- 3.4. In light of the community efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was agreed that £20,000 from the 2020/2021 community grants budget be allocated to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The £20,000 had been apportioned equally between the 4 Area Committee areas i.e. £5,000 from each.

- 3.5. Community groups who wished to provide assistance and support to those most in need were able to apply for small grants to meet expenses associated with this work. As it was anticipated that funds would be required immediately to assist in the response effort, it had been agreed that applications would be considered by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair.
- 3.6 Any remaining balance from the £5,000 allocation from each Area Committee community grants budget, as at 31 December 2020, would be returned to the 2020/2021 community grants budget. As detailed in paragraph 2 above, £4,802.95 has been awarded to community groups who assisted in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving a balance of £197.05.
- 3.7. As per the community grants scheme, community groups would normally only be permitted to submit one application in each financial year, however, community groups that had applied for funding to assist in the COVID-19 response would still be entitled to apply for a grant for another purpose under the scheme in the same financial year.

#### **4. Employee Implications**

- 4.1. None.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. The current position of the community grant and the COVID-19 response grant allocations for the Hamilton Area Committee area in 2020/2021 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Community Grants	£25,750
Community Grants previously allocated	£5,400
Funding allocated to the COVID-19 response effort	£4,802.95
Community grants allocated in this report	£1,100
Remaining balance	£14,447.05

#### **6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

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

#### **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1. 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.

#### **8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 8.1. 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.
- 8.2. All the necessary consultation with the community groups has taken place.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

11 January 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 – 4 November 2020

**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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