

Report

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Report to:	Enterprise Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	2 June 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Whitelees Renewable Energy Fund – Grant Application – 1st East Kilbride Scouts
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ consider an application to the Whitelees Renewable Energy Fund from 1st East Kilbride Scout Group for financial assistance towards the upgrading and refurbishment of a hall

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant of up to £21,000 be awarded to 1st East Kilbride Scout Group for financial assistance towards the upgrading and refurbishment of a hall at Park Terrace, East Kilbride subject to match funding for the project being secured and written confirmation of all funding being received by the Council .

3. Background

- 3.1. At the Enterprise Resources Committee of 27 June 2007, approval was given to set up a Renewable Energy Fund in respect of Whitelees Windfarm and to administrative arrangements associated with the allocation of funds.
- 3.2. The Fund is financed from payments from Scottish Power who operate the Whitelees Windfarm. To date Scottish Power have made payments into the Fund totalling £422,654 including interest.
- 3.3. The Section 75 legal agreement for Whitelees places an obligation on the Council to jointly prepare and implement an access strategy associated with the windfarm area.
- 3.4. The Renewable Energy Fund is administered by Enterprise Resources who have responsibility for advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered.

4. Proposal

1st East Kilbride Scouts Group

- 4.1. 1st East Kilbride Scout Group was established in 1926 and consists of approximately 110 youths, leaders and helpers.

- 4.2. The Scout Group currently utilise a 1960s built timber hall at Park Terrace, East Kilbride which is damp and inefficiently heated leading to increased running costs. This has led to decreased usage of the hall by other groups.
- 4.3. The project involves the construction of an outer shell around the existing building which will have high insulation values in the walls and roof. This will help reduce ongoing running costs in addition to lowering carbon consumption.
- 4.4. The project will be managed by the Group. A surveyor will be appointed to manage the project on site reporting back to two members of the Scout Group with construction experience.
- 4.5. The total eligible cost of the project is £70,000. The proposed grant from Whitelees REF is £21,000 equating to an intervention rate of 30%. The group presently has £15,000 confirmed from own funds. Funding applications have been submitted to Viridor and the Small Lottery Fund for the remainder of the project costs. It is expected, if successful, that works would commence on site in Autumn 2010 and be completed in late 2010.
- 4.6. This application scored 19 from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process allowing an intervention level of up to 30%.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. To date, Scottish Power have made payments into the Whitelees Fund of £422,654 including interest.
- 6.2. At the Enterprise Resources Committee of 27 June, 2007, approval was given to utilise 31 months of income from Whitelees REF towards the access works required and associated costs. This equates to a total of £265,248 leaving an available budget of £157,406 for projects this financial year with £112,031 (70%) to be utilised through the main Renewable Energy Fund.
- 6.3. Whitelees REF has already committed funds of £80,529 towards projects from this budget of £112,031. There are sufficient funds available therefore to meet the £21,000 for 1st East Kilbride Scout Group
- 6.4. The Local Grant Scheme has awarded grants of £22,793 from an available budget of £45,375

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. None

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. Appropriate consultation has taken place with Community Resources.

Colin McDowall
Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

5 May 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- People focused
- Improve health and increase physical activity

Previous References

- Enterprise Resources Committee Report on Whitelees Windfarm Renewable Energy Fund – 27 June 2007

List of Background Papers

- Completed REF Grant Application Form and associated information dated April 2010 received from 1st East Kilbride Scout Group.

Contact for Further Information

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

Stuart Hodge, Project Development Officer, Regeneration Services

Ext: 4759 (Tel: 01698 454759)

E-mail: stuart.hodge@southlanarkshire.gov.uk