

Report

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

Subject:	Blacklaw Renewable Energy Fund - Applications for Funding
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ consider an application to the Blacklaw Renewable Energy Fund from:
 - Dalserf Parish Church for financial assistance towards the upgrading and refurbishment of Rorison Memorial Hall
 - Lanark Airshow Committee for financial assistance towards the construction and installation of a sculpture and associated celebratory events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the inaugural Lanark Airshow
 - Carluke Friends of Guiding for financial assistance towards the upgrading and refurbishment of the existing Guide hall in Carluke
 - South Lanarkshire Council for financial assistance towards the refurbishment of Murrays Mortuary Chapel, Lanark

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded to Dalserf Parish Church of up to £22,678 towards upgrading and refurbishment of Rorison Memorial Halls subject to match funding for the project being secured and written confirmation of all funding being received by the Council;
- (2) that a grant be awarded to Lanark Airshow Committee of up to £29,176 towards the construction and installation of a sculpture and associated celebratory events to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the inaugural Lanark Airshow subject to planning consent being received and written confirmation of all funding being received by the Council;
- (3) that a grant be awarded to Carluke Friends of Guiding of up to £16,948 towards upgrading and refurbishment of the existing Guide hall in Carluke subject to match funding for the project being secured and written confirmation of all funding being received by the Council; and
- (4) that a grant be awarded to South Lanarkshire Council of up to £50,000 towards the refurbishment of Murrays Mortuary Chapel, Lanark subject to match funding for the project being secured and written confirmation of all funding being received.

3. Background

3.1. At the Executive Committee of 3 March 2004, approval was given to set up a Renewable Energy Fund in respect of Blacklaw 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 Blacklaw Windfarm. To date Scottish Power have made payments into the Fund totalling £607,868 including interest.
- 3.3. 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

4.1. Dalserf Parish Church

- 4.1.1. Dalserf Parish Church owns two buildings – one within Dalserf which has been used for services and the Memorial Hall within Ashgill which has been utilised mainly for recreational purposes by local community groups.
- 4.1.2. The Memorial Hall at Ashgill caters for a wide range of community and voluntary groups but usage is not as high as it could be due to the poor internal condition of the hall. In order to meet demand, refurbishment works are necessary.
- 4.1.3. The project involves the upgrading of the existing hall to ensure that the hall can be used by a wide range of community and voluntary groups particularly those with children. Externally, a new fence and gate will be installed to create a safe play area for children within the church grounds.
- 4.1.4. The total eligible cost of the project is £64,796. The proposed grant from Blacklaw REF is £22,678 equating to an intervention rate of 35%. The remaining funds are via £5,000 from The Baird Trust, £21,231 from the group's own funds and £15,887 as an in-kind donation.
- 4.1.5. The project will be managed by Dalserf Parish Church who will employ an architect to oversee site operations. It is expected that works would commence on site in Summer 2010 and be completed by Autumn 2010.
- 4.1.6. This application scored 20 from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process. This score permits an intervention level of up to 35%.

4.2. Lanark Airshow Committee

- 4.2.1. In 1910 the first international air show was staged in Lanark attracting participants from around the world. The Lanark Airshow Committee wishes to commemorate this event with a number of events including the design and installation of an iconic piece of sculpture.
- 4.2.2. In addition to the proposed sculpture, the Airshow Committee are also engaging with local schools to run various competitions relating to the history of flight. Clydesdale Community Initiatives are involved in the construction of a wall and signboard adjacent to the sculpture. This work will be undertaken by a range of client groups including young people and people with mental health problems.
- 4.2.3. A series of public relation events have also been planned to commemorate the anniversary including the staging of an event in collaboration with Lanark Museum and an event at Perth Airshow.

- 4.2.4. The total eligible cost of the project is £64,837. The proposed grant from Blacklaw REF is £29,176 equating to an intervention rate of 45%. The remaining funds are via £8,000 from Awards for All, £5,000 from sponsorship, £22,000 from Lanark Common Good Fund, £900 from Local Area Committee Grant and additional monies from the group's own funds.
- 4.2.5. The project will be managed by South Lanarkshire Council who will report to the Airshow Committee. Following completion, the sculpture will be managed and maintained on an ongoing basis by Community Resources within existing budgets. It is expected that works would commence on site in Summer 2010 and be completed by Autumn 2010.
- 4.2.6. This application scored 24 from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process. This score permits an intervention level of up to 45%.

4.3. Carluke Friends of Guiding

- 4.3.1. The Girl Guide movement in Carluke originated in 1912 and entered into their present location in the 1960's when the existing hall was constructed. The present accommodation requires improvement to meet demand and to satisfy current legislation, particularly concerning disability legislation.
- 4.3.2. The Guide hall is presently used by approximately 180 girls per week. In addition, local voluntary groups such as St Johns Ambulance also use the hall. Due to the poor condition of the hall and ongoing repairs, the hall has been closed intermittently recently.
- 4.3.3. The project involves the upgrading of the present accommodation to include new central heating, complete rewiring, new fire doors and fire alarms, new security doors, disabled toilets and internal decoration.
- 4.3.4. The total eligible cost of the project is £54,494. The proposed grant from Blacklaw REF is £16,948 equating to an intervention rate of 30%. Funding applications have been submitted to Viridor and the Lottery Fund. Any shortfall in funding will be covered from the group's own funds.
- 4.3.5. The project will be managed on site by an appointed project manager who will report to a committee of Carluke Guides. Following completion, the hall will be managed and maintained on an ongoing basis by Carluke Guides within existing budgets. It is expected that works would commence on site in summer 2010 and be completed by autumn 2010.
- 4.3.6. This application scored 18 from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process. This score permits an intervention level of up to 30%.

4.4. Murrays Mortuary Chapel

- 4.4.1. Murrays Mortuary Chapel was donated to Lanark County Council in 1912 from the Murray family and is now within the Community Resources account. Once used by members of the public for ceremonies, the building has fallen into disrepair.
- 4.4.2. The building is presently a grade C listed building and is listed on the "At Risk" register of Historic Scotland. However, this could potentially change to a grade A listed structure due to its unusual and significant construction.

- 4.4.3 The project involves the refurbishment and conservation of the building. Once completed, the building will be usable by members of the public for ceremonies and will become an extension of the St Kentigerns Church tourist site.
- 4.4.4. The project has considerable local backing with both the Community Council and Lanark Development Trust keen to see the site return to its original condition.
- 4.4.5. The total eligible cost of the project is £225,000. The proposed grant from Blacklaw REF is £50,000 equating to an intervention rate of 22%. Funding of £25,000 from South Lanarkshire Council and £64,000 from Historic Scotland has been confirmed. Further funding applications have been submitted to Heritage Lottery Fund, Pilgrims Trust and Awards for All for the remaining balance.
- 4.4.6. The project will be managed on site by South Lanarkshire Council. Following completion, the Chapel will be managed and maintained on an ongoing basis by the Council within existing budgets. It is expected that works would commence on site in Autumn 2010 and be completed by Spring 2011.
- 4.4.7. This application scored 18 from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process. This score permits 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 Blacklaw Fund of £607,868 including interest. A further payment of approximately £120,000 is anticipated in July 2010.
- 6.2. Blacklaw has already committed funds, from the main Fund, of £395,047 towards projects from an available budget of £425,507 (70% of the total £607,868 which has been allocated to the REF). There are sufficient funds available, therefore, to meet the total of £118,802 requested.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. The risks associated with all projects are focussed on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programme.
- 7.2. All applicants have indicated that any cost increases will be managed within the present budgets subject to agreement from the REF on any changes to their proposed projects. This is highly unlikely to have an impact on the Council.
- 7.3. Delays to the programme will have no impact on the Council.
- 7.4. Without the contributions from the Renewable Energy Fund, it is highly unlikely that any of the projects will proceed.
- 7.5. The proposals for Carluke and Ashgill will result in increased provision of community facilities for voluntary groups within these areas and contribute towards Council objectives as detailed below.

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. Consultation has taken place with Community Resources concerning Lanark Airshow Committee and ongoing maintenance costs.

Colin McDowall

Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

10 May 2010

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- People focused
- Improve health and increase physical activity
- Increase participation in arts and culture
- Improve the quality of the physical environment
- Sustainable development

Previous References

- Enterprise Resources Committee Report on Blacklaw Renewable Energy Fund Applications – 20 May 2009

List of Background Papers

- Completed REF Grant Application Form and associated information dated 26 April 2010 received from Dalserf Parish Church.
- Completed REF assessment form dated 27 April 2010 for Dalserf Parish Church.
- Completed REF Grant Application Form and associated information dated April 2010 received from Lanark Airshow Committee.
- Completed REF assessment form dated April 2010 for Lanark Airshow Committee.
- Completed REF Grant Application Form and associated information dated April 2010 received from Carluke Friends of Guiding.
- Completed REF assessment form dated April 2010 for Carluke Friends of Guiding.
- Completed REF Grant Application Form and associated information dated April 2010 received from South Lanarkshire Council.
- Completed REF assessment form dated April 2010 for South Lanarkshire Council.

Contact for Further Information

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

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