

Report

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Report to:	Enterprise Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	30 March 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Whitelees Renewable Energy Fund – Grant Application - East Kilbride Cricket Club
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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 East Kilbride Cricket Club

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded to East Kilbride Cricket Club of up to £7,469.98 towards the purchase of specialised equipment to assist with the expansion of club membership and upgrade of club facilities subject to match funding for the project being secured and written confirmation of this 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 the 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 has made payments into the Whitelees Fund of £543,821.93 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. Proposals

East Kilbride Cricket Club Development Programme

- 4.1 East Kilbride Cricket Club was formed in 1962 and presently play at Calderglen Country Park.
- 4.2 The club currently has 50 members and hopes to increase this number this year. There are 4 adult teams playing fixtures on a regular basis. At youth level, the club operates teams at 5 different age groups. The club is aiming to start its first girls team this year.

- 4.3. East Kilbride Cricket Club has been operating in partnership with South Lanarkshire Active Schools over the past 4 years to increase opportunities for young people to participate in sport and physical activity. This has included cricket awareness raising events in schools, after school clubs and cricket taster sessions during and after school time.
- 4.4. Building upon this success, East Kilbride Cricket Club and Active Schools are introducing a schools cricket league in the area. This league will be run by the club and will be overseen by Cricket Scotland, the national governing body for the sport.
- 4.5. The purchase of specialised cricket equipment will help provide an improved facility for all players. It is anticipated that this will increase club numbers with more young people participating.
- 4.6. The total eligible cost of the project is £21,342.80. The proposed grant from Whitelees REF is £7,469.98 equating to an intervention rate of 35%. The club are submitting a funding application to Sportsmatch for £7,794 with the balance coming from their own resources.
- 4.7. This application scored 22 points from a possible total of 32 during the assessment process, allowing an intervention level of up to 35%.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. None

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. To date, Scottish Power has made payments into the Whitelees Fund of £543,821.93 including interest (i.e. a £529,580.36 contribution and £14,241.57 interest).
- 6.2. At the Enterprise Resources Committee of 27 June, 2007, approval was given to utilise 31 months of income (£265,248.43) from Whitelees REF towards the access works required and associated costs. This equates to an available budget total for the REF of £264,331.93.
- 6.3. Whitelees REF has committed funds, from the main Fund, of £170,636 towards projects from an available budget of £199,273.92 (70% of the available budget of £264,331.93 plus interest of £14,241.57).
- 6.4. There are sufficient funds available from the remaining balance of £28,637.92, therefore, to meet the total of £7,469.98 requested.

7. Other Implications

- 7.1. The risks associated with the project are focussed on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programme.
- 7.2. The applicant has indicated that any cost increases will be managed within their present budget 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 the project will proceed.

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 Education Resources concerning the Active Schools Programme and the role of East Kilbride Cricket Club.

Colin McDowall
Executive Director

28 February 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values/Improvement Themes

- ◆ Improve health and increase physical activity
- ◆ Improve the quality of the physical environment
- ◆ Effective and efficient use of resources
- ◆ Partnership working, community leadership and engagement

Previous References

- ◆ Executive Committee report on Community Benefit – 3 March 2004
- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee report - Whitelees Windfarm Renewable Energy Fund – 27 June, 2007
- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee report - Whitelees Renewable Energy Fund

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Completed REF Grant Application Form dated 5 December 2010 received from East Kilbride Cricket Club.
- ◆ Completed REF assessment form dated 15 February 2011 for East Kilbride Cricket Club.

Contact for Further Information

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

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