

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	26 April 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Community Grant Applications/Warm Welcome Initiative
----------	---

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 2023/2024 community grant budget
- ◆ advise of grants awarded to community and voluntary groups/organisations in the Hamilton Area Committee area in response to the Warm Welcome Initiative
- ◆ 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 8 February 2023 to the end of the financial year on 31 March 2023

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: | Eddlewood Bowling Club Ladies' Section, Hamilton (HA/1/23) |
| Purpose of Grant: | Outing |
| Identified Community Benefits: | Focused on people and their needs |
| Estimated Cost: | £350 |
| Total Eligible Grant Applied for: | £300 |
| Recommendation: | £300 |
| Amount Awarded: | To be determined by the Committee |
| | |
| (b) Applicant: | Earnock Residents' Association, Hamilton (HA/2/23) |
| Purpose of Grant: | Administration and publicity costs |
| Identified Community Benefits: | Working with and respecting others |
| Estimated Cost: | £250 |
| Total Eligible Grant Applied for: | £250 |
| Recommendation: | £250 |
| Amount Awarded: | To be determined by the Committee |
| | |
| (c) Applicant: | St Andrew's Church, Blantyre (HA/4/23) |
| Purpose of Grant: | Outing |
| Identified Community Benefits: | Focused on people and their needs |
| Estimated Cost: | £600 |

Total Eligible Grant Applied for:	£300
Recommendation:	£300
Amount Awarded:	To be determined by the Committee

- (2) that the award of 2 grants, totalling £1,720, to the following community and voluntary groups/organisations in the Hamilton Area in response to the Warm Welcome Initiative be noted:-

(a) Applicant:	Fairhill Community Group, Hamilton
Amount Applied for:	£720
Amount Awarded:	£720

(b) Applicant:	Hillhouse Link Tenants' and Residents' Association, Hamilton
Amount Applied for:	£1,000
Amount Awarded:	£1,000

- (3) that the action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to approve the award of community grants in the period from the last Area Committee to the end of the financial year 2022/2023 to the groups 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.
- 3.4. At the meeting of the full Council on 28 September 2022, it was agreed that the Chief Executive would bring forward a package of cost of living supports for agreement, in consultation with the Group Leaders, and endorsed by the Executive Committee at its meeting on 30 November 2022. This package included support for a Warm Welcome Initiative.
- 3.5. Working in conjunction with South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture and community and voluntary groups and organisations, the Warm Welcome Initiative is a network of warm spaces in community settings and public buildings where members of the public are welcomed and can participate in activities and access advice and support. To support the Initiative, a small grants scheme was created offering grants to a maximum of £1,000 to cover extra costs incurred by offering a Warm Welcome. A total of £40,000 was identified for the Initiative and the monies were apportioned equally between the 4 Area Committees.

- 3.6. As funds were required immediately to assist in the response effort, it was agreed that applications would be considered by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the relevant Area Committee Chair and submitted to the Area Committee for noting.
- 3.7. In terms of the community grants scheme, community groups would normally only be permitted to submit one application in each financial year, however, community groups that applied for funding to assist in the Warm Welcome Initiative are entitled to apply for a grant for another purpose under the scheme in the same financial year.
- 3.8. A total of 2 grants were awarded to community and voluntary groups/organisations in the Hamilton Area, totalling £1,720.

4. Employee Implications

- 4.1. None.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. The current position of the community for the Hamilton Area Committee area in 2022/2023 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Community Grants	£25,750
Community grants allocated in this report	£850
Remaining balance	£24,900

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 April 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ We will work towards a sustainable future in sustainable places
- ◆ Caring, connected, sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ Hamilton Area Committee – 8 February 2023
- ◆ Executive Committee – 30 November 2022
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council – 28 September 2022

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:-

Geraldine Wilkinson, Clerical Assistant

Ext: 4818 (Tel: 01698 454818)

E-mail: geraldine.wilkinson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Community grants approved by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) in consultation with the Chair, in the period from 9 February to 31 March 2023

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant: | Sharp and Gentles Fly Tying and Fishing Club, Hamilton (HA/35/22) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Materials and entrance fees |
| | Amount Awarded: | £450 |
| (b) | Applicant: | Trinity Church Woman's Group, Hamilton (HA/36/22) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Outing |
| | Amount Awarded: | £300 |
| (c) | Applicant: | Bothwell Horticultural Society (HA/38/22) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment, outing, administration and publicity costs |
| | Amount Awarded: | £630 |
| (d) | Applicant: | Hamilton South Townswomen's Guild (HA/39/22) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Outing |
| | Amount Awarded: | £300 |