

Report

Report to: Hamilton Area Committee

Date of Meeting: **8 February 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 8 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2022/2023 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

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/20/22)

Purpose of Grant: Environmental project

Identified Community Benefits: People live the healthiest lives possible

Estimated Cost: £380
Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £380
Recommendation: £228

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(b) Applicant: Larkhall OAP Association Town Branch

(HA/22/22)

Purpose of Grant: Outing

Identified Community Benefits: Working with and respecting others

Estimated Cost: £300
Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £300
Recommendation: £300

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(c) Applicant: REACH Lanarkshire Autism SCIO,

Hamilton (HA/27/22)

Purpose of Grant: Equipment, outing and entrance fees Identified Community Benefits: Focused on people and their needs

Estimated Cost: £800
Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £800
Recommendation: £530

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(d) Applicant: Cadzow Community Corps, Hamilton

(HA/28/22)

Purpose of Grant: Equipment and materials

Identified Community Benefits: People live the healthiest lives possible

Estimated Cost: £625

Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £625 Recommendation: £375

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(e) Applicant: Trinity Church Guild, Larkhall (HA/30/22)

Purpose of Grant: Outing

Identified Community Benefits: People live the healthiest lives possible

Estimated Cost: £400

Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £400 Recommendation: £300

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(f) Applicant: Hamilton Stitchers (HA/31/22)

Purpose of Grant: Equipment, outing and entrance fees

Identified Community Benefits: Caring, connected, sustainable

communities

Estimated Cost: £986
Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £986
Recommendation: £530

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(g) Applicant: National Autistic Society (NAS) South

Lanarkshire, Hamilton (HA/33/22)

Purpose of Grant: Materials

Identified Community Benefits: Focused on people and their needs

Estimated Cost: £210
Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £210
Recommendation: £126

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(h) Applicant: Hamilton YFC (HA/34/22)

Purpose of Grant: Start-up costs - Equipment

Identified Community Benefits: People live the healthiest lives possible

Estimated Cost: £360 Total Eligible Grant Applied for: £360

Recommendation: £300

Amount Awarded: To be determined by the Committee

(2) that the award of 6 grants, totalling £5,500, to the following community and voluntary groups/organisations in the Hamilton Area in response to the Warm Welcome Initiative be noted:-

(a) Applicant: Hamilton Old Parish Church

Amount Applied for: £1,000 Amount Awarded: £1,000

(b) Applicant: The Machan Trust, Larkhall

Amount Applied for: £1,000 Amount Awarded: £1,000

(c) Applicant: St Andrew's Parish Church, Blantyre

Amount Applied for: £1,000 Amount Awarded: £1,000

(d) Applicant: Meikle Earnock Community Council,

Hamilton

Amount Applied for: £1,000 Amount Awarded: £1,000

(e) Applicant: Supporting Our Community, Hamilton

Amount Applied for: £1,000 Amount Awarded: £1,000

(f) Applicant: Hamilton Baptist Church

Amount Applied for: £500 Amount Awarded: £500

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 6 grants were awarded to community and voluntary groups/organisations in the Hamilton Area, totalling £5,500.

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
Grants previously allocated	£9,278
Community grants allocated in this report	£2,689
Remaining balance	£13,783

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)

24 January 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 9 November 2022
- ♦ 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