

Report

Report to:	East Kilbride Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	24 February 2021
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Community Grant Applications
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ request approval for the allocation of community grants to 2 community groups in the East Kilbride Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget
- ◆ request authorisation for the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to approve further community grant applications meeting the relevant criteria in the period to 31 March 2021 from the 2020/2021 budget
- ◆ advise the Area Committee of action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to 2 community groups in the East Kilbride Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget, to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic

2. Recommendation(s)

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

(1) that community grants be awarded as follows:-

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|-----|-------------------|--|
| (a) | Applicant: | Strathaven Camera Club (<i>EK/21/20</i>) |
| | Amount Requested: | £300 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Administration and publicity costs |
| | Amount Awarded: | £200 |
| | | |
| (b) | Applicant: | Allers Allotments Association, East Kilbride (<i>EK/22/20</i>) |
| | Amount Requested: | £300 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Materials |
| | Amount Awarded: | £200 |

(2) request authorisation for the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to approve any further community grant applications meeting the relevant criteria in the period to 31 March 2021 from the 2020/2021 budget; and

(3) that the action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to support community groups with their response to the COVID-19 pandemic, be noted, as follows:-

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|
| (a) | Applicant: | Darcy's Equine Centre (Chapelton) |
| | Amount Requested: | £960 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | carer and disabled wellbieng address together in an outdoor setting |
| | Amount Awarded: | £960 |
| (b) | Applicant: | Waste Not Want not |
| | Amount Requested: | £1,000 |
| | Purpose of Grant: | help for carer and supplementary support for existing agencies working with shielding people |
| | Amount Awarded: | £1,000 |

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. In light of the community efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was agreed that £20,000 from the 2020/2021 community grants budget be allocated to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The £20,000 had been apportioned equally between the 4 Area Committee areas i.e. £5,000 from each.
- 3.5. Community groups who wished to provide assistance and support to those most in need were able to apply for small grants to meet expenses associated with this work. As it was anticipated that funds would be required immediately to assist in the response effort, it had been agreed that applications would be considered by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the appropriate Chair.

3.6 Any remaining balance from the £5,000 allocation from each Area Committee community grants budget, as at 31 December 2020, would be returned to the 2020/2021 community grants budget. As detailed in paragraph 2 above, £1,960 has been awarded to community groups who assisted in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving a balance of £3,040.

3.7. As per the community grants scheme, community groups would normally only be permitted to submit one application in each financial year, however, community groups that had applied for funding to assist in the COVID-19 response would still be entitled to apply for a grant for another purpose under the scheme in the same financial year.

4. Employee Implications

4.1. None.

5. Financial Implications

5.1. The current position of the community grant and the COVID-19 response grant allocations for the East Kilbride Area Committee area in 2020/2021 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Community Grants	£25,750
Community Grants previously allocated	£7,350
Funding allocated to the COVID-19 response effort	£1,960
Community grants allocated in this report	£400
Remaining balance	£16,040

5.2. In view of the fact that this is the last meeting of the Committee in the current financial year, and to allow any further applications submitted prior to the end of the current financial year to be considered, it is proposed that the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, be authorised to approve any further community grant applications meeting the relevant criteria in the period to 31 March 2021. Information on those grants awarded would be reported to a future meeting.

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)

8 February 2021

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent. Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities

Previous References

- ◆ East Kilbride Area Committee – 2 December 2020

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:-

Jennifer Hilston, Clerical Assistant

Ext: 4822 (Tel: 01698 454822)

E-mail: jennifer.hilston@southlanarkshire.gov.uk