

HAMILTON AREA COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Hamilton Area Committee held via Microsoft Teams and in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, Almada Street, Hamilton on 26 August 2020

Chair:

Councillor Mary Donnelly

Councillors Present:

Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor John Ross (ex officio), Councillor Bert Thomson, Councillor Josh Wilson

Councillors' Apologies:

Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Andy Carmichael, Councillor Peter Craig (Depute), Councillor Maureen Devlin

Attending:

Education Resources

J Pringle, Quality Manager; A Smith, Headteacher, Larkhall Academy

Finance and Corporate Resources

G Cochran, Administration Assistant; S McLeod, Administration Officer

1 Declaration of Interests

The following interest was declared:-

<i>Councillor(s)</i>	<i>Item(s)</i>	<i>Nature of Interest(s)</i>
Wilson	Community Grant Application (HA/12/20) Low Waters Miners' Welfare Bowling Club, Hamilton	Member

2 Previous Meeting

The Committee decided: that the delegated decisions taken by the Chief Executive, in consultation with Group Leaders, in relation to the previous agenda of 27 May 2020, be noted as a correct record.

3 Education Scotland Report – Larkhall Academy

A report dated 5 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Larkhall Academy made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in March 2020 as part of a national sample of secondary education and the inspection letter reporting the findings had been published on 16 June 2020.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection letter. The areas of improvement, agreed with the school and education authority, had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress. Education Scotland had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with the inspection.

A Smith, Headteacher and J Pringle, Quality Manager, having spoken on key aspects of the report and responded to members' questions, were congratulated on the positive inspection report.

The Committee decided: that the report be noted.

4 Community Grant Applications

A report dated 10 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on applications for community grant.

On 1 May 2020, a briefing note had been issued to elected members outlining a proposal to use £20,000 from the 2020/2021 community grant budget to assist community groups engaged in supporting their local communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The £20,000 had been split equally between the 4 Area Committee areas.

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 applied for funding to assist in the COVID-19 response would be entitled to apply for a grant for another purpose under the scheme in the same financial year.

A report on the awards to assist the COVID-19 response for the Hamilton Area Committee area would be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee for noting.

The Administration Officer referred to the community grant application submitted by Low Waters Miners' Welfare Bowling Club and informed members that there was a typographical error and that the recommended grant award should have read as £300.

The Committee decided:

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

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant: | Low Waters Miners' Welfare Bowling Club, Hamilton
(HA/12/20) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Materials |
| | Amount Awarded: | £300 |

Councillor Wilson having declared an interest in the above application, withdrew from the meeting during its consideration

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (b) | Applicant: | Wooddean Community Project Organisation, Hamilton
(HA/14/20) |
| | Purpose of Grant: | Administration and publicity costs |
| | Amount Awarded: | £400 |

- (2) that the arrangements to use £5,000 from the 2020/2021 community grants budget to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic be noted.

5 Urgent Business

There were no items of urgent business.