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Report to:	Enterprise Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 October 2016
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Clyde Wind Farm, Community and Development Fund – Grant Applications
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ consider grant applications to the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund from:-
 - ◆ Crawfordjohn Play Development Group
 - ◆ Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association
 - ◆ Biggar Museum Trust (Lamington Committee)

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded to Crawfordjohn Play Development Group of up to £95,091 towards enhancements to the play park and the creation of a new community garden;
- (2) that a grant be awarded to Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association of up to £30,000 towards the delivery of Crawfordjohn Hall improvement project;
- (3) that a grant be awarded to Biggar Museum Trust (Lamington Committee) of up to £35,000 towards the delivery of Trinity Chapel Improvement Project; and
- (4) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to conclude matters in relation to the award of grant in respect of the applications for financial support brought before Committee.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Enterprise Resources Committee of 17 March 2010, approved the Clyde Wind Farm Community and Development Fund and the administrative arrangements associated with the allocation of funds.
- 3.2. The Fund is supported from payments from SSE who operate the Clyde Wind Farm. The fund will receive income for a duration of 25 years which rises annually in line with the General Index of Retail Prices (excluding mortgage interest).
- 3.3. Grant awards exceeding £20,000 from the main Community Fund require approval at the Council's Enterprise Services Committee, with grant awards from 50% of eligible costs being achievable. Grant awards for successful applications of less than £20,000 to the Community Fund and the Small Grant Scheme, where an intervention level of 100% of eligible costs is permissible (up to £5,000), are delegated to the Head of Planning and Economic Development.

4. Crawfordjohn Play Development Group – Crawfordjohn Open Spaces Project

- 4.1 The Crawfordjohn Play Development Group was set up in 2009 to provide opportunities for the young to socialise and find support to enhance the quality of living for all inhabitants and visitors. This project involves enhancements to the existing play park area and creation of a community garden on the site of the former primary school.
- 4.2 Without the support of the Clyde Wind Farm, this project will not be able to go ahead. The only way of being able to deliver such a development is for Crawfordjohn Play Development Group, in partnership with South Lanarkshire Council, to develop and deliver the project.
- 4.3 Total costs of £190,182, for which financial support is being sought, have been identified by the applicant who is seeking up to 50% or £95,091. This application scored 69% during the assessment process, this allows a grant of the level sought to be offered equating to a maximum possible grant of £95,091 from the Community and Development Fund.

5. Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association - Property Improvement Project

- 5.1 Crawfordjohn has had a village hall for over 100 years. Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association exists to manage and promote the community-owned hall for the benefit of the local community and surrounding villages. Crawfordjohn Hall is the largest in the local area and is often used by other villages for functions and is popular for private parties and celebrations.
- 5.2 The hall has been well used and kept in a good standard of repair over the last 16 years. To continue to attract bookings and create an income stream to sustain it, there is an increasing need for a substantial upgrade to some of the facilities.
- 5.4 The organisation has listened to the feedback from user groups and created a package of works that will provide an opportunity to increase revenue streams and sustain this valuable local facility.
- 5.5 The total eligible costs within the project are £53,121, with the applicant seeking up to 56.5% or £30,000. This application scored 72% during the assessment process. As the application is for more than £5,000, this allows a grant of the level sought to be awarded equating to a maximum possible grant of £30,000 from the Community and Development Fund. Work to secure other funding is underway. No other grant funder has committed at this time but the applicant is confident that support from Clyde Wind Farm Fund will be the catalyst required to secure other grant awards.

6. Biggar Museum Trust (Lamington Committee) – Trinity Chapel Improvement Project

- 6.1 Holy Trinity Chapel, a B-listed building, was built in the English Gothic style in 1856 as a place of worship for the Baillie Cochrane Family. In the 1970's, ownership passed to the Biggar Museum Trust and it is run and maintained by the Lamington Committee of the Trust.
- 6.2 Over the years, various works have been carried out to ensure the property is kept in a wind and water-tight condition. The committee now wishes to carry out enhancements to allow it to be used as an entertainment venue for events including weddings and christenings. The project will preserve an architecturally important building and provide an opportunity for income generation which will assist in the delivery of future works and help sustain the property for the future.

6.3 The total eligible costs within the project are £127,600, with the applicant seeking up to 27.5% or £35,000. This application scored 54% during the assessment process. As the application is for more than £5,000, this allows a grant of the level sought to be awarded equating to a maximum possible grant of £35,000 from the Community and Development Fund. Work to secure other funding is underway and a number of funders have been approached. No other grant funder has committed at this time but the applicant is confident that support from Clyde Wind Farm Fund will be the catalyst required to secure other grant awards.

7. Community Consultations

7.1 It is a requirement of the Clyde Wind Farm Fund that a consultation on all applications to the Community Fund, small and main schemes, will be undertaken with the Clyde Wind Farm Community Group, a constituted group with representatives from 6 Community Councils within the eligible area of the Fund. A single consultation feedback on behalf of the whole group was supplied in relation to each application. These positive responses were duly noted and considered during the final assessment process.

8. Employee Implications

8.1 There are no employee implications arising from this report.

9. Financial Implications

9.1 To date, SSE has made payments into the Clyde Wind Farm Fund of £4,015,443.

9.2 The Community Fund (70%) has received income of £2,810,810. Awards of £2,608,239 have been approved from current income to support projects. At the time of writing this report, there is, therefore, an uncommitted budget of £202,571 available to support eligible Community Fund projects.

9.3 There are sufficient funds available to the Community Fund to meet the grant awards of £95,091 to Crawfordjohn Play development Group, £30,000 to Crawfordjohn Public Hall Association and £35,000 to Biggar Museum Trust (Lamington Committee).

9.4 On adoption of the Crawfordjohn Community Garden and Crawfordjohn Play Park improvements, ongoing maintenance will be managed by Community and Enterprise Resources within existing budgets.

10. Other Implications

10.1 The risks associated with the projects are focused on the potential for cost overruns or delays to the programmes. The applicants have indicated that any cost increases will be managed within present budgets, subject to agreement from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund on any changes to their proposed projects. This is highly unlikely to have an impact on the Council.

10.2 Delays to the programmes will have no impact on the Council. Without the Contributions from the Clyde Wind Farm Fund, it is highly unlikely that the projects outlined will proceed.

11. Equality Impact Arrangements and Consultation Arrangements

11.1 This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

11.2 All necessary consultation arrangements have taken place.

Michael McGlynn
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

19 September 2016

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values

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

Previous References

- Report to Enterprise Resources Committee of 20 May 2009 – Clyde Wind Farm -
- Community Benefit Agreement
- Report to Enterprise resources Committee of 17 March 2010 – Clyde Windfarm Fund

List of Background Papers

- Community Consultation responses

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:- John Archibald, Project Development Officer, Planning and Economic Development Services. Telephone 01698 455181, email john.archibald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk