

Report

Report to:	Community and Enterprise Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	31 March 2020
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise)

Subject:	Community Benefit Funds – Renewable Energy Fund - Grant Application
----------	--

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ consider a grant application to Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund from East Kilbride United

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a grant be awarded to East Kilbride United of up to £21,870.00 from Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund to upgrade and improve the playing surfaces of 2 football fields as detailed in paragraph 4.3 of the report.

3. Background

3.1. Since 2004, the Council has collected and administered Community Benefit funding through Planning and Economic Development Services. The service is responsible for securing the contributions from developers, advising potential applicants, assessing applications and monitoring projects to ensure that the community benefits associated with each project are delivered. Processes are continuously reviewed and refined to make it as straightforward as possible to ensure the necessary support is delivered to eligible communities.

3.2. Grant awards above £20,000 require approval from Committee, awards below this level are approved by the Head of Planning and Economic Development under delegated authority. All grants awarded are reported annually to the Community and Enterprise Resources Committee.

4. Grant recommendations

4.1. Application Number 237

Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund

East Kilbride United – project value £43,740.00

Proposed Grant award £21,870.00 Intervention rate of 50%

4.2. East Kilbride United has been established as a charity since 2013 providing recreational opportunities through football to 488 members aged from 4 to 80 within the community. The charity has a 25 year full repairing and insuring lease from the Council for the 2 football fields and pavilion at Kirktonholme and has already upgraded and improved the pavilion changing facilities.

- 4.3. The project will upgrade the playing surface and condition of the 2 football fields through additional drainage and soil and surface treatment including verti draining, harrowing and seeding. The works will increase the quality of the playing surface and increase the number of hours and participants that can play.
- 4.4. The application scored 36 and 32 out of 53 by the two appraisers during the assessment process which averages as 34 and which permits an intervention rate of up to 50% of eligible costs.
- 4.5. The total cost of the project is £43,740 with contributions from Sports Scotland of £21,870.00 to be confirmed. South Lanarkshire Council Whitelee Renewable Energy Fund will contribute the remaining balance, an award of up to £21,870.00 representing an intervention rate of 50%.
- 4.6. The project is scheduled to commence in June 2020 and be complete by August 2020.

5. Employee Implications

- 5.1. There are no employee implications arising from this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The Whitelee Renewable Energy Funds has sufficient resources to meet the proposed grant award commitment detailed in this report.

7. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 7.1. The project scored 2.5 out of a possible 5 within the Sustainability Development section of the appraisal. Areas considered included that the improved facility will provide facilities closer to a community potentially reducing travel and the additional draining will assist in mitigation against increased rainfall.

8. Other Implications

- 8.1. The risks associated with the project are focused on the potential for cost overruns, delays to the projects or match funding not being secured and the long term use of the assets. Work will continue with the applicant to help ensure match funding is secured and that projects are delivered broadly on time and within budget.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained in this report.

Michael McGlynn
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

21 February 2020

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent
- ◆ Focuses on people and their needs
- ◆ Encouraging participation in physical and cultural activities
- ◆ Working with communities to promote high quality thriving sustainable communities
- ◆ Improve the road network, influence improvements in public transport and encourage active travel

Previous References

- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee 8 August 2007
- ◆ Enterprise Resources Committee 23 November 2011

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Completed REF Grant Application Form for application number 237
- ◆ Completed REF Appraisal Scoring Sheet for application number 237

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Kenny Lean LEADER Manager

Ext: 5072 (Tel: 01698 455072)

E-mail: kenny.lean@southlanarkshire.gov.uk