

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINUTE REQUIRES TO BE APPROVED AS A CORRECT RECORD AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING AND MAY BE AMENDED

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 1400 HOURS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS, LONDON ROAD, KILMARNOCK/BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Councillors Iain Linton, Jim Todd, Caroline Barton, James Adams, Barry Douglas, Neal Ingram, William Lennox, Alyson Simmons, Jennifer Hogg and James Kyle.

OFFICERS PARTICIPATING: Julie McGarry, Democratic Services Manager; Stephanie Slater, Team Leader: Community Benefits; and Lynn Young, Democratic Services Team Leader.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Peter Mabon, Graham Boyd and Linda Mabon.

CHAIR: Councillor Iain Linton, Chair.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

1. The Chair welcomed Councillors Ingram and Douglas to their first meeting of the Grants Committee and thanked Councillors Canning, Sangster and Crawford for the contribution to the Committee.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2. No declarations of interest were intimated by the Members participating in relation to the items of business on the Agenda.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS - APRIL TO JUNE 2026

3. There was submitted a report dated 20 August 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer which advised of progress for the period 1 April to 30 June 2026 in respect of grant funding to community/voluntary sector services.

It was agreed to:-

- (i) note the financial position in respect of grant payments and project briefing updates in respect of the community/voluntary group outlined within the appendices attached to the report; and
- (ii) otherwise, note the content of this report.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND

4.1 CORNER CUPBOARD (GC 8362)

There was submitted a report dated 13 August 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer which presented a request from the Corner Cupboard that the Grants Committee review the decision made at the meeting held on 13 May 2026.

The Committee noted that whilst there were community benefits to the application, they unanimously agreed not to reconsider the decision made by the Grants Committee at their meeting held on 13 May 2026 and that the group were welcome to

submit a further application following the 6 months trial period at their Burns Mall premises.

4.2 HAREHILL FINANCIAL REPORT

There was submitted a report dated 13 August 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer on the financial position in respect of the Harehill Renewable Energy Fund 2026/27, together with individual assessment reports as undernoted. It was agreed as follows:-

- (a) Netherthird Initiative for Community Empowerment (GC 8401) - £29,400 subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grants; (ii) evidence of planning consent/building warrants, as appropriate; (iii) written confirmation of all other project funding awards to evidence that full project funding has been secured prior to commencement of project; (iv) payment for capital works will generally be made on the production of authorised interim certificate, contractors invoice or other suitable payment request documentation for the eligible project expenditure incurred; (v) should this award need to be re-profiled due to the outcome of external funding awards, that the re-profiling be agreed by the Democratic Services Manager in consultation with the Chair of the Grants Committee. The award amount will be capped at £29,400 but the re-profiling will allow amendments to allow delivery of the project within the secured budget; (vi) as per the Council's conditions of grant, the project should be delivered within 12 months of this award. The applicant is requested to keep the fund updated with project development and a formal written request must be received should an extension to this award period be required; and (vii) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, statements or publicity issues by the group relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund and/or incorporate the REF logo;
- (b) Glaisnock Valley Bowling Club (GC 8402) - £1,546.44 subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grant; (ii) evidence of planning consent/building warrants, as appropriate; (iii) a second quote being submitted for the electrical works, smoke alarm system and emergency lights, with the grant being subject to reduction based on the lowest quote; (iv) payment of grant will generally be on receipt of contractors invoices; and (v) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, social media posts, statements or publicity issued by the charity relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund, funded by Scottish Power Renewables, and incorporate the REF and SPR logo;
- (c) Cumnock and District Men's Shed (GC 8403) - £6,330.70 for the provision of tables and chairs and blinds only, subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grants; (ii) payment of grant will generally be on receipt of contractors invoice; (iii) a second quote to be received for the tables and chairs with the grant subject to reduction based on the lowest; (iv) as per the Council's conditions of grant, the project should be delivered within 12 months of this award. The applicant is requested to keep the fund updated with project development and a formal written request must be received should an extension to this award period be required; and (v) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, social media posts, statements or publicity

issues by the group relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund and/or incorporate the REF logo;

- (d) Cumnock Juniors Community Enterprise (GC 8404) - £80,057.43 subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grant; (ii) evidence of full planning consent/building warrants, as appropriate; (iii) written confirmation of all other project funding awards to evidence that full project funding for the capital build of the sports hub has been secured prior to commencement of project; (iv) as per the Council's conditions of grant, the project should be delivered within 12 months of this award. The applicant is requested to keep the fund updated with project development and a formal written request must be received should an extension to this award period be required; (v) payment of grant will be made on submission of project invoices; and (vi) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, social media posts, statements or publicity issued by the charity relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund, funded by Scottish Power Renewables, and incorporate the REF and SPR logo;
- (e) CAMPS (GC 8405) - refused on the grounds that the match funding for the application has not been successful and that the group are welcome to reapply in the future when match funding has been secured; and
- (f) Cumnock Juniors Football Club Social Club (GC 8406) - £27,719.30 subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grant; (ii) payment of grant will generally be on receipt of contactors invoice; (iii) evidence of planning permission/building warrants, as appropriate; (iv) as per the Council's conditions of grant, the project should be delivered within 12 months of this award. The applicant is requested to keep the fund updated with project development and a formal written request must be received should an extension to this award period be required; and (v) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, social media posts, statements or publicity issued by the charity relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund and/or incorporate the REF logo.

4.3 AFTON FINANCIAL REPORT

There was submitted a report dated 13 August 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer on the financial position in respect of the Afton Renewable Energy Fund 2026/27, together with individual assessment reports as undernoted. It was agreed as follows:-

- (a) New Cumnock Bowling Club (GC 8407) - £8,740 subject to: (i) the Council's standard conditions of grant; (ii) confirmation of appropriate planning consents/building warrants; (iii) a second quote being received for the works, with the grant subject to reduction based on the lowest quote; (iv) release of grant will be on submission of contractors invoices; and (v) as far as is possible and reasonable, that any press release, social media posts, statements or publicity issues by the group relating to project works shall make mention of the grant from the EAC Renewable Energy Fund and/or incorporate the REF logo.

COMMUNITY GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2026/27

- 5. There was submitted a report dated 25 August 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer on the financial position in respect of Community Grants to Local

Organisations for 2026/27 together with individual assessment reports in respect of the undernoted applications. It was agreed as follows:-

- (a) Stewarton Initiatives (GC 8355) – refused on the grounds that the project costs could not be met without the need for grant funding;
- (b) Gatehead Community Council (GC 8393) - £1,500;
- (c) Newmilns Regeneration Association (GC 8408) - £1,000;
- (d) Ayrshire Railway Preservation Group (GC 8412) – refused on the grounds that the project costs could be met without the need for grant funding;
- (e) Kilmarnock Photographic Club (GC 8414) - £1,747;
- (f) Dalmellington Parish Development Trust (GC 8415) - £2,569.62;
- (g) Dalmellington Community Association (GC 8416) - £2,769.99;
- (h) Cumnock and District Round Table (GC 8417) - £2,000 subject to the satisfactory receipt of the Financial Assistance Progress Report for GC8253;
- (i) Fenwick Community Council - Christmas Lights (GC 8422) - £1,000; and
- (j) Fenwick Community Council - Light Switch On (GC 8423) - £1,000.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED AND PAID OUT UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

6. The Committee noted the undernoted applications approved and paid out under delegated authority.
- 4ward2gether (GC 8392) - £400 to assist in meeting the cost of a full day “Diversity and Inclusion” event on 10 June 2026, to be held at the Park Hotel, Kilmarnock.
 - Moscow and Waterside Community Association (GC 8413) - £245 for costs of Replacement battery for Community Defibrillator.
 - Moscow and Waterside Community Association (GC 8418) - £550 for BBQ Catering, BBQ Gas, Port-a-loo Hire, Venue Hire, Disposables and Decorations, Soft Drinks and Face Painter.

The meeting terminated at 1430 hours.