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 4 NOVEMBER 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, Graham Boyd, Barry Douglas, Peter Mabon, Linda Mabon, William Lennox, Alyson Simmons, Jennifer Hogg and James Kyle.

OFFICERS PARTICIPATING: Julie McGarry, Democratic Services Manager; Fiona Docherty, Interim Financial Strategy and Accounting Manager; Stephanie Slater, Team Leader: Community Benefits; Eddie Bulik, Development Officer: Financial Assurance; and Lynn Young, Democratic Services Team Leader.

APOLOGY: Councillor Neal Ingram.

CHAIR: Councillor Iain Linton, Chair.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1. Councillors Boyd and Douglas, in respect of their invitation to Hurlford Age Concerns Christmas Party; and Councillor Lennox in respect of a family connection to the Sticky Fingers Club all declared a non-financial interest in respect of Item 4(i) and 4(h) below retrospectively and given the nature of their connection to the items of business was deemed significant, having considered the terms of the objective test, as outlined in Paragraph 5.5 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct intimated their withdrawal from the meeting for the respective items of business in accordance with Paragraph 5.6 of the Code.

Councillors Lennox and Linda Mabon in respect of their appointment to Ayrshire360; and Councillor Hogg in respect of a family connection to Dalrymple SWI all stated that in the interests of transparency they had a non-financial connection to Item 2 and Item 4(e) below respectively, which was not deemed significant, having considered the terms of the objective test, as outlined in Paragraph 5.5 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct. Accordingly, they did not consider the connection to amount to a declarable interest that would require them to withdraw from the meeting for the respective items of business in accordance with Paragraph 5.7 of the Code.

ANNUAL REPORT ON EXTERNAL FUNDING SECURED

2. There was submitted a report (circulated) by the Depute Chief Executive and Head of Finance and Chief Financial Officer which advised the Committee of the external funding secured during the financial period 2025/26 by East Ayrshire Council and locally based organisations within the East Ayrshire area.

It was agreed:

(i) that future Annual Reports detail the relevant windfarm for projects funded by the Renewable Energy Fund; and

(ii) to note the contents of the report.

PERFORMANCE REPORTS - JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2026

3. There was submitted a report dated 22 October 2026 (circulated) by the Chief Governance Officer which advised of progress for the period 1 July to 30 September 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 appendix attached to the report; and

(ii) otherwise, note the content of this report.

COMMUNITY GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS 2026/27

4. 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) South West Writers (GC 8419) - £800;

(b) Beyond the Layers CIC (GC 8425) - refused on the grounds that group are not a constituted voluntary organisation;

(c) The Wellness Wheel (GC 8426) - £1071;

(d) Cumnock Feltmaking Group (GC 8411) - £1000 and that the group consider exhibiting their artwork with East Ayrshire;

(e) Dalrymple SWI (GC 8431) - £552;

(f) Dunlop Bowling Club (GC 8427) - £1500;

(g) Kilmarnock Barebow Archers (GC 8414) - £3000, subject to confirmation of the outcome of the application to East Ayrshire Sports Council;

Councillor Lennox left the meeting at this point.

(h) Sticky Fingers Club (GC 8430) - £864.14 towards hall hire only;

Councillor Lennox re-joined the meeting and Councillor Boyd and Douglas left the meeting at this point.

(i) Hurlford Age Concern (GC 8428) - £1540; and

Councillors Boyd and Douglas re-joined the meeting at this point.

(j) Cumnock Arts Make People Smile (GC 8432) - refused on the grounds that the total project costs could be met without grant funding.

APPLICATION APPROVED AND PAID OUT UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

5. The Committee noted the undernoted application approved and paid out under delegated authority:-

- Newmilns Regeneration Association (GC 8421) - £500 to help fund Santa's Grotto in the Church Hall, Newmilns at the Christmas Fayre on 28 November 2026.

The meeting terminated at 1424 hours.