

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 9 NOVEMBER 2006

APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY GRANT: KEIR HARDIE HILL TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (CG 3226 AND CG 3467)

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress with regard to the applications for Community Grant submitted by Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association; and to suggest how this matter might best be dealt with.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The grant application (CG 3226) from this organisation was received on 24 January 2006 and was in respect of an outing and meal for older people in the local community, and a Summer outing and Christmas party and gifts for local children. However, as the result mainly of significant organisational change which the Association has undergone since the start of this year, the Association had failed to provide necessary items of documentation and information to enable the application to be progressed to the point of an assessment report and recommendation being placed before this Committee.
- 2.2 A detailed history to the application was provided in the report by the Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support which was submitted to this Committee on 7 September 2006. In view of the position as detailed in that report, the Local Committee agreed that the Association be afforded a further period of time until 6 October 2006, in which to submit the required information and documentation in order to enable this application to be assessed and a recommendation submitted to the November meeting of the Committee, failing which the application be terminated.

3. PRESENT POSITION

- 3.1 In the period since the last meeting of the Local Committee, further communication has taken place with the Association and the Policy Unit within the Housing Section, who continue to assist the Association. As the result of this, and in view of the significant nature of the organisational changes which the Association has undergone in recent months, including the election of a new Committee, adoption of a new Constitution and opening of a new bank account, the Association consider themselves, in effect, to be a new organisation, albeit continuing with the responsibilities and functions of the Association in its previous form. Accordingly, the Association have requested that the original application (CG 3226) be terminated.

- 3.2** The Association have submitted a fresh application for grant funding in respect of a Christmas outing and meal for older people in the local community and a Spring outing for local children, at a total cost of £1,000 in respect of which a grant of £500.00 is sought. However, the new application (CG 3467) is again lacking certain key items of information to enable the application to be assessed by the appropriate Service Department. The Association are also in the process of registering with Disclosure Scotland in respect of the children's outing in the Spring. These outstanding issues are being pursued by the Administration Section with the Association, in conjunction with the Policy Unit.

4. DISCUSSION

- 4.1** In view of the significant organisational change which the Association has undergone in recent months, it is considered appropriate for the original application (CG 3226) to be terminated and for the Committee to consider the new application (CG 3467) from, in effect, a newly formed organisation. The Committee have previously agreed that the remaining balance from the financial allocation for Community Grants for the current financial year be made available in respect of emergency applications or applications from newly formed organisations during the remainder of the year. An unexpended balance of £1,196.25 remains from the grants allocation for this year.
- 4.2** The Local Committee have, generally speaking, been sympathetic towards the Association in respect of the application for grant funding. Should the Committee wish to continue with this approach in respect of the new application submitted, it is suggested, bearing in mind the timing of the activities which are featured in the new application and that the next meeting of this Committee will not take place until 1 February 2007, that the Committee agree that the application be dealt with under delegated authority as provided for within the Council's Scheme of Delegation and Administration, by the Administration Manager, subject to a satisfactory assessment (to include confirmation of Registration with Disclosure Scotland in respect of the children's trip) and following consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee. The maximum grant which can be awarded under this delegated authority is £500.00.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** Any grant award approved arising from this report would require to be met from any remaining balance from the current year's allocation for Community Grants, which currently stands at £1,196.25.

6. LEGAL/POLICY/COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1** The disbursement of Community Grants to locally based organisations accords with the main themes of the East Ayrshire Community Plan.
- 6.2** There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that the Local Committee:-

- (i) agree that the original application for Community Grant (CG 3226) submitted by the Association be terminated;
- (ii) having regard to the terms of the report, remit to the Administration Manager to deal with the Association's new application (CG 3467) on the basis suggested in Paragraph 4.2 above; and
- (iii) otherwise, note the terms of the report.

Elizabeth Morton
Depute Chief Executive/Executive Director of Corporate Support

23 October 2006

SN/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Community Grant Application File - Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association (CG 3226).
2. Community Grant Application File - Keir Hardie Hill Tenants and Residents Association (CG 3467).

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers relative to this report should contact Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer on Tel No (01563) 576151. Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager on Tel No (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.