

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 26 JUNE 2003

COMMUNITY GRANT: 1ST MAUCHLINE SCOUT GROUP

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval of a request from the 1st Mauchline Scout Group to use a community grant award for a purpose other than that which was originally approved.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 This Committee on 20 June 2001, agreed to award a grant of £1,250 to the 1st Mauchline Scout Group to assist in meeting the cost of fencing off an area of land (total estimated cost of £6,300) to be gifted to the Scout Group for the construction of a new scout hall
- 2.2 A letter approving the application was subsequently issued on 10 July 2001, with one of the conditions of grant being that the grant monies should be expended within a period of 12 months from the date of approval.
- 2.3 Subsequently, on 12 September 2002, this Committee, at the request of the Group, agreed that the Group be allowed an additional period of 12 months in which to have the eligible works carried out and for the grant monies to be expended. The Group were advised accordingly in a letter dated 17 September 2002.

3. PRESENT POSITION

- 3.1 Recent correspondence from the Group has indicated that there has been little or no progress relating to the legal transfer of the land to be gifted, due to factors outwith the control of the Group; that they now intend to utilise their existing land for the construction of the new Scout Hall, the design work in respect of which should be proceeding over the Summer period; and in the circumstances, requesting that they be allowed to utilise the grant award of £1,250 to assist in meeting the cost of upgrading the fence on one of their existing boundaries. The total cost of this work is estimated at £2,338.25 including VAT and the Group would propose to commence this work immediately. The Group state that in the event that the gift of land were to take place at some time in the future, the fence which they propose to provide could fairly easily be relocated at small cost.

4. DISCUSSION

- 4.1 While the nature of the proposal now put forward by the Scout Group is different in detail compared to that which was previously presented to this Committee, and the proportion of the total cost of works to be grant funded is significantly greater (53% compared to 20%), the proposed use of the grant award is essentially the same, i.e. to be used for the fencing off of an area of ground for the benefit of the Scout Group. It would therefore seem reasonable for the Committee to accede to this request, but that cognisance should be taken of the time which has now passed since the original approval of this application.

5. FINANCIAL/LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no new legal or policy implications arising from this report.
- 5.2 There would be financial implications arising from the report should the Committee not accede to the Group's request and wish to seek repayment of grant previously awarded.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 It is recommended, having regard to the terms of the report, that the Committee accede to the request submitted by the Scout Group, subject to the appropriate works being carried out and the grant monies expended no later than September of this year.

Fiona Lees
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

18 June 2003

SN/SR

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Community Grant Application Form, and correspondence with, 1st Mauchline Scout Group.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers relative to this report should contact Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer, on telephone number (01563) 576151. Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager on telephone number (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Stuart Nelson, Administrative Officer.