

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 7 FEBRUARY 2001

COMMUNITY GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS 2000/2001

FINANCIAL POSITION

Report by Director of Corporate Resources/Depute Chief Executive

ANNUAL BUDGET	£24,895.83*	
CATEGORY	VALUE OF GRANTS PAID TO DATE	VALUE OF GRANTS SET OUT IN ATTACHED SCHEDULE
Arts & Cultural	£1,048.00	-
Community Association	-	-
Community Councils	£6,110.00	£5,856.81
Community Safety	-	-
Disability	£933.00	£1,217.00
Early Education & Childcare	£1,420.00	-
Economic Development	-	-
Environment	-	-
Ethnic Minorities	-	-
Health Issues	-	-
Heritage	£2,650.00	£1,000.00
Leisure Activities	£930.00	-
Older People	£4,750.00	-
Social Inclusion	--	£117.60
Sport	£4,290.00	-
Tenants/Residents Groups	-	-
Unemployment	-	-
Women's Issues	£240.00	-
Young People	£280.00	£1,400.00
TOTAL	£22,651.00	£9,591.41
BALANCE	£2,244.83	- £7,346.58

* Original allocation £24,482.00

+413.83 returned by Irvine Valley Activity Group (disbanded)
24,895.83

22 January 2001

GH/ST

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

IRVINE VALLEY LOCAL COMMITTEE - 7 FEBRUARY 2001

COMMUNITY GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS 2000/2001

SUMMARY STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE/DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE RESOURCES

(A) HERITAGE

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Rotary Club of Loudoun	Erection of a miniature tower on roundabout at Galston.	£10,285.00	£9,256.00	£1,029.00	2 accounts:- £5,985.00 (£3,100 of which is already allocated) (29 February 2000) + £1,315.00 (22 March 2000)	Nil	£1,000.00 (an amount which would reverse that requested to 90% from fund raising and 10% from the public sector.

COMMENTS:- The Rotary Club of Loudoun was founded in 1974 and is affiliated to Rotary in Britain and Ireland (RIBI) and Rotary International (RI). It aims to encourage the ideal of service within business and professions, supporting local community and international understanding through local and world fellowship. The organisation has 28 members with an average attendance at 75%. Membership is open to any business or professional person, normally with some management experience.

At the meeting of the Irvine Valley Local Committee on 31 May 2000, this application was deferred to allow the Rotary Club to meet with Officers of the Council to discuss the project further, including the possible identification of alternative funding methods. This meeting took place on 26 July 2000 when various avenues of possible funding were identified for further investigation by the Group, namely the Granada Trust, Awards for All and Co-op Community Grants. The group were advised to investigate the widest possible range of services and not to confine the project to local sources. Following this meeting the Club asked that the Local Committee reconsider the application on the basis of any award granted being conditional upon the Club thereafter bringing together the remainder of the funding "package".

The Council's Legal Section confirmed that the identification of the ownership of the land on which the proposed structure would stand would involve a Land Ownership search and suggested that the responsibility for identifying ownership should rest with the Club. Furthermore, the Legal Section suggested that the following condition be applied to any grant made "that grant monies be withheld until a Minute of Agreement identifying responsibility for maintenance of the proposed structure is agreed with the Council and the landowner concerned.

The Assessing Department (Development Services) re-examined the application in light of the above development and stated that the expenditure would lift the profile of the Irvine Valley and promote the Rotary. They recommended an award of £1,000.

At the meeting of the Irvine Valley Local Committee on 21 September 2000, the application was again deferred until the Club had established ownership of the ground in respect of the project and obtained land owners consent; and had demonstrated their ability to fundraise for the project.

The Club has since responded that the Roads Division have confirmed that East Ayrshire Council own the land and have no objections to the proposal, providing the construction work is carried out under the road opening permit issued by that division. This information has been communicated to the Solicitor to the Council for comment with a response awaited.

Regarding maintenance, the Roads Division have advised that they do not maintain the landscaping on the roundabout and suggest that any agreement regarding bulb planting and grass cutting be addressed to Community Services.

The Club further advised that fundraising for the Project has commenced and, in just over three weeks, over £1,000 was donated as well as local sponsorship. Fridge magnets depicting the monument were made and are on sale in many venues with the Valley with proceeds going to the Project.

The Club are now asking the Local Committee to reconsider the application in light of the above information.

(B) YOUNG PEOPLE

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
East Ayrshire Youth Association (North) c/o Community Education Service The Foregate, Kilmarnock	To assist with the costs for the Group's programme of events for 2000/2001 for young people.	£3,600.00	£3,000.00	£600.00	£1,794.45	£3,000 split between 5 Local Committees (1997/98)	£600 per Local Committee.

COMMENTS:- The Association (formerly Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Youth Panel) was founded in 1944 to cater for youth in the community. The Association aims to promote fellowship and liaison involving local Youth Clubs by uniting them in various activities through the year. The Association caters for any youths between the ages of 10-18 years of age residing in East Ayrshire.

The Assessing Department (Educational and Social Services) recommends that the application be supported on the following basis, viz:- (i) the application addresses the social strategy priorities of working with young people to enable each to reach their full potential through achievement, empowerment and health; (ii) the funding would assist the Group to organise over thirty large events for young people with over thirty organisations who are affiliated to the Group; and (iii) the Group has provided a voluntary youth service in the Kilmarnock, Irvine Valley and Northern Area for over fifty years. There are thirty Groups affiliated to the Association and the application is cross-boundary being split between Kilmarnock South, North, Central, Irvine Valley and the Northern Area Local Committees. The calculation for the cross-boundary element for the application is a straight forward split amongst the five Local Committees concerned.

At the Local Committee meeting on 15 November 2000, this application was continued in order that the Committee might receive further information as to the Group's activities and affiliations in the Irvine Valley Area.

The Community Learning Officer, Department of Educational and Social Services has since advised that the following local groups are members of the Association, viz:- Darvel Girls Group, Newmilns Girls Group, Youth Action Group, Barr Centre Youth Group, Duke of Edinburgh Award Group, Stagedoor Youth Theatre, Hurlford and St Sophia's Youth Club. The groups are given the opportunity to host events or competitions in their own meeting places, therefore, the number of events and venues can vary according to the time Youth Workers can devote to organising extra activities. Hurlford Stagedoor Youth Theatre at the moment hosts a number of events including a talent show and bowls.

(C) SOCIAL INCLUSION

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Children's Holiday Project, 15 Shortlees Crescent, Kilmarnock	Replacement bed linen, duvets and covers.	£688.00	£588.00	£100.00	£8,212.21 (Now £1,200 verbal update from organisation 16/1/01).	£14,994.00 (Education Committee)	£117.60 per Local Committee.

COMMENTS:- The Project, formed in January 1996 in conjunction with Community Education and based on an idea fostered by local playscheme forums, aims to provide holidays for unemployed people, lone parents and low income families at residential caravans, thereby increasing wellbeing, and self belief, raising children's self esteem, encouraging planning and saving for a long term goal and reducing isolation.

The project, which comprises a management committee of local people including Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and 10 others, and employs 1 Project Worker (22 hours per week) and 1 Project Assistant (10 hours per week), offers a week's break at a holiday camp, through the provision of 3 residential caravans (1 for disabled needs). Formerly, under the Urban Aid application, only residents from APT's could apply to the project. However, from 1 April 2000 anyone from East Ayrshire can apply. Currently, approximately 1,000 adults and children have benefited from the project.

The assessing department (Educational and Social Services) supports the application, stating that it addresses the priority of reducing social exclusion by addressing issues of poverty and deprivation and families with children. The project also develops lifelong learning skills and allows individuals to progress to fuller potential.

The application is cross-boundary being split between Kilmarnock North, South, Central, Irvine Valley and Northern Area local Committees. The calculation for the cross-boundary element of the application is a straightforward split amongst the five Local Committees concerned. This award is recommended on the basis that this is a valuable inclusion project, now covering the five Local Committee areas above. The linen has lasted well and now needs upgrading and replacement.

The grant would allow the project to provide a high quality of living for the duration of the holiday, thereby improving well-being. The assessing department advises that this is an exceptional project whose principles have been upheld from the outset. The well organised management committee of local people have progressed and improved from day one.

(D) DISABILITY

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
St Marnock Youth Club (ENABLE)	To part-fund the costs of the group's annual trip. Travel, accommodation etc for 23 persons in Ireland.	£8,400.00	£4,000.00	£4,400.00	Deposit Account £1016.20 Current Account £473.99 Both balances as at 3 October 2000. Updated verbally 4.1.01 Deposit Account £4,800.00 Current Account £300.00	Kilmarnock Central - £75.00 Kilmarnock North - £840.00 Kilmarnock South - £180.00 Irvine Valley - £270.00 Northern Area - £135.00 TOTAL - £2,000.00	Kilmarnock Central - £348.00; Kilmarnock North - £1,043.00; Kilmarnock South - £522.00; Irvine Valley - £1,217.00; and Northern Area - £870.00.

COMMENTS:- This grant application is cross-boundary covering the Kilmarnock Central (2 persons), Kilmarnock North (6 persons), Kilmarnock South (3 persons), Irvine Valley (7 persons) and Northern Area (5 persons) Local Committees.

The Youth Club was founded in 1983. Its aim is to improve the lifestyle of physically-handicapped persons by bringing them into closer association with able-bodied people to provide educational, social and leisure facilities.

The Head of Social Services has reported that the Social Strategy/Local Committee priorities addressed by the application are Social Inclusion - Community Care and Equal Opportunities issues. The expenditure would enable this vulnerable Group of young people to enjoy a full programme of activities whilst on holiday. For some members of this Group this is the only holiday break they have and the only respite available for their parents. The Group work hard to provide an annual break for its members and fundraise to cover a substantial amount of the cost.

Deposit Account includes grant award from Children in Need of £2,500.00 for Social Work buses for next financial year and £880.00 to go towards holiday (raised by children).

It is recommended that a grant of £1,217.00 (pro-rata) be awarded.

(E) LEISURE

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Hurlford and Crookedholm Millennium Committee	Marquee, piper, band and candles/torches for New Year event.	£555.00	£500.00	£55.00	£853.77	£194.29 - December 2000 for torchlight procession	£400.00

COMMENTS:- The aims of the Group are to encourage and organise community activities to celebrate the Millennium. Membership is open to anyone living in Hurlford or Crookedholm. The Group, who meet monthly in the Community Centre, provide activities for all.

Due to the timescales involved, the application was dealt with under delegated powers by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Local Committee Chair. An award of £400 was made on receipt of a satisfactory assessment report (details of which are provided below).

The Director of Community Services supported the application which promotes positive social interaction and complements priorities within the leisure strategy. The expenditure ensured that a quality event took place which was open to the whole community. An award of £400 was recommended as the Assessing Officer considered the Group to have sufficient funds to allow them to contribute a little more. The grant recommendation was not reduced further as the Group planned to organise a programme of events in 2001 and have worked hard to fundraise throughout the year.

The Committee is requested to note the award.

(F) YOUNG PEOPLE

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Crossroads After School Club	20' shipping storage container, delivery and siting of container.	£900.00	£800.00	£100.00	£798.01	£800.00 - January 2000 for sports equipment	£800.00

COMMENTS:- The Club was established in January 2000 to provide After School activities to country based children who, due to their isolated location, may miss out on sport and recreation. Membership is open to children from Crossroads Primary School and the surrounding area. The main service/programme provided by the Club includes the provision of facilities and instruction on short tennis (Mondays and Wednesdays from 3pm until 4pm), badminton (Fridays from 3pm until 4pm) and other team sports. The Club is managed by a voluntary committee of parents/children. The children attending the Club would benefit from the grant.

The Assessing Department (Educational and Social Services) supports the application, recommending the above award subject to the Club obtaining planning permission to site the container. The Club has also been advised that they will require the permission of the Director of Educational and Social Services prior to siting a storage container next to the Crossroads Primary School. The Project addresses the priorities of enabling each person to reach their full potential, young people, achievements (community volunteers) and health.

The Assessing Officer adds that volunteer adults formed the Group last year as there were no facilities for young people in the rural vicinity. The Local Member met with Community Education staff and the Club members to draw up the constitution. The Club has had one successful grant for equipment but limited storage exists in the school. The Club's cash reserve is for purchasing sports equipment to increase activities and to contribute £100 towards the purchase of the container for storage.

This Project would benefit young people who are isolated after school hours and depend on parents/carers to transport them to and from activities. This Project offers the only opportunity for young people to meet socially and represents good work by volunteers.

The Club has submitted a progress report in respect of the grant awarded in February 2000 for the purchase of sporting equipment, which indicates that they are unable to purchase some £300 worth of equipment due to the problem of storage. The Club were subsequently advised that it is a condition of grant that monies must be expended within a 12 month period from the date of approval and have since, as a result, requested in writing an extension of this period outlining the Club's extenuating circumstances which request the Committee is also asked to consider.

(G) COMMUNITY COUNCILS

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Newmilns & Greenholm Community Council	Christmas lights	£835.40	£700.00	£135.40	£436.14	£1,000.00 - April 1999 for event expenses	£700.00 (see comments)

COMMENTS:- The Community Council, founded in 1975 and affiliated to East Ayrshire Council and the Scottish Association of Community Councils, aims to represent the community to any body or organisation and to look after their welfare and wellbeing. Up to 17 members are elected to serve on the Community Council for three years with an average of 12 members attending meetings which are held on the last Wednesday of each month (with the exceptions of June, July and December) in the Morton Hall, Newmilns. The main service/programme provided by the Community Council include representing the community and organising events for Community participation. The Community Council state that the grant would benefit the entire community and persons passing through.

Due to the timescales involved, the application was dealt with under delegated powers by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Local Committee Chair. An award of £500 was made on the receipt of a satisfactory assessment report (details of which are provided below) with the balance of £200 to be considered at the next Local Committee meeting.

The Assessing Department, Community Services supports the application which promotes social cohesion and supports rural regeneration, creating a festive atmosphere within the community. The local community would be given the opportunity to enjoy pleasant decorations for the festive season. The Assessing Officer adds that this is a good project which would benefit the community.

The Committee is requested to note the award of £500 which was dealt with under delegated powers and consider awarding the outstanding balance of £200.

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Darvel Community Council (Environmental Group)	Creation of old toll gate heritage garden, architect's fees/costs, period lamp post with signage and shrubs/plants.	£17,000.00	£4,750.00	£250.00 plus £12,000.00 grant from Score Environment West of Scotland Water have also donated £1,800 value of fencing	£1,010.00	£1,500.00 - April 2000 for hanging baskets	£4,750.00

COMMENTS:- The Environmental Group is currently affiliated to Darvel Community Council. The Group was formed in November of 1999 and its main aims and objectives are to improve the quality of life for its townfolk and to assist in the regeneration of a once vibrant town via community and tourist opportunities. The Group presently numbers 10, plus advisors on various projects, and they involve as wide an age group as possible, including the Junior Environment Group. The Group also works closely with/support the Darvel Heritage and Millennium Group. The main service/programme provided by the Group includes involvement in visual enhancements to improve the town and current involvement in an arts lottery funded project. By January 2001, the Group hope to have a new constitution and charitable status, thereafter, developing into a limited guarantee company. New officers (voluntary) will be processed during December 2000. Until then, the Group is affiliated to Darvel and District Community Council. The Group meet monthly in Darvel Lesser Town Hall.

The Group states that the creation of the heritage garden and history zone would benefit the whole community educationally, rejuvenate civic pride, help attract visitors to the town and help local business.

The Director of Development Services supports the application as the project would support local environmental improvement, encourage tourism and assist wider regeneration. The local community would benefit from the improvement to the environment. Furthermore, if tourists are encouraged to stop, this should also benefit local retail businesses. It is recommended an award of £4,750 out of a project cost of £17,000 ie 72% of the project costs are being funded from other sources.

ORGANISATION	MAIN PURPOSE OF GRANT	TOTAL COST OF PROJECT	AMOUNT OF GRANT APPLIED FOR	GROUP'S CONTRIBUTION	LATEST BANK BALANCE	GRANT AWARDED 1999/2000	RECOMMENDED GRANT
Galston Community Council	Purchase of computer	£906.81	£906.81	Nil	£549.53 (£400 of this balance committed in respect of Christmas lights project)	£1,500.00 - November 2000 for Christmas lights	£906.81

COMMENTS:- The aim of the Community Council is to enhance the quality of life for the people of Galston by representing them and their problems to the Council. Anyone 18 plus years of age residing in the catchment area and on the voter's roll can join the Community Council which meets every second Tuesday in the month in Galston Council Chambers to discuss matters of local importance and liaise with East Ayrshire Council.

The application is for a computer to improve the Community Council's efficiency. The Community Council has indicated that the computer would also be made available for use by Galston residents. A quotation for the above sum has been submitted.

The Assessing Department, Educational and Social Services (Community Education) supports the application, recommending an award of £906.81. The Assessing Officer advises that this grant would strengthen the capacity of the Community Council to become more efficient in carrying out its business for the benefit of the Community, in line with the Council Plan. Several members of the Community Council are computer literate but this grant would allow other members to develop their IT skills also. Although the equipment would be primarily used by the Group, requests by the Community for access would also be considered. The computer would be kept in the Secretary's home. The Community Council would cover insurance costs themselves.

The Assessing Officer adds that this is a well attended Group with 17 active members. Darvel Community Council have a similar situation with regard to access and insurance. Galston Community Council have been in contact with Darvel Community Council and have shared relevant information. This is a local group wishing to increase their efficiency in working within their local community. Many members are new and very enthusiastic, which very positive attitude should be encouraged and supported.

22 January 2001

GH/SM

AGENDA