

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

NORTHERN AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE – 31st October 2001

MORTON ROAD PAVILION

Report by Director of Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the committee on funding opportunities for sports facilities which may be available in respect of the refurbishment of the Morton Road Pavilion including details of the qualifying criteria for accessing such funds.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A report was put to the Northern Area Local Committee advising on the current position in relation to the Morton Park, Kilmaurs. The committee requested a further report outlining funding opportunities that maybe available.

3. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- 3.1 Sportscotland (formally known as the Scottish Sports Council) distribute lottery money for sport. Sportscotland Lottery Awards will not exceed 60% of eligible project costs except for projects in areas of special need where awards to a maximum of 75% will be considered. To qualify for the higher percentage award the proposed project must be located in, or clearly and demonstrably serve either a geographical SIP area or an enumeration district in the worst 10% of deprived areas in Scotland.
- 3.2 Within Sportscotland's Sport Facilities Programme the two strands, which focus on local facilities, are the School and Community Strand and the Local Facilities Strand.
- 3.3 The School and Community Strand – This strand may fund projects which will adapt or increase the accessibility of existing sports facilities in schools or at clubs to enable them to be used by the wider community as well as school pupils. The facilities will be either in a school or in a club near a school. It is in Community Services opinion that this fund is inappropriate for the refurbishment of the Morton Road Pavilion. Sportscotland Facility Planning Model for East Ayrshire identified that strategically there is a need to open up the secondary schools to meet the needs of the area. The pavilion is not in close proximity of a school and it is Community Services Opinion that this strand would not support the refurbishment that the Morton road Pavilion requires.

- 3.4 Local facilities – This strand covers the range of facility provision or upgrading proposals including projects led by voluntary sports clubs, including umbrella organisations such as Associations or Federations. Applications are required to demonstrate that the proposed development is for the public good and will provide opportunities for increased sports participation by the community at local level. This strand is for upgrading or expansion of facilities. Projects, which focus on repairs, renewals and maintenance, are ineligible.
- 3.5 Another source of Lottery Funding is the ‘Awards for All’. This fund is for voluntary organisations, which are properly set up with a constitution, bank account and annual accounts, and have a gross annual income of less than £15,000. Grants between £500 and £5000 can be awarded. As highlighted in 2.4, East Ayrshire Council would not be eligible to apply for this fund as it is only open to Voluntary Organisations who required to have a long term lease of the facility.
- 3.6 There may be some other funding opportunities for example charitable trusts however a voluntary club would be required to apply for such funds and would also be required to hold a long term lease of a facility.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Investment in excess of £20,000 will be required if the Morton Park Pavilion is to be brought back in to public use.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Not Applicable.

6. POLICY IMPLICATION

- 6.1 Not Applicable.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 It is Community Services opinion that the School and Community Strand and the Local facility Strand of the SportsScotland Lottery fund would not support the repair and renewal of the Morton Road Pavilion.
- 7.2 Should a voluntary sports club wish to apply to the fund for the expansion or upgrading of a facility, for example to increase changing space or to add disabled access, then they would be required to hold a long term lease (minimum of 10 years) for a facility. This would apply to other funding bodies such as trusts.
- 7.3 There is a shortage of football pitches available for public use throughout the whole district. It would not be in the councils best interests to enter into a long-term lease with any club that precluded full public use. There would also be issues relating to the responsibility for ground maintenance of the pitch.
- 7.4 Further avenues of funding will continue to be investigated.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Committee note the content of this report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

DC/TM

22/10/01

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Sports Lottery Guidelines.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone Denis Craig, Principal Officer – Recreation, Ext. 6701.
E-mail: deniscraig@eastayrshire.gov.uk

AGENDA