

MINUTE of MEETING of the LIVINGSTON SOUTH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE held within COUNCIL CHAMBERS, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on 3 OCTOBER 2019.

Present – Councillors Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Chair), Peter Heggie, Peter Johnston and Moira Shemilt

Apologies – Mary Benson, Ladywell Community Council

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Chair agreed for two maps accompanying application MA02 (Dedridge Milestones part) to be tabled.

The Chair announced that Jo Rule, a member of Livingston Village Community Council, had passed away the previous week. Committee members noted their sadness at her passing as well as their appreciation for her time dedicated to community council work.

3. TOWN CENTRE FUND 2019/20: PROPOSED FUNDING AWARDS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Planning, Economic Development and Regeneration inviting members to consider the applications to the Towns Centre Fund and to agree the allocation of funding for the settlements within the ward.

The report recalled that in February 2019, the Scottish Government had announced, as part of its budget, a new Town Centre Fund of £50 million, aimed at addressing the core themes of the Scottish Government's Town Centre Action Plan 2013 and the Town Centre First Principle.

Council Executive had agreed on 11 June 2019 that the funding should be allocated to all 23 communities with populations over 1,000 through a grant application process. Within the Livingston South ward, six towns were eligible for the funding, and following the deadline of 31 August 2019, 23 applications had been received for projects in the ward – these were shown in Appendices 2–8. All applications had been reviewed by officers through the Capital Asset Management Board and recommendations and advice were set out in Appendix 1.

It was recommended that the committee:

1. note that 23 applications had been received for projects within the ward;

2. note the recommendations provided by officers within each town within the ward;
3. agree to award funding as set out in the report;
4. note that if the officer recommendation on funding was accepted there would be an unallocated sum of £4,485.00, which, if committee agreed, could be redistributed within the ward;
5. agree on the distribution of the unallocated sum which could be used for submitted projects in any settlement in the ward;
6. note that any unallocated sums would be available for distribution to projects elsewhere in West Lothian and that it would be for Council Executive to decide on the distribution of unallocated funds;
7. note that some of the funding costs remained as estimates and delegate the Head of Planning, Economic Development & Regeneration to finalise award amounts within the overall value of the funding available within the ward;
8. note the terms and conditions associated to the awarding of grants as set out in the report; and
9. agree to the reallocation of funding for application MUR01.

Decision

1. To agree the recommendations in the report and applications as follows:

Dedridge

DED01 Crofthead upgrade – £12,578.00

DED02 Nigel Rise to The Centre path – £24,578.00

MA001 Crofthead local centre – Not supported

MA001 Dedridge local centre – Not supported

MA001 Dedridge East local centre – Not supported

MA02 Dedridge Milestones part – £3,000

Murieston/Bankton

MUR01 Signage – It was also agreed to allocate this project £2,000 out of the reallocation pot as per recommendation 9 in the report.

MUR02 Community Notice board – £3,375

MUR03 Community Garden – £27,975

MUR01 Murieston local centre – Not supported

Ladywell

LAD01 Community Garden – £19,134.00

LAD02 WiFi – £5,600

LAD03 Fun & Games – £2,400

LAD04 Signage – £2,500

MA001 Ladywell local centre – Not supported

Howden

HOW01 Staggered fencing – £1,200

MA001 Howden local centre – £12,000

MA002 Milestones part – £3,500

Bellsquarry/Adambrae

BEL01 Village hall upgrade – £2,513

BEL02 Sound System – £800

BEL03 The Larder kitchen – £2,500

MA001 Bellsquarry neighbourhood centre –£7,783.00

Livingston Village / Kirkton

MA002 Milestones part – £3,500

2. In addition, it was agreed that the unallocated sum of £4,485 would be divided equally between the following projects:
 - DED02 Nigel Rise to The Centre path – £1,495
 - MUR03 Community Garden – £1,495
 - LAD01 Community Garden – £1,495
3. It was noted that the overallocation sum of £136,769.35 shown on page 4 of the report was incorrect; the correct figure was

£119,663.35.

4. The committee requested the following:
 - a. That the community councils be contacted and advised immediately of the above fund allocation decisions.
 - b. That officers start work immediately on supported projects.
 - c. That a report providing an update on fund allocation and project progress be submitted to the next Livingston South LAC meeting.