

DATA LABEL: PUBLIC



COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS

REPORT BY HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To invite the Council Executive to consider an application for a special project grant which has been received from Kirknewton Community Council.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Executive determines the valid application received from Kirknewton Community Council as detailed in the appendix.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

I	Council Values	Focusing on our customers' needs; making best use of our resources; and working in partnership
II	Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)	Section 22 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 and the Special Project Grant Guidelines
III	Implications for Scheme of Delegations to Officers	None.
IV	Impact on performance and performance Indicators	None.
V	Relevance to Single Outcome Agreement	None.
VI	Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)	£3000 in the special project grant budget for financial year 2020/21.
VII	Consideration at PDSP	None.
VIII	Other consultations	None.

D. TERMS OF REPORT

A special project grant scheme currently operates for community councils in West Lothian to allow them to carry out projects in their areas. Community councils can apply for a maximum of £750 special project funding in each financial year. There is no minimum grant. The total budget for financial year 2020/21 is £3000. Applications are dealt with on a first come first served basis. Community councils who retain more than £75 of their annual grant from the previous financial year are expected to contribute 10% towards projects less than £750.

Two valid applications have been received so far in financial year 2020/21. The most recent application to be received is detailed in Appendix 1. The balance remaining in the budget for the current financial year is £2250. The amount requested in the application is £750.

If the application is granted in full, there will be £1500 remaining in the special project grant scheme budget available for distribution.

E. CONCLUSION

The special project grant scheme allows community councils to carry out projects which they consider to be of benefit to their area. It is recommended that the Council Executive determines the application received from Kirknewton Community Council.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Minute of Meeting of the Partnership & Resources PDSP held on 18th February 2011.

Minute of Meeting of the Council Executive held on 22nd March 2011.

Appendices/Attachments: One

Contact Person: Lorraine McGrorty, Committee Officer, 01506 281609

Julie Whitelaw

Head of Corporate Services

6th October 2020

APPENDIX

Application 1

Community Council	Project	Cost	Total Grant Requested
Kirknewton Community Council	To purchase games for the children/youths and indoor carpet bowls for the senior citizens and all age groups.	£1523.97	£750

Comments

1. The Community Council wishes to purchase games for the children/youths and indoor carpet bowls for the senior citizens and all age groups. There is currently very little for the youngsters of the village and it is proposed that the games are situated at the pavilion which is becoming a hub with development from The Town Centre Fund. The village youth club is run by Kirknewton Community Development Trust and the community council would like to contribute with by purchasing various games.
2. The indoor bowls would be kept within the village hall which would be useful for exercise by senior citizens and would greatly help their mental wellbeing. This is a further development of providing events and purpose for the senior members of their community. The database of active senior group members now stands at over 200, following expansion during the support offered during the Covid-19 lockdown. The Community Council states it has worked extremely hard to ensure that the senior citizens feel part of the community over the last two years. They have organised many events which have been very well attended and appreciated. They asked what additional things they would like and indoor carpet bowls featured amongst the many ideas put forward.
3. The community council plans to ensure that all age groups come together both outdoors and indoors both at the village hall and the pavilion.
4. The Community Council is very conscious of current social distancing regulations. They indicate that the equipment in the application will only be used when the regulations permit and when West Lothian Council give permission for the Village Hall and/or Pavilion to be used. The Community Council fully understands that the items cannot be used during the current restrictions but should the application be approved they will be very beneficial in the long term.
5. The cost of the project is greater than the maximum sum available through the special project grant scheme. However, the community council has indicated that it will meet the shortfall from the balance of funds it retains.
6. The project is acceptable and meets the criteria for assistance.

Recommendation

That the Council Executive considers and determines the application received from Kirknewton Community Council.