



COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS

REPORT BY HEAD OF CORPORATE SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To invite the Council Executive to consider two applications for special project grants which have been received from Kirknewton and Torphichen Community Councils.

B. RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Executive determines the valid applications received from Kirknewton and Torphichen Community Councils 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 2019/20.
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 2019/20 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 the project.

Two valid applications have been received so far in financial year 2019/20. The applications are detailed, in order of receipt, in Appendix 1. The balance remaining in the budget for the current financial year is £3000. The amounts requested for the 2 applications total £1500.

If the applications are 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 applications received from Kirknewton and Torphichen Community Councils.

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

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Julie Whitelaw

Head of Corporate Services

11th June 2019

Application 1

Community Council	Project	Cost	Total Grant Requested
Kirknewton Community Council	Towards the costs of providing coffee mornings/afternoons and events for senior citizens in the village and provide regular communication newsletters to residents.	£950	£750

Comments

1. The Community Council received a special project grant in 2018 and held a number of events for senior citizens which were well attended. The community council wishes to develop monthly events for senior citizens in accordance with the types of events they are interested in attending. The first year of the project was the first step in reducing loneliness and isolation of many residents.
2. The community council also plans an ongoing system throughout the year of communicating with all residents to ensure they continually receive feedback on the types of trips and activities the senior citizens of the village are interested in.
4. The community council has indicated that it will contribute £200 towards the project from the balance of funds it retains.
5. 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.

Application 2

Community Council	Project	Cost	Total Grant Requested
Torphichen Community Council	Towards the costs of continuing publication, printing and distribution of the Torphichen News newsletter.	£1065	£750

Comments

1. The Community Council wishes to continue publication of the Torphichen News newsletter. The village newspaper is produced 10 times per year and has a distribution area to the whole village, the rural community and to ex-villagers living abroad.
2. The newspaper contains local news, events, church matters, primary school news, gala day events and community council discussions. There are also other regular and incidental matters. The newsletter allows everyone to be included in the community news and 380 copies are produced and distributed monthly.

3. 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.
4. The project is acceptable and meets the criteria for assistance.

Recommendation

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