South Ayrshire Council

Report by Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs
to Rural Panel
of 21 November 2013

Subject: Applications for Financial Support

1. Purpose

1.1 To advise the Panel of applications submitted for financial support from the 2013/14 Rural Communities Fund budget and to make recommendations concerning these applications.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that the Panel makes the following awards as at Appendix 1:

(1) Dundonald Bowling Club. Grant award of £15,000 towards the refurbishment work at the Bowling Club creating additional sporting activity space;

(2) Fisherton Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council. Grant award of £4,915 towards the costs associated with the installation of a fitness trail and multi-purpose sports area; and

(3) Carrick Community Councils’ Forum. Grant award of £4,000 towards the design, production, printing and distribution of an A3 folded leaflet promoting the Carrick area as a tourism destination.

3. Background

3.1 The Rural Panel has at its disposal a budget that allows provision of financial support to approved projects that impact on rural parts of South Ayrshire. The full year budget for 2013/14 is £61,000 of which £36,256 is presently uncommitted.

3.2 At the meeting of the Rural Panel on 4 December 2008, Members agreed that future applications submitted for approval through the Rural Panel should demonstrate compatibility with the Ayrshire LEADER Local Development Strategy (LDS), except in exceptional circumstances where Rural Panel funding is a last resort for minor local projects.

4. Proposals

4.1 There are currently three applications for financial support, which are clearly compatible with the LEADER LDS and ready to be considered by the Rural Panel. A summary and recommendation for these applications can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.

5. Resource Implications

5.1 Financial

Should the Panel approve the recommendations contained in Appendix 1, the remaining balance of uncommitted budget available for rural grants will be £12,341.
5.2 **Legal**

Not applicable.

5.3 **Human Resources**

Not applicable.

6. **Risk**

6.1 None at this time.

7. **Equalities**

7.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out on this topic.

8. **Sustainable Development Implications**

8.1 This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme or strategy or document otherwise described which could be considered to constitute a plan, programme, policy or strategy.

9. **Options Appraisal**

9.1 An options appraisal has not been carried out in relation to the subject matter of this report.

10. **Link to Council’s Priorities/ Improvement Programme**

10.1 The proposals contained in the report link to the Council’s Corporate and Directorate Plans and its Improvement Programme as follows:

   Council Aim 1: Businesses in South Ayrshire are enterprising, innovative and equipped to succeed in a changing world.

   Strategic Objective 1b: Work collectively to minimise the impact of the economic downturn in South Ayrshire

   Strategic Objective 1d: Enhance South Ayrshire’s positive image locally, nationally and internationally

   Improvement Programme Strand 2: Strategic Planning and Golden Thread: the council has a clear and ambitious vision for what it wants to achieve for its locality and communities focused on high-quality services and effective outcomes.

11. **Results of Consultation**

   (1) There has been no public consultation on the contents of this paper.

   (2) Consultation has taken place with Councillor Alec Clark, Chair of the Rural Panel.

**Background Papers**  None

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**Date:** 14 November 2013
## Rural Panel - 21 November 2013
### Applications for Financial Support

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
<th>Other Funding</th>
<th>Request</th>
<th>Recommendation and Rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dundonald Bowling Club &lt;br&gt; (Partners – Troon and Dundonald AFC)</td>
<td>Dundonald Community Sports Association</td>
<td>The Dundonald Bowling Club in partnership with Troon and Dundonald AFC will develop the Dundonald Community Sports Association with various sports clubs as its members. The Association hope to increase the number of sporting opportunities for Dundonald and the surrounding areas and also provide good quality social events. The Association also wish to increase sporting opportunities for young people and develop a more inclusive community. The refurbishment of the Bowling Club will include joining the kitchen and bar to the pavilion which will increase the social area in the club room. The work will involve the removal and replacement of the old kitchen and bar and will also provide a new storage area for equipment associated with football and other sporting activities. The waste ground adjoining the Bowling Club will be developed into a car park and this will double as a petanque pit. The Association will manage the overall project and have commissioned a feasibility study and the preparation of plans with the aid of a Community Development Fund grant award of £4,000. The need for the refurbishment of the bowling club to facilitate additional sporting activities was identified and discussed by community groups and residents as currently participation in many sports can only be achieved by leaving the village or surrounding area. It is hoped that the Dundonald Community Sports Association can increase the number of sporting clubs and members using the new facility. This should improve the revenue of the Association and clubs and ensure the longer term sustainability of the different associated clubs in the community. The Association do not currently have a Lease of the pavilion but are in negotiations with Estates on this. A letter of comfort can be provided by Estates to the Association indicating the Council’s intention to lease the pavilion to the Association as an interim measure. The lease is not in place as yet as the pavilion has suffered fire damage and is the subject of an insurance claim. Once the remedial work has been carried out to the pavilion a lease will be drawn up by the Council. It is anticipated that the repair work will be carried out over the next four weeks.</td>
<td>£60,000</td>
<td>SAWET £20k &lt;br&gt; LEADER £20k &lt;br&gt; In kind contribution by group £5k</td>
<td>£20,000</td>
<td>A grant award of £15,000 is recommended towards the costs of the refurbishment works which will include joining the pavilion to the bowling club providing additional space for a variety of sporting and other activities. The grant award of £15,000 from the Council should be conditional on all match funding being achieved and evidenced prior to draw down of grant. Match funders and in-kind contributions should provide a total of £45,000. SAWET £20k &lt;br&gt; LEADER £20k &lt;br&gt; In-kind £5k. This leaves a short fall in funding of £15,000.</td>
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<td>Fisherton Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council</td>
<td>Playground and outdoor learning project (open to all)</td>
<td>The Fisherton Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council is a committee appointed by the Parent Forum (all parents and carers who have a child at the school) who work in partnership with the school to help with their continued success. The Parent Council consult with parents and the local community regularly. As part of this consultation process the need for the enhancement of the playground was seen as a priority for the local community overall. Currently there are no recreational facilities for local residents of Fisherton (which has planning consent for new housing) or for the surrounding farm dwellings without the use of transportation. The current school building is old and the layout only allows for a small hall for any sport activities. The area is also used for assemblies and dining purposes, it also has sinks, gymnasium equipment and storage items within the hall limiting the space and its use even further. The outside area is currently utilised but is limited in its functionality with no soft surface areas and uneven ground. The Parent Council have developed a funding package to support the development of the existing playground into a new fitness trail and multi-purpose area. The fitness trail would include 8 pieces of fitness equipment with a wet pour surface laid underneath. There would also be a multi-purpose play area with a thick wet pour surface laid covering approximately 360msq. The new sports and leisure area will be open to all and will allow easy access to pupils during school hours and can be used after school hours for ‘stay and play’ and will be open to the community. Children, adults and families of all ages will be able to benefit from this project and it will become a new space that promotes a healthy lifestyle, challenge abilities and improve the viability and vitality of the rural community. The Parent Council will develop a maintenance plan in association with the appropriate department of South Ayrshire Council. It will include an inspection checklist, frequency of inspections, who to contact with any corrective actions etc. The head teacher has agreed that the inspections become part of the janitor’s duties. An annual inspection will also be carried out with South Ayrshire Council (potentially jointly with the Parent Council). There will be warranty over equipment either 10 or 20 years depending on the supplier and any maintenance costs will be factored into the group’s annual budget. The equipment will be gifted to South Ayrshire Council and any insurance matters would follow the existing South Ayrshire Council process.</td>
<td>£23,200</td>
<td>Awards for All £10k Carrick Futures £4k (to be submitted in Dec 2013 – amount applied for will depend on outcome of Rural Panel decision) Carrick Round Table £500 Craig Tara £500 Parent Council £3,285</td>
<td>£7,915</td>
<td>A grant award of £4,915 is recommended towards the projects costs on the condition that all match funding is achieved and evidenced prior to draw down of grant. It is anticipated that the Parent Council will have submitted all of their funding applications to match funders by the end of November 2013 and that decision of awards should be known between 6 – 8 weeks later. Match funders and the group’s financial contribution should provide a total of £18,285 should it all be approved. Awards for All £10k Carrick Futures £4k Carrick Round Table £500 Craig Tara £500 Parent Council £3,285 This leaves a shortfall in funding of £4,915</td>
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<td>Carrick Community Councils’ Forum</td>
<td>Promotion of Carrick and the Heritage Trail</td>
<td>The Carrick Community Councils’ Forum (CCCF) promotes liaison and joint action amongst Community Councils in Carrick (Ballantrae, Barr, Barrhill, Colmonell and Lendalfoot, Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly, Dunure, Girvan, Maidens, Kirkoswald and Turnberry, Maybole, Pinwherry and Pinmore). Carrick has a population of over 20,000 people and is approximately 63% of South Ayrshire’s rural population. The members meet regularly to discuss issues of common concern and have invited speakers from key stakeholders including South Ayrshire Council and the CPP. CCCF are implementing a development strategy for Carrick under the banner of ‘Carrick – The best place to live, work, visit and play’. One of the six main themes in the development strategy relates to creating employment and wealth through tourism. The design, development and production of an A3 folded leaflet promoting Carrick, its businesses, culture and heritage sites fits with the strategy to encourage more visitors to the area. The leaflet will also promote the heritage trail which involves sixteen communities in Carrick and will provide an insight into the heritage information installations and the potential to use the sites as geo caches.</td>
<td>£4,820</td>
<td>CCCF £500 in kind</td>
<td>£4,320</td>
<td>A grant award of £4,000 is recommended towards the projects costs. The group do have some funds available and could make a cash contribution to the project.</td>
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