

Edintore Community Benefit Fund Decision Making Panel Meeting

Monday 22nd April 2019
7.00pm, The Loft Youth Project, Langstane Lane West, Keith

Present: James Mark (Chair), Sandy Dickson (Vice Chair), Neil Kidd, Steve Hickin, Priscilla Gordon-Duff, Karen Pryce-Iddon, Catherine Sinclair (minutes) and Emma Bathgate (vento ludens)

1. Welcome and apologies

James welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked for them for attending. Apologies were received from George Wordie

2. Financial Report

Catherine circulated an up to date bank statement showing a bank balance of £79,844.77
Rothiemay Trust has a grant of £10,000.00 pending, conditional on securing match funding. This leaves an available grant balance of £69,844.77

3. Declaration of interests

Neil Kidd – Keith Golf Club

4. Assessment of applications

01/2019 Keith Roller Bladers and Skaters up to £7,780 towards refurbishing the skate park
Awarded in full. The Panel commended the good quality application, the group's own fundraising and the well thought out, phased approach the group has taken towards this large project.

02/2019 Touchdown Memorial Home for Horses £16,388 for Blue Unicorns

Declined. This was discussed in detail. The lines between the personal/business/charity finances and assets are not clear. The Panel is aware the charity is working on this. Demand on the fund is high and other applicants evidenced stronger local community benefit.

03/2019 Dufftown Royal British Legion £20,000 towards refurbishment of the Legion

Awarded in full. The Panel commended the clear application and fundraising efforts to date. The Legion is well very used by a large number of organisations and individuals.

04/2019 Keith Royal British Legion £7,000 towards toilet refurbishment

Awarded in full. A clear application demonstrating need. The applicant has reported promptly and fully on previous grant funding.

05/2019 Keith Golf Club £10,000 towards the cost of a ride on mower

Awarded in full. This was felt to be a strong application which explained the exceptional circumstances which prompted the Golf Club to apply to this round of funding in despite their own funding efforts. The Golf Club do not intend to apply for funding in the coming year.

06/2019 Strathisla Pipe Band £5,000 towards massed pipe band Centenary Celebration

Awarded in full. The Panel recognised the ongoing community benefit and support provided by the Pipe Band to the people and organisations of Keith and Strathisla and the profile raising this event will deliver.

07/2019 Strathisla Pipe Band £999.99 towards picnic and refreshments for massed band

Declined. Discussed at length. Previous similar applications have been declined due to weaker community benefit and sustainability.

08/2019 Trefoil Guild £700 for a Presentation Kit (laptop and projector)

Awarded in full. A sound application with budget-conscious choices of equipment.

09/2019 Longmore Community Hall £15,000 towards the Hall Improvement Project (sound and lighting equipment)

Awarded in full with a condition. The Panel commended the phased approach and clear budget for this large, capital project and the hard work of the Committee. As the Hall is not yet in community ownership, the Panel ask that if the SCIO folded for any reason, assets purchased be disposed of according to the SCIO constitution, to an organisation or organisations in the Fund primary area of benefit.

5. Any Other Business

It was agreed the guidance for larger applications could be expanded to give examples of good supporting evidence and project planning. It was also agreed that guidance is updated to say applications received a week before the funding deadline will be checked for completeness but applications received after that date may be forwarded to the Panel as they are.

It was agreed to try and avoid overlap between Edintore and Hill of Towie Community Benefit Fund application deadlines, for the benefit of applicants.

An update was given on previous applicants including those who have reported and those who have requested funding extensions. Reminders have been sent to those due to report on Round 2 and some Round 2 reports have been submitted.

6. Dates of next meetings

Follow up meeting Monday 28th October 2019

James thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.50pm