



Glenkens & District Trust (SC042489)

Report from meetings of Trustees – June 2021

Funding Round

The primary purpose of the two meetings held on 7 and 8 June was to consider the applications received in this funding round.

To recap on the report from our May meeting we considered 17 applications. 20 applications were received in this round but two were ineligible for consideration as they did not meet the governance eligibility criteria and one was withdrawn as the applicant had successfully sourced funding elsewhere.

This was the first funding round where organisations within the Glencairn Community Council area were eligible to apply to the Main Fund and we were pleased to see a number of applications from that area.

At the meeting we made decisions on the applications and were ably supported by Foundation Scotland who administer the application and award process. The process followed by Foundation Scotland is that every application goes through an eligibility check, due diligence and an assessment process involving discussion with the applicant. Based on this a written report is prepared. All the reports are reviewed within Foundation Scotland at a senior level to ensure quality and consistency and they are then provided to the Trustees well in advance of the meeting to enable the Trustees to make decisions.

Following on from the decision-making meeting the applicants are notified by email of the decision in relation to their application and successful applicants then need to confirm their acceptance of the grant and satisfy any conditions to enable payments of the awards to be made.

Although many funders don't provide this type of input, as part of our aim to be a constructive funding partner, unsuccessful applicants have been given written feedback to assist them in the future, in line with our normal practice. Foundation Scotland also aims to signpost applicants to sources of support and advice where this is relevant during the assessment process or post decision making.

Out of available funds of £332,703.20 awards totalling £116 634.84 have been made.

A table setting out the decisions made is attached as is the Press Release we have issued.

As you can see, the awards cover a wide range of costs including building improvements, equipment and materials and operating or staff costs to support projects. The awards reflect the diverse nature of our area and the interests across it.

In reviewing the outcomes from this round, we were only too aware that the strange and uncertain times we continue to live in have made it difficult for organisations to develop and plan projects. Going forward we want to consider what actions we can take which will help support projects and organisations and also enable them to leverage other funds available. On this we had two key observations - we found it interesting to note the role of development trusts within the area in providing support to the various groups, and to share expertise and learning; and the other is that projects involving assets can be complex, and we would like to ensure our fund materials support applicants to ensure they are getting the appropriate level of technical, funding and professional support to bring forward well-developed applications, not just to Blackcraig but to any funder, and for the benefit of the communities who will be the beneficiaries of these projects.

We continue to support the work on the early implementation phase of Glenkens & District Community Action Plan, and we anticipate that the next phase of the Action Planning process will have a direct impact on the shape of our fund distribution as we look to invest pro-actively in community priorities articulated within the plan and leverage in additional support for this, in the context of Blackcraig's limited funds.

At our next meeting in July, we will consider the timing for the next funding round.

Foundation Scotland are this month due to receive the next instalment of community benefit monies from the wind farm owner and when that payment has been received, the Community Council small grants will be issued.

Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund

Summary of Grant-Making Round: June 2021

Total Awards Made:

Organisation Name	Decision	Purpose of Grant
Balmaclellan Village Hall (exterior repairs)	£6,300.00	To replace corroded sections of cast downpipes and guttering as well as repairing and redecorating the outside render to the Village Hall.
Catstrand Singers	£1,750.00	To allow the Catstrand Singers adapt to new circumstances whilst continuing to deliver the benefits associated with community singing.
Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham Community Council	£5,000.00	To contribute to the costs of installing two vehicle activated speed signs on the A712 in Corsock, one at each entrance to the village, in order to reduce traffic speeds, improve safety for residents and visitors and build a sense of community and civic pride in Corsock.
Galloway Fisheries Trust	£4,000.00	To fund the staff costs of developing a tree planting plan to initiate a River Urr Climate Resilience project.
Glencairn Land and Woods Trust Ltd	£9,136.00	To fund a part-time development officer to develop local woodland and growing projects and help to promote the Trust.
Glencairn Memorial Institute	£13,320.00	To fund damp inspection, electrical inspection and related emergency remedial work to enable the Institute to fulfil its roles as the only large events venue and as an emergency Resilience Centre for the community.
Loch Ken Trust	£4,867.20	To contract administrative support for a community engagement and planning exercise over the second half of 2021, which will enable the production of 10-year action plan for a sustainable Loch Ken.
Moniaive Initiative	£7,800.00	To contribute to cost of a part-time Volunteer and Retail Co-ordinator in the community shop and hub, The Hive.
Moniaive Playcare	£16,803.64	To contribute to the costs of extending the premises into the neighbouring building and garden.
Mossdale Village Hall	£25,000.00	To replace the outdated heating system with air source heat pumps and to insulate and larch clad the remaining hall walls.
New Galloway Golf Club	£9,000.00	To contribute to the purchase of replacement ride on electric golf buggies
Springholm Playgroup	£658.00	To fund planters, hanging baskets, growing materials and equipment for use by Springholm Playgroup.
Stewartry Rugby Football Club	£13,000.00	To contribute to the costs of building of a 45ft X 30ft extension to the current gym facility to provide more space for class-based exercise