

## **RURAL PANEL**

Minutes of meeting in the McCandlish Hall, Straiton,  
on 21st November 2013 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Councillors Alec Clark (Chair), Andy Campbell, Ann Galbraith, William J. Grant, and Alec Oattes.

Apologies: Councillors Bill Grant and Helen Moonie.

Attending: C. Monaghan, Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs; D. Sherlock, Improvement Manager; C. Coull, Senior Enterprise Project Development and Funding Officer; A. Blair, Tourism and Promotion Development Officer; T. Simpson, Principal Accountant; M. Keirs, Senior Accountant; and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

### **1. Introductory Remarks.**

The Chair welcomed those present to this Panel meeting.

### **2. Declarations of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Panel in terms of Council Standing Order No. 17 and the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

### **3. Minutes of previous meeting.**

The minutes of the special meeting of 19th September 2013 (issued) were submitted and approved.

### **4. Rural Communities Fund Budgetary Control 2013/14 – Position Statement at 31st October 2013.**

There was submitted a report (issued) ([link attached](#)) of 14th November 2013 by the Acting Executive Director – Resources, Governance and Organisation advising of the performance of the Rural Communities Fund's expenditure against its budget for the period to 31st October 2013 (Period 7).

**Decided:** to note the contents of the report.

**Councillor Campbell joined the meeting during consideration of the undernoted item.**

**5. Applications for Financial Support.**

There was submitted a report (issued) ([link attached](#)) of 14th November 2013 by the Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs advising that rural grant applications had been submitted as undernoted.

The Senior Enterprise Project Development and Funding Officer provided responses to questions from Members of the Panel relating to the undernoted grant requests.

**Decided:** to award grant as follows:-

<b><u>Organisation</u></b>	<b><u>Summary of Application</u></b>	<b><u>Panel Decision</u></b>
Dundonald Bowling Club	To seek funding towards the refurbishment work at the Bowling Club creating additional sporting activity space.	Approve award of £15,000, subject to all other funding being in place;
Fisherton Primary School and Nursery Class Parent Council	To seek funding towards the cost associated with the installation of a fitness trail and multi-purpose sports area.	Approve award of £4,915, subject to all other funding being in place; and
Carrick Community Councils' Forum	To seek funding towards the design, production printing and distribution of an A3 folded leaflet promoting the Carrick area as a tourism destination.	Approve award of £4,000.

**6. Ayrshire Rural 21 Progress.**

The was submitted a report (issued) ([link attached](#)) of 14th November 2013 by the Head of Policy, Community Planning and Public Affairs advising of the Ayrshire Rural 21 programme, which was LEADER funded and supported community action planning in twenty-one communities throughout Ayrshire.

Clarification was sought and provided by the Improvement Manager as to where the twelve communities were based that were engaged in the South Ayrshire element of the programme.

**Decided:** to note the contents of the report.

7. **Rural Study: Rural Ayrshire and the Isles of Arran and the Cumbraes.**

The was submitted a report (issued) ([link attached](#)) of 6th November 2013 by the Executive Director – Economy, Neighbourhood and Environment providing an overview of the Rural Study: Rural Ayrshire and the Isles of Arran and Cumbrae October 2013, which provided an economic baseline of the rural area, reviewed the current strategic policy context and identified development opportunities and priorities.

Having heard the Chair, the Tourism and Promotion Development Officer advised that this Study would help inform the development of the local development strategy for Ayrshire under the new LEADER programme.

**Decided:**

- (1) to note the contents of the report; and
- (2) to approve the publication of the report and appendices on South Ayrshire Council's website on [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/ruralayrshire](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/ruralayrshire)

The meeting ended at 7.35 p.m.

*At the conclusion of the meeting, there followed an informal discussion session with the members of the public present.*