

Auchterarder Common Good Fund Committee – 27 February 2013**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Report by Depute Director (Environment)**

The report asks Auchterarder Common Good Fund Committee to consider applications for financial assistance.

1. RECOMMENDATION

1.1 The Committee is requested to approve the recommendations in the report.

2. APPLICATION**2.1 Merry-Go-Round Playgroup**

2.1.1 An application has been received from the Merry-Go-Round Playgroup seeking a grant towards an Easter trip to Lendrick Muir on 5 March. There are 26 children between the ages of 2 – 5 years. The total costs of the trip are £156 and the Playgroup has applied for £156 as a non-recurring grant. It is recommended that Auchterarder Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £78 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10: Contribution of 50% towards the actual costs). The grant will contribute to promote social inclusion.

Recommendation

2.1.2 Merry-Go-Round Playgroup be awarded £78 towards the costs of the Easter trip to Lendrick Muir.

2.2 Auchterarder in Bloom

2.2.1 An application has been received from Auchterarder in Bloom seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing 2 x 3 tier Amberol self-watering floral fountains. The total cost of the fountains is £901 and the group has applied for £901 as a non-recurring grant. It is recommended that Auchterarder in Bloom be awarded a grant of £450 (50%) in line with guidance (see Appendix 1 - Criteria 4: Acquisition of equipment - consideration on merits up to a maximum of 50%). The grant will contribute to enhance public space.

Recommendation

2.2.2 Auchterarder in Bloom be awarded a grant of £450 towards the purchase of self-watering floral fountains.

2.3 First Response Scotland Auchterarder

2.3.1 Auchterarder Common Good Fund agreed a grant of £9,000 towards the purchase of a vehicle (Art. 287/12 refers). On 26 November 2012, the applicant informed us, that due to delays linked to specific vehicle technical requirements, it took longer to raise the necessary funding and it was not possible to purchase the vehicle on time to start to operate. As a transitional arrangement, the group entered into a lease agreement which was thought to be short term. However, the agreement was for 4 years with strict and onerous breaking clauses. The applicant is requesting the purpose of the grant be changed from the purchase of the vehicle to a lease of a vehicle for 4 years. The total costs of the 4 year lease is £18,950. It is recommended that the Committee consider the request from First Response Scotland Auchterarder.

Recommendation

2.3.2 The request from First Response Scotland Auchterarder be considered by the Committee.

3. CONSULTATION

3.1 The Head of Democratic Services and the Head of Finance have been consulted.

4. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

4.1 The recommendation contained within this report is in accordance with the priorities of Auchterarder Common Good Fund's criteria for financial assistance.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATION

5.1 The recommendation contained within this report will be funded from the contributions to organisations provision for 2012/13.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

6.1 An equality impact assessment needs to be carried out for functions, policies, procedures or strategies in relation to race, gender and disability and other relevant protected characteristics. This supports the Council's legal requirement to comply with the duty to assess and consult on relevant new and existing policies.

6.2 The function, policy, procedure or strategy presented in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome: No further action is required as the items summarised in the committee report do not require further assessment as they do not have an impact on people's wellbeing or equality protected characteristics.

7. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all qualifying plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS). The matters presented in this report were considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and no further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

**BARBARA RENTON
DEPUTE DIRECTOR (ENVIRONMENT)**

Background Papers – 3 applications for financial assistance

Contact Officer: Serge Merone Ext: 475536
31 January 2013

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COMMON GOOD FUNDS WITHIN PERTH AND KINROSS AREA CRITERIA

Within the boundary of the relevant common good area and if funding is available, applications will be considered from individuals either in full time education or of senior citizen status and from groups whose members qualify on the same basis or which are operating within the same boundary.

1. Christmas lighting - Firework displays up to a maximum of 50% of the total costs
2. Organisation of events/games/festivals up to a maximum of 50% of the total costs
3. Prizes at events/games/festivals
4. Acquisition of equipment - consideration on merits up to a maximum of 50%
5. Capital grants for provision/improvement of facilities - consideration on merits up to a maximum of 50% (the facilities must be available to the general public)
6. School/youth exchanges
7. School prizes
8. Voluntary work overseas
 - 6 months or more: £100 - **Perth Common Good Fund only:** up to £400 per individual
 - 1 – 5 months: £100 - **Perth Common Good Fund only:** up to £250 per individual
9. Attendance at summer schools/events
 - Less than 1 month but more than 2 weeks: £100 **Perth Common Good Fund only:** up to £150 per individual
 - One/two weeks: up to £100 per individual
10. Excursions/Parties (up to 2 per year per group)
 - Contribution of 50% towards the actual costs. Each organisation is allowed 2 applications during the course of a financial year. **Perth Common Good Fund only:** overall grant to be capped at up to £7 per individual with an overall maximum grant of up to £700.

11. Visits by and from School/Youth/Sport/Music groups

- Contributions of up to £600 for groups less than 20 individuals and up to £1,000 for groups over 20 individuals for youth groups, senior citizen or vulnerable groups for activities exceeding 1 day. **Perth Common Good Fund only and for schools:** Contribution of 50% of the costs up to a maximum of £300 for each young person who due to financial difficulties are unable to participate in an extra curriculum school activity outwith the boundaries of Perth, exceeding 1 day and organised by a school. It will be the responsibility of each school to state the purpose of the extra curriculum school activity and identify such young person and advise the Common Good Fund accordingly.

12. Any purpose where it can be demonstrated that there is a benefit to the community of the common good area

The following is not eligible:

- Assistance with further or higher education fees
- Charity based sponsored walk/cycle/canoe etc.
- Town twinning activities other than those qualifying through the age/occupation criteria
- Organisations with religious/political associations where there are restrictions on usage or availability
- Core funding of the Voluntary sector
- Assistance with rental of premises