

**PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE**

1 May 2013

**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Report by Depute Director (Environment)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

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

**1. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 Perth and Kinross Council owns land and property which forms part of the common good of the former burghs in Perth & Kinross and has a statutory duty in terms of section 15 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland ) Act 1994 to administer this land and property “having regard to the interests of the inhabitants” of those former burghs. This duty also applies to the administration of the associated common good funds.
- 1.2 The Common Good Funds have traditionally demonstrated their support to local residents and organisations by distributing grant. These grant awards support individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community based activities.

**2. PROPOSALS**Perth City Club

- 2.1 An application has been received from the Perth City Club seeking a grant towards their summer outing on Monday 27 May 2013. The total costs for the 100 members amounts to £815. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011, (£728), in 2011/12 (£875) and in 2012/13 (£560). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £408 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.2 Perth City Club be awarded a grant of £408 towards their summer outing.

Embroiderers' Guild Perth Branch

- 2.3 An application has been received from the Embroiderers' Guild Perth Branch seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing embroiderer books for their members' library. The total costs for the books amounts to £200. The applicant has applied for the full amount. The organisation has benefitted from

the Fund in 2010/2011 (£985). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £100 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

#### Recommendation

- 2.4 Embroiderers' Guild Perth Branch be awarded a grant of £100 towards the purchase of books.

#### Perth Highland Games

- 2.5 An application has been received from Perth Highland Games seeking a grant towards the cost of Highland Games particularly the Pipe Band Competition at which will be held on 11 August 2013. The costs of the overall event are around £27,000. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£2,000) and 2012/2013 (£1,600). The Highland Games Committee has indicated that the award from Perth Common Good Fund will be reflected within the programme for the day. It is recommended to award a grant of £1,600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2) and in line with last year level of award. The grant will contribute to promote events and tourism.

#### Recommendation

- 2.6 Perth Highland Games Committee be awarded financial assistance of £1,600 towards the costs Perth Highland Games particularly the Pipe Band Competition on 11 August 2013.

#### Perth Chamber Music Society

- 2.7 An application has been received from Perth Chamber Music Society seeking a grant towards the cost of 2 banner stands. The total costs for the stands amounts to £500. The Society has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £250 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote events and tourism.

#### Recommendation

- 2.8 Perth Chamber Music Society be awarded a grant of £250 towards the purchase of 2 banner stands.

#### Fair City Singers

- 2.9 An application has been received from the Fair City Singers seeking a grant towards the cost of taking 27 young members under the age of 17 on a tour of London. The members will take part in various lunchtime and evening concerts. The total costs amount to £16,065. The applicant has applied for £1,000. The Fair City Singers have benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£1,000). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee

award a grant of £1,000 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 11). The grant will contribute to promote Perth City and life long learning.

#### Recommendation

- 2.10 Fair City Singers be awarded £1,000 towards the costs of the London Tour.

#### Letham Old People's Club

- 2.11 An application has been received from Letham Old People's Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their summer outing to Livingstone on the 4 June 2013. The total costs for approximately 100 members amount to £1,137. The applicant is requesting the full amount. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£638), in 2011/12 (£595) and in 2012/2013 (£525). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £569 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

#### Recommendation

- 2.12 Letham Old Peoples Club be awarded a grant of £569 towards the costs of their Summer outing.

#### Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service

- 2.13 An application has been received from the Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service seeking a grant towards the cost of the Carer Week 2013 workshop and ceilidh. The total costs for 175 carers amounts to £2,062 (workshop £1,405) and ceilidh (£657). The applicant is requesting the full amount. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£1,000), in 2011/12 (£280) and in 2012/2013 (£700). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,031 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

#### Recommendation

- 2.14 Perth & Kinross Association of Voluntary Service be awarded a grant of £1,031 towards the Carer Week 2013.

#### Perth & Kinross Society for the Blind

- 2.15 An application has been received from the Perth & Kinross Society for the Blind seeking a grant towards the cost of their two summer outings, the destinations have not been decided yet. The total costs for 70 members based on last year's costs amounts to approximately £4,000. The applicant is requesting £980. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£518). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £490 for each of the two outings in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### Recommendation

- 2.16 Perth & Kinross Society for the Blind be awarded a grant of £490 for each of the two Summer outings.

### Young person

- 2.17 An application has been received from a young person seeking a grant towards the cost of attending the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland Senior Orchestra (age range 11-18). The total costs for the courses amounts to £795 which include rehearsals, transportation and courses. The total number of days for the course is 11 (preparatory weekend 2 days, Spring course and concert 4 days, Summer course and concert 5 days). The applicant is requesting £595. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£100). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £100 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### Recommendation

- 2.18 Young Person be awarded a grant of £100 towards the course costs at the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland.

### Perth Festival of the Arts

- 2.19 An application has been received from Perth Festival of the Arts seeking a grant towards the costs of new banners for Festival 2013. The total cost of signs and banners amounts to £4,036. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£625), in 2011/2012 (£630) and in 2012/2013 (£650). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £2,018 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### Recommendation

- 2.20 Perth Festival of the Arts be awarded £2,018 towards the purchase of new banners.

### St John's Academy

- 2.21 An application has been received from St John's Academy seeking a grant towards their Romanian Mercy Project. The Project aims to send a team of 12 adults to Romania to help children in hospital between 27 June and 3 July 2013. The total costs of travel and accommodation are £3,000. The applicant is requesting £1,000. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund for this type of project before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 11). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

## Recommendation

- 2.22 St John's Academy be awarded £600 towards the travel and accommodation costs to Romania.

### **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 3.1 The Committee is request to approve the recommendations in the report.

#### **Author(s)**

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#### **Approved**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Signature</b>
Barbara Renton	Depute Director (Environment)	Barbara Renton
<b>Date</b> 19 April 2013		

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes / None</b>
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	<b>Yes</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>Yes</b>
Workforce	<b>No</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>No</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>Yes</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>Yes</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>Yes</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>None</b>
Risk	<b>None</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>None</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>None</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan

1.1 The draft Perth & Kinross Community Plan 2013- 2023 sets out the five strategic objectives. This report relates to:

- Giving every child the best start in life.
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives.

1.2 The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the priorities of Perth Common Good Fund's criteria for financial assistance.

#### Corporate Plan

1.3 This report supports the Council's Corporate Plan 2013-18 objectives of:

- Giving every child the best start in life
- Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and

## **2. Resource Implications**

### Financial

- 2.1 The Head of Finance has been consulted and has indicated agreement with the proposals. The recommendation contained within this report will be funded from the contributions to organisations provision for 2013/14.

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality. 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.
- 3.2 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.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 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.

### Sustainability

- 3.4 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions. The proposals in this report will encourage social equity and opportunities for cultural, leisure, community, sport and other activities.

**4. Consultation**

Internal

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

**5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

11 applications for financial assistance

**6. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Common Good Fund criteria

## 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