

Perth Common Good Fund Committee – 26 June 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

- 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 are made to individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community based activities. For each application, the level of previous grant awarded is listed, but variances between years could be due to the numbers of participants.

2. PROPOSALS**Bowerswell Social Club**

- 2.1 An application has been received from the Bowerswell Social Club seeking a grant towards their outing on Saturday 2 November 2013. The total costs for 30 members amounts to £1,070. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£375), in 2011/12 (£280) and in 2012/13 (£280). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £210 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.2 Bowerswell Social Club be awarded a grant of £210 towards their summer outing.

Headway Perth and Kinross

- 2.3 An application has been received from Headway Perth and Kinross seeking a grant towards their summer outing on Saturday 24 August 2013. The total costs for the 49 members amounts to £1,460. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£568), in 2011/12 (£343) and in 2012/13 (£343).

It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £343 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.4 Headway Perth and Kinross be awarded a grant of £343 towards their summer outing.

Moncreiffe Tea Dancers

- 2.5 An application has been received from Moncreiffe Tea Dancers seeking a grant towards the cost of their dances which are held throughout the year (220 people). The total costs for the year amounts to £844. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£410), in 2011/12 (£455) and in 2012/13 (£455). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £422 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.6 Moncreiffe Tea Dances be awarded a grant of £422 towards the dances for the year 2013/14

St John's Academy Parent Council

- 2.7 An application has been received from St John's Academy Parent Council seeking a grant towards this year's pupil awards ceremony on 19 June 2013. The total costs amount to £1,300. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£500) and in 2012/13 (£500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £500 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 7). If the grant is not approved the applicant will have to fund the costs from its own resources. The grant will contribute to school prizes.

Recommendation

- 2.8 St John's Academy Parent Council be awarded a grant of £500 towards the prizes and medals.

St John's Kirk of Perth (Carillon)

- 2.9 An application has been received from the St John's Kirk of Perth seeking a grant towards the cost of 21 carillon recitals from Easter 2013 to March 2014. Some dates are fixed such as Perth Festival of the Arts (May 2013), Kirking of the Council (2 June), Mercat Cross Remembrance Service (8 Nov), Remembrance Sunday, Remembrance Day, Switch on of Christmas Lights, Lessons and Carol Service, Provost Burns Supper in the Kirk (31st Jan). These dates have been chosen to build on and add value to existing events. For example, one recital was organised on 19 May 2013 during Perth Festival of the Arts and was followed by bagpipes linking to concerts at St John's Kirk. Some dates have been kept flexible to fit with other specific civic events or when opportunities arise. Discussions have been taking place to record the

carillon recitals which could then be used on other occasions. As such, it is anticipated that there will be more carillon this year to ensure a wide selection of recordings, with the intention of reducing the number paid for future years.

- 2.10 The total costs amount to £2,940. The Kirk has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£950), in 2011/12 (£1,250 for 11 recitals) and in 2012/13 (£1,875 for 15 recitals). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £2,940 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 12). The grant will contribute to promote the tourism sector particularly events and culture.

Recommendation

- 2.11 St John's Kirk be awarded £2,940 towards the costs of Carillon recitals.

Wednesday Tea Dance

- 2.12 An application has been received from Wednesday Tea Dance seeking a grant towards the cost of their summer weekend outing to Dumfries from 18 – 20 August 2013. The total costs for approximately 27 members amount to £3,932. The applicant is requesting 50%. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£226), in 2011/12 (£118) and in 2012/2013 (£154). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £189 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.13 Wednesday Tea Dance be awarded a grant of £189 towards the costs of their summer weekend outing.

North Inch Bowling Club and Petanque

- 2.14 An application has been received from the North Inch Bowling Club and Petanque seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing sports lockers. The total costs amount to £2,267. The applicant is requesting £500. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£7,000) and in 2011/12 (£750). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £500 for the purchase of sports lockers in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.15 North Inch Bowling Club and Petanque be awarded a grant of £500 towards the purchase of sports lockers.

Young person

- 2.16 An application has been received from a young person seeking a grant towards the cost of undertaking four weeks volunteering (teaching English and computer skills to children) in South East Asia (Cambodia) with the Globalteer, a UK registered charity. The total costs for the course amounts to £2,200. The

applicant is requesting £750. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £250 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 8). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.17 Young Person be awarded a grant of £250 towards volunteering in South East Asia.

Kids of Letham Association

- 2.18 An application has been received from the Kids of Letham Association seeking a grant towards the costs of their summer trip on 6 August 2013 (45 people) to East Links Family Park in Dunbar. The total cost of trip amounts to £660. The applicant is requesting £500. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £315 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.19 Kids of Letham Association be awarded £315 towards their summer trip.

Saints Table Tennis Club

- 2.20 An application has been received from Saints Table Tennis Club seeking a grant to purchase equipment for a new junior club running at Perth High School. The total costs of the equipment amounts to £910. The applicant is requesting the full amount. The applicant has not previously benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £455 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.21 Saints Table Tennis Club be awarded £455 towards the cost of purchasing equipment.

Young Person

- 2.22 An application has been received from a young person seeking a grant towards the cost of attending the Scottish Youth Theatre course for 3 weeks in Glasgow (4-25 July 2013). The total costs for the course amounts to £675. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £150 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.23 Young Person be awarded a grant of £150 towards the fees for the Scottish Youth Theatre Course.

Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table

2.24 An application has been received from Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table seeking a grant towards the cost of Perth Fireworks and Bonfire Display on 5 November 2013. The total costs amounts to £20,000 (£15,000 for 25 minute PyroMusical Fireworks display, £3,000 for stadium quality PA System and £2,000 towards other expenses (First aiders, public entertainment licence, Heartland FM, entertainers, fencing, safety barriers, transport, portaloos and supplies for volunteers). In addition, the applicant will receive ‘in kind’ contributions estimated at £10,000 from local businesses (free use of equipment, reduced rental rates, VAT discount on fireworks) and volunteers’ time. The event provides a safe centralised and accessible display for the people of Perth. It is estimated that the event attracted 7,000 spectators in 2012 and the organisers hopes to grow this event with Perth and Kinross Council and local communities to deliver a major festival that rivals any in Scotland. The event also helps to raise funding which is distributed to local voluntary groups. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/2011 (£8,500), in 2011/12 (£10,000) and in 2012/13 (£10,000). The applicant is requesting £20,000. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £10,000 (50% of costs) which is in line with the guidance for the Fund in relation to support for events and festivals and which is consistent with previous years (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to raising Perth’s profile and promoting events and festivals while supporting one of the key themes of the Perth City Plan, (“Confident, Vibrant Perth”).

Recommendation

2.25 Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table be awarded a grant of £10,000 towards the costs Perth Fireworks and Bonfire Display on 5 November 2013.

3 RECOMMENDATION

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

Author(s)

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Serge Merone	Senior Regeneration projects Officer	Pullar House – 35 Kinnoull Street Perth - Ext. 75536

Approved

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

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

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

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The proposals will contribute to the Community Plan's aim of safe, healthy and inclusive communities and the outcome of communities will have improved quality of life. The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the priorities of Perth Common Good Fund's criteria for financial assistance.

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 The proposals will contribute to the Corporate Plan's objectives of developing educated, responsible and informed citizens and the outcome of people are ready for life and work. The recommendations contained within this report are in accordance with the priorities of Perth Common Good Fund's criteria.

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 groups. 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

12 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