

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**Perth Common Good Fund Committee****17 December 2014****Applications for Financial Assistance****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 allow 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. Retrospective applications are not accepted. However, if an application is received before the activities take place and cannot be considered at the following meeting because the papers have already been issued, the application will be considered at the following next meeting even if the activities have taken place between meetings. Therefore the Committee decision will only be known after the activities have taken place, and if the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to pay for the activities from its own funds.

2. PROPOSALS**Perth Film Society**

- 2.1 An application has been received from the Perth Film Society seeking a grant towards the hire of the Concert Hall (Norrie Miller Studio) for their 2014/15 Season. The total costs amount to £2,634. The applicant has applied for £300. The organisation has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £300 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to promote cultural activities and social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.2 Perth Film Club be awarded a grant of £300 towards the costs of the hire of the Concert Hall.

Perth Academy

- 2.3 An application has been received from Perth Academy seeking a grant towards the costs of sending 4 (S1) pupils on a trip to Northern France and Belgium from the 29 May to 4 June 2015. They will practice French, visit a French bakery, local markets, sea-life centre as well as other experiencing sporting and cultural activities such as the visit to Ypres War graves in Belgium. The total costs for the trip amount to £500 per pupil. The applicant has applied for £300 for each of the 4 pupils who due to financial difficulties would be unable to participate. The applicant benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£900), in 2012/13 (£900) and in 2013/14 (£900). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,200 (£300 for each pupil) in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 11). The grant will contribute to promote learning and social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.4 Perth Academy be awarded a grant of £1,200 (£300 for each pupil) towards the costs of sending 4 pupils on a trip to France and Belgium.

Headway Perth & Kinross

- 2.5 An application has been received from Headway Perth and Kinross (based at Gateway Centre, North Methven Street which provides support to brain injured people, their families and carers), seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas outing (Perth Pantomime and meal at Perth Concert Hall) on 13 December 2014. The total costs for 43 members amounts to £1,318. The applicant is requesting £243. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£385), in 2012/2013 (£385) and in 2013/14 (£427). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £243 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities through its own funds. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.6 Headway Perth and Kinross be awarded a grant of £243 towards the costs of their Christmas outing.

Our Lady's Afternoon Club

- 2.7 An application has been received from Our Lady's Afternoon Club (based at Letham Social Club providing social activities to residents) seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Lunch for 20 people at the Salutation

Hotel on 11 December 2014. The total costs amount to £280. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£182), in 2012/13 (175) and in 2013/14 (£140). It is recommended to award a grant of £140 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities through its own funds. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.8 Our Lady's Afternoon Club be awarded a grant of £140 towards the costs of their Christmas Lunch.

Perth Sailing Club

- 2.9 An application has been received from Perth Sailing Club) seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing a rigid inflatable rescue boat and equipment (winch for recovery, VHF Radio). The current old hard keel boat is no longer fit for purpose. The new boat will benefit the 70 club members, but also the wider community as it will assist The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service as it will be called upon in case of incidents. It will also be used to provide training and will help the Club to apply to become a training centre recognised by the Royal Yachting Association. It will also support the Club's ambitions to provide extra-curricular activities to local pupils. The total costs amount to £13,496. The applicant has not benefitted from the Fund within the last 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £6,748 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote leisure and sporting activities and safety.

Recommendation

- 2.10 Perth Sailing Club be awarded £6,748 towards the costs purchasing a rigid inflatable rescue boat.

People with a Mission Ministries

- 2.11 An application has been received from the People with a Mission Ministries (based at the National Christian Outreach Centre) seeking a grant towards the cost of their Senior Citizens 2014 Christmas Appeal. Over 1,300 senior citizens in Perth receive Christmas gift bags last year for an estimated value of £14,000 (£11 a bag) and the organisation has set a target of 1,400 for this year. Beneficiaries are identified through social workers, voluntary organisations and care homes. The total costs are estimated around £15,000 and the organisation is requesting a grant of £2,000. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£1,500), in 2012/13 (£1,500) and in 2013/14 (£1,500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,500 in line with the guidance see (Appendix 1- Criteria 12). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to promote social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.12 People with a Mission Ministries be awarded a grant of £1,500 towards the costs of Christmas Gift Bags for senior citizens in Perth.

Bowerswell Social Group

- 2.13 An application has been received from Bowerswell Social Group (located at Bowerswell House in Kinnoull providing social activities to residents) seeking a grant towards their Christmas Party for 40 people on 12 December 2014. The total costs amount to £700 and the organisation is requesting a grant of £350. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£280), in 2012/13 (£315) and in 2013/14 (£280). It is recommended to award a grant of £280 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.14 Bowerswell Social Group be awarded a grant of £280 towards their Christmas Party.

Dalreoch Friendship Club

- 2.15 An application has been received from Dalreoch Friendship Club (located at Dalreoch Place in Letham providing social activities to residents) seeking a grant towards their Christmas Outing for 15 people on Friday 5 December. The total costs amount to £188. The applicant has not benefitted from the Fund in last 3 years. It is recommended to award a grant of £94 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 – 50% of the costs maximum). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.16 Dalreoch Friendship Club be awarded a grant of £94 towards their Christmas Outing.

Perth Student

- 2.17 An application has been received from a Perth Student seeking a grant towards competing in the Field Hockey Scotland Senior Ladies Team and Under 21 European Championships next year. The total costs amount to £1,170. The applicant has applied for £100. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended to 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 Perth Student be awarded a grant of £100 towards the cost of competing in Scotland Field Hockey and Under 21 European Championships.

Letham Old Peoples Club

- 2.19 An application has been received from Letham Old People's Club (based at Letham Community Club providing social activities to residents) seeking a grant towards their Christmas Meal for 75 people at Letham Club on 9 December 2014. The total costs amount to £900. The applicant is asking for £900. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£700), in 2012/13 (£665) and in 2013/14 (£560). It is recommended to award a grant of £450 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 – 50% of the costs maximum). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.20 Letham Old People's Club be awarded a grant of £450 towards the cost of their Christmas Meal.

Perth City Club

- 2.21 An application has been received from Perth City Club (based at Perth Blind Centre providing social activities to residents) seeking a grant towards their Christmas Lunch for 60 people at the Salutation Hotel on 1 December 2014. The total costs amount to £840. The applicant has benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£518), in 2012/13 (£518) and in 2013/14 (£420). It is recommended to award a grant of £420 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.22 Perth City Club be awarded a grant of £420 towards the cost of their Christmas Lunch.

Men and Children Matter

- 2.23 An application has been received from Men and Children Matter Group seeking a grant towards the cost of family oriented activities (which includes different sports, cooking classes, ice skating, fishing, crazy golf and bowling) in the North Perth area from December 2015 until April 2015. The group is based at North Perth Community School/Goodlyburn Primary School and aims to provide opportunities to children and a significant male (dad, stepdad, grandfather, uncle or older brother) to get involved in their lives. The total costs amount to £1,320 for 10 children. The applicant is asking for £1,320. The applicant has never benefitted from the fund. It is recommended to award

a grant of £600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 11). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.24 The Men and Children Matter Group be awarded £600 towards various activities.

Perth Pupil

- 2.25 An application has been received from a Perth pupil seeking a grant towards the purchase of a new competition mountain bike to allow him to participate nationally and internationally. The individual has cycled for both team GB and Scotland and is a member of the British Cycling Olympic Development Programme. As a junior, he has competed in two World cups, European Championships and won the British XC MTB series under 18. His ambitions are to compete in the next Commonwealth Games and at the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. The total costs amount to £4,000. The applicant has applied for £1,000. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended to award a grant of £1000 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote sport activities and Perth.

Recommendation

- 2.26 Perth Pupil be awarded £1000 towards the purchase of competition mountain bike.

Perth Pupil

- 2.27 An application has been received from a Perth pupil who attends Glasgow School of Dance seeking a grant towards the travel costs of attending the Scottish Ballet and have the opportunity to participate in the 'Nutcracker' production (December 2014-February 2015). The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £150 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). If the grant is not awarded, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own fund. The grant will contribute to promote social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.28 Perth pupil be awarded a grant of £150 towards the costs of attending the Scottish Ballet, and participating in the Nutcracker production.

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	Date
Barbara Renton	Depute Director (Environment)	24 November 2014

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion, only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01738 475000.

You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

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 2014/15.

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, the Head of Finance and the Head of Legal Services have been consulted.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

14 applications for financial assistance

3. APPENDICES

Perth Financial Assistance - Appendix 1

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