

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE**13 May 2015****APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Report by Depute Director (Environment)**

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 fund the activities from its own funds.

2. PROPOSALS**MacMillan Cancer Support – Perth Committee**

- 2.1 An application has been received from the Perth Committee of MacMillan Cancer Support seeking a grant towards the cost of hiring a room for 3 days for a Clothes Fayre in the Royal George Hotel from Thursday 7 – 9 May 2015. The total hire costs amount to £240. The applicant has applied for the full amount. The organisation benefitted from the Fund 2014/2015 (£300) for the same event. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £120 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.2 MacMillan Cancer Support be awarded a grant of £120 towards their event in May 2015.

Letham White 2003's Football Team

- 2.3 An application has been received from Letham White 2003's Football Team (part of Letham Football Club) seeking a grant towards the costs of purchasing rain jackets, training strips and tracksuits for 15 (11 year old) players. The team is sponsored by China China who provide football strips (but are unable to fund the whole cost of the training kits). The total costs for the clothing amounts to £750. The applicant has applied for £300. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant up to a maximum of £300 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4) and the Club's request. The Club be advised that the ownership of the kit is retained with them and not the players. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.4 Letham White 2003's Football Team be awarded a grant of £300 towards the costs of football clothing.

Perth and Kinross District Scout Council

- 2.5 An application has been received from the Perth and Kinross District Scout Council seeking a grant towards the cost of holding a joint camp with Scouts from Aschaffenburg, Germany from Wednesday 5 – Tuesday 11 August 2015 at the Meggernie Scout Centre, Glenlyon. The total costs for 42 scouts (15 from Perth, 9 from Perthshire and Kinross and 18 from Germany) to attend the camp amounts to £5,052. The applicant is requesting £1,500. The organisation benefitted from the Fund in 2011/12 (£250) and 2013/14 (£15,000). 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

- 2.6 Perth and Kinross District Scouts be awarded a grant of £600 towards the cost of their joint camp event at Meggernie Scout Centre, Glenlyon.

Perth Academy Pupils

- 2.7 An application has been received from two Perth Academy pupils seeking a grant towards the cost of attending a four week expedition to Ecuador, which comprises voluntary work, from 26 June – 25 July 2015. The total costs per pupil amounts to £4,075. The applicants have never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended to award a grant of £500 (£250 per pupil) in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 8). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.8 Perth Academy pupils be awarded a grant of £500 (£250 each) towards the costs of their voluntary work.

Sweet Street Dance Crew

- 2.9 An application has been received from the Sweet Street Dance Crew (based in Gray Street) seeking a grant towards 23 young dancers from Perth participating in a three day World Street Dance Championships event in Glasgow from 28 – 30 August 2015. The total costs amount to £3,220 which includes entrance fees, transport costs and new outfits. The applicant is requesting £2,000. The organisation has never benefitted from the fund. 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 social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.10 Sweet Street Dance Crew be awarded £1,000 towards the costs of their three day dance event.

Breathe Easy Perthshire

- 2.11 An application has been received from Breathe Easy seeking a grant towards the cost of their Summer Outing for 30 people to Anstruther on 21 May 2015. The total costs amounts to £484. The applicant is requesting £240. The Society has benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£210), 2013/2014 (£410) and 2014/15 (£350). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £210 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). If the grant is not awarded for the summer outing, the applicant will have to fund the activities from its own funds. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.12 Breathe Easy be awarded a grant of £210 towards the cost of their summer outing for 30 people to Anstruther on 21 May 2015.

Starter Packs Perth

- 2.13 An application has been received from Starter Packs Perth (based at Riverview Business Park, Friarton Road, Perth) seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing new duvets, pillows and basic culinary items. The group helps previously homeless individuals and families on low incomes who have been given the tenancy of a house or flat, but who do not have basic household goods. The packs are requested by agencies including Perth & Kinross Council's Housing Advice Centre which accounts for over half of the referrals. The total number of referrals in 2014 amounted to 326. The group are constantly fundraising but the level of demand means that their resources are diminishing and at present these are being at risk of completely used up. The total costs amount to £14,004. The group has never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund award a grant of £4,500 (which is 50% of the claimable expenses) in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). (The claimable expenses are for the purchase on new duvets and pillows £7,500 and additional pack items for such items as crockery, cutlery etc. of £1,500). The grant will contribute to promote and social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.14 Starter Packs Perth be awarded a grant of £4,500 towards the cost of purchasing duvet, pillows and other culinary items.

VisionPK

- 2.15 An application has been received from VisionPK (formerly known as Perth & Kinross Society for the Blind) seeking a grant towards the cost of their summer outings in June and September (destinations are currently being considered) for 70 members.

Based on last year's costs for their summer outings they anticipate the total cost to be in the region of £2,000 per outing. The applicant benefitted from the fund in 2012/13 (£518) and 2013/14 (£980). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £980 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). (This is paid at the maximum of £7 per individual for 70 people per trip £490). The request is for two trips hence the total grant of £980. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.16 VisionPK be awarded a grant of £980 towards the cost of their summer outings for 70 members.

Wednesday Tea Dance

- 2.17 An application has been received from Wednesday Tea Dance seeking a grant towards the cost of their summer outing weekend to Dumfries from the 16 – 18 August. The total costs for the 24 members amounts to £3,818. The applicant is requesting £954. The Society benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£417), 2013/2014 (£469) and 2014/15 (£476). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £168 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). (This is paid at the maximum of £7 per individual for 24 people per trip £168). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.18 Wednesday Tea Dance be awarded a grant of £168 towards the cost of their Summer Outing Weekend for 24 people to Dumfries.

Perth City Club

- 2.19 An application has been received from Perth City Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their bus trip to Ayr on Monday 25 May 2015. The total costs for the 35 members amounts to £640. The applicant is requesting £640. The Club benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£1,078), 2013/2014 (£828) and 2014/15 (£700) towards bus trips and Christmas parties. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £245 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). (This is paid at

the maximum of £7 per individual for 35 people per trip £245). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.20 Perth City Club be awarded a grant of £245 towards the cost of their bus trip for 35 people to Ayr.

Horsecross Arts Ltd

- 2.21 An application has been received from Horsecross Arts Ltd seeking a grant towards their 10th Anniversary “There’s something for ALL at Perth Concert Hall” from 12 – 13 September 2015. To mark the occasion they are planning an extended programme of community and outreach projects and workshops that will take place all over Perth and Kinross from June to September. Professional artists will engage with Perthshire communities through a wide variety of theatre, song, dance and visual art workshops. These workshops will include a variety of groups, School’s song writing competition, Horsecross Voices does Musicals, Street Theatre Project, Choreography Project, Graffiti Project and Horsecross Summer Schools. The total costs amount to £20,382. The applicant is requesting £10,191 (50%). The applicant benefitted from the Fund in 2014/15 (£575) towards the National Theatre Connections Festival. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £10,191 (50%) in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

- 2.22 Horsecross Arts Limited be awarded a grant of £10,191 (50%) towards the cost of their 10th Anniversary event.

3. RECOMMENDATION

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

Author(s)

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Depute Director (Environment)	24 April 2015

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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 2015/16.

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

11 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