

**PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE****24 February 2016****APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Report by Director (Environment)**

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider 7 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 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****Perth Academy Pupil**

- 2.1 An application has been received from a Perth Academy pupil seeking a grant towards the cost of taking part in a World Challenge trip to India in June 2017. The trip duration is from 23 June – 23 July. The total cost of the trip is £3,580 and the applicant has applied for a grant of £250. The applicant has never previously benefited from the fund. It is recommended that a grant of £250 is awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 8). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

**Recommendation**

- 2.2 Perth Academy pupil be awarded a grant of £250 towards the cost of the World Challenge trip to India in June 2017.

### **Perth Academy Pupil**

- 2.3 An application has been received from a Perth Academy pupil seeking a grant towards the cost of taking part in the 2016 Battlefields trip to France and Belgium, visiting The Somme, Ypres and Vimy Ridge. The duration of the trip is from 19-24 May 2016. The total cost of the trip is £449 and the applicant has applied for a grant of £225. The applicant has never previously benefited from the fund. It is recommended that a grant of £100 is awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### **Recommendation**

- 2.4 Perth Academy pupil be awarded a grant of £100 towards the cost of the Battlefields trip in 2016.

### **Perth Academy Pupils**

- 2.5 An application has been received from two Perth Academy pupils seeking a grant towards the cost of taking part in the 2016 Italy trip from 5-8 June 2016, to study world issues and other cultures. The total cost of the trip is £1,360 (£680 per pupil) and the applicants have applied for a grant of £500 (£250 each). The applicants have never previously benefited from the fund. It is recommended that a grant of £200 (£100 each) is awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### **Recommendation**

- 2.6 Perth Academy pupils be awarded a grant of £200 (£100 each) towards the cost of the trip to Italy in June 2016.

### **Young person - Scottish Youth Fly Fishing Team**

- 2.7 An application has been received from a young person seeking a grant towards the cost of taking part in the 2016 Scottish Youth International Fly Fishing Competition throughout 2016. The total cost is £1,820 and the applicant has applied for a grant of £100. The applicant received £100 in 2014/15. It is recommended that a grant of £100 is awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 9). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

### **Recommendation**

- 2.8 Young person be awarded a grant of £100 towards the cost of participating in the competition.

### **The Friendly Group**

- 2.9 An application was received from The Friendly Group on 23 November 2015 seeking a grant towards the costs of their Christmas social event for 29

people which took place on 14 December 2015 (the applicant applied before the event). Total costs are £4300 and the applicant is applying for £200. The applicant has previously benefited as detailed below. It is recommended that a grant of £200 be awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). This is paid at 50% of the actual costs or £7 per person, whichever is the lesser. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

2.10 Grants awarded to The Friendly Group in:

2012/13	£1,190	(2 applications for £665 & £525)
2013/14	£1,129	(2 applications for £569 & £560)
2014/15	£800	(2 applications for £450 & £350)
2015/16	£354	

**Recommendation**

2.11 The Friendly Group be awarded a grant of £200.

**The Black Watch - Poppies Weeping Windows**

2.12 An application has been received from The Black Watch seeking a grant towards the "Poppies Weeping Window" sculpture between 30 June - 25 September 2016. Through the poppies weeping window sculpture, the applicant intends to bring the spirit of the original installation (Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red at the Tower of London) to Perth City and Scotland. The installation will commemorate the loss and suffering experienced during the First World War. The organisation is also being supported by the Council's Events Officer. The total cost of the event is £42,750 and the applicant has applied for £21,375. The applicant previously benefited as detailed below. It is recommended that a grant of £21,375 is awarded in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will proactively promote Perth tourism, and will link to the City of Culture bid.

2.13 Grants awarded to The Black Watch from the Perth Common Good Fund in:

2014/15	£300
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**Recommendation**

2.14 The Black Watch be awarded a grant of £21,375 towards the Poppies Weeping Windows event.

**Syrian Refugees – Welcome evening Burns Supper**

2.15 An application was received from PKAVS on 7 January 2016 seeking a grant towards the Syrian refugee families welcome evening Burns supper which took place on 28 January 2016. The total cost of the event is £2,700 and the applicant has applied for £700. At the time of writing (26 Jan 2016) there are 120 confirmed attendees. The applicant previously benefited as detailed below. It is recommended that a grant of £700 is awarded in line with the

guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

2.16 Grants awarded to PKAVS from the Perth Common Good Fund in:

2015/16: £1,000

2014/15: £100

2013/14: £1031 + £560= £1,591

### **Recommendation**

2.17 PKAVS be awarded £700 for the Syrian refugees welcome evening Burns night.

## **3. RECOMMENDATION**

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

### **Author**

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### **Approved**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Barbara Renton	Director (Environment)	25 January 2016

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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 / 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 recommendations contained within this report will be funded from the contributions to organisations provision for 2016/17.

### **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 and Governance Services have been consulted.

### **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 7 Applications for financial assistance

### **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 Appendix 1: Common Good Funds within Perth & Kinross Area – 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