

**PERTH COMMON GOOD COMMITTEE****5 October 2016****UPDATE ON CARILLON, ST JOHN'S KIRK****Report by Director (Environment)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to update the committee on the progress of work in relation to the carillon.

**1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES**

- 1.1 The St John's Kirk Carillon consists of thirty-five finely tuned bells, together with a clavier, pedal board and associated electrical and pneumatic operating equipment.
- 1.2 The Carillon was commissioned in 1935, with the then Perth Town Council having previously agreed in 1934 to accept responsibility for its future maintenance and repair, albeit reserving the right in future years to reconsider this duty. This reflected the Kirk Session view that the bells would be used more in connection with Civic rather than Kirk functions.
- 1.3 Following completion of its extensive programme of renovation work in 2011 to the church building, the Kirk Session approached the Council for assistance to maintain and upgrade the Carillon.
- 1.4 In September 2011, the Perth Common Good Fund Committee agreed to fund an upgrade to the carillon to replace the automatic paper programmer and operating system which dated from 1935, (Report No.11/494 refers.)
- 1.5 This upgrade was installed in 2012 and it was hoped that it would allow more recording of carillon recitals which could be used on other occasions with the intention of reducing the number paid for by the Committee in future years.
- 1.6 In September 2015, members of the Perth Common Good Fund Committee visited the Carillon at St John's Kirk. The group climbed the tower to view the Carillon and to see it being played by the Carrillonneur.
- 1.7 The Carrillonneur explained the complexity of recording his recitals on the upgraded equipment. He advised that the system could not actually provide a recorded concert and was best used in conjunction with the Kirk clock for short recordings of up to 2 minutes.

- 1.8 The members who visited the Carillon were keen to have more recordings made and to find out what the Carrillonneur plans were to train others to play the Carillon.

## **2. UPDATE**

- 2.1 The Committee at its meeting of 22 June 2016 requested an update on the additional recitals and training for playing the carillon.

- 2.2 The Carillon was out of action for a period of time early this year due to maintenance of the clock.

- 2.3 There have been several meetings with representatives from St John's Kirk and the following points should be noted:-

- Discussions are underway between the Carrillonneur and a retired music teacher from the St John's Kirk congregation who is interested in learning to play the Carillon. The Council may be able to arrange further training on the recording equipment, should this be required.
- Members of the public can view the Carillon being played within the Kirk on large screens in the Kirk, fed from a camera in the tower. See attached leaflet - Appendix 1.
- The recital held on 21 August 2016 to celebrate the Treaty of Perth and Twinning events, was played by a carillonneur from Birmingham. Over 44 visitors watched him playing live. The programme for the recital is attached as Appendix 2.
- In discussion with the civic office/events team, it has been agreed to plan recitals to complement civic and other events in Perth. A request for financial assistance for 2017 will be coming forward to the next meeting of the Perth Common Good Fund Committee.

## **3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

- 3.1. The Carillon is a considerable local attraction, both generally and to visiting carillonneurs who have remarked on the beauty of the tone of the St John's Kirk Carillon. Both the Carillonneur and St John's Kirk are keen to encourage visitors to Perth to listen to the distinct sound of the Carillon. There are opportunities for the Council to work with the Kirk to include this in the bid for City of Culture in 2021.

- 3.2 The Committee is asked to note the update.

## Author

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## Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Director (Environment)	7 September 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>None</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>None</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>None</b>
Workforce	<b>None</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>None</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>None</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>None</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>None</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>None</b>
Risk	<b>None</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>No</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan/Single Outcome Agreement

1.1 This section is not applicable to this report.

#### Corporate Plan

1.2 This section is not applicable to this report.

### 2. Resource Implications

#### Financial

2.1 The Perth Common Good Fund Committee has approved funding for the St John's Kirk of Perth for recitals over the current and last three financial years:-

2013/14 £2,940

2015/16 £700

2016/17 £1,000

Approved funding for future years will be contained within the Financial Assistance budget for the Perth Common Good Fund.

### Workforce

- 2.2 This section is not applicable to this report.

### Asset Management (land, property, IT)

- 2.3 This section is not applicable to this report.

## **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. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.

- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purpose of EqIA

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.2 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.
- 3.3 The contents of this report have been considered under the Act 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 This section is not applicable to this report.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.5 There are no legal and governance issues contained in this report.

### Risk

- 3.6 This section is not applicable to this report.

## **4. Consultation**

### Internal

- 4.1 The civic and events teams have been consulted on the contents of this report.

## External

- 4.2 Representatives from St John's Kirk and the Carillonneur have been consulted on the contents of this report.

## **5. Communication**

- 5.1 The Head of Democratic Services has been consulted on the contents of this report.

## **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 2.1 There are no background papers

## **3. APPENDICES**

- 3.1 Appendix 1 - St John's Kirk MUSIC 2016-17 Leaflet  
Appendix 2 - The programme for the Carillon recital – 21 August 2016