

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

25 September 2019

Bonfire and Fireworks Display Event on 5 November 2019

Report by Depute Chief Executive (Report No.19/257)

The report provides details of the Bonfire and Fireworks event on 5 November 2019 to be organised by the Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table and a request for additional funding from Perth Common Fund Committee.

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 and 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 grants. These grant awards allow individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community based activities.
- 1.3 The 2019/20 Financial Assistance budget for Perth Common Good Fund was approved by this Committee at the meeting on 27 February 2019 ([Report 19/55](#) refers). The approved budget includes an allocation of £15,000 to support the Perth Fireworks and Bonfire Display on 5 November 2019.
- 1.4 This report outlines how this funding will be used and includes an application for additional funding.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table has organised this annual event for a number of years in collaboration with the Council, the local community and businesses. This is considered locally as a major event where the community can gather in large numbers on the Lesser South Inch in Perth and safely enjoy the sights and sounds of the display. Although the event is free of charge, the public can leave a donation. The Round Table uses the donations to support local causes (e.g. Churches Action for the Homeless, Fairview, Cornerstone). Tens of thousands of pounds have been raised and distributed over the years.
- 2.2 The Round Table is working with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The event has received significant recognition in the local press, within the community and from officers at Perth Fire Station for providing a safe, centralised and accessible display for the people of Perth. It also limits the

number of smaller uncontrolled events where the risk of incidents is significantly increased. The Round Table proposes to promote a Bonfire/Fireworks safety campaign in local primary schools which will be run by volunteers.

2.3 In addition to the Bonfire and Fireworks Display, the event provides entertainment including: music, opportunities for local young talents, a funfair and food vendors.

2.4 It is estimated that the event will attract 8,000 people, supporting the local cafes and restaurants.

2.5 Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table is a voluntary organisation and volunteers help to build the bonfire, erect safety barriers, patrol/manage the area, as well as clean and reinstate the site after the event. Many volunteers have been provided by local companies at no cost. Last year, it is estimated that 600 hours of labour were donated. Suppliers also offer reductions to support the event.

2.6 Although still to be finalised, the programme on 5 November 2019 is expected to be as follows:

- Set-up during the day
- Fun fair to open at 6.00pm until 10.00pm
- Music and entertainment on stage between 6.00pm and 7.30pm, and after the fireworks (tbc)
- Bonfire to be lit at 7pm
- Fireworks display at 7.30pm (18-20 minutes long)
- Reinstatement on 6 November 2019

2.7 The total cost of the event is estimated at £23,240 including in-kind donations. The grant will cover the costs of the pyrotechnic fireworks display and additional costs associated with safety and logistical requirements for the event. The Perth Common Good Fund has been asked to provide £16,240, which is comprised of the £15,000 already earmarked earlier in the year and an additional £1,240 for further costs.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Committee consider allocating a grant of £16,240 to Perth and Strathearn 200 Round Table for the costs of the pyrotechnic fireworks display and the associated safety and logistical costs of running this event.

Author

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Approved

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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 recommendations contained within this report will be funded from the 2019/20 Financial Assistance budget.

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 Finance and the Head of Legal and Governance have been consulted.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 1 application for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

None.