

# PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

18 December 2019

## Applications for Financial Assistance

**Report by Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (Report No. 19/350)**

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider thirteen applications for financial assistance (eleven for small grants and two for capital grants).

### 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Perth & 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 Local residents and organisations can apply to Common Good Funds for support to develop projects in the Common Good area. These grants allow individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community based activities. Retrospective applications are not accepted. However, if an application is received before the project takes place and cannot be considered at the following meeting because papers have already been issued, the application will be considered at the next meeting even if the activities have taken place. 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.
- 1.3 Applications to Common Good Funds vary across the different former burghs of Perth and Kinross. The Perth Common Good Fund is larger, and receives a much higher number of applications than the other Funds. Therefore, additional criteria are applied to assist with assessing applications (see Appendix 1).
- 1.4 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, the value of funding approved to date, together with the remaining budget and value of applications to be considered at this meeting is summarised below:

<b>Approved 2019/20 Financial Assistance Budget</b>	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
<b>Value of grants committed</b>	
Small Grants	£38,670
Capital Grants	£9,187

<b>Remaining Financial Assistance Budget</b>	
Small Grants	<b>£21,330</b>
Capital Grants	<b>£30,813</b>
<b>Value of applications to be considered at Committee meeting on 18 December 2019</b>	
Small Grants	£34,055
Capital Grants	£21,500

## **2. UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS APPLICANTS**

### **Jar of Jewels**

- 2.1 At its April 2019 meeting, the Perth Common Good Fund Committee awarded Jar of Jewels a grant of £822 to put on a Pakistan Independence Day Celebration and requested feedback about the event once it had taken place. 98 people from several nationalities attended this multi-cultural celebration. The event had speakers who discussed Pakistan's history and culture as well as the contribution of Pakistani community in shaping modern Britain. The event served traditional Pakistani food, involved traditional music and had face painting and drawing activities for the children.

### **Carillion Recording**

- 2.2 Committee also sought an update on the Carillion project. To date, the applicant (Friends of St. John's Kirk of Perth) has not submitted a report or drawn down their funding. The applicant has until March 2020 to do so and Committee will be updated once this has been received.

## **3. PROPOSALS – Small Grants**

### **Goodlyburn Primary School**

- 3.1 An application for £700 has been received from Goodlyburn Primary Parent Council to take 270 pupils to the Pantomime at Perth Theatre on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The total cost of the trip is £3,384 which includes tickets (£2,184) and transport (£1,200). Perth Common Good Fund has previously provided a grant of £700 in 2018/19. The funding will help pupils at Goodlyburn attend a theatre performance in the festive period.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £700 is consistent with criteria 9.6.

### **Wednesday Tea Dancers**

- 3.2 An application has been received from The Wednesday Tea Dancers for £315 towards the cost of their Christmas party. The total cost of the party is £651 which includes musician (£86), hall hire (£30), gratuities (£40) and a buffet meal (£495). The event expects to attract 45 attendees, who all live in Perth

and is being held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020. The Christmas party benefits elderly people in Perth, many of whom live alone. The event is free for people to attend with members being asked to contribute towards the cost of the meal if they wish. The group has previously benefitted from the Perth Common Good Fund £133 in 2019/20, £168 and £245 in 2018/19 and £175 and £280 in 2017/18. Funding would help benefit elderly people in Perth over the festive period.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £315 is consistent with criteria 9.6.

### **Our Lady's Primary School Parent Council**

- 3.3 An application has been received for £700 from Our Lady's Primary School Parent Council seeking support for the Christmas pantomime trip. The performance is for all 245 pupils and will take place 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The pupils will watch 'A Christmas Carol' with British Sign Language at Pitlochry Festival Theatre. The total costs of the performance tickets and transportation is £3,287.50. The Parent Council have raised £604 and pupils will be asked to contribute £7.50 each. The grant will help children enjoy an end of term Christmas excursion.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £700 is consistent with criteria 9.6.

### **Friendship Group**

- 3.4 An application has been received from the Friendship Club, seeking a £475 grant towards the costs of a Christmas Lunch for the residents of Servite Sheltered Homes. The cost for the lunch is £375 for a Christmas lunch for 30 people and £100 for entertainment. The applicant has previously benefitted from the Fund in 2018/19 (£350) and 2017/18 (£396). This grant will contribute to tackling social isolation amongst senior citizens.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £210 is consistent with criteria 9.6.

### **People With A Mission Ministries**

- 3.5 An application has been received from People with a Mission Ministries, seeking a grant of £2,000 towards the costs of a Perth Senior Citizens 2019 Christmas Appeal. The total costs amount to £12,800 for 1,500 gift bags. The gift bags have an estimate retail value of approximately £50 and include food items such as: jams, chutneys, chocolates, biscuits, shortbread as well as calendars soaps, shortbread, CDs, books and other gifts. Many of the items are donated by retailers or secured at a heavily discounted rate. The bags are distributed two weeks before Christmas. The applicant is applying for £2,000

and has previously benefitted from the Fund in 2018/19 (£1,500), 2017/18 (£1,500) and 2016/17 (£1,500). This grant will contribute to tackling social isolation amongst senior citizens during the festive period.

### **Consideration**

In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

### **Headway**

- 3.6 An application has been received from Headway seeking support for their Christmas pantomime and meal excursion. There are 48 people (all Perth residents) attending this year's performance of Sinbad at Perth Theatre followed by dinner at Perth Concert Hall. The total cost of the trip is £1,321 and the group are applying for £330. Members are being asked to contribute £10 for adults or £5 for child. This includes 24 free seats from Perth Theatre for the group and competitive rates from a local taxi company. The grant will benefit families affected by head injuries.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £330 is consistent with criteria 9.6

### **Perth Academy**

- 3.7 An application from Perth Academy's Geography Department has been received seeking support for their trip to Iceland in April 2020. The trip will take 3 teachers and 37 pupils in S3 and S4 to Iceland from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The funding would be directed towards additional activities not covered in the package trip. The Geography Department intend to take pupils on the trip on a glacial walk at the cost of £58 per person. Parents of pupils have contributed £1,005 towards the cost of the trip. The School has previously benefited from the Fund with a £600 and £1,000 grant in 2018/19 and a £1,500 and £700 grant in 2017/18. The trip will be an opportunity for pupils to see some of the many geographical features they have learned about during their studies.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £1,000 is consistent with criteria 9.7.

### **Music in Hospital & Care Scotland**

- 3.8 An application has been received from Music in Hospitals & Care Scotland seeking £4,050 to deliver their 'Enriching Lives Through Live Music' programme in Perth. The project aims to deliver 27 interactive live music experiences for elderly people in residential care centres in Perth. The applicant estimates 540 people will benefit from these performances. The average number of people attending each performance is 20 people.

The group have received a grant from the Gannochy Trust of £35,550 over 3 years to cover the half of the costs for delivering the programme for the wider Perth and Kinross area. The cost of each musical session is £300 making the total costs of the 27 sessions in Perth £8,100 for 2020. Venues can make a small voluntary donation to the group for a performance. The Group has previously benefitted from the fund in £1,060 in 2017/18 and £1,050 in 2016/17.

### **Consideration**

In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

### **Perth Creative Community Collaborative**

- 3.9 An application has been received from Perth Creative Community Collaborative seeking a grant of £13,750.56. The group provides a therapeutic environment for people interested in the arts to improve overall health and wellbeing. All of the 31 attendees live within the Common Good area. The Creative Collaborative has five groups which meet weekly for 2 hours in Oakbank, Glenearn and Tulloch. Overall costs for the group include £600 for materials, £100 for volunteer expenses, venue hire (£768) and £13,282.56 for artistic fee's (based on the Scottish Artist Union rate of £34.58/hr). The group have raised £1,000 in donations. The group has benefitted previously from the fund in 2018/19 with a grant of £1,960. The grant will support improve people's health and wellbeing as they pursue their interest in art.

### **Consideration**

In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

### **ESOL Perth**

- 3.10 An application has been received from ESOL Perth to support their 'Leading into Work' programme. ESOL Perth is based on Glasgow Road and is a charity set up to support people who speak English as a second or other language. The programme will last six months starting in January 2020. The group are asking for £3,000 to cover the costs to rent additional space to support the project. Between workshops participants will have access to use the space to practice skills taught in the workshops. Other costs associated include bringing sessional staff to teach the skills, ESOL tutors (£2,600 'in-kind contribution) and materials. The project is aimed at getting individuals to learn skills to become self-employed. Participants will learn how to carry out: furniture repairs and upcycling, bike repairs, gardening/ landscaping and sewing. As part of the course attendees would learn basic business skills such as issuing invoices. ESOL Perth has sought advice and support from Giraffe, Scott St Café and The Bike Station on how to run and develop these programmes. ESOL Perth estimate 15 residents of Perth will take part in the programme. If the programme is successful ESOL Perth intends to continue

the programme and offer the service to people who have sought literacy and numeracy support if this approach proves successful.

### **Consideration**

In line with criteria 9.8, the Committee is asked to consider the request and determine the level of any grant to be awarded.

### **Chinese New Year**

#### **3.11 PKAVS Minorities Hub and Perth Chinese Community Association**

An application has been received from PKAVS Minority Communities Hub and Perth Chinese Community Association, seeking a grant towards the costs of the 2020 Chinese New Year Celebrations. The event will be held on Saturday and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 and includes a parade on the first night of the celebrations. The event had footfall of 10,850 in 2019 and an estimated economic impact of approximately £200,000.

This grant will raise awareness of Chinese communities and promote their culture in the form of a showcase to the wider public within Perth. The event will also contribute to wider aims in community relations and promoting diversity within Perth and Kinross. Significant multi-cultural events such as this fulfil our statutory equality requirements to foster good relationships between different groups and meeting the equality outcome of all individuals and community groups in Perth and Kinross. Having this opportunity to be involved as an inclusive community in activities and events in the area, allows all groups/communities to get together in a safe and welcoming environment. This is not only seen as a fun event, but it also has an educational impact and aids in breaking down barriers.

The total costs amount to £23,200. This includes £5,000 for decorations; £3,000 for lanterns; £1,500 for fireworks; £3,200 for Chinese dragon dancers; £1,500 for event security; £3,000 for infrastructure costs and £6,000 for entertainment. The applicant is applying for £8,000. The groups have previously benefitted from the fund with a grant of £3,000 in 2018/19 and 2017/18.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £8,000 is consistent with criteria 9.2

## **4. PROPOSALS – Capital Grants**

### **Maisie Moo Magical Moments**

- 4.1 An application has been received from Maisie Moo Magical Moments to support the installation of outdoor play equipment for children with additional and complex needs in the North Inch Playpark. The Group are seeking £15,000 from the Perth Common Good Fund to support the £117,687 project.

The group is working closely with the Community Greenspace Team to expand and improve the provision of play equipment in the North Inch. Currently there is a lack of specialist play equipment for children with complex needs in Perth and the wider area meaning parents and children need to travel to Dunfermline to utilise such equipment. The costs for the project include: conditions of contracts, preliminaries and landscaping (£19,218), play equipment such as slide, sandpit, inclusive roundabout, wheelchair seesaw, wheelchair trampoline, wheelchair swing and other items (£49,400), safety surfacing (£20,505), furniture (£4,750), maintenance and contingency (£12,550) and 10% fee at 10% of subtotal (£11,264). The Council has agreed to adopt and maintain the equipment after the upgrade work has been completed. The group have secured funding from the Gannochy Trust (£50,000), the PKC Community Investment Fund (£10,000) Help for Kids (£7,253) and have raised £7,376. The funding will help ensure children with additional and complex needs have the same access to outdoor play equipment as other children/

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £15,000 is consistent with criteria 10.3.

### **St John's RC Academy**

- 4.2 St John's RC Academy is seeking £11,000 of funding for an outdoor classroom for the North Inch Community Campus. The total cost of the outdoor classroom is £26,000. The school have secured £4,250 from funders and have allocated £10,000 from the school budget to support the creation of the outdoor classroom. The classroom will be used by the school, nursery, afterschool club, Saturday Polish School and other groups who use the community campus. The idea for an outdoor classroom came about when pupils took part in a school participatory budgeting exercise to vote on how to use the school funds, the option of an outdoor classroom was overwhelming popular with the pupils, however upon investigation this item was 2.5 times higher than the £10,000 allocated. The wooden structure will be 7x4m and be walled on three sides with benches round the edge. The classroom will allow sufficient shelter from the elements, whilst allowing children to learn in an outdoor environment. The school have previously received a £780 and £800 grant in 2018/19 from the Perth Common Good Fund. The grant will improve the learning environment at the North Inch Community Campus.

### **Consideration**

It is considered that a grant of £6,500 is consistent with criteria 10.3.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 The Committee is asked to consider and approve the recommendations in the report.

**Author**

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**Approved**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date</b>
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive/ Chief Operating Officer	2 December 2019

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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 2019/20 Financial Assistance budget. The Reserves of the

Perth Common Good Fund will reduce if the Financial Assistance budget is exceeded.

### **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**

13 applications for financial assistance.

**3. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.