

Perth Common Good Fund Committee

20 June 2018

Applications for Financial Assistance

Report by Depute Chief Executive (Report No. 18/199)

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider 12 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 grants. 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 considered and listed below, 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.
- 1.3 The 2018/19 Financial Assistance budget for Perth Common Good Fund was approved by this Committee at the meeting on 28 February 2018 ([Report 18/75](#) refers). The approved budget, the value of funding approved to date, together with the remaining budget is summarised below:

Approved 2018/19 Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
Value of grants committed	
Small Grants	(£10,115)
Capital Grants	-
Value of applications to be considered at Committee meeting on 20 June 2018	
Small Grants	(£13,042)
Capital Grants	(£2,500)
Remaining Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£36,843
Capital Grants	£37,500

2. PROPOSALS

Agricultural and Rural Affairs Study Tour (1)

- 2.1 An application has been received from an individual resident of Perth, seeking a grant towards the costs of a 2 week Agricultural and Rural Affairs Study Tour to California. The total costs amount to £2,400. The applicant is applying for £250. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of up to £100 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.5). The grant will contribute to increasing knowledge of agricultural technology among the local farming community.

Recommendation

- 2.2 Individual be awarded a grant of £100 towards the costs of a study tour.

Agricultural and Rural Affairs Study Tour (2)

- 2.3 An application has been received from another individual resident of Perth, seeking a grant towards the costs of a 2 week Agricultural and Rural Affairs Study Tour to California. The total costs amount to £3,380. The applicant is applying for £750. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of up to £100 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.5). The grant will contribute to increasing knowledge of agricultural technology among the local farming community.

Recommendation

- 2.4 Individual be awarded a grant of £100 towards the costs of a study tour.

Great Perthshire Picnic

- 2.5 An application has been received from Giraffe Trading Community Interest Company seeking a grant towards the costs of the Great Perthshire Picnic, a month-long food and drink festival with a launch event in Perth City Centre. The total costs amount to £14,250. This includes £5,000 in marketing materials and social media; £5,900 for staff, administration and volunteer costs; £1,100 for children's activities and entertainment, and £1,100 for the costs of stall hire and promotional food. The applicant is applying for £3,600. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past three years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of up to £3,600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.2). The grant will contribute to increasing awareness of Perth and Perthshire as a food and drink destination, and higher footfall and turnover in local businesses.

Recommendation

- 2.6 Giraffe Trading Community Interest Company be awarded a grant of up to £3,600 towards the costs of the Great Perthshire Picnic.

Perth Festival of the Arts Limited

- 2.7 An application has been received from Perth Festival of the Arts Limited seeking a grant towards the costs of new street banners, pop-ups and window clings. The total costs amount to £3,936. The applicant is applying for £1,574. The applicant has previously benefited from the Fund, in 2015/16 (£375). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,574 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.2). The grant will contribute to increasing public awareness of the annual Festival and enhancing the cityscape.

Recommendation

- 2.8 Perth Festival of the Arts Limited be awarded a grant of £1,574 towards the costs of new banners.

Lingo Flamingo

- 2.9 An application has been received from Lingo Flamingo seeking a grant towards the costs of setting up 4 new classes for care home residents suffering from dementia, with a minimum of 40 individuals expected to benefit. The total costs amount to £1,600. The applicant is applying for £1,000, which includes £700 for textbooks and materials, and £300 for volunteer training and expenses. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,000 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.8). The grant will contribute to delaying dementia and increasing quality of life among residents in Perth care homes.

Recommendation

- 2.10 Lingo Flamingo be awarded a grant of £1,000 towards the costs of setting up language classes in care homes.

Perth and District Pipeband

- 2.11 An application has been received from Perth and District Pipeband seeking a grant towards the costs of uniforms. The total costs amount to £46,860 to purchase 25 to 30 sets of uniform for the young members of the Pipeband. Costs include dress jackets, kilts, sporrans and hose. The applicant is applying for £45,000. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee awards a grant of £2,500 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 8.3). The grant will contribute to maintaining and growing the Pipeband as it carries out engagements and represents Perth.

Recommendation

- 2.12 Perth and District Pipeband be awarded a grant of £2,500 towards the costs of Pipeband uniforms.

Perthshire Pride

- 2.13 An application has been received from Perthshire Pride seeking a grant towards the costs of the Perthshire Pride festival on 11th August. The festival will consist of a family-friendly daytime event in Perth City Centre, followed by an evening event involving local pubs. The total costs amount to £9,600, including £5,000 in marketing and merchandise and £2,000 in equipment hire. The applicant is applying for £8,000. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of up to £3,840 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.2). The grant will contribute to achieving wider equality, recognition and support for LGBT+ individuals in Perthshire, and bringing visitors to the City.

Recommendation

- 2.14 Perthshire Pride be awarded a grant of up to £3,840 towards the costs of the Perthshire Pride festival.

Police Scotland Youth Volunteers

- 2.15 An application has been received from Police Scotland Youth Volunteers seeking a grant towards the costs of an outdoor activity weekend at Dalguise. The total costs amount to £1,568. 8 of the 21 participants are from Perth. The applicant is applying for £784. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.7). The grant will contribute to the personal development of the young volunteers.

Recommendation

- 2.16 Police Scotland Youth Volunteers be awarded a grant of £600 towards the costs of an outdoor activity weekend.

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

- 2.17 An application has been received from Royal Scottish Country Dance Society seeking a grant towards the costs of a ceilidh, public performances and a workshop. The total costs amount to £1,700. The applicant is applying for £680. The applicant has not benefited from the Fund in the past 3 years. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £680 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.2). The grant will contribute to increased participation in Scottish country dancing among the people of Perth.

Recommendation

- 2.18 Royal Scottish Country Dance Society be awarded a grant of £680 towards the costs of a ceilidh, public performances and a workshop.

St John's RC Academy

- 2.19 An application has been received from St John's RC Academy Romania Mercy Project seeking a grant towards the costs of ten S6 pupils volunteering at a hospital for children in Bucharest. The total costs amount to £2400. The applicant is applying for £800. The applicant has previously benefited from the Fund, in 2017/18 (£500 and £600), in 2016/17 (£1000) and in 2015/16 (£1500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £600 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.7). This grant will contribute to the young people involved learning about global citizenship and promoting action.

Recommendation

- 2.20 St John's RC Academy Romania Mercy Project be awarded a grant of £600 towards the costs of ten S6 pupils volunteering at a hospital for children in Bucharest.

St John's RC Academy Parent Council

- 2.21 An application has been received from St John's RC Academy Parent Council seeking a grant towards the costs of prizes for a pupil awards ceremony. The total costs amount to £1950. The applicant is applying for £1500. The applicant has previously benefited from the Fund, in 2016/17 (£1500) and 2015/16 (£1500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £780 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.3). The grant will contribute to recognising pupils' achievements.

Recommendation

- 2.22 St John's RC Academy Parent Council be awarded a grant of £780 towards the costs of a pupil award ceremony.

Wednesday Tea Dance

- 2.23 An application has been received from the Wednesday Tea Dance seeking a grant towards the costs of the group's annual trip to Dumfries. The total costs amount to £1825. The applicant is applying for £168. The applicant has previously benefited from the Fund, in 2017/18 (£175 and £315), 2016/17 (£175), and 2015/16 (£245, £168 and £175). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £168 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criterion 7.6). The grant will contribute to enabling the group's 24 elderly members to attend their annual social gathering in Dumfries.

Recommendation

- 2.24 Wednesday Tea Dance be awarded a grant of £168 towards the costs of their annual trip.

3. THANKS

- 3.1 A letter of thanks to the Perth Common Good Committee has been received from the Trustees of the Perth Musical Festival Association, who were awarded £1,500 towards the running costs of Perform in Perth 2018.

4. REVIEW OF CRITERIA

- 4.1 A review of the criteria for awarding Perth Common Good Funding is proposed. The current criteria came into effect on 1 April 2017, prior to the current Committee forming.
- 4.2 Applications are being received which do not clearly provide community benefit for the people of Perth, which suggests that the purpose of the Fund could be made clearer in the criteria. A review would also provide Committee members with the opportunity to ensure that the Perth Common Good Fund is clearly aligned with local priorities. The proposed review would involve discussion with all members of the Committee as well as the officers involved in administering the Fund, with any revised criteria being brought to the next meeting Perth Common Good Committee.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 The Committee is requested to consider and approve the recommendations in the report.
- 5.2 The Committee is asked to note the thanks from organisations previously awarded money from the Perth Common Good Fund.
- 5.3 The Committee is asked to approve a review of the criteria for awarding funding from the Perth Common Good Fund.

Author

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Approved

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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 recommendations contained within this report will be funded from the 2018/19 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 Democratic Services, the Head of Finance and the Head of Legal and Governance have been consulted.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1 12 applications for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

- 3.1 Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.