

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Aberfeldy Common Good Fund Committee

19 December 2018

Aberfeldy Putting Green – Extension to Existing Concession

Report by Executive Director (Housing and Environment) (Report No. 18/410)

This report seeks approval from Aberfeldy Common Good Fund Committee to extend the existing concession to operate Aberfeldy Putting Green for a further three years.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 At the Aberfeldy Common Good Fund Committee meeting on 11 December 2013 (Report No.13/577 refers), it was agreed that:
 - the Aberfeldy putting green site be advertised for a concession to run it as a going concern including the comfort scheme and grounds maintenance, and
 - if there was no interest, the Council will revert to standard amenity maintenance.
- 1.2 At the Aberfeldy Common Good Fund Committee meeting on 8 October 2014, it was agreed to appoint Fourways as operator for the Aberfeldy putting green new concession.
- 1.3 Fourways were given the concession until 31 March 2016.
- 1.4 At the Aberfeldy Common Good Fund Committee meeting on 16 December 2015 (Report 15/583), it was agreed to:
 - extend the current Concession from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2019 on the same terms and conditions as reported to the meeting of 8 October 2014, and
 - note that the operation of the putting green be passed over from Fourways to Aberfeldy Community Putting Green (ACPG).
- 1.5 ACPG have approached Perth & Kinross Council asking if the concession could be extended for a further three years.
- 1.6 The three local members, were consulted on the following issues:
 - their awareness of any local interest expressed in operating this concession,
 - their awareness of any complaints/comments about the operation of the concession by ACPG, and
 - were they happy for ACPG to continue to operate the Concession

- 1.7 All three elected members stated that they were in favour of ACPG continuing to operate the concession for a further three years.
- 1.8 ACPG were asked for, and have provided, a statement on the benefits that operating the concession has given to the staff, together with an indication of visitor numbers (see Appendix 1). The group have also supplied a copy of their Annual Report for year-end 31 December 2017 (see Appendix 2).

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 Neither Perth & Kinross Council nor the local elected members have received or are aware of any other expression of interest in operating this Concession and have received no complaints about the present operator. It is, therefore, proposed to extend the current concession from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2022 on the same terms and conditions.

- 2.2 The current terms and conditions, as reported to the meeting of 08 October 2014, are:-

- Rent £1 per annum, if asked;

Aberfeldy Community Putting Green (ACPG) will be responsible for:-

- maintaining the putting green including cutting of holes, installing cups and flags and thereafter regularly reposition holes;
- cleaning the public toilet to a high standard of cleanliness and replenishment of disposable items e.g. toilet paper, soaps, hand towels;
- maintaining public picnic tables;
- maintaining shrubs beds around the kiosk and toilets;
- maintaining equipment for use on the putting green;
- security of the kiosk and toilets.

The Council will be responsible for:-

- keeping the kiosk and toilets wind and watertight;
- regulatory and compliance testing of kiosk and toilet services;
- insuring the kiosk and toilets except contents;
- maintaining shrub and bedding plants (except for the beds for which ACPG are responsible) including paths and other hard landscaping;
- replacing damaged or worn picnic tables, subject to available resources.

3. BEST VALUE

- 3.1 The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 requires the Council to make the best use of public resources, including land and property, and to be open and transparent in transactions.
- 3.2 The Council is required to demonstrate responsiveness to the needs of communities, citizens, customers and the other stakeholders where relevant

in its assessment of best value. The aspects of this duty which are relevant to the proposals in this report are as follows:

- making the best use of land and property
- being open and transparent in transactions
- insuring sound financial controls are in place to minimise the risk of fraud and error
- assessing the full financial consequences of decisions at an appropriate level before major financial decisions are taken or commitments entered into
- demonstrating responsiveness to the needs of communities, citizens, customers and other stakeholders, where relevant

3.3 The implementation of the recommendations in this report is considered to comply with the Council's requirement to fulfil its statutory duties in respect of Best Value and meet the Council's Corporate Plan 2018-22 strategic objectives of supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives by employing people with mental health issues.

3.4 Given the current success of ACPG, the extension of the current concession on the same terms and conditions will save the Council costs in advertising the concession (previous advertisements only produced one tender), along with a saving in staff costs for advertising and re-negotiating new terms and conditions.

4 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

4.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves ACPG's request for an extension of their current concession to run the Aberfeldy Putting Green for a further three years until 31 March 2022.

Author

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Barbara Renton	Executive Director (Housing and Environment)	31 October 2018

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ANNEX

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	Yes
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	Yes
Strategic Environmental Assessment	Yes
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	Yes
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The Council's Community Plan / Single Outcomes Improvement Plan 2017-2027 lays out five outcomes focussed strategic objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate land service level and shape resources allocation. They are as follows:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations

- 1.2 This report relates to (iv) above.

Corporate Plan

- 1.3 The Council's Corporate Plan 2018-2022 lays out five outcomes focussed strategic objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate land service level and shape resources allocation. They are as follows:

- (i) Giving every child the best start in life;
- (ii) Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
- (iii) Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
- (iv) Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
- (v) Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

1.4 This report relates to (iv) above.

2. Resource Implications

Financial

Capital

2.1 There are no capital resource implications.

Revenue

2.2 There are minor resource savings in staff time and advertising costs arising directly from the approval of the report.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 There are no direct asset management implications arising from this report other than those reported within the body of the 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.

3.2 The proposals have been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

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

Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

3.4 The proposals 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.

Legal and Governance

- 3.5 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report

4. Consultation

Internal

- 4.1 The Head of Environmental and Consumer Services, the Head of Finance and the three local Councillors have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1 No background papers, as defined by section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

3. APPENDICES

- 3.1 Appendix 1 - Statement from Aberfeldy Community Putting Green
Appendix 2 – Annual Report for year-end 31 December 2017