

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

21 February 2022

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Report by Head of Culture & Community Services
(Report No. 22/38)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider applications for financial assistance for 2 small grants and 2 capital grants.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 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 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 2021/22 Budget for the Perth Common Good Fund was approved at the Committee meeting on 28th April 2021 (Report 21/54 refers). A summary of the approved Financial Assistance budget, committed grant funding, and the budget remaining, is provided below:

2021/22 Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
Value of grants paid and committed	
Small Grants	£16,676
Capital Grants	£35,273
Remaining Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£43,324
Capital Grants	£4,727
Value of funding requested and under consideration	
Small Grants	£8,442
Capital Grants	£7,255

2. SMALL GRANTS

All Strong Scotland CIC (Community Interest Company)

- 2.1 An application has been received from All Strong Scotland CIC, seeking a grant towards their Fitness to Feel Better programme. The 6-week programme takes place in small groups, teaching high-school age young people fitness and strength training, simple relaxation techniques, wellbeing self-management and coping strategies. Following completion of the programme, participants would have the opportunity to attend the After School Club, offering a supervised space to exercise for one hour, 2 or 3 days a week (depending on funding received from the Common Good Fund). Costs for this part of the project are factored into the coach's hours. Each participant will be given a Wellbeing Bundle to support their wellbeing at home – the bundles have already been purchased by the group and are not included in the bid.
- 2.2 If funded, All Strong Scotland intend to discuss establishing a pupil referral system with Perth schools (Perth High School, Perth Grammar School, Perth Academy and St John's High School) for the programme. However, no discussions have taken place between ECS and the group. In addition, it should be noted that schools refer any young people who would benefit from additional support for physical activity to LAL Active Schools programme and the All Strong Scotland programme duplicates this work.
- 2.3 All Strong Scotland are planning for approximately 48 young people (all from the Common Good area) to participate in the programme. The long-term goal for the programme is for young people to train independently and learn relaxation techniques, both of which will improve their confidence, resilience, and mental and physical health. All Strong Scotland have worked with 17 individuals to date who have self-referred. These individuals have benefited from free introductory sessions to get them started. The group aims to further help these individuals, and others through referrals, using the Fitness to Feel Better programme. To assess the programme's success, questionnaires will be given out to participants of the programme before it begins and after it finishes.
- 2.4 The total costs for the programme are £5,330, a breakdown of which has been included below. £1,180 of the total costs has been funded by other sources (Tesco Groundworks and Crowdfunder) and the applicant is seeking a grant of £4,150 from the Common Good Fund. The applicant has not received grant funding from the Common Good Fund in the last three years.

Specific items	Basis of costing	Amount
Use of gym (£45/hour session)	Hourly rate x 44	£1,980
Coach for session plus preparation and tidying and cleaning following session (£35/ session)	Hourly rate x 88	£3,080
Workshops (coping techniques, stress relief) (£45/session)	Hourly rate x 6	£270
Total proposed expenditure		£5,330
Tesco Groundworks (approved)		£1,000
Crowdfunding (collected/approved)		£180
Funding requested		£4,150

Consideration

- 2.5 Funding is **not recommended** as schools in Perth and Kinross already have a well-established arrangement to refer young people who would benefit from additional support to Live Active Leisure Active School programme and this project duplicates that provision. Furthermore, there have been no discussions between All Strong and Education and Children's Services in terms of their project proposal.

Adventure Circus SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

- 2.6 An application of £4,292 has been received from Adventure Circus SCIO for 'The Legend of Kinnoull Hill Dragon' project. The grant will contribute to delivering four outdoor multi-activity shows at Norrie Millar walk that aims to celebrate this story. It will be told through spoken word recordings (with sign interpreters) and will use a large dragon puppet and volunteer actors/musicians to act out the scenes. To generate involvement in the event, competitions will take place with primary school age children to determine the dragon's name and design.
- 2.7 The event will take place towards the end of 2022 and will be free entry with 125 attendees per show, meaning that 500 people (all from the Common Good area) will directly benefit. A plaque will be installed at the site, with QR code and other links to on-line resources, which will be available for free for anyone who is interested. The cost for the plaque has been factored into the marketing costs. The total costs for the programme are £10,735, a breakdown of which has been included below. £5,000 of the total costs has already been funded by the Museums Galleries Scotland 'Year of Stories 2022 Fund' and the applicant intends to meet the shortfall (£1,443) by fundraising or seeking another grant from elsewhere. The applicant has not received grant funding from the Common Good Fund in the last three years.

Specific items	Basis of costing	Amount
Site hire and technical costs (power / lighting)	Estimate from PKC Events team	£1,500
Puppet materials, fire rope, plastic, fuel for 4 performances	Various quote estimates	£1,210
Performer / volunteer sustenance costs, interpreter, first aid and security guard	Estimate of hourly rates (internet quotes)	£1,525
Marketing and promotion (banner & poster design / printing / social media), photography, videography	Internet quotes / photography/videography quotes from previous events (£250 / £500)	£1,500
Staffing costs – fire consultant and circus management, administration and marketing	Funded by Year of Stories 2022	£5,000
Total proposed expenditure		£10,735
Museums Galleries Scotland - Year of Stories 2022 Fund (approved)		£5,000
Fundraising challenge/another grant application (to fund shortfall – not taken place yet)		£1,443
Funding requested		£4,292

Consideration

- 2.8 It is considered that a grant of £4,292 is consistent with Criteria 9.2(a).

3. CAPITAL GRANTS

North Inch Golfers Group

- 3.1 An application of £4,900 has been received from North Inch Golfers Group to contribute to enhancing the appearance of a new golf starters box using external timber cladding on a modular building. As stated in the [December 2019 report to the Common Good Fund](#), the brief for the box originally included the timber cladding, however due to the pandemic and cost increases experienced in the construction sector, the timber cladding element was removed from the brief in early 2021, with the intention that this would be fundraised separately by the group. The starters box will include an area to sit and socialise before and after play and ties in with the group's aim to promote physical and mental wellbeing through golf. The box will be metal skinned construction and the additional timber cladding will enable the space to fit in better aesthetically with its setting in the North Inch Park. The box will be open to the public and it is expected that just over 50% of beneficiaries will be from the Common Good Area. The Community Greenspace and Property Services Teams in the Council are supporting the group with the delivery of the starter facility.
- 3.2 The project is due to start in May 2022, with the intention to have this complete in the same month. Volunteers will be used to landscape the areas around the starters box to improve its presentation. The total costs are estimated to be £168,900, of which £164,000 has been sourced from other grants (HMRC VAT Refund and Perth and Kinross Council Community Environment Challenge Fund). A breakdown of the total costs has been included below. The applicant has not received grant funding from the Common Good Fund in the last three years.

Specific items	Basis of costing	Amount
Modular building	Quote	£50,000
Installation of services, electricity, water, Telephone, broadband and sewer connection	Quote	£55,825
Groundworks	Quote	£42,635
Professional fees	Quote	£15,540
85m ² timber cladding, plus installation	Timber quote, plus 5 days labour	£4,900
Total proposed expenditure		£168,900
HMRC VAT Refund (approved)		£117,000
Perth and Kinross Council – Community Environment Challenge Fund (approved)		£47,000
Funding requested		£4,900

Consideration

- 3.3 It is considered that a grant of £4,900 is consistent with Criteria 10.4.

Darnhall Tennis Club SCIO

- 3.4 An application of £2,355 has been received from Darnhall Tennis Club SCIO for making improvements (bonding treatment and repainting) to 3 of their main tennis courts. Re-painting of courts is recommended every 7-8 years and the club's courts were re-built 8 years ago. The courts were also impacted by flooding last year and these improvements intend to protect them from the weather and ensure long-term surface quality. Repainting the surface will also strengthen the grip in damp weather and therefore will improve safety for users. The project is expected to begin in March 2022 and be finished in June 2022. 79 club members and 100 members of the general public (all from the Common Good Area) are expected to benefit from this project.
- 3.5 A breakdown of the total costs for the improvements is detailed in the table below. The applicant has not received grant funding from the Common Good Fund in the last three years.

Specific items	Basis of costing	Amount
Courts bonding treatment and re-painting	Quote from Doe Sport	£9,420 (including VAT)
Total proposed expenditure		£9,420
Funding secured from individual/group contributions		£7,065
Funding requested		£2,355

Consideration

- 3.6 It is considered that a grant of £2,355 is consistent with Criteria 10.4.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the applications and agree any financial assistance to be awarded.

Author

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Approved

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IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

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

1. Strategic ImplicationsCommunity Plan

- 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 ImplicationsFinancial

- 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 2021/22 Financial Assistance budget.

Workforce

2.2 N/A.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 N/A.

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. The Equality Impact Assessment undertaken in relation to this report can be viewed clicking [here](#).

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 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.

Sustainability

3.4 N/A.

Legal and Governance

3.5 The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted.

Risk

3.6 N/A.

4. Consultation

Internal

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

External

4.2 N/A.

5. Communication

5.1 N/A.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Perth Common Good Application papers.

7. APPENDICES

7.1 Perth City Common Good Fund Criteria.