

BLAIRGOWRIE COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

19 June 2019

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Report by Depute Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer (Report No. 19/187)

The report asks Blairgowrie Common Good Fund Committee to consider one application for financial assistance from Wisecraft.

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. 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 for Financial Assistance are infrequent and there is no approved Financial Assistance budget for the Fund. The unaudited revenue balance of Blairgowrie Common Good Fund at 1 April 2019 is £19,887, with estimated interest to be earned for 2019/20 of £160.
- 1.4. In the event that Committee approves further funding, an option open to Committee, the Revenue Account balance of the Fund will reduce accordingly. The 2019/20 Financial Statement report to be considered at this meeting provides details of the estimated income and expenditure for the year, the Revenue Account balance at 1 April 2019, and the estimated Revenue Account balance at 31 March 2020 for the Fund.

2. PROPOSALS

Wisecraft

- 2.1. An application has been received from Wisecraft, seeking a grant towards the costs of Open Studios. Open Studios is an annual nine day event which takes place throughout Perth and Kinross and offers art groups the opportunity to exhibit their work. The applicant has estimated that approximately 80% of

beneficiaries are residents of Blairgowrie. The total costs amount to £345. This includes £155 for an Open Studios group application; £95 for art materials; £70 for refreshments; £15 for volunteer expenses; and £10 for a guest book. The applicant is applying for £345. The applicant has not previously benefited from the Fund.

- 2.2. This grant will raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing and will provide a platform for local art groups.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. The Committee is asked to consider the request in the report.

Authors

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Fiona Robertson	Head of Culture and Community Services	28 May 2019
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer)	4 June 2019

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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 Blairgowrie 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 Blairgowrie 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. If approved, any decisions taken by this Committee will be funded from the estimated income and, if applicable, the Blairgowrie Common Good Fund Revenue balance.

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

One application for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

None.