

# PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

28 April 2021

## Applications for Financial Assistance

### Report by Executive Director of Communities

(Report No. 21/53)

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

#### 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 draft 2021/22 Budget for the Perth Common Good Fund was noted by this Committee at the meeting on 19 February 2020 (Report 20/45 refers). The 2021/22 Budget will be updated at the next meeting of the Committee. The proposed Financial Assistance budget, 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>Proposed 2021/22 Financial Assistance Budget</b>	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
<b>Value of grants committed</b>	
Small Grants	

Capital Grants	£0 £0
<b>Remaining Financial Assistance Budget</b>	
Small Grants	<b>£60,000</b>
Capital Grants	<b>£40,000</b>
<b>Value of applications to be considered at Committee meeting</b>	
Small Grants	£1,110.40
Capital Grants	£17,000

## 2. SMALL GRANTS

### Overseas Volunteering

- 2.1 A Perth student is seeking a grant to support a 12 month voluntary overseas placement with Project Trust to Honduras on a teaching placement. The placement will involve assisting primary teachers in Honduras as well as helping run extracurricular activities for school children. The project is expected to run from August 2021 to August 2022 and the total cost is £6,950. The Project Trust place 200 students from across the UK in placements around the world each year to help young people become active global citizens within their community. A grant would help give a young person in Perth an amazing opportunity to develop life skills and have a positive impact on children in Honduras.

### Consideration

- 2.2 It is considered that a grant of £400 is consistent with Criteria 9.4

### Perth Outdoor Playgroup / Tayside OWLS

- 2.3 Perth Outdoor Playgroup are seeking funding to cover first aid training for volunteers. The Playgroup meets in all weathers outside on Kinnoull Hill and works with Tayside OWLS (Outdoor Woodland Learning) and OWLS Scotland to deliver outdoor learning. The Playgroup would like to send four parent volunteers on a two-day outdoor first aid course to ensure the safety of their members when they are outside. The cost of this training is £710.40 and the Playgroup are asking the Common Good to fund the full amount. The benefits of outdoor play for under 5s are numerous and particularly important after a year of lockdown restrictions. The group has 100 parents and children taking part, with over half being from Perth. The group has already been successful in gaining £7,000 worth in funding to cover: cost of sessions led by professionals, equipment for the group as well as transport and clothing cost for families facing financial hardship. A grant would be of great benefit in supporting children and parents to learn and play outdoors.

## Consideration

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

### 3. CAPITAL GRANTS

#### North Inch Bowling Club and Sports Club

- 3.1 The North Inch Bowling and Sports Club is upgrading and extending the 100 year old clubhouse to include a community hall, which would be able to open year-round. The refurbished hall will be open for community groups and host activities such as: indoor carpet bowls; country dancing; Spanish classes; floral art classes; and arts and crafts groups. The club is community run and not-for-profit. The property is on Common Good land and the lease with the Council ends in 2070. The total cost of the extension is £75,000 and the group have secured £57,000 worth of donations and materials. The group are seeking £17,000 as a contribution to the overall costs. See table below.

Specific Items	Basis of Costing (eg quote, hire cost, hourly rate etc)	Amount (£)
Foundation bricks, facing bricks, and roofing tiles, concrete mix.	Digger, Crane, fuel and misc. Labour costs.	26,800
Timber frames, roof trusses, and floor boards, guttering and plumbing	Incl. Labour and materials.	16,500
Insulation and plaster boards, and solar panels.	Incl. Labour and materials.	19,500
Heating system, electrics and fittings.	Incl. Labour and materials	7,800
Slabbing, landscaping, and handrails for ramp.	Incl. Labour and materials	4,400
<b>Total Proposed Expenditure</b>		<b>£ 75000</b>

- 3.2 The group have kept costs low by seeking support from their members to help with the extension/ refurbishment and utilising specific trades skills from members. The Hall is expected to be ready for early summer 2021. The Perth Common Good Fund previously supported the group with a grant of £2,037 in June 2019 towards architecture fees and building warrants. The total cost for the work at design stage was £8,148.

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2019/20	£2,037	10.4	Club House Extension

## Consideration

3.3 It is considered that a grant of £17,000 is consistent with Criteria 10.4

## 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

### Author

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### Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Karen Donaldson	Interim Chief Operating Officer	

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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 2021/22 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 must 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**

3 applications for financial assistance.

### **3. APPENDICES**

## Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.