

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Common Good Fund Committee

8 December 2021

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Report by Head of Culture & Community Services

(Report No. 21/232)

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider applications for financial assistance for 2 small grants and 1 capital grant.

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 28 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	£15,937
Capital Grants	£28,275
Remaining Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£44,063
Capital Grants	£11,725
Value of funding requested and under consideration	
Small Grants	£740
Capital Grants	£6,998

2. SMALL GRANTS

Tulloch Primary School Parent Council

- 2.1 An application for £439.60 has been received from Tulloch Primary School Parent Council to host a school pantomime event for all 440 children. The event will be free. The total cost for the performance is £1,099 (booking contract price excluding VAT which the applicant does not have to pay) and the group are seeking funding to cover 40% of this cost (£439.60). The balance of £659.40 will be paid by the Parent Council themselves. The grant will provide children with the excitement of 'going to a panto', providing an element of tradition to the winter season and is something not all children in Tulloch would ordinarily experience.

Consideration

- 2.2 It is considered that a grant of £439.60 is consistent with criteria 9.2(a).

Past Funding

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2020/2021	£439.60	9.2(a)	Christmas Pantomime
2019/2020	£420	9.2(a)	Christmas Pantomime
2019/2020	£700	9.2(a)	Summer Trip
2018/2019	£700	9.2(a)	Summer Trip
2018/2019	£400	9.2(a)	Christmas Pantomime

Friends of St. John's Kirk of Perth

- 2.3 An application for £300 has been received from Friends of St. John's Kirk of Perth seeking a grant towards the costs of a St. John's Carillon Recording of Christmas Carols. The total cost is £613. This includes £330 to produce 100 CDs; £60 for downloading and streaming via Amazon; £50 for a copyright application; £88 for VAT on copyright application; and £85 for a copyright license (including VAT). The applicant will contribute £313 towards these costs.
- 2.4 The previous year's recording was very successful, selling nearly all of the 100 CDs that were ordered despite the closure of the church over the last two summers. The grant will allow the music of the Carillon to be kept for posterity and sold for people to enjoy the music. The limited proceeds from the sale of the CDs will go towards supporting further group activities.

Consideration

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

PAST FUNDING

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2019/2020	£247	9.8	Carillon Recording of Christmas Carols

3. CAPITAL GRANTS

North Muirton Community Council

- 3.1 An application for £6,998 been received from North Muirton Community Council to contribute to the renovation of North Muirton Community Hall. The renovated hall will serve food for those experiencing food poverty; host lunch clubs during the school holidays; provide refreshments to clubs using the facilities; enable local events to take place; and host birthday parties for local children. As part of the renovation, every room is being painted; the bathrooms are being upgraded; the kitchen is being extended; and a new kitchen will be fitted with new fire doors, all new appliances, electrical sockets and a breakfast bar area. A new volunteer group has been specifically set up to help support the project works and they expect that 90% of hall users will be from the Common Good area.
- 3.2 The project started in August, with an intended completion date of January 2022. The total costs are estimated to be £30,805 a breakdown of which 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
Removal of wall and kitchen replacement	Quote	£7,500
Opening event	Quote	£350
Kitchen and bathroom fittings and appliances, inc. fire doors and electrical work	Quote	£15,800
Painting and decorating	Quote	£1,000
Crockery, cutlery, kitchen equipment, meeting room furniture and IT	Quote	£6,155
Total proposed expenditure		£30,805
In-kind donations		£5,500
National Lottery Community Fund		£10,000
Supporting Communities Fund (pending)		£2,500
Perth and Kinross Council (Flood Funds)		£5,807
Funding requested		£6,998

Consideration

- 3.3 It is considered that a grant of £6,998 is consistent with Criteria 10.4.

4. PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND – CRITERIA

- 4.1 At the previous meeting of the Committee, members requested that the criteria be amended to reflect a desire that resources for events or projects be sourced as locally as possible. We propose to add an additional paragraph to the criteria at 8.3, reading “*Applicants who are seeking funds to purchase resources, or undertake capital projects are asked to demonstrate that they are sourcing these from local providers, where these can reasonably meet their needs.*” This wording is contained in the attached criteria at Appendix 1. Committee is asked to consider and approve this wording.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Authors

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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.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

2.1 Perth Common Good Application papers.

3. APPENDICES

3.1 Appendix 1 - Perth City Common Good Fund Criteria.