

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

19 October 2020

Applications for Financial Assistance

Report by Executive Director of Housing and Environment (Report No. 20/185)

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

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 2020/21 Financial Assistance budget for Perth Common Good Fund was approved by this Committee at the meeting on 19 February 2020 (Report 20/45 refers). The approved budget, the value of funding approved to date, together with the remaining budget and value of applications to be considered at this meeting is summarised below:

Approved 2020/21 Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£60,000
Capital Grants	£40,000
Value of applications to be considered at Committee meeting on 20 October 2020	
Small Grants	£8,010
Capital Grants	£2,000

Remaining Financial Assistance Budget	
Small Grants	£58,862
Capital Grants	£20,239.45
Applications awarded by email in 2020/21	
Small Grants	£1,138
Capital Grants	£19,760.55

2. PROPOSALS – Small Grants

Perth Badminton

- 2.1 An application for £3,000 has been received from Perth & District Badminton Association seeking support to hold the Scottish National Badminton Championship in 2021. The event will see Scotland's top badminton players compete against each other for national titles. Having this event in Perth will enable local clubs, schools and Perth residents to see Scotland's top players in action. The Association intends to re-run a mixed gender under 11s event in conjunction with the championship to allow local children to participate. The event is expected to bring people into Perth during the event (5 February and 7 February 2021). The group estimate 470 people from Perth will come and 830 from outside of Perth. The event has support from Bell's Sport Centre and local businesses. The event is expected to cost £13,000, which includes hall hire, accommodation for officials, catering, prize funds, trophies, publicity and court set up. The Association will be charging an entry fee for the event and this will raise £3,000. Badminton Scotland will put £4,000 towards the event and the group are applying for the PKC events fund. Without this grant this event would incur a significant deficit. A grant would ensure Perth sees the benefits of hosting tournament.

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2019/20	£3,000	9.2	Scottish National Badminton Championship
2018/19	£3,000	9.2	Scottish National Badminton Championship
2017/18	£3,000	9.2	Scottish National Badminton Championship

Consideration

- 2.2 It is considered that a grant of £2,600 is consistent with criteria 9.2.

Tulloch Primary School Parent Council

- 2.3 Tulloch Primary School Parent Council are seeking support to host a pantomime for pupils on campus on 22 December 2020. The pantomime is an opportunity for all 470 school children to enjoy a performance by M&M productions. The total cost to put on this performance is £1,099 and the group are seeking funding to cover 40% of this cost (£439.60). The grant will enable pupils at Tulloch Primary School to enjoy a pantomime before their Christmas break.

Consideration

- 2.4 It is considered that a grant of £439.60 is consistent with criteria 9.2.

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2019/20	£420	9.2	Panto 2019
2019/20	£700	9.2	Summer Trip

2.5 Tulloch Primary School

Tulloch Primary School are applying for funding to support their 2021 P7 residential to Dalguise Outdoor Activity Centre. The trip will run from 19th April to 23rd April and take all 50 P7 pupils for a week's adventure. The cost of the trip is £282 per pupil or £14,100 for 50 pupils plus £250 for transport costs. The School would like to direct a grant towards 9 pupils from families who would find it difficult to fund the trip to ensure cost is not a barrier for taking part. The School is applying for £2,788 which includes the cost of 9 pupils and the cost of the coach. The School has not received a grant from the Perth Common Good Fund in the last three years.

2.6 Consideration

It is considered that a grant of £1,000 is consistent with Criteria 9.7

Friends of William Soutar Society

- 2.7 Perth Poet William Soutar (1898-1943) is a major figure in Scottish literature who played a significant role in the early twentieth century Scottish Literary Renaissance. The Friends of William Soutar Society intend to publish 'The Complete Works of William Soutar (Poetry)'. The book will include all Soutar's published and unpublished poems, alongside a modern assessment by a leading Scottish academic. The total cost of the project is £13,470.95, the group have secured £9401.45 and are applying for a grant of £3,569.50. The costs include; transport and academic research costs (£5,725); printing 500 copies of the book (£3,046), other publication costs such as editing, styling, graphics and proof reading (£3,185.95). Any income generated by the book will be used to print more copies and if sales allow the revenue would be put towards another book on the William Soutar's prose collection. The group have previously benefitted from the Perth Common Good Fund.

Consideration

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

3.0 Capital

Riverside Church North Muirton

3.1 Riverside Church in North Muirton are seeking funding to support the creation of a community kitchen to support low-income households in their local area in partnership with Fareshare. The 'Martha's Kitchen Project' will work with schools in a confidential and respectful manner to identify vulnerable families who may need support. The impact of the Covid-19 restrictions has caused many people to lose their jobs or have reduced hours. The church has worked with the North Perth Covid-19 Support Network since March and wishes to continue with this work. The group believe they can help 350 people in the Common Good area. The total cost of the project is £4,500 and the group are applying for £2,000. The group would use grant money for a commercial dishwasher. The group have secured £2,500 to buy a commercial fridge and other kitchen equipment. The project will run from September 2020 to March or June 2021. The group will work with partners to turn surplus food into nutritious meals. Long term the church would like to run a community café for all people in the community. A grant would help reduce food poverty in the North Muirton area.

Consideration

3.2 It is considered that a grant of £1,125 is consistent with criteria 10.3.

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Author

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Lee Haxton	Community Planning Team Leader	PKGrantsDirect@pkc.gov.uk 01738 477834
Christopher Holgate	Community Planning Officer	

Approved

Name	Designation	Date
David Stokoe	Service Manager Communities	11 th September

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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 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 2019/20 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

13 applications for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.