

PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE

19 FEBRUARY 2020

Applications for Financial Assistance

Report by Depute Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer)
(Report No 20/56)

The report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider five applications for financial assistance, four for small grants and one for a 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 2019/20 Financial Assistance budget for Perth Common Good Fund was approved by this Committee at the meeting on 27 February 2019 ([Report 19/55](#) 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 2019/20 Financial Assistance Budget Small Grants Capital Grants	£60,000 £40,000
Value of grants committed Small Grants Capital Grants	£45,170 £35,187
Remaining Financial Assistance Budget Small Grants Capital Grants Other Uncommitted Budget	£14,830 £4,813 £19,956
Value of applications to be considered at Committee meeting on 19 February 2020 Small Grants Capital Grants	£10,428 £3,968

2. UPDATES FROM PREVIOUS APPLICANTS

Friends of St John's Kirk

- 2.1 At the June 2019 committee meeting an application was received from Friends of St John's Kirk to undertake a recording of the Carillon. A grant of £247 was approved and the committee requested an update once the project was completed. The Carillon recording has been completed, recordings are available to purchase via streaming services and 100 CDs were made. The recordings received critical acclaim.

3. PROPOSALS – Small Grants

St John Kirk

- 3.1 An application has been received from St John's Kirk of Perth, seeking a grant towards the costs of Carillon Recitals for Civic Engagements in 2020. The total costs amount to £2,340, including £2,240 for a Carillonneur to play 16 recitals (at £140 each) and £100 for leaflets. Over 300 people came to the recitals from January to November 2019. The applicant is applying for £2,340. The applicant has previously benefitted from the Fund as below:

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2018/19	£1,500	9.8	Civic Recitals
2017/18	£2,610	9.8	Civic Recitals
2016/17	£2,760	9.8	Civic Recitals

Consideration

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

Perth Academy

- 3.3 An application has been received from Perth Academy seeking funding for their French Trip from 25 May to 31 May 2020, led by the Modern Languages Department. The trip is designed to encourage 40 S1 and S2 pupils to improve their French language skills and learn about French culture. The trip will also visit war memorials so pupils can pay their respects to former Perth Academy pupils who died in the World Wars. The cost of the trip is £25,600, which is £640 per pupil. The school is applying for a grant of £1,000 to support the trip. The School has previously benefited from the Fund as below:

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2019/20	£1,000	9.7	Iceland Geography Trip
2018/19	£1,000	9.7	S1 French Trip 2019
2018/19	£600	9.7	S1 French Trip 2018
2017/18	£700	9.7	Trip to WW1 Battlefields in June 2018 (seven pupils)
2017/18	£1,500	9.7	S1 French Trip 2017

Consideration

- 3.4 It is considered that a grant of £1,000 is consistent with criteria 9.7.

Perth and Kinross School Sport Planning Group

- 3.5 An application has been received from the Perth and Kinross School Sports Planning Group, which aims to support young people to compete in school sports. The group is constituted and is run by Sport Development Staff from Live Active Leisure. The application is split into two parts and the group have not previously benefitted from the Perth Common Good Fund.

Part 1

- 3.6 Currently 1,022 pupils in Perth and 771 from other parts of Perth and Kinross are involved in competitive school sports, which are free to all participants. The group are not able to offer pupils medals to recognise their success and £750 is requested to cover the cost of providing them.

Consideration

- 3.7 It is considered that a grant of £300 is consistent with criteria 9.2.

Part 2

- 3.8 The second part of the application is to pay for certificates for four teaching staff, one in each of the four Perth secondary schools to gain a D1 minibus qualification. Currently Perth schools are limited in taking pupils to competitions and other related events because of licensing requirements for driving a minibus. The cost of a D1 minibus driver qualification is £972 (£3,888 for four).

Consideration

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

Comann nam Parant, Peairt

- 3.10 An application has been received from Comann nam Parant Peairt, a group which supports Gaelic Medium Education at Goodlyburn Primary School. The group have set up an afterschool club for 26 pupils in P1-P7, which allows the children to use and develop their Gaelic language skills outwith the classroom through a range of extracurricular activities, including: sports; drama; music; dance; cooking; outdoor learning; and homework support. The total costs of the project are £7,600 which includes: £3,000 for staff (covered by Bord na Gaidhlig); wall climbing (£2,600); visiting specialists to lead singing; dancing and gardening (£1,500); craft materials (£250); and snacks (£250). The group are contributing £1,000 in cash to support this project, Bord na Gaidhlig have provided a grant of £3,600 and the group are applying for £3,000. The group have previously benefitted from the Fund as below:

Year	Amount	Criteria	Project
2018/19	£1,500	9.8	After School Club
2017/18	£1,500	9.8	After School Club

Consideration

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

4. PROPOSALS – Capital Grants

Perth Armed Forces War Memorial

- 4.1 An application has been received from the Association of Perth Veterans to erect a monument to remember the men and women of Perth who died during military service. The group are applying for £15,872 to cover the cost of the masonry work (£14,594) and a Bronze Plaque (£1,278). Currently Perth does not have a war memorial, the Mercat Cross currently used during remembrance events has no association with remembrance. The new structure will be on St John Street behind St John's Kirk, which will be a less busy place for people to pay their respects. The stone will be quarried in

Perthshire to match the masonry of St John's Kirk. The monument will be three metres high and be 1.4 metres in width and 1.1 metres in depth. The group are being supported by colleagues in the Planning Department to determine which permissions or warrants may be required. The monument will be inspected each September and any maintenance work will be carried out by the contractor free of charge. It is hoped that the monument will be completed by Victory in Europe (VE) Day on 8 May 2020.

Background information

- 4.2 Veterans raised over £100,000 for a fund administered by the Quality of Life Trust which operated a number of years ago. The Trust included a Fund for the Perthshire Royal Army Service Corps Memorial Fund (PRASCM). The Quality of Life Trust was wound up during 2014/15 and the funds were reorganised and transferred to the Perth & Kinross Welfare Trust which is administered by the Council. The transfer of the PRASCM Fund was on the basis that the funds remain restricted for the purpose of assisting individuals disadvantaged due to economic circumstances, and to advance education.

Consideration

- 4.2 It is considered that a grant of £3,968 is consistent with criteria 10.4.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Author

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

Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Jim Valentine	Depute Chief Executive (Chief Operating Officer)	3 February 2020

If you or someone you know would like a copy of this document in another language or format, (on occasion, only a summary of the document will be provided in translation), this can be arranged by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01738 475000.

You can also send us a text message on 07824 498145.

All Council Services can offer a telephone translation facility.

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 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

13 applications for financial assistance.

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Perth Common Good Fund Criteria.

Appendix 2 – Perth Veterans Memorial Plans