

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**PERTH COMMON GOOD FUND COMMITTEE****11 December 2013****APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE****Report by Depute Director (Environment)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report asks Perth Common Good Fund Committee to consider applications for financial assistance.

1. 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 The Common Good Funds have traditionally demonstrated their support to local residents and organisations by distributing grant. These grant awards allow individuals and local organisations to carry out a wide range of community based activities. For each application, the level of previous grant awarded is listed, but variances between years could be due to the numbers of participants.

2. PROPOSALS**2.1 Bowerswell Social Club**

An application has been received from the Bowerswell Social Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Lunch on 19 December 2013. The total costs for 40 members amount to £660. The applicant is requesting £330. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£300) 2011/12 (£280) and 2012/2013 (£315). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £280 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 – capped at £7 per person). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Bowerswell Social Club be awarded a grant of £280 towards the costs of their Christmas lunch.

2.2 Friendly Group

An application has been received from the Friendly Group seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Lunch on 9 December 2013. The total costs for 33 members amount to £396. The applicant is requesting £396. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£165), 2011/12 (£192) and 2012/2013 (£198). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £231 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 - capped at £7 per person). If the award is not provided, the applicant will have to meet all costs from its own resources. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

The Friendly Group be awarded a grant of £231 towards the costs the cost of their Christmas lunch.

2.3 Letham Old People's Club

An application has been received from Letham Old People's Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Meal on 10 December 2013. The total costs for 80 members amount to £1,120. The applicant is requesting £1,120. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£700) 2011/12 (£700) and 2012/2013 (£665). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £560 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 - capped at £7 per person). If the award is not provided, the applicant will have to meet all costs from its own resources. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Letham Old People's Club be awarded a grant of £560 towards the costs of their Christmas meal.

2.4 Perth City Club

An application has been received from Perth City Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Party on 2 December 2013. The total costs for 60 members amount to £900. The applicant is requesting £900. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£583) 2011/12 (£518) and 2012/2013 (£518). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £420 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 - capped at £7 per person). If the award is not provided, the applicant will have to meet all costs from its own resources. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Perth City Club be awarded a grant of £420 toward the costs of Christmas Party.

2.5 Wednesday Tea Dance Group

An application has been received from the Wednesday Tea Dance Group seeking a grant towards the costs of their post-Christmas Party on 15 January 2014. The total costs for 40 members amount to £566. The applicant is requesting £566. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£226) 2011/12 (£280) and 2012/2013 (£263). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £280 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 - capped at £7 per person). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

The Wednesday Tea Dance Group be awarded £280 towards the costs of their post-Christmas party.

2.6 Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services

An application has been received from Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services seeking a grant towards the Perth Day Club Christmas Dinners throughout December. The total costs amount to £1,800. The applicant is requesting £1,000. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2012/13 (£560). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £560 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 - capped at £7 per person). If the award is not provided, the applicant will have to meet all costs from its own resources. The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services be awarded a grant of £560 towards the Perth Day Club Christmas dinners.

2.7 Our Lady's Afternoon Club

An application has been received from Our Lady's Afternoon Club seeking a grant towards the cost of their Christmas Lunch on 12 December 2013. The total costs for 20 members amount to £280. The applicant has not requested a specific amount. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£212) and in 2012/2013 (£210). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £140 in line with their request (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 10 – capped at £7 per person). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Our Lady's Afternoon Club be awarded a grant of £140 towards their Christmas Lunch.

2.8 People with a Mission Ministries

An application has been received from People with a Mission Ministries seeking a grant towards the cost of their Senior Citizens 2013 Christmas Appeal. Over 1,200 senior citizens in Perth received Christmas gift bags last year and the organisation has set a target of 1,300 for this year. The total

costs are estimated around £13,500 and the organisation is requesting a grant of £2,500. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2010/11 (£1,500), 2011/12 (£1,500) and 2012/13 (£1,500). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,500 in line with the guidance see (Appendix 1- Criteria 12). The grant will contribute to promote social inclusion.

Recommendation

People with a Mission Ministries be awarded a grant of £1,500 towards the costs of Christmas Gift Bags for senior citizens in Perth.

2.9 Perth Flower Club

An application has been received from Perth Flower Club seeking a grant towards the cost of taking part in a national showcase flower Festival celebrating the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow Cathedral between February – May 2014. The total costs to purchase equipment (willow, wires, gypsophilia, glue, glitter) and to construct and transport ‘angels’ display (hall hire, van hire) amount to £800. The applicant is requesting £650. The organisation has benefitted from the Fund in 2012/2013 (£350). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £400 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 2). The grant will contribute to the promotion of Perth and community activity.

Recommendation

Perth Flower Club be awarded a grant of £400 towards the costs of their participation in a national showcase flower Festival celebrating the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

2.10 Perth Allstars

An application has been received from Perth Allstars seeking a grant towards the cost of purchasing 60 uniforms to enable the group to compete in national cheerleading competition events. The total costs amount to £2,700. The applicant is requesting the full amount. The applicant has never benefitted from the fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund award a grant of £1,350 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote physical activities.

Recommendation

Perth Allstars be awarded a grant of £1,350 towards the costs of purchasing uniforms to compete in national cheerleading events.

2.11 Perth Junior Badminton Club

An application has been received from Perth Junior Badminton Club seeking a grant towards the cost of equipment. The total costs of the equipment (coaching resources manuals/DVD, shorthanded and normal size racquets, shuttles, equipment bags, nets and junior tops) amount to £1,057. The applicant is requesting the full amount. The organisation has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund

Committee award a grant of £528 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote physical activities.

Recommendation

Perth Junior Badminton Club be awarded a grant of £528 towards the costs of purchasing equipment.

2.12 Tay Thistle 2000's

An application has been received from Tay Thistle 2000's seeking a grant towards the purchase of equipment and football kits for the under 14 football team training at Jeanfield Recreation Park. The total costs of equipment (footballs, football strips, track suits) amount to £1,500. The applicant has applied for £1,500. The Club has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £750 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to promote physical activities.

Recommendation

Tay Thistle 2000's be awarded a grant of £750 towards the purchase of equipment.

2.13 Perth Academy

An application has been received from Perth Academy seeking a grant towards the cost of sending 4 S1 pupils on a trip to Northern France/Belgium from 14 May – 20 May 2014 including a visit of a French bakery, a world war museum, a sea life centre and Ypres war graves. The total costs for each pupil are £500. 4 pupils will not be able to participate due to financial difficulties. The applicant is requesting £300 per pupil for a total of £1,200. The school has benefitted from the Fund (for different pupils) in 2010/11 (£1,000), 2011/12 (£900) and 2012/2013 (£239). It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund award a grant of £1,200 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 11). The grant will contribute to the promotion of social inclusion.

Recommendation

Perth Academy be awarded a grant of £1,200 towards the S1 pupil trip to Northern France/Belgium.

2.14 Perth Student

An application has been received from a Perth Student seeking a grant towards the cost of 12 month voluntary work overseas with the Project Trust in Honduras (teaching English in a secondary school). The total costs of the trip amount to £5,600 including flights and insurance. The applicant has never benefitted from the Fund. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £400 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 8). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Perth Student be awarded a grant of £400 towards 12 month voluntary work overseas in Honduras.

2.15 Perth Foodbank

An application has been received from Perth Foodbank seeking a grant towards start-up costs. The total costs amount to £9,485 which include purchase of a van, racking, computer, printer, sundry, and insurance. Perth Foodbank is working with the Trussell Trust to assist the growing number of people who are in dire need of food due to unforeseen circumstances. The Council has provided support to upgrade premises at St Catherine's Road and a quarterly Saturday gift day is organised at a leading supermarket. The applicant has applied for £1,000. The Foodbank has never benefitted from the Fund before. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund Committee award a grant of £1,000 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 4). The grant will contribute to social inclusion.

Recommendation

Perth Foodbank be awarded a grant of £1,000 towards start-up costs.

2.16 10th Perthshire Scout Group

An application has been received from the 10th Perthshire Scout Group seeking a grant towards the costs of a hall extension (6 metres to the Northern side of the building) to double the existing second hall/meeting room area and provide additional meeting/training rooms and storage. The existing building was opened in 2009 and although it was built to accommodate some usage increase, it cannot meet the current growth (+70% to a current level of 211 which is projected to increase to 250 by the end of 2013 without taking into account the waiting list). When the Scout troop operates (40 plus) over two evenings along with Beaver sessions, over 70 young people plus leaders are using the building and it is not sustainable. The hall extension aims to provide additional space to cater for increasing number of members. The total costs of the hall extension amount to £130,000 (includes £20,000 for VAT and £10,000 for fitting out and contingencies) for a construction planned in the Summer 2014. The organisation has received competitive quote from the builder who originally built the building. The organisation has a 50 year lease with the Council on the land where the building is located. The organisation is requesting £35,000. The applicant benefited from the Fund in 2007/08 (£7,500) for the construction of the existing hall located at Perth Academy which was opened in 2009. It is recommended that Perth Common Good Fund award a grant of £15,000 in line with the guidance (see Appendix 1 – Criteria 5). The grant will contribute to lifelong learning and social inclusion.

Recommendation

10th Perthshire Scout Group be awarded a grant of £15,000 towards the costs of hall extension.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The Committee is request to approve the recommendations in the report.

Author(s)

| Name | Designation | Contact Details |
|--------------|---|---|
| Serge Merone | Senior Regeneration Projects Officer | Pullar House – 35 Kinnoull Street Perth - Ext. 75536 |

Approved

| Name | Designation | Date |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Barbara Renton | Depute Director (Environment) | 3 December 2013 |

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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 recommendation contained within this report will be funded from the contributions to organisations provision for 2013/14.

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 Services and the Head of Finance have been consulted.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

16 applications for financial assistance

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Perth Financial Assistance

COMMON GOOD FUNDS WITHIN PERTH AND KINROSS AREA CRITERIA

Within the boundary of the relevant common good area and if funding is available, applications will be considered from individuals either in full time education or of senior citizen status and from groups whose members qualify on the same basis or which are operating within the same boundary.

1. Christmas lighting - Firework displays up to a maximum of 50% of the total costs
2. Organisation of events/games/festivals up to a maximum of 50% of the total costs
3. Prizes at events/games/festivals
4. Acquisition of equipment - consideration on merits up to a maximum of 50%
5. Capital grants for provision/improvement of facilities - consideration on merits up to a maximum of 50% (the facilities must be available to the general public)
6. School/youth exchanges
7. School prizes
8. Voluntary work overseas
 - 6 months or more: £100 - **Perth Common Good Fund only**: up to £400 per individual
 - 1 – 5 months: £100 - **Perth Common Good Fund only**: up to £250 per individual
9. Attendance at summer schools/events
 - Less than 1 month but more than 2 weeks: £100 **Perth Common Good Fund only**: up to £150 per individual
 - One/two weeks: up to £100 per individual
10. Excursions/Parties (up to 2 per year per group)
 - Contribution of 50% towards the actual costs. Each organisation is allowed 2 applications during the course of a financial year. **Perth Common Good Fund only**: overall grant to be capped at up to £7 per individual with an overall maximum grant of up to £700.

11. Visits by and from School/Youth/Sport/Music groups

- Contributions of up to £600 for groups of less than 20 individuals and up to £1,000 for groups of over 20 individuals for youth groups, senior citizen or vulnerable groups for activities exceeding 1 day. **Perth Common Good Fund only and for schools:** Contribution of 50% of the costs up to a maximum of £300 for each young person who due to financial difficulties is unable to participate in an extra curriculum school activity outwith the boundaries of Perth, exceeding 1 day and organised by a school. It will be the responsibility of each school to state the purpose of the extra curriculum school activity and identify such young person and advise the Common Good Fund accordingly.

12. Any purpose where it can be demonstrated that there is a benefit to the community of the common good area

The following is not eligible:

- Assistance with further or higher education fees
- Charity based sponsored walk/cycle/canoe etc.
- Town twinning activities other than those qualifying through the age/occupation criteria
- Organisations with religious/political associations where there are restrictions on usage or availability
- Core funding of the voluntary sector
- Assistance with rental of premises