

**REPORT TO MARR AREA COMMITTEE – 20 AUGUST, 2019****AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET – SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS****1 Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:-

1.1 Consider applications for Area Committee Budget funding from:-

- (a) Victoria Hall Braemar Association (Braemar Village Hall) for up to £1,000 towards the cost of wall repairs and fencing; and**
- (b) Upper Donside Bowling Club for up to £2,000 towards the cost of a lawnmower.**

1.2 Note awards approved by the Area Manager, following consultation with the Chair and Ward Members, under delegated powers as follows:

- (a) Up to £2,000 to Strathdon Community Development Trust towards the cost of regenerating the Strathdon Community Tennis Courts; and**
- (b) Up to £235 to Huntly Summer School towards the cost of venue hire for Huntly Summer School.**

2 Background / Discussion

- 2.1** The Area Committee, at its meeting on 16 April, 2019 (Item 6), approved priorities for expenditure of the Marr Area Committee Budget for 2019/20, including the provision of a Small Grant Scheme offering grants of up to £2,000 for community projects.
- 2.2** The Committee is requested to consider applications for funding from Victoria Hall Braemar Association and Upper Donside Bowling Club as detailed in Appendix 1.
- 2.3** At its meeting on 18 June, 2019 (Item 11), the Committee delegated authority to the Area Manager, following consultation with the Chair or Vice Chair of the Area Committee and Ward Members, to approve awards from the Area Committee Budget up to £2,000 until the next meeting of the Committee on 20 August, 2019. Awards were approved under this delegation to Strathdon Community Development Trust towards regenerating the Strathdon Community Tennis Courts and Huntly Summer School towards venue hire for the Huntly Summer School which provides music tuition for young people.
- 2.4** All grants must be paid within the current financial year. Projects awarded funding will be monitored to ensure they are progressing. Grant offers will be

withdrawn if milestones are not met to ensure that the Area Committee Budget can be fully utilised.

- 2.5 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report. Any comments are incorporated within the report and they are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

3 Scheme of Governance

- 3.1 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.6.3 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the authorisation of expenditure from the Area Committee Budget.

4 Implications and Risk

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommendations will not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 4.2 There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.
- 4.3 The Area Committee Budget for 2019/20 is £80,000 of which £26,500 has been allocated to the Small Grants Scheme. The current balance available is £12,239. If the applications are supported to the level requested this would leave a total of £9,239.
- 4.4 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures; Working with Other Organisations (see [Corporate Risk Register](#)). No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level.

Stephen Archer
Director of Infrastructure Services

Report prepared by: Kirsty Macleod, Area Committee Officer (Marr)
Date: 5 August, 2019.

APPENDIX 1

**(A) Organisation: Victoria Hall Braemar Association
Project: Wall Repairs and Fencing**

Project Outline: The project is to repair the wall outside Braemar Village Hall and erect a new fence. During works to make the access to the hall safe, the stonemason identified instabilities in the wall caused by the hedge's roots pushing the wall towards the road. The hedge was immediately removed and the wall stabilised. The wall repairs now need to be completed and a fence erected in place of the hedge. When the hedge was removed, it was revealed that a fence had previously been in place with the metal posts mostly still in place. The wall restoration will be carried out by a stonemason and fence panels made of recycled plastic will be erected onto the existing posts by community volunteers.

Community Benefit and Support: Improved safety of access will benefit all hall users and the wider community and visitors.

Project Costs:

Total: £4,000 **Amount Requested:** £1,000

Funds Raised: £3,000 (Braemar Hydro Fund and fundraising)

The organisation did not receive a Marr Area Committee Grant in 2018/19.

**(B) Organisation: Upper Donside Bowling Club
Project: Lawnmower**

Project Outline: Funding is sought towards purchasing a new lawnmower for the bowling club as the existing one is over 25 years old.

Community Benefit and Support: The green is an essential part of the bowling club and the lawnmower is needed to maintain it to a high standard. The bowling club currently has 40 members and is open to everyone including tourists staying in the local holiday lets. The clubhouse facilities are also used by local groups for community activities such as the recent Community Action Plan launch, Glenkindie and Towie Community Action Group, OAP group, and an annual church service. Facilities for local residents in Glenkindie and Towie are few and far between, so it is important that the bowling club survives.

Project Costs:

Total: £4,200 **Amount Requested:** £2,000

Funds Raised: £2,200 (Raised through fees and fundraising).

The organisation did not receive a Marr Area Committee Grant in 2018/19.