

## REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016

### COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION– MINTLAW & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### 1. Recommendation

##### 1.1 The Committee is requested to –

**(a) consider an award of £112 to Mintlaw Community Council**

#### 2. Background/Discussion

- 2.1 A total of £7,612 was made available to the Buchan area for disbursement to Community Councils for administration and project grants for the financial year 2016/2017.
- 2.2 The Committee agreed, on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 (Item 16), that the administration grant paid to each Community Council would be £425 and that an additional £35 would be paid to cover the cost of registration under the Data Protection Act. It was further agreed that the remaining balance of £3,472 would be made available for project grants of up to £1,000 or 80% of the total cost, whichever is the lesser.
- 2.3 The Committee further agreed, on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016, (Item 14) to award £720 to Cruden Community Council, on behalf of Cruden Bay Horticultural Society, for the replacement of planters. On 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2016, (Item 14) the Committee approved a further three awards; £126 to Mintlaw and District Community Council for Duck Pond Signs, £729 to Longside Community Council for a Notice Board and a Park Bench and £500 to Buchan East Community Council towards a defibrillator at St Fergus Village Hall, leaving a balance of £1,397.
- 2.4 The award to Mintlaw & District Community Council was reduced to £102 because the Duck Pond Signs came to less than originally estimated thereby increasing the remaining budget to £1,421.
- 2.5 Mintlaw and District Community Council are applying for funding, on behalf of the Mintlaw Hall and Park Trustees, to provide a dog waste bag dispenser complete with bags. Many families bring their children to use the play area or to spectate at football matches bringing their dogs along with them. The area is also a popular dog exercising area. There is a problem with dog owners not clearing up after their pets and a request for bags to be made readily available was received. The dispenser is specifically designed to give quick and easy access to dog waste bags.

- 2.6 A quote for total cost of the dispenser and a supply of bags has been obtained and amounts to £140.00. Once the initial supply of the bags has been exhausted the Hall and Parks Committee will restock the dispenser.
- 2.7 A grant of £112.00 is requested towards the project. The Community Council will cover the balance of £28.00.
- 2.8 The proposals support priority 7, 'Our Communities' and the action 'Environmental Improvements' within the Buchan Local Community Plan 2013-2016, as well as the National Priority "Supporting Communities and Volunteering".
- 2.9 The continuation of a project grant scheme will be of benefit to the area in allowing community sponsored works to proceed. In this particular case the main aims are to support and encourage active lifestyles, volunteering and improvement of the environment.
- 2.10 The grant scheme is in line with Council policy and past practice of the Area Committee.
- 2.11 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer from Business Services have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated into the report.

### **3. Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications**

- 3.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the report does not propose any change to previous allocation arrangements. There will be a positive impact of the grant on the residents and volunteers who will be involved in the project.
- 3.2 There are no staffing implications arising from this report. Supporting the work of Community Councils helps to sustain communities within Buchan.
- 3.3 The Community Council budget is shown on budget page 62, line 15. The funding scheme proposed is based on the agreed £62,000 budget and therefore no additional financial or staffing implications arise as a result of this report.
- 3.4 If this grant is approved the remaining balance will be £1,309.00.

**Ritchie Johnson**  
**Director of Business Services**

Report by Maureen Stephen  
29<sup>th</sup> June 2016