

REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE – 22 AUGUST 2017

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2017 - 2018

1 Recommendation

1.1 It is recommended that the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee considers the following applications:

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| 1.1.1 Stonehaven Town Partnership - | £8,000.00 |
| 1.1.2 1 st Stonehaven Scout Group - | £4,000.00 |
| 1.1.3 The Royal Burgh of Inverbervie Heritage Group - | £570.00 |

2 Background / Discussion

2.1 The Council has allocated £104,500 to each Area Committee for the financial year 2017/18 for the Area Committee Budget. Seven applications have been approved this year leaving a balance of £71,031.22.

2.2 An application has been received from the Stonehaven Town Partnership (STP) for £8,000 toward a project costing £75,541.13. Stonehaven Town Partnership are seeking to purchase the Court Building from The Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service for the purposes of developing a community hub. The Scottish Courts and Tribunal Service has confirmed to STP that they will sell the Court Building to STP for £1 if funding for the refurbishment project is in place by August 2017.

The office space on the ground floor will be utilised by a tenant who will have their own office space, interview and meeting rooms which can then also be hired out. The first-floor office space will be used by other community groups and include hot desk areas. STP have spoken to several groups in Stonehaven, such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, PAMIS, Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action, Kincardineshire Development Partnership, Horizon Group, Drugs Action and the Aberdeenshire Council Employability Service who have all expressed interest in renting office and storage space in the building. STP have letters of intent from these groups showing their interest.

STP have prepared a Business Plan showing viability by renting office space out as well as renting out the Main Court Room, which could, for example, be used by Mackie Academy for their mock trial practice, as a wedding venue, as meeting space, a music venue and for plays and shows.

STP are seeking £48,541 from LEADER and £5,000 from the Auquhirie Wind Farm, the outcomes were unknown at the time of writing this report.

In order to ensure that the Area Committee Budget funding is not tied up supporting projects that are not fully funded it might be a consideration to support this project for a limited time period or only to approve should LEADER

funding be granted. STP can always reapply if neither of the aforementioned options payout in their favour.

- 2.3 The 1st Stonehaven Scout Group are seeking £4,000 towards the cost of refurbishing the Scout Hut which, in total, is costing £11,306.00. Further funding is being sought from the Meikle Carewe Windfarm (£3,000) and Auquhirie Windfarm (£3,900), the outcome of which is unknown at the time of writing the report. The refurbishment costs include re-flooring, roof repairs and painting.

Again an option might be to support the application should funding be granted from the wind turbine grants or for a set time period.

- 2.4 The Royal Burgh of Inverbervie Heritage Group are looking for funding to set up a heritage display in the Library in Inverbervie. The intention is to wall mount 20 existing photographs depicting the history of the town and also to use a display unit for further exhibits which could be changed throughout the year. The total cost of the project is £1,139.26. The Library and Information Services Manager is supportive of the project. At the time of writing the report the remaining funding had not been achieved but it was suggested that it could be gathered through local funding events.

- 2.5 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report, their comments are incorporated within the report and 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 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommended actions will not have a differential impact on people with protected characteristics. Both organisations will be undertaking appropriate measure to ensure that their facilities are accessible to all members of the community. There are no particular staffing implications arising from this report. The management of this budget will be undertaken within existing Area Manager's resources. The proposals outlined in this report are in line with the allocation of financial resources as contained in the 2017/18 Revenue Budget for Area Managers.

**Report by Director of Infrastructure Services
Stephen Archer**

**Report prepared by Karen McWilliam, Area Committee Officer
(Kincardine & Mearns)
14 July 2017.**

KINCARDINE and MEARNs AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET						
FINANCIAL YEAR 2017-18						
APPLICANT	PURPOSE	DATE RECEIVED	BUDGET AMOUNT REQUESTED	DATE TO COMMITTEE	£104,500 AMOUNT AGREED	RUNNING TOTAL
FINANCIAL YEAR 2017-18						£104,500
K&M Local Community Planning group.	Participatory Budgeting Event	06.03.17	£5,000.00	21.03.17	£5,000.00	£99,500
Stonehaven Recreation Grounds Trust.	Fencing (Beach Road).	16.03.17	£7,926.00	25.04.17	£7,926.00	£91,574.00
Auchenblae Parks Committee.	Pump & Bike Track	12.11.16	£8,000.00	25.04.17	£8,000.00	£83,574.00
Mearns Area Partnership – Mearns Cycle Hub.	Cycle safety equipment	20.03.17	£252.78	25.04.17	£252.78	£83,321.22
Kinneff Old Church Preservation Trust Ltd.	Structural work on the Church	20.03.17	£5,000.00	25.04.17	£5,000.00	£78,321.22
Aberdeenshire Council - Stonehaven Town Centre Improvement Group.	Signage, Banners and seagull management.	27.03.17	£5,415.00	25.04.17	£5,415.00	£72,906.22
Friends of Stonehaven Open Air Pool.	Visitor Survey	10.05.17	£1,875.00	13.06.17	£1,875.00	£71,031.22

Stonehaven Town Partnership	Court Building refurbishment	24.05.17	£8,000.00	22.08.17	
1 st Stonehaven Scout Group	Refurbishment of the Scout Hall	01.06.17	£4,000.00	22.08.17	
Royal Burgh of Inverbervie Heritage Group	Heritage display	18.07.17	£570.00	22.08.17	