



## **REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

### **AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET: AREA INITIATIVES FUND**

#### **1. Recommendation**

##### **1.1 That the Committee agree:**

- (a) to approve the allocation of the balance of the Area Initiatives Budget, amounting to £5,050,**
- (b) to award £4,550 to Mintlaw Public Hall towards the cost of repairing the hall roof, and**
- (c) to award £500 to Longside Bowling Club towards the upgrade of the electrics in the clubhouse.**

#### **2. Background/Discussion**

- 2.1 At the Buchan Area Committee of 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2017, (Item 10), Councillors agreed to allocate two large project grants amounting to £24,500 and sixteen small project grants amounting to £36,450 for a variety of projects across Buchan. The Committee further agreed to allocate the remaining balance of £5,050 at a later date.
- 2.2 Two applications have now been received that, in assessing the projects together with the Buchan Development Partnership, meet the criteria of the scheme.
- 2.3 The first application is from Mintlaw Hall Committee for the repair of the hall roof. Following complaints by hall users and neighbouring residents, about water cascading from the roof during wet weather, a roof survey was commissioned and a repair schedule produced. The repair work will include stripping back the bottom three courses of slates, re-levelling the wall head, fitting new plastic roof crampets and gutters, re-slating as required and repairing any broken or missing slates.
- 2.4 The Hall Committee is working on a full refurbishment project of which the roof repairs is key to the success of the other improvements that are planned. The Hall is well used by the community for recreational, leisure and fund raising

activities and the refurbishment will improve the environment within the building and make it more attractive to user groups.

- 2.5 The total cost of the project is £9,500 plus VAT and they are requesting a grant of £4,550. The balance of the cost will be covered by in-kind help with the scaffolding which is required due to the height and location of the building and from hall funds.
- 2.6 The second application is from Longside Bowling Club for the upgrading of the electricity supply to the Clubhouse. The present wiring is over thirty years old and in the interests of health and safety this upgrade is now a priority for the Club.
- 2.7 The Club encourages lawn bowling in the community and people of all ages enjoy the outdoor pursuit. A good clubhouse is essential and the Club have endeavoured to keep it in good condition, thereby encouraging members to enjoy the social aspects of bowling.
- 2.8 The total cost of the project is £1,000 and the Club are requesting a grant of £500 towards this cost. The balance of the project cost will be covered from Club funds.
- 2.9 There is considerable volunteer effort involved in both projects that are being supported.
- 2.10 The help and support of the Buchan Development Partnership has been fundamental in the development of this report.
- 2.11 It has been suggested that the awards should be made at the October Buchan Area Committee meeting.
- 2.12 The Head of Finance has been consulted and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services has been consulted and their comments incorporated within the report.
- 2.13 The proposals are in direct conformity with the Buchan Community Plan 2016-2019.
- 2.14 In discussing the Area Committee Budget priority has been given to improvement of facilities, environmental, health and wellbeing and capacity building projects.

### **3. Scheme of Governance**

- 3.1 The List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance enable the Committee to authorise expenditure from the Area Committee Budget under Finance and Procurement 6.3 of Section B.

#### **4 Implications and Risk**

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the report does not propose any change to previous allocation arrangements and there will be no differential impact, as a result of the report, on people with protected characteristics.
- 4.2 There are no staffing and financial implications. The provisions outlined in this report will commit the remaining balance of £5,050 of the Area Committee Budget.
- 4.3 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures; Working with other organisations. No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level
- 4.4 A total budget of £104,500 is available for the Area Committee Budget in the current financial year. As agreed in April this was split £66,000 to Area Initiatives, £16,000 to Brighter Villages Scheme, £400 Buchan in Bloom prizes, £20,000 as part of the match funding for the Aden Country Park Restoration & Redevelopment project and £2,100 for contingencies.

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

Report by Maureen Stephen  
30<sup>th</sup> August 2017

