

REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE – 16 JANUARY 2018

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2017 - 2018

1 Recommendation

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

1.1.1	Inverbervie Burgh Hall Committee -	£6,696.00
1.1.2	Newtonhill Community Hall Association -	£2,000.00
1.1.3	Newtonhill Out of School Club -	£725.94
1.1.4	Solstice Nurseries -	£7,000.00
1.1.5	Aberdeen Aeromodellers Flying Club -	£1,575.00
1.1.6	Bervie Youth Project -	£200.00
1.1.7	Skateraw Fair -	£494.00
1.1.8	Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group -	£1,156.00

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. Twenty three applications have been approved this year leaving a balance of £19,847.85. If the applications presented in this report are agreed that will complete distribution of this fund for this financial year.
- 2.2 An application has been received from Inverbervie Burgh Hall for £6,696.00 for the purchase of tables, chairs and a storage trolley. The total cost of the project is £13,393.80 with the remaining funding being assembled from a grant from the Participatory Budgeting event run by the Council in the summer and also from funds raised by the group. The Inverbervie Hall Committee recognise the need to upgrade the tables and chairs to be fit for purpose for this well used community facility.
- 2.3 An application has been received from the Newtonhill Community Hall Association for £2,000 to fund a new server and power supply for the Bettridge Centre. The total cost of the project is £4,100 with the remainder of the funding being provided by Centre funds. The Bettridge Centre is a very busy organisation, providing sports, arts, and community facilities to over 50,000 local people of all ages. It is open 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. Like most businesses it depends on IT systems to run and promote the Centre,

communicate with potential customers, take bookings and organise payments. Because the Centre uses a server, rather than an individual computer, it can be accessed remotely, so the Centre's management team can answer queries and take bookings at any time. This is essential with a volunteer organisation. The current server has failed twice in the past two month and is now running slowly, and showing increasing signs of instability. New software, such as an online booking system, cannot be purchased as the current system would not support any change. The current server's performance is also affecting Wi-Fi in the building on a frequent basis, which prevents both user groups and staff from conducting their businesses effectively.

- 2.4 Newtonhill Out of School Club has requested £725.94 to purchase chairs and a trolley for club use. The current chairs are in a poor condition and need to be replaced. Other users of the facility would also benefit from new chairs. The total cost is £1,200 with the remainder being met through fund raising efforts of the club.
- 2.5 An application has been received from a Social Enterprise, not for profit organisation, called Solstice Nurseries. Located within a secluded walled garden, just a short distance from Aberdeen, on the South Deeside Road. This organisation provides placements for training, qualifications and work experience for people with, or recovering from, mental illness, who live in Aberdeen city or Aberdeenshire. This enterprise is run as a business but all profits are put back into the business. The project consists of a wholesale plant nursery and garden and maintenance services, whereby people can stay and work in the nursery or, following training, go out and work with the maintenance team. The maintenance squad covers the usual range of garden services such as grass cutting, pruning, weeding and tidying, and provide this service for local people in the surrounding area. The team also work on the local estate helping to manage and maintain the policies at Banchory-Devenick. All participants begin with training in the nursery, potting, weeding, propagating, and learning the art of gardening and cultivation.

The nursery has expanded over the last two years and has become a known resource for landscapers, garden designers, specialist gardeners and plant hunters. Due to an increase in participant numbers over the last 3 years, from an average of 15 people to an average of 24 people, and successful development of the nursery, another building is required. This building will incorporate garage space, storage, a workshop and a heated potting shed. This will accommodate more participants working in the nursery, particularly during poor weather conditions. The total cost of site preparation and services is £15,000 with £7,000 being sought from the Area Committee Budget. The overall cost of the project, including the shed is £45,000 and funding is being sought from the Gordon and Ena Baxter Foundation, the result of this will be known in March 2018. There are 6 or 7 clients from Aberdeenshire and 18 from Aberdeen City. Currently the split for places is 25% for Aberdeenshire and 75% for Aberdeen City. The Group were unaware of any available funding from Aberdeen City Council.

- 2.6 Aberdeen Aeromodellers Flying Club has requested £1,575 for a project costing £3,150 to repair the ground used by the club. The cost of full drainage was seen as prohibitive and by spiking and aerating the ground the club will improve the facility. The Saturation Investigation team of the AWPR have supported the Club by assessing the ground and agreed that the aforementioned works would

make a significant difference. Members of the Club are aged from 6 to 84 years and reside in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. There are 61 members of which 35 are Aberdeenshire residents, 24 Aberdeen City residents & 2 from Angus.

- 2.7 Bervie Youth Project have requested £200 towards the purchase of bike lights for members of the Bervie Youth Project. Whilst this application would sit more comfortably with a community safety initiative there is no active Community Safety Group in Kincardine and Mearns and therefore there is no dedicated local funding. No matched funding commitment is being made by the group.
- 2.8 Skateraw Fair are requesting £494.00 for a project costing £988.00 to purchase a commercial barbeque, table and chairs for the Skateraw Fair, the equipment will also be used by the Newtonhill Village Association at other village events. The group have match funding in place.
- 2.9 Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group has requested £1,156.00 towards the purchase and installation of a wooden train for the Lower Park. The purchase of the wooden train is the first step in the group's plans to develop this area of the village. The community, including the School, have been involved in the development of the Lower Park project.
- 2.10 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 Implications and Risks

- 4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required because the recommended actions will not have a differential impact on people with protected characteristics. Access to this resource is available to all members of the community.
- 4.2 There are no particular staffing implications arising from this report.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 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.

- 4.5 The content of this report has been considered against the Town Centre First Principle and would have no impact upon the identified town centres in Kincardine and Mearns, therefore a Town Centre First Impact Assessment is not required.

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

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

KINCARDINE and MEARN'S AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR 2017-18						
APPLICANT	PURPOSE	DATE RECEIVED	BUDGET AMOUNT REQUESTED	DATE TO COMMITTEE	AMOUNT AGREED	RUNNING TOTAL
FINANCIAL YEAR 2017-18						
K&M Local Community Planning group.	Participatory Budgeting Event	06.03.17	£5,000.00	21.03.17	£5,000.00	£104,500 £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	£8,000.00 (time bound)	£63,031.22
1 st Stonehaven Scout Group	Refurbishment of the Scout Hall	01.06.17	£4,000.00	22.08.17	£4,000.00 (time bound)	£59,031.22
Royal Burgh of Inverbervie Heritage Group	Heritage display	18.07.17	£570.00	22.08.17	£570.00	£58,461.22
Stonehaven & District Angling Association	Commission a full hydrological flood risk assessment report	17.08.17	£3,000.00	12.09.17	£3,000.00	£55,461.22
Marykirk Village hall Management Committee	Resurface hall car park	23.08.17	£500.00	12.09.17	£500.00	£54,961.22
St James Episcopal Church	Exhibition Space	20.08.17	£6,000.00	03.10.17	£6,000.00	£48,961.22
Portlethen & District Men's Shed	Men's Shed refurbishment	04.09.17	£1,836.00	03.10.07	£1,836.00	£47,125.22
Portlethen & District Community Council	Purchase and refurbishment of a lock up to be used for storage of Community Council equipment.	17.09.17	£4,000.00	03.10.07	£4,000.00	£43,125.22
Stonehaven Business Association	Christmas Lights	21.09.17	£1,000.00	07.11.17	£1,000.00	£42,125.22
Mearns Community Cinema Group	Start-up costs	05.10.17	£337.37	28.11.17	£337.37	£41,787.85

Stonehaven Thistle Cricket Club	Lawn Mower	23.10.17	£3,000.00	28.11.17	£3,000.00	£38,787.85
North Kincardine Rural Community Council	Notice Board	25.10.17	£240.00	28.11.17	£240.00	£38,547.85
Mearns Camera Club	Scree, projector and laptop	25.10.17	£2,000.00	28.11.17	£2,000.00	£36,547.85
Newtonhill Pipe Band	Pipe band Uniform	30.10.17	£5,000.00	28.11.17	£5,000.00	£31,547.85
Hillside Parents' Council	Library Books	05.10.17	£5,000.00 (£1,000.00)	28.11.17	£1,000.00 (HT approval)	£30,547.85
St Laurence Club / Memorial Park Group / Mearns Youth Football	Lawn Mower	09.11.17	£2,700.00	28.11.17	£2,700.00	£27,847.85
Bervie Skatepark	Groundworks for the Skatepark	09.11.17	£8,000.00	28.11.17	£8,000.00	£19,847.85
Inverbervie Burgh Hall Committee	Chairs, Tables and a storage trolley	17.11.17	£6,696.00	16.01.18		
Newtonhill Community Hall Association	Server and uninterrupted power supply	04.12.17	£2,000.00	16.01.18		
Newtonhill Out of School Club	Chairs and trolley	29.11.17	£725.94	16.01.18		
Solstice Nurseries	Site preparation, including services.	29.11.17	£7,000.00	16.01.18		
Aberdeen Aeromodellers Flying Club	Ground works	6.12.17	£1,575.00	16.01.18		

Bervie Youth Project	Bike lights	17.11.17	£200.00	16.01.18	
Skateraw Fair	Gas BBQ table and chairs	18.12.17	£494.00	16.01.18	
Gourdon Lower Park Improvement Group	Wooden Train purchase and installation	18.12.17	£1156.00	16.01.08	