

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 13th MARCH 2018

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2018/2019

1. Recommendations

The Committee is requested to –

- 1.1 agree to make available a Brighter Buchan Villages Initiative in 2018/2019 at a cost of £16,000,**
- 1.2 agree that an allowance of £500 is made to cover the cost of prizes for a Buchan in Bloom Competition,**
- 1.3 agree that £32,000 is devoted to the Area Committee Grant Scheme to be publicised and developed in tandem with the Buchan Development Partnership,**
- 1.4 agree to reserve £30,000 as part of the match funding requirement for the Aden Country Park Restoration & Redevelopment ‘delivery phase’ application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Parks for People programme; and should the application be unsuccessful that the £30,000 be used, along with other match funding secured, to deliver an aspect of the project to be agreed in consultation with Ward Members, and**
- 1.5 agree that the remaining £1,500 is retained as a contingency budget to cover hospitality and any unforeseen events**

2. Background

- 2.1 An Area Committee Budget allocation of £80,000 is available for 2018/19.
- 2.2 The Brighter Villages Project continues to be highly successful and well received by the local communities. It is proposed to cover all of the larger villages in Buchan at a total cost of £16,000.
- 2.3 An allowance of £1,000 will be made to each village and it will be for local community councils or community associations to organise the works in co-operation with the Council. As with last year it is likely that the initiative will be targeted at planting and smartening visible public places. The allowance can be used for both employment and provision of materials. As previously, public liability insurance will have to be negotiated.

- 2.4 The Buchan in Bloom competition has proved to be very popular and the improvements in the floral displays throughout Buchan are a tribute to the hard work of the volunteers.
- 2.5 The competition will be open to all communities in the Buchan area, with applications to be submitted to Buchan Development Partnership by the end of May 2018, and judging to be carried out in early August. The competition will be judged on 'Horticultural', 'Seasonal and Permanent Planting', 'Sustainable Development', including community involvement, and 'Most Improved Village'. There will be three prizes awarded - 1st Prize £150, 2nd Prize £100 and 3rd Prize £50 - and a Most Improved Village Prize of £100. Buchan Development Partnership will continue to organise and partly fund the competition for all the primary schools in Buchan "Buchan Beginning to Bloom" which has proved popular. Entries for the competition are to be submitted by the end of May and judging to be carried out by the end of June before the school break for the summer. There will be two prizes awarded – 1st Prize £200 and Runner Up £100.
- 2.6 Based on previous years' success, it is proposed that the Area Committee Grant Scheme be organised in tandem with the Buchan Development Partnership. It is intended to continue this into 2018 with a budget of £32,000.
- 2.7 There will be no large grant scheme this year given the reduction in the budget. At their meeting on 20th February, 2018 (Item 9) the Buchan Area Committee agreed the submission of the round 2 funding application to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other funders. Acknowledging that the Aden Country Park Restoration and Redevelopment project is the largest project we are presently undertaking in Buchan, which has a potential to lever in £2 million over a five year period, it is proposed to allocate £30,000 as part of the Council's match funding requirement. The result of the application will be known in late June and should it be unsuccessful the £30,000 will be used, along with other match funding secured, to deliver an aspect of the project to be agreed in consultation with ward members.
- 2.8 A total of £32,000 will be set aside for small grants of up to £5,000, or 80% of the project cost, whichever is the lesser. This will apply to projects where the work has been identified and prioritised by the community through a robust community consultation process (eg Planning for Real or Place Standards), and will help them deliver targets identified in their action plans. It will be used to encourage groups or individuals to undertake activities that will further their education, and support projects that promote youth skills development and engagement, including transport.
- 2.9 An informal meeting will be scheduled for Buchan Members to meet with representatives of Buchan Development Partnership to consider the applications received prior to reporting to the Committee on the 19th June.

- 2.10 It is hoped that this Fund will assist community groups in finding a sustainable way forward in the light of the current economic climate. There may also be an opportunity for some schemes to lever additional support through other funding streams and agencies.
- 2.11 The scheme will be advertised widely by the Buchan Development Partnership. An application form is appended for Councillors' use (Appendix A) and further copies will be available from the Area Manager's Office. The first round of applications will be requested by 18th May and reported to the Area Committee on 19th June. Any remaining funds will be subject to a second call in the autumn.
- 2.12 It is proposed to reserve the residual sum of £1,500 to cover unforeseen costs that occur at area level, including basic hospitality for visiting groups or youth transport costs. Any remaining funds will be applied to the Area Committee budget and reported to Committee in due course.
- 2.13 This report has been developed with Buchan Development Partnership.
- 2.14 The proposals support Priority 1 "Empowered Communities" in the Buchan Community Plan 2016-2019 under the actions (a) We will support Communities to maintain and develop their Halls and Parks, expand Peterhead and Buchan Community Facilities and engage in the Community Asset Transfer process, (b) We will work in partnership to deliver projects based on emerging priorities where the evidence supports the need, (c) We will work together to identify volunteering opportunities and (d) We will work together to identify joint funding streams, including partner budgets, that will deliver partnership projects and improved outcomes for our communities.
- 2.15 The Head of Finance has been consulted and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services has been consulted and their comments incorporated within the report.

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. Due regard will be given to the equalities considerations in assessing the bids for grant funding.

- 4.2 There are no staffing implications arising from this report or the proposals.
- 4.3 The following risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures; Working with another organisation. No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic level.
- 4.4 The provisions outlined in this report would fully utilise the £80,000 Area Committee Budget for 2018/2019. A report on the Area Committee Budget can be anticipated in June and, if needed, a report on any residual funding will be made to a future Committee.

Ritchie Johnson
Director of Business Services

Report by Maureen Stephen
Area Committee Officer
1st March 2018



BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME
 (Grants £5,000 or under)
Application for Assistance

Name of Organisation

Contact Name Position in Organisation

Address

.....

..... Telephone No

Fax No E-Mail Address

Applicants are encouraged to discuss their project with Buchan Development Partnership prior to submitting the application form.

Group aims and purpose

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Description of project and details of how it will benefit your community.

.....

How much will your project cost?

How much will each item or activity cost and how much do you want from the Area Committee Grant?

| Item or activity | Total Cost | Amount Requested from Area Committee Grant Scheme |
|------------------|------------|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Total | | |

**Total funds raised at the time of making application:
(list fundraising activities/funding source and amounts raised)**

| Source | Amount | Date confirmed |
|--------|--------|----------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Other funding applied for: (give details of amount(s) and source(s) as appropriate – in particular Aberdeenshire Council sources)

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Will your project be completed by 31st March 2019?

If no, can your project be delivered in phases and if so please explain how this can be done?

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Give details of how your project meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 ensuring that it will be inclusive and not discriminate against any members of your community

.....

I certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I am authorised to make the application on behalf of the above group. I understand that decisions made by the Buchan Area Committee are final.

Name (Please Print)

Signature **Date**

Please enclose a copy of your Constitution or Memorandum & Articles, your most recent, independently verified, accounts and copies of quotations/specifications.

Successful applicants will require to provide a short report on the project by no later than 31st March 2019.

Return to: Buchan Development Partnership, Maud Area Office, Nethermuir Road, Maud AB42 4ND by 18th May 2018.

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