1 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Area Committee:

1.1 considers the second tranche of applications received in relation to the Community Council Project Grant 2018/2019, as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report, and determines whether, and to what extent, to award funding, and

1.2 determines how to allocate the remaining balance in the fund.

2 Background / Discussion

2.1 Within the financial year 2018/19 a budget of £62,000 was agreed for Community Councils within Aberdeenshire. The total budget for the Banff and Buchan Area was £7,849.

2.2 The Banff and Buchan Area Committee, at its meeting on 27 March 2018, agreed a sum £3,288 set aside for Community Council Project Grants fund. The criteria for applications is that Community Councils can apply for a contribution of up to 80% towards the cost of a project, to a maximum of £1,000.

2.3 On 12 June 2018, the area Committee allocated £2,119 which left a total of £1,169 still to be allocated. Also, at the meeting on 12 June 2018, the Committee allocated the Banff and Buchan Area Budget and agreed that the £491 which remained in that budget be transferred to the Community Council Project Grant. This means that the remaining budget to be allocated is £1660.

2.4 The aim of the Banff and Buchan Community Council Project Grant is to support and empower Community Councils to raise funds for schemes, projects and other purposes within their stated objectives.

2.5 Community Council Project Grant application forms were sent to all Community Councils within Banff and Buchan for this second round of funding and applications were sought by 27 July 2018. Three eligible applications have been received and details of the projects are given in Appendix 1 to this report.

2.6 As highlighted in the report to the Area Committee on 12 June 2012, following concerns raised by the internal auditor, the Community Councils have submitted a copy of their constitution and recently independently examined accounts.
2.7 As the disbursement of Community Council project grants is devolved to the Banff and Buchan Area Committee, the Committee is asked to consider the applications for Community Council Project Grant.

2.8 The total requests for funding of the applications referred to in this report is £1,555. The Committee is therefore asked to decide whether, and to what extent, to award funding in relation to each of the three bids detailed in Appendix 1.

2.9 The balance in the Community Council Project Grant fund is £1,660 and the total money requested in the second tranche is £1,555. Even if the Committee were to allocate the full amount as requested, this would leave a balance of £105 in the fund. The Committee is therefore asked to determine how it wishes the balance of funding to be allocated.

2.10 The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report 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 this item in terms of Section B.3.3 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the approval of award of grants to Community Councils within an approved budget.

4. Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications

4.1 An equality impact assessment is not required in this instance as the fund is designed to support Community Councils. All Community Councils, as per the Community Council Handbook, are required by legislation to be proactive in the promotion of equality and the awarding of grants may assist them to deliver projects that could result in a positive impact for persons with protected characteristics within the local communities.

4.2 There are no additional staffing or financial implications arising from this report. The management of the budget will be undertaken within existing area management resources.

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 Town Centre First Impact Assessment is not required because none of the applications relate to the key towns.

LAURENCE FINDLAY  
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND CHILDREN’S SERVICES

Report prepared by: Liz Farquhar  
Area Committee Officer (Banff and Buchan)

Date: 30 May 2016
Projects:

1. New Aberdour, Tyrie and Pennan Community Council – Purchase of paint, metal sheets and imagery

The purpose of this project is to further enhance two structures (the fountain and the bus shelter) in the village of New Aberdour. The Community Council feels that these two structures require attention. It is intended to remove flaking paint from the fountain and re-paint the structure. The Community Council also intends to repaint the bus shelter and place metal sheets with tartan, thistle and unicorn images on the exterior of the structure as it feels that this will brighten up these two structures and thus enhance the village.

The total cost of the project is £800 and the Community Council wishes to secure £640 from the Project Grant towards this cost.

The balance within the Community Council Bank Account is £2,100.

Previous awards - In the past three years, the Community Council has received funding from the Community Council Project grant, as follows:

- 2015/2016 £400 towards the purchase of a smart defibrillator,
- 2016/2017 £554 towards the refurbishment of toilets at Tyrie bowling hall,
- £194 towards purchase of picnic table and benches for Pennan Harbour
- 2018/2019 £643 from the first tranche to improve heating and lighting at Boyndlie Community Hall.

2. Portsoy and District Community Council - Purchase of Christmas Lights

The Community Council would like to purchase a new Christmas light for Portsoy. They are very proud of their Christmas lights and the work that the Portsoy 75 Club does to make the lights so special. They wish to purchase a reindeer and sleigh to add to the current lights. It would be a great photo opportunity for the Christmas lights switch on as Santa could get his picture taken in the sleigh with the children.

The total cost of the project is £900 and the Community Council wishes to secure £300 from the Project Grant as a contribution towards this cost.

The balance within the Community Council Bank Account is £3,170 of which £1,370 has been ringfenced for other community projects.
Previous awards: In the past three years, the Community Council has received funding from the Community Council Project grant, as follows:

2015/2016 £459 towards purchase of a defibrillator
2017/2018 £804 towards the upgrade of kitchen facilities in Portsoy Town Hall,
2018/2019 £476 from the first tranche towards the re-planting and providing seating area at the front of Portsoy library

3. Portsoy and District Community Council - Equipment for Litter-Pickers

The Community Council would like to set up a team of people who would go around Portsoy on a regular basis to pick up litter and keep Portsoy tidy. They hope to encourage the children at the school and the youth groups in Portsoy, e.g. Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, etc., to participate as part of a Community Badge. They want the children to be proud of their town. This would be a healthy outdoor activity with a community purpose. The group will be called the PIPs (Pride in Portsoy). In addition to the group’s leaders, there are adult volunteers who are willing to help.

The total cost of the project is £788 and the Community Council wishes to secure £615 from the Project Grant towards these costs.

The balance within the Community Council Bank Account is £3,170 of which £1,370 has been ringfenced for other community projects.

Previous awards: In the past three years, the Community Council has received funding from the Community Council Project grant, as follows:

2015/2016 £459 towards purchase of a defibrillator
2017/2018 £804 towards the upgrade of kitchen facilities in Portsoy Town Hall,
2018/2019 £476 from the first tranche towards the re-planting and providing seating area at the front of Portsoy library