

## **REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

### **AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME – ALLOCATION OF RETURNED GRANT**

#### **1. Executive Summary/Recommendation**

1.1 On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 the Area Committee approved a grant of £5,000 to Kemp Hall Management Committee to engage a mason to repair and repoint an entire boundary wall. Unfortunately, group representatives have recently been in touch to advise that they are unable to move forward with their project in this financial year.

#### **1.2 The Committee is recommended to:**

**1.2.1 Delegate the amount of £5,000 to the Area Manager, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Buchan Area Committee, to disburse appropriately before the end of the financial year.**

#### **2. Decision Making Route**

2.1 At the Buchan Area Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Item 12) Councillors agreed to make available £61,500 of the Area Committee Budget to an Area Committee Grant Scheme, similar to that run in previous years. It was further agreed that the grant scheme would be publicised and developed in tandem with the Buchan Development Partnership.

2.2 On 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 the Area Committee approved the first round of allocations from the Area Committee Grant Scheme 2021/2022, then on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021 approved the disbursement of the remaining balance so that the fund was fully committed.

#### **3. Discussion**

3.1 As advised above, on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 the Area Committee approved a grant of £5,000 to Kemp Hall Management Committee to engage a mason to repair and repoint an entire boundary wall. Having secured a local tradesman to undertake the work it became obvious, at the start of the repairs process, that the entire wall will have to be taken down and rebuilt.

- 3.2 The wall, although not listed, is in a conservation area and is required to be “put back-up as is”, which is a specialist and costly job, far exceeding the original quote of £6,750. For this reason, Kemp Hall Management Committee are unable to move forward with their project and have surrendered the grant of £5,000 allocated to them.
- 3.3 The Council’s Environment Planner has recently inspected the wall and confirmed that the wall is structurally unsound and does require to be rebuilt in it’s entirety. In conjunction with Landscape Services, temporary fencing has been made available to secure the area in the interim period.
- 3.4 Representatives of Kemp Hall Management Committee are actively seeking quotes for the work and will explore other avenues of potential funding sources, given the project cost is expected to be well in excess of the original estimated cost.
- 3.5 The Area Manager is confident that the returned grant of £5,000 could be made available to other community projects within Buchan who will be able to make good use of the additional funds and submit the required documentation to make their claim within this financial year.

#### 4. Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 4.1 This report details applications which helps deliver Council Priorities –

Our Environment – Infrastructure, Resilient Communities

Further information can be found –

<https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councilplan/delivering-our-priorities-across-services/>

- 4.2 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed.

Subject	Yes	No	N/A
Financial	X		
Staffing			X
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Health and Wellbeing		X	
Town Centre First		X	
Sustainability		X	
Children and Young People’s Rights and Wellbeing		X	

- 4.3 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out and will be made available as a 'To Follow' item.
- 4.4 There are no staffing implications arising from this report. The management of this budget will be undertaken within existing area management resources.
- 4.5 The proposals outlined in this report are in line with the allocation of financial resources approved as part of the Councils Revenue Budget.
- 4.6 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Budget Pressures - ACORP001; Working with other organisations - ACORP005 [Corporate Risk Register](#).
- 4.7 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level [Directorate Risk Registers](#)

## **5. Scheme of Governance**

- 5.1 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.
- 5.2 The Committee can 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.

Ritchie Johnson  
Director of Business Services

Report by Theresa Wood, Area Committee Officer, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

List of Appendices - Appendix 1 – IIA