

REPORT TO KINCARDINE AND MEARNS AREA COMMITTEE – 23 AUGUST 2022

AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2022-2023

1 Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 Four applications have been submitted for funding from the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee Budget, Community Learning Development, Aberdeenshire Council for £1,459.00, Stonehaven Lions Club for £1,813.30, Stonehaven and District Angling Association for £8,000.00 and Howe O' The Mearns Heritage Trust for £800.00.

1.2 The Committee is recommended to -

1.2.1 Consider and agree the applications to the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee Budget from:

- **Community Learning Development - £1,459.00**
- **Stonehaven Lions Club - £1,813.30,**
- **Stonehaven and District Angling Association - £8,000.00, and**
- **Howe O' The Mearns Heritage Trust - £800.00.**

2 Decision Making Route

2.1 The Council has allocated £81,200 to each Area Committee for the financial year 2022/23 for the Area Committee Budget. The Area Committee Budget criteria is contained in **Appendix 1**. Two applications have been submitted and approved leaving a balance of £65,700.00, outlined in **Appendix 2**.

3 Discussion

3.1 The Area Committee is asked to consider an application received from Community Learning Development (CLD) towards a residential 2 day trip for 13 young people from Elevate21 Youth Group. This group supports young people by focusing on activities to improve health and wellbeing.

3.2 The group run a weekly after school club in Stonehaven and currently there are 13 young people attending who are in S1 and S2. Some young people attending the group are young carers or in kinship care. The young people would like to go to Dalguise Activity Centre and take part in outdoor activities and have new experiences which will help them to build confidence and face their fears. They have also indicated that the opportunity to socialise with other young people is important to them. For those in the group who are young carers this experience would also give them respite from their caring role

3.3 The total project cost is £2,918.00 and includes accommodation, activities, food and minibus hire. The young people are keen to be actively involved in fundraising for their trip and have begun to discuss fundraising ideas such as a tuck shop stall at sports day, a second-hand clothes sale and a

supermarket bag pack. For those who are able to pay a small amount towards the trip a suggested amount would be £20. The application meets the criteria and fundraising along with parental contributions will be their match funding.

- 3.4 The second application is from Stonehaven Lions Club for £1,818.30 towards a total project cost of £3,636.60. Stonehaven Lions Club is made up of 23 volunteer members that serve and support the Community through a variety of events. They are looking to replace metal stalls and covering tarpaulin and purchase two gazebos, of different sizes which would allow them to attend larger and smaller events. The new stalls would be lighter, easier to transport and the covers would be fitted and branded with Stonehaven Lions Club. The application meets the criteria and match funding has been secured through the group's reserves.
- 3.5 Stonehaven and District Angling Association (SDAA) have submitted an application for £8,000.00 towards a total project cost of £142,200.00. SDAA are a constituted local angling club, with a total membership of 150 including adult, juniors and life members. Visitors are also able to purchase permits for fishing club waters in Stonehaven.
- 3.6 The Dam Dykes Weir at Mineralwell is classed as a partial barrier to migratory fish and due to erosion and previous repairs is an eyesore. The group intend to improve the river by removing the weir and re-grading the riverbed, including bank reinforcement where necessary. Phase 1 consists of report, surveys, flood risk analysis, environmental impact assessments and a final design drawings have now been completed. All the necessary permissions are in place including a SEPA CAR license.(Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Controlled Activities Regulation)
- 3.7 External funding has been secured from Scottish Landfill Communities Fund, Nature Restoration and Crown Estate Scotland. The groups are awaiting decisions from the Coastal Communities Challenge Fund and Weir Charitable Fund. The application meets the criteria and match funding is in place.
- 3.8 An application has been received from Howe O' The Mearns Heritage Trust for £800.00 towards a total project cost of £1,600.00. The Trust was established in 2012 with the aim of creating a heritage centre in Laurencekirk to promote local history and provide a community hub in the town. The Trust are hoping to obtain the former Burgh building site in Johnston Street, Laurencekirk through a Community Asset Transfer.
- 3.9 The first phase of the project is to get some architectural drawings undertaken of how the building could look and to use these as part of their community engagement. They are planning their community engagement event with the help of Community Learning Development (CLD) and have had conversations with various other groups to discuss future uses of the building. The Trust are in the process of becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). The application meets the criteria and match funding has been sourced through their reserves.

4 Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

4.1 This report helps deliver the below Council Priorities.

Pillar	Priority
Our People	Education Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment	Infrastructure Resilient Communities
Our Economy	Economy & Enterprise Estate Modernisation

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 Duty Scotland			X
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing		X	
Climate Change and Sustainability			X
Health & Wellbeing			X
Town Centre First			X

4.3 There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

4.4 The screening section as part of Stage One of the Integrated Impact Assessment process has not identified the requirement for any further detailed assessments to be undertaken because the decision whether or not to grant the applications would not have a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.

4.5 No risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level.

4.6 Approval of the applications will reduce the remaining balance of the Area Committee Budget to £53,627.70.

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 is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.6.3 of this List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance, as it relates to the authorisation of expenditure from the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee budget.

Alan Wood

Director of Environment and Infrastructure Services

Report by Emma Storey, Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee Officer

Report Date: 10 August 2022

List of Appendices -

Appendix 1 – Area Committee Budget Criteria

Appendix 2 – Area Committee Balance

APPENDIX 1

Criteria for the Use of the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee Budget 2022/23 onwards, agreed by Area Committee (26.04.22).

1. The budget should be used to enable the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee to respond to local needs by supporting projects within its Area. Projects will be favourably considered if they have clear evidence **of fit to the Councils Strategic Priorities**, including community economic development, and emerged from, or take cognisance of:
 2. Community Action Plans; Settlement Plans
 3. Town Centre First approach
 4. The Local Community Plan
 - a. Strong Communities,
 - b. Wellbeing, and
 - c. Connecting People.
 5. Community Empowerment Act – in support of the assembly of business plans; feasibility studies etc.
 6. Under normal circumstances the maximum payment for any one project or initiative is **£8,000.00**.
 7. The Area Committee Budget should, in normal circumstances, only be used as part of the wider funding package with a maximum contribution normally being (50%). Voluntary/in kind contributions will be considered as part of the contribution of a project, for example, contribution of a piece of equipment or volunteer time. Below is a table that indicates the standard rates, which should be used to calculate volunteer time:

Type of voluntary/in-kind contribution	Per Hour	Per Day
General, unskilled labour (for example, supervised scrub clearance, ditch-digging, planting, basic administrative support)	£9.50*	£76.00
Specialist, skilled, trained labour (for example, operations for which certificated training is a requirement, such as operating dangerous equipment, driving off-road vehicles, using chemicals)	£18.75	£150.00
Specialist services, (for example, supervising, training labour teams, surveys, counts, trapping, ringing, diving, printing, designing, photography)	£31.25	£250.00

Professional services (for example, consultants, lawyers, planners, engineers, accountants, auditors) £50.00 £350.00

*The Living Wage in Scotland.

8. The use of the Area Committee Budget is open to Council Services and constituted groups who can prove that a funding package is being assembled and cannot be met from normal budgets.
9. The applicant must demonstrate that this is the final part of a wider funding package and that the money will be spent before the end of the financial year (31 March). This would not preclude an agreement in principle, earlier in the process, if that is of assistance to the applicant in attracting other funding.
10. The Area Committee Budget may **not** be used to directly fund a continuation of a service or a grant which has been stopped or reduced as a result of budget savings agreed by the Council. It can however, be used to facilitate the transfer of such service delivery or facility to the community or other third sector partner.
11. Where the funding level is in excess of £5,000.00 applicants will be asked to address the Area Committee. Applicants will be given advice on how and what to present to the Committee.
12. The Area Committee Budget will not commit the Council to recurring expenditure and if there are any employee implications, the approval of the Director of Business Services will be obtained. Any proposal that has an implication on a Council revenue or capital budget will have this clearly identified.
13. Recurring annual costs of a group or event will not be supported. The following costs will be considered on a case by case basis:
 1. Developmental costs of a new group that is being established with
 - (a) aims consistent with
 - (b) Council objectives (i)
 2. Setting up costs of a new event (i)
 3. Costs of a one off event which is consistent with Council objectives
 4. Event costs due to circumstances which could reasonably be considered as unforeseen (ii) and (iii)
 - i. An application would have to provide evidence of longer term financial sustainability.
 - ii. Excludes cancellation, weather, poor planning and retrospective applications.
 - iii. An application would have to provide evidence that all other avenues have been exhausted.

14. The Fund will close at the end of February to enable the end of year financial process to progress.
15. A reporting and monitoring system is to be put in place and made available to the Area Committee.
16. All applications must be agreed by the Area Committee.
17. Grants should be claimed **within 6 months of award** and before the end of the financial year in which they are awarded. If outwith timescale a further application will be required if funding still available. A key factor in assessing applications as the financial year progresses will be the likelihood of funding being used.

For Information:

1. You need to evidence how your project meets the criteria and priorities. Depending on the type of project, some criteria and priorities may be more relevant and some not applicable.
2. All Proposals must be in line with and address the **Council Plan priorities** which are:

Our People – Education; Health & Wellbeing
Our Environment – Infrastructure; Resilient Communities
Our Economy – Economy & Enterprise; Estate Modernisation

Further information can be found here:

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

Appendix 2

KINCARDINE and MEARNS AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-23						
			BUDGET		£80,800.00	
		DATE RECEIVED	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DATE TO COMMITTEE	AMOUNT AGREED	RUNNING TOTAL
APPLICANT	PURPOSE					
FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-23						£81,200.00
Auchenblae Parks Committee	Replacement building at the football pitch in Auchenblae village	April 2022	£8,000.00	June 2022	£8,000.00	£73,200.00
Catterline Community Church	To purchase tables and chairs	June 2022	£7,500.00	June 2022	£7,500.00	£65,700.00