

REPORT TO BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – 27th September 2022

AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME 2022/2023 – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING – Aden Community Allotment Association

1. Executive Summary/Recommendations

1.1 This report requests Members' consideration of an application from Aden Community Allotment Association for community project funding from the Area Committee Grant Scheme. The Committee is being asked to consider five separate applications as part of today's agenda.

1.2 Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to consider the application from Aden Community Allotment Association who are seeking funding towards repairing and adding box roofs to ten sheds, painting of community buildings and sheds, installation of a locker style shed and the cost of purchasing a sand bucket; in determining the application, the Committee is asked to note the recommendation of Buchan Development Partnership (BDP) to award £2,488 to Aden Community Allotment Association

2. Decision Making Route

2.1 At the Buchan Area Committee on 19th April 2022 (Item 11) 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 BDP.

2.2 On 28th June 2022 (Item 9) the Buchan Area Committee considered 11 applications for funding from the scheme. Nine of the 11 applications were awarded grant funding totalling £35,551, leaving a balance of £25,949. The other two applications were deferred for further information and remain outstanding at this time.

2.3 A further 5 applications have now been received. Should Committee approve all 5 applications, as recommended by BDP, the remaining balance will reduce to £11,555.

2.4 The communities have prioritised their projects and it is suggested that they are all worthy of support. The recommended projects allow for a balanced geographical spread, are deliverable and reflect value for money.

3. Discussion

- 3.1 This report deals specifically with the application from Aden Community Allotment Association who has requested funding towards repairing and adding box roofs to ten sheds that are beginning to leak. They also want to paint all the community buildings and sheds and install a locker style shed that will allow them to split one of the larger plots into mini plots. Finally, the group want to purchase a sand bucket for the car park as it can be very icy in the winter.
- 3.2 Detail of the application received, total cost and recommended award are included within the appendix attached to this report. The application has been assessed by BDP and meets the criteria.
- 3.3 Any award is based on the agreed limit of £10,000 or 80% of the project costs. Councillors do have the discretion, should they agree that a project is of exceptional merit, to allocate funds accordingly. Where an award has been given, but falls short of the amount requested, BDP will work with these groups to help them identify the gap funding required.
- 3.4 The fund attempts to achieve a good spread of schemes, with broad community benefit across the Buchan area and to focus on local priorities. As in previous years the projects that have been recommended will help deliver towards the Council's priorities and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). Where possible the grant will also help groups attract match-funding.
- 3.5 The help and support of Buchan Development Partnership has been fundamental in the development of this application.
- 3.6 A condition of the award is that each group must take photos and a video throughout their project, which will be shown at a virtual 'Celebration of Awards' in the Spring of 2023.

4. Council Priorities, Implications and Risk

- 4.1 Collectively, the applications help deliver our Council Priorities –

Our People – Education, Health & Wellbeing

Our Environment – Infrastructure, Resilient Communities

Our Economy – Economy & Enterprise, Estate Modernisation

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	X		
Fairer Scotland Duty	X		
Town Centre First		X	
Sustainability		X	
Children and Young People's Rights and Wellbeing		X	

- 4.3 An Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) was carried out and, at initial screening, no negative impact has been identified. 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, as the positive impacts relate to projects outwith the Council's control, but which are in pursuit of the Council's priorities relating to community benefits.
- 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
Date : 16th September 2022

List of Appendices –
Appendix 1 – Summary of Application from Aden Community Allotment Association



Group Name	Aden Community Allotment Association	Charity No.	SC048430																		
Description of Organisation	<p>Aden Community Allotment Association (ACAA) manages Aden Community Allotments in Aden Country Park. The group, established 8 years ago, gained charitable status in 2018 and has a maximum number of eight Board members/Charity Trustees.</p> <p>The charity manages eighty six plots worked by local people, two plots are reserved for groups targeting mental health and low income families. In addition to growing activities, the charity runs a community programme delivering crafts, wreath making and up cycling. Funds raised from these are used to support other deserving causes including Clan, Roxburgh House, Mintlaw Christmas Lights and the purchase of defibrillators.</p> <p>The group's main sources of income are charges for allotment plots, its own fundraising efforts and grants. Its main expenditure is for the development and upkeep of the site and for the costs of community activities. The plots are affordable ensuring and household members on low incomes benefit from a concession and time to pay scheme, subsidised by appropriate charging levels to member organisations who pay annually in advance.</p>																				
Current Free Reserves	6 months	Annual Income																			
Total Project Cost	£3109.34	Amount Requested	£2488																		
Minimum for Impact	£2488																				
Previous Applications	<p>2019 – for the costs of site preparation for the Community Cabin £5280</p> <p>2020 – Tables, benches, planters and slabs. £2782.60</p>																				
Purpose of Grant	<p>The group want money to repair and add box roofs to ten sheds that are beginning to leak. They also want to paint all the community buildings and sheds. The group also want to install a locker style shed that will allow them to split one of the larger plots into mini plots. The group also want costs for a sand bucket for the car park, as it can be very icy in the winter.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Total Cost</th> <th>Amount Requested from AC Grant</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Roof box profile</td> <td>£1500</td> <td>£1400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sand box spreader and salt kit</td> <td>£624</td> <td>£508</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 pots Ducks Back Paint</td> <td>£100.34</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 door Sheds</td> <td>£885</td> <td>£580</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£3109.34</td> <td>£2488</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Item	Total Cost	Amount Requested from AC Grant	Roof box profile	£1500	£1400	Sand box spreader and salt kit	£624	£508	6 pots Ducks Back Paint	£100.34	0	4 door Sheds	£885	£580	Total	£3109.34	£2488
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Need/Support for Project and Grant	<p>The sheds are 8 years old and in need of minor refurbishment. The membership identified these as priorities for improvement, through discussions between the plot holders and the site managers and committee members. The need locker style sheds consultation between the stakeholder groups and a voting process at the AGM and committee meetings.</p>																				

	The allotments work closely with Mintlaw Menshed, Friends of Aden and Landscape Services; all are supportive of their projects and events. Local community groups, plot holders and their families and visitors will benefit from the improvements.
Impact/Outcomes	<i>People of all ages will be healthier and lead more active lives for longer. The project also improves individuals health and wellbeing through social interactions and engagement in educational opportunities.</i>
Recommendation	<i>Award £2488</i>
Conditions	<i>None</i>