



BANFF AND BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE – TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2018

COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROJECT GRANT 2019/2020 - APPLICATIONS

1 Recommendations

It is recommended that the Area Committee:

- 1.1 considers the applications received in relation to the Community Council Project Grant 2019/2020, as detailed in Appendix 1 to this report, and determines whether, and to what extent, to award funding.

2 Background / Discussion

- 2.1 Within the financial year 2019/20 a budget of £62,000.00 was agreed for Community Councils within Aberdeenshire. The total budget for the Banff and Buchan Area is £7,836.00.
- 2.2 The Banff and Buchan Area Committee, at its meeting on 12 March 2019, agreed to set aside a sum of £3,174.00 for Community Council Project Grants. Community Councils can apply for a contribution of up to 80% towards the cost of a project, to a maximum of £1,000.00.
- 2.3 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.
- 2.4 Community Council Project Grant application forms were sent to all Community Councils in Banff and Buchan and applications were sought by 30 May 2018. Three applications have been received as detailed in the table below. Further details are provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

Community Council	Amount requested
Banff and Macduff	£607.00
Cornhill & Ordiquhill	£908.00
Portsoy and District	£476.00
	£1,991.00

- 2.5 In accordance with the guidance from the internal auditor in 2012, the Community Councils have submitted copies of their constitutions and recently independently examined accounts.

- 2.6 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 from the Community Councils listed above.
- 2.7 The total of the three requests for funding is £1,991.00 and, if the Committee agrees to grant all three, this will leave a balance of £1,183.00 in the project grant fund. The balance will be re-advertised with a closing date for further applications by 26 July 2019 and these will be submitted to the Committee for consideration on 20 August 2019.
- 2.8 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and 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 neither 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 2019

APPENDIX 1 - COMMUNITY COUNCIL PROJECTS

1. Banff and Macduff Community Council - Provision of hanging flower baskets

Over the last number of years the Community Council has provided compost to fill the 200 hanging baskets and the “In Bloom” group of the Community Council fill, plant, and maintain these throughout the summer. The Community Council will not be providing the compost this year and the “In Bloom” group has arranged to purchase this from a local business at a heavily discounted price of £120.00.

In the last year, it has been necessary to purchase 50 brackets to replace rusted and broken brackets and to provide new sites with hanging baskets. The cost of the brackets manufactured by a local metal works is £9.75 each - total cost of £487.00.

Labour costs of approximately £3,300 will be met by the group itself.

The aim of the project is to continue the floral displays through hanging baskets and tubs throughout the two communities of Banff and Macduff. The objective of is to continue to improve the appearance of Banff and Macduff, to make the two communities more attractive to local inhabitants and to give tourists an enhanced experience during their visit. The outcomes are to provide, plant and water 200 hanging baskets and 60 tubs in Banff and Macduff throughout the summer in order to enhance the appearance of the two towns and to make them more attractive places to live in and to visit.

The total cost of the project is £3,907.00 and the **Community Council wishes to secure £607.00** from the Project Grant towards this cost.

The available balance in the Community Council bank account is £313.41.

2. Cornhill and Ordiquhill Community Council - Provision of outdoor furniture for existing playpark and picnic area

The Community Council would like to enhance the existing playpark and picnic area adjacent to the Cornhill Sports Field with the purchase of a children’s picnic table and an inclusive picnic table with wheelchair access. There are a number of wheelchair users in the village who would benefit with their families by the use of “inclusive” furniture. The picnic tables are made from pressure-treated sustainable resources and require minimum maintenance. Longer term maintenance, if required, would be carried out by members of the Community Council

The total cost of the project is £1,135.00 and the **Community Council wishes to secure £908.00** from the Project Grant towards this cost.

The available balance in the Community Council bank account is £740.00.

3. Portsoy and District Community Council - Provision of free-standing notice board for outdoor use in Portsoy

The group wishes to purchase a free-standing notice board for outdoor use in Portsoy. The group constantly receives complaints about there being nowhere to put posters up. It shows that Portsoy is a vibrant and busy community with lots going on. As there is no tourist information point in Portsoy it would be good to have this information available for visitors as well as anyone new to the area looking to get involved. The group is aware that social media does a great job in making people aware of what is going on but not all people are part of the digital age. They believe that a notice board would provide a great information point if placed at a central area in Portsoy.

The total cost of the project is £595.00 and the **Community Council wishes to secure £476.00** from the Project Grant towards this cost.

The available balance in the Community Council bank account is £2,909.07.

In the last three years, the Community Council has had funding from the Community Council Project Grant as stated below:

2018/19 - £ 476.00 towards the purchase of outdoor table and benches
2018/19 - £ 615.00 towards litter picking equipment
2018/19 - £ 300.00 towards Christmas lights
2017/18 - £ 804.00 towards purchase of kitchen equipment at Portsoy
Town Hall.