

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Guldry and Mortification Funds
DATE	13 February 2025
EXEMPT	No
CONFIDENTIAL	No
REPORT TITLE	Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund
REPORT NUMBER	CR&E/25/047
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Gale Beattie
CHIEF OFFICER	John Wilson
REPORT AUTHOR	Ian Flett
TERMS OF REFERENCE	1.1

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek a recommendation that Council approve expenditure from the Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee:-

- 2.1 Consider the report and recommend that Council;
- i. approve expenditure of up to £30,000 on repair and renovation works to the Rickart's Tomb from the Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund; and
 - ii. instruct the Chief Officer – Capital to undertake the necessary procurement and to approve the entering into of any contract(s) necessary for the repair and renovation works.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

- 3.1 In 1740 John Rickart left £12 to be invested with interest to be used for the perpetual maintenance of Rickart's Tomb. The Rickart's Tomb (1696) is located in the centre of the west boundary wall of the St Nicholas Kirkyard.
- 3.2 The structure, along with other structures in the kirkyard is recognised as being of architectural or historic interest. The tomb is the tallest monument in the kirkyard and it is decorated with urns and cherubs and the inscription is in Latin.
- 3.3 Previous approval of funding up to £25,000 was approved by this committee in March 2016.
- 3.4 Repair and conservation recommendations in May 2017 in respect of the Rickart's Tomb were noted in the Condition Report by Graciela Ainsworth

Sculpture Conservation Ltd. Works now require to be made to the Rickart's Tomb including but not limited to: paint analysis, removal of existing paint where possible and removal of all plant/organic growth. A full inspection of the underlying stonework will be undertaken with any repair work and decoration to be agreed by the Planning Authority.

3.5 In January 2023, Listed Building Consent with conditions was granted for conservation and repair works to the Rickart's Tomb.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund held a balance of £57,071.49 as at the end of financial year 2023/24.

4.2 Renovation of the tomb is estimated to cost up to £30,000 leaving funds available to fund any future renovation.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Rickart (Richard) Mortification Fund is to be used for the perpetual maintenance of Rickart's Tomb.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There is no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendation of this report.

7. RISK

The assessment of risk contained within the table below is considered to be consistent with the Council's Risk Appetite Statement.

Category	Risks	Primary Controls/Control Actions to achieve Target Risk Level	*Target Risk Level (L, M or H) *taking into account controls/control actions	*Does Target Risk Level Match Appetite Set?
Strategic Risk	No significant risks identified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Compliance	Failure to maintain	This report supports compliance.	L	Yes

	the monument.			
Operational	Potential loss of listed structure and potential injury to people in the Kirkyard and Back Wynd. A cordon may be required within the kirkyard and on Back Wynd if the monument is deemed unsafe.	This report supports compliance.	L	Yes
Financial	Failure to maximise and make best use of the available fund for renovation works.	This report supports members' oversight of the use of such funds.	L	Yes
Reputational	Failure to comply with legal duties may lead to adverse publicity.	This report supports compliance.	L	Yes
Environment / Climate	No significant risks identified	N/A	N/A	N/A

8. OUTCOMES

Council Delivery Plan 2024	
	Impact of Report
Aberdeen City Council Policy Statement <u>Working in Partnership for Aberdeen</u>	<i>The proposals within this report support the delivery of the following aspect of the policy statement:-</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Make our city centre more attractive</i>
<u>Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2016-2026</u>	
	<i>The proposals in this report have no impact on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</i>
Regional and City Strategies	<i>The proposals in this report have no impact on any Regional or Council Strategies.</i>

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Assessment	Outcome
Integrated Impact Assessment	<i>No assessment required. I confirm this has been discussed and agreed with John Wilson, Chief Officer Capital on 10 February 2025.</i>
Data Protection Impact Assessment	Not required
Other	None

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 [Guildry and Mortification Funds Committee - Tuesday, 1st March, 2016](#)

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A – Photograph

12. REPORT AUTHOR CONTACT DETAILS

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APPENDIX A - Photograph



February 2025