

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance and Resources
DATE	25 July 2013
DIRECTOR	Stewart Carruth
TITLE OF REPORT	Small Financial Assistance Grants – 2013/14
REPORT NUMBER	CG/13/083

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present applications for financial assistance which have recently been received and to allow Elected Members to make a decision on providing funding from the financial assistance budget.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) agree to award the following grants:
 - Project Hawker - £1,250
 - Powis Residents Group Fundraising – to be decided by this committee

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is a sum of £58,000 included in the 2013/14 Council Revenue Budget.

The amount committed from this budget prior to this committee is £12,144, leaving £45,856 remaining. If all applications within this report were to be supported (assuming the maximum award for Powis Residents Group), the amount committed would be £17,985, leaving £40,015 remaining.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The award of grants and financial assistance provide benefits to the City of Aberdeen and its citizens.

5. BACKGROUND

At the meeting of 25 April 2013 the Committee approved a revised set of assessment criteria for the awarding of small financial assistance grants.

These were as follows:

Small Financial Assistance Grants – Assessment Criteria

- a) An application will only be considered where there is no established Council funding budget alternative;
- b) An application can be submitted by an individual, group or organisation for a clear and specific purpose and must include relevant background information and financial circumstances;
- c) If funding is being provided to the applicant from another Council budget the application will not be considered;
- d) Funding, where awarded, will not be available in the subsequent year from this budget;
- e) Funding, where awarded, will not exceed £2,500;
- f) Applications from individuals seeking sponsorship, for taking part in fundraising events abroad or for placements with charitable organisations or trusts in developing countries, will be declined;
- g) Applications from individuals, groups or organisations seeking assistance towards costs of excursions outwith the City will not be supported;
- h) Applications from national organisations will not be supported unless there is some clear and measurable local benefit;
- i) Applications in relation to health related matters, which are seen as the clear responsibility of the health authorities, will not be supported;
- j) Costs associated with hiring the Beach Ballroom either in whole or in part, can be considered, for fund-raising events and gatherings;
- k) An award of financial assistance will only be considered where budget remains available.

In the past the Committee has, where it's deemed it appropriate, approved funding that has not been in line with the assessment criteria however the applications received have been assessed on the basis of the criteria.

Applications:

5.1 Project Hawker – (Further information at Appendix A)

An application has been received from a person involved in planning an event to commemorate the 100th anniversary of an attempt by Harry Hawker to complete the Circuit of Britain race in a Sopworth Waterplane. There were 8 control points in the race including Aberdeen and the plan is to perform a 10 minute aerial display over the sea north of the harbour on Thursday 22nd August 2013. The request is for assistance via funding from the Common Good. The Common Good budget does not usually support such applications and it was felt that it would be more appropriate for this application to be considered from the Financial Assistance budget.

Common Good budget does not usually support such applications and it was felt that it would be more appropriate for this application to be considered from the Financial Assistance budget.

It is considered that no alternative funding budget is available for this request and as the application meets the other criteria above, a funding award could be made. However, in the absence of a request for any specific amount it is for this committee to decide on any amount to be awarded subject to the maximum specified in the assessment criteria.

6. IMPACT

The City Council will, within financial constraints, seek to support external organisations and partnerships within the City. All applicants will be given equal consideration within the general criteria for the disbursement of grants and donations from the budgets.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Sandra Buthlay

Senior Accountant

sbuthlay@aberdeencity.gov.uk

☎ (52) 2565

It is considered that no alternative funding budget is available for this request and the application meets the other criteria above.

It is recommended that funding of £1,250 be awarded, being the cost excluding VAT of the display.

5.2 Middlefield Community Project Polish Trip – (Further information at Appendix B)

An application has been received from the project co-ordinator for funding to support a trip to Poland for 5 young people at the projects youth flat. The youth flat offers a place for young people in the Middlefield area to get support and advice from staff in any matter affecting their lives and gives them the chance to meet other people, develop their social skills and move on positively with their lives. This trip is the final stage of the process for these people who will move on to other things next year. The total cost of the trip is £3,591.01, excluding staff costs which the project will fund. Through a variety of fund raising activities and contributions the group have raised £3,000 leaving a balance of £591.01 to be funded.

In terms of assessment criteria g) above, this application would not be supported and therefore it is recommended that no funding is awarded.

5.3 Tillydrone Vision Uganda Trip – (Further information at Appendix C)

An application has been received from the chairman of Tillydrone Vision to make a contribution to help with travel costs for an individual resident of Tillydrone to travel to Uganda as part of a larger visiting group in September 2013. Tillydrone Vision has a twinning agreement with Kamukli, Uganda and as part of the commitment to this agreement annually arranges and funds a visit to Uganda for four young people from Tillydrone. This year they are seeking to fund an additional person in acknowledgement of his progress and commitment to voluntary work in the community as well as providing an incentive to others in the group. However, due to his age he doesn't meet the criteria to be sponsored by Tillydrone Vision and hence the request is to fund his travel costs of £1,500.

The group were previously awarded £1,500 from the Financial Assistance budget by this committee on 21 February 2013 towards the cost of the Mayor of Kamukli visiting Aberdeen. However, the funding was not required as the visit did not take place.

In terms of assessment criteria g) above, this application would not be supported and therefore it is recommended that no funding is awarded.

5.4 Powis Residents Group Fundraising – (Further information at Appendix D)

An application has been received from the secretary of the above community organisation which is currently fundraising to upgrade the green space areas in the community. The group is working with the Council and Aberdeen Greenspace Trust Ltd on the project and has raised £9,000 to date. The project is at the early stages with discussions to take place with the Council to consider the scope and cost of the works. The group has no fundraising target at this time and is requesting a donation to the project from the Common Good. The

APPENDIX A

From: je
Sent: 03 July 2013 15:12
To: Jonathan Belford
Subject: Project Hawker 2013

Dear Mr Belford

I have been trying to seek assistance with the above project but without success so far. In fact the three Councilors I contacted did not have the courtesy to respond. I am now hoping that you may be able to assist via funding from the Common Good.

In 1913 Harry Hawker, the great Australian aviator who gave his name to aviation (Hawker Hurricane, Hawker Siddeley), accompanied by his Australian mechanic, Harry Kauper, attempted the Circuit of Britain race in a Sopwith Waterplane. Of the four entrants he was the only one to start from Southampton Water opposite Netley Abbey. There were 8 control points in the race and they were Ramsgate (Royal Temple Yacht Club), Yarmouth (Naval Air Station), Scarborough (Grand Hotel), Aberdeen (Palace Hotel), Cromarty (Naval Air Station), Oban (Great Western Hotel), Kingstown, Dublin (Royal St George Yacht Club) and Falmouth (Royal Cornwall Yacht Club). The 1913 Race was sponsored by the Daily Mail and Shell provided the aviation fuel and oil.

Planning is under way to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the flight and what better way than with a historic aircraft; the Imperial War Museum (IWM) Duxford based Catalina G-PBYA. This aircraft will be 70 years old in August and the plan is to use it to fly and complete the route attempted by Hawker. In 1913, the entrants had to land at each control point but in 2013 it is planned to entertain the summer holiday crowds by performing an aerial display lasting approximately 10 minutes. More information about can be found at <http://projecthawker2013.com/>. Not only will the flight commemorate the grand effort made by the two Harry's in 1913 but it will also raise the profile for the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund (RAFBF) plus fly the flag for the Imperial War Museum Duxford. Furthermore, Dyce was a Coastal Command Station during the war and John Cruickshank who was awarded a VC flying a Catalina in WW2 is a resident of Aberdeen. As such there will be much local interest.

A number of councils / organisations have shown interest in supporting the local element of the flight. In the case of Aberdeen, the Palace Hotel was destroyed by a fire during WW2 and in its place now stands the Travel Lodge. However, the opportunity for the council and / or other organisations to be involved in this project is still open. Aberdeen City Council should consider this as doing something to uphold the dignity of the City as well as something for the whole community. Of the three Control Points in Scotland, the communities in Cromarty and Oban have shown strong positive support. Yesterday, I was advised by the Highland Council that funding had been approved.

Naturally, any aerial display requires Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) approval and this will be applied for. The CAA controls what can be done in terms of displays and last year the aircraft performed numerous displays around the UK as well as in Iceland, France, Norway and Moscow. The crew of G-PBYA are professional pilots who freely give their time but the aircraft has an operating cost and funds to cover this are required.

In Aberdeen an air display is planned for the area over the sea north of the harbour. The Police, Harbour Master and RNLI have been advised of the display. Weather and approvals permitting this will take place on Thursday 22nd August. This ties in with the two attempts made by Harry Hawker (19th and 25th August 1913). Normally a display costs in the region of £5,000.00 to £9,000.00 but because the Catalina is passing by on its 100th Anniversary Commemorative Flight the opportunity to have a display at a greatly reduced cost of £1500.00 inclusive of VAT is offered. To assist with flight planning early confirmation would be appreciated. As an individual and given that this is a one off event, there are no accounts to show. However, the total flight will take approximately 20 hours and the hourly operating cost of the Catalina is £1500.00 per hour.

Can Aberdeen City Council assist in terms of publicity to its local community as well as local funding of the flight?

Hopefully, the residents of Aberdeen will join in the summer fun and I look forward to hearing back from you. In the meantime if you require any further information please contact me.
With kind regards

Jeff Boyling

Shareholder Pilot G-PBYA

<http://projecthawker2013.com/>

APPENDIX B

Dear Cllr William Young

There is 5 young people at the youth flat would like to apply for some funding to support their planned trip to Poland from the 8th to 11th September.

Background information

We have enclosed a booklet about the project and all the good work it does in the community. The youthflat has been running for 9 years now and in this time supported many young people in the Middlefield area to move on positively with their lives. The youthflat offers a place where young people can get support and advice from staff in any matter affecting their lives. They have access to computers, internet, arts and crafts, cooking, music games, quizzes and many other activities. The young people have a youth committee that meet up to discuss ideas or issues or to agree to decorate flat or buy new games or equipment so they have a strong voice in the youthflat.

The young people get the chance to meet other and develop their social skills, negotiating and problem solving but also get supported to see the other person point of view. The staff support them look at areas that they can develop and they work on these if they want and as they get older they look for work or training options. There is a high level of young people that have some sort of learning difficulties that include Autism, delayed development, ADHD, or mental health issues that often goes undiagnosed or have very poor social skills. For many they will never have the chance of a stable family home or due to lack of money will not get the same opportunities as other young people often take for granted like holidays. As the young people get involved in the youthflat we try and set them challenges so they have to plan their Easter, Summer and October trips taking account of the money available and staffing hours and then they can decide what they can achieve. They usually get the chance if can show they can behave reasonably well a trip to Cromdale outdoor Centre and outdoor activities that they really enjoy.

The 5 young people are now in early twenties and are at the end of the process and will move on to other things over the next year. We wanted to give them a chance to challenge themselves and look at going abroad to see another country. One of the things they had been really negative about was the influx of Eastern Europeans into the Middlefield area and had been listening to people saying they have come over taking our jobs and houses and this caused a lot of tension for a period of time. The youth workers tried to explain how Scottish people migrated to where there was work over the years and this was no different from this. We had the police come in and give a talk about racism and what this actually meant and how they could be charged for saying things. The staff challenged this over a long period of time and eventually this stopped.

When the young people were looking for somewhere that might be interesting to go they looked at Poland and decided that it might be nice to go to another country and see a little of the history and meet people. After a lot of deliberation they decided that there might be other things to see places that they could see and decided that Krakow was still had a lot of history around this and also could go and see Auschwitz camp and how this impacted on the Jewish people. There was a salt mine that are seemingly really interesting, Oskar Schindler factory and Wawel castle so plenty to see and do.

They decided that they would need to learn a little Polish so they can understand a little of what is being said to them and that they will need to learn about a different currency and this will include working out the difference in cost of items.

The work they have done so far is they have fundraised £1,090 from jumble sale and doing bag packing at supermarkets. They have helped staff fill in application for a youth grant which they received £1,500 form and received £700 from John Lewis towards their trip.

They have had to get all the information for their passport together not an easy task for staff took 3 months as did not believe they would get the trip especially two young people with learning difficulties. This then give them the chance in the future to open a bank account or go on holiday or have proof of identity. They have to go down to Dundee or Edinburgh and be interviewed for the passports and are worried about this in case they get asked something they do not know.

If they go on this trip they have achieved their goal of planning, fundraising and going on the trip. They will have learned so much by the whole experience and hopefully give them the confidence to go and see other countries in the world.

Trip

Poland Krakow

8th to 11th September

Travel down to Edinburgh

Flight to Poland

Stay in Krakow visit sights

Return home 11th September to Edinburgh and then travel back to Aberdeen

Costings

Poland cost

Flights and accommodation- (£284.00 per person). Cost £1,991.19 including ATOL Protection

Passport fees - £81.25 per person (includes check and send). Cost £406.25

Passport photos- £5.00 per person. Cost £25.00

Diesel to Dundee for passport interview- £80.00

Diesel to Edinburgh Airport -£100.00

Total= £2,602.44

Entry fees for places of interest all group prices.

Auschwitz Camp - £50.87

Salt mines- £105.00

Cloth Factory – Free

Oskar Schindler- £110.00

Wawel castle- £20.00

Total = £285.87

Food - £5 per person per meal per day and snacks. Cost for 7 people for 4 days-

Total £500.00

Transfer and Travelling costs: bus fares for 4 days- £50.00/ Transfer to and from Airport- £40.00

Total- £90.00

Group Travel Insurance -£112.70

Total cost =£3,591.01

Income

Fundraising £800

ACC Youth grant £1,500

John Lewis £700

Total: £3,000

The Middlefield Community Project will pay staffing costs

This leaves £591.01 to be raised so if possible we would like to see if your committee could contribute the rest of this funding to enable young people to have a good trip.

Yours Sincerely

Helen Graham

Project Co-ordinator

APPENDIX C

From: jim w
Date: Wednesday, 29 May 2013
Subject: Tillydrone Vision
To:

Dear Councillor Young.

I thank you for the opportunity to speak with yourself yesterday evening.

Further to the conversation, I am writing to ask if it would be possible to appeal to the City Council in a very special one off appeal for help.

Aberdeen City Council were extremely generous recently in agreeing to help Tillydrone Vision fund a visit to the city by the Mayor of Kamuli, our Partner Town in Uganda.

Unfortunately due the Mayor being twice refused a Visitors Visa by the UK Immigration authorities, that visit did not go ahead.

Because of this Tillydrone Vision felt that we were not in a position to accept the City Council most generous award of £1,500 to help with funding of the visit and we did not make application to have the award credited to Tillydrone Vision.

I am writing now to appeal and ask if the City Council would be willing to consider granting us a new contribution to help with the Travel funds for an individual resident of Tillydrone to travel to Uganda as part of the Visiting Group in September this year.

Please allow me to explain my request.

As you are aware, as a part of our commitment to the twinning agreement between Tillydrone Aberdeen, and Kamukli Uganda, Tillydrone Vision annually arrange and fund a visit for four young people from Tillydrone to travel to Uganda and spend a few weeks there involved in activities with our Partners in Uganda. They travel as part of a group of visitors.

We have seen remarkable success in the influence this has had in past trips and we feel that it is a vital part of the commitment we as a charity share towards our community in Tillydrone Aberdeen.

All visitors to Uganda other than sponsored young people must meet all travel costs from their own resources.

This year we are seeking to fund one extra person who unfortunately does not meet our criteria for sponsorship as he is now too old to be sponsored.

In his case we have decided to make an effort to have an exceptional appeal.

The Gentleman in question has had a long history of Drug Mis-use. He has been on a Methadone Programme and is now on the lowest dosage with a commitment given to us, that "he will be free of Methadone" within the next 4 weeks".

He acknowledges his past and is now doing voluntary work coaching the local Riverbank School football team and helping out in different voluntary projects within Tillydrone

He is a member of the M26 Group in Tillydrone. This is a group of persons who are on Methadone Programmes and trying to come off drugs completely.

Tillydrone Vision approved his application to travel to Uganda as we are of the opinion that it can act a tremendous incentive to other persons in the M26 Group.

It can demonstrate to them that if one person can do it, then each one of them can do it.

I am writing to ask if the committee would look consider our application in this once only instance to help fund his travel costs.

The total costs for the trip is just over £1,500 per person.

I thank you for taking the time that we were able to speak last evening and apologise for asking for help, but I really do believe that this is a genuine and worthwhile effort.

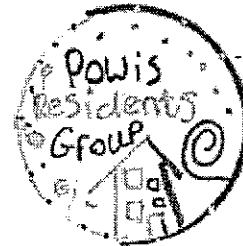
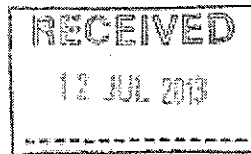
On behalf of myself and Tillydrone Vision

Many many thanks

rev jim weir

chairman Tillydrone Vision

Our Ref. FU/Fundraising 2013
Your Ref.
Contact Fiona Lindsay
Email
Home Tel
Mobile



12 July 2013

City Chamberlain
Corporate Governance
Aberdeen City Council
Town House
Broad Street
Aberdeen
AB10 1AH

Powis Residents Group
c/o Powis Community Centre
11 Powis Circle
Aberdeen
AB24 3YX

Dear Sir/Madam

Request for Funding from the Common Good

I am the Secretary for the Powis Residents' Group in Aberdeen. We are a community organisation that has been set up to protect and advance the interests of all tenants and/or residents in the local area. We are currently fundraising to upgrade the green space areas in the community and I am writing to ask for your help with a donation to this cause.

We are working closely with Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeen Greenspace Trust Limited to ensure this project has the professional guidance that it needs.

The group is having a fundraising day on Saturday 3 August 2013 which will include a jumble sale and a head shave by one of our brave committee members and I am hoping that you will be able to contribute.

We have already managed to raise over £9,000 with our efforts to date and would be very grateful if you could see your way to helping us increase this amount.

What we're hoping to achieve is a better quality of life for residents by providing, play and exercise areas for the children in the area as well as having a relaxing natural space for residents to come together and build a greater community.

If you'd like to read more about us and our cause, please log on to our facebook page, Powis Residents Group (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Powis-Residents-Group/444216918946283?id=444216918946283&sk=info>) where you will see all our minutes, agendas and ideas for the project.

Any donations received will be published on our Facebook page along with being mentioned in any future newsletter publications we send out.

Enclosed are a couple of newspaper articles from Friday 5 July's Evening Express and a copy of our fundraising day poster for your information.

If you require any further information, please feel free to get in touch.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully

Fiona Lindsay
Committee Secretary

'Cash means we can go full steam ahead to start work'



GROUP: From left, Mary Flores, Victoria Pile, Insp Eithne Logue, Corwin Branigan, Fiona Lincoby, David Masie, Ross Mellon, Det Insp Mick Thom, Scott Callender, Carol Scott, John Wilson and Jackie Muir.

By Kate O'Neill

£5,500 boost for community revamp plans

A COMMUNITY group trying to make a city area safer has received a £5,500 cash boost.

The Powis Residents Group in Aberdeen was formed in November last year following concerns over crime in the area.

In a bid to revamp the community, the residents have plans to install lighting and give green spaces a makeover.

With the injection of

funds from environmental charity Aberdeen Greenspace, the group now has more than £9,000 in its coffers.

Committee member David Masie said: "It's brilliant that Aberdeen Greenspace has agreed to help us with the project.

"It now means we can go full steam ahead to get the work started.

"We are going to have a meeting soon to discuss how to bring things for-

ward, but fundraising is the hardest thing we are delighted we have been able to get some funding.

"Aberdeen Greenspace has also said they will try to provide labour and volunteers to help us do the work."

Following a three-month consultation, residents highlighted a need for a children's playpark and an area for dog walking.

The group also wants Woody Park closed off

from the main roads surrounding Powis Circle and Powis Terrace, plus more street lighting installed.

The fundraising campaign started after the local policing team in Kittybrewster gave the group £1,500 in April.

A fun day was held to raise support and more events are planned in August.

Aberdeen City Council also gave the group some cash.

Carol Brown, Aberdeen Greenspace administrator, said: "We were approached by the group and the board agreed to grant £5,500.

"All of our volunteers are very enthusiastic about the project and it is a very worthy cause so we are delighted to be involved."

● 'People power is way forward' Page 6

ko'neill@afl.co.uk

People power is way forward

**NEWS: 'Cash means full
steam ahead' – Page 21**

THE people power of Powis is an example that other communities would do well to follow.

Faced with crime and safety concerns, local residents rolled up their sleeves to find ways to make their community safer and the means to pay for it.

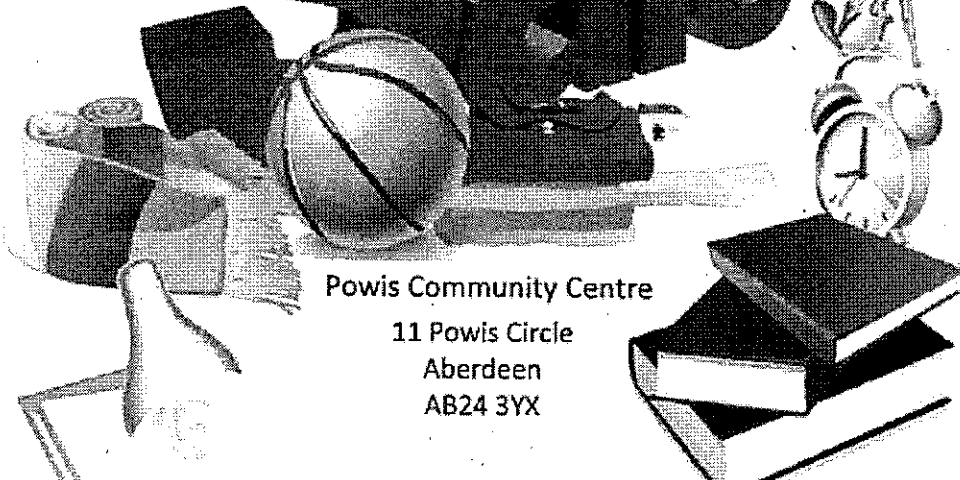
Their latest cash boost means they can make their community a better place for everyone. It's a template that deserves to be copied across the North-east.

Jackie's Sponsored Head Shave

*The Wig
Castlegate
8am
(after the jumble)*



Find us on
Facebook



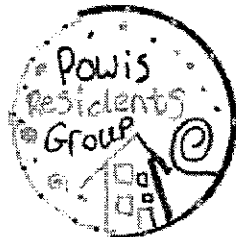
Powis Community Centre
11 Powis Circle
Aberdeen
AB24 3YX

Saturday 3 August 2013

11 am to 2 pm

**We've already
raised over £9,000
towards the park
project. Come and
get involved!!!**

Proceeds toward the green space project



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