

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Finance, Policy and Resources
DATE	1 December 2016
INTERIM DIRECTOR	Richard Ellis
TITLE OF REPORT	Small Financial Assistance Grants and Gala Funding 2016/17
REPORT NUMBER	CG/16/131
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present applications for financial assistance and/or community gala grants allowing Elected Members to make a decision on providing funding from the financial assistance/gala budget.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) Consider the applications received and agree to award funding based on the recommendations contained within the highlighted column in part A of the table below :-

A: Grant Requests For Consideration							
Requests received :							
From	For	Requested Amount £	Recommended Amount £	Financial Assistance £	Community Gala Grants £	Total £	More Detail
Financial Assistance							
Dancesport Scotland	Northern Trophy Day, hire of Beach Ballroom	850	850	850	-	850	Appendix A
Aberdeenshire Cricket Club	Contribution towards drainage works at Morningside Road Cricket Grounds	4,000	2,500	2,500	-	2,500	Appendix B
Aberdeen Lads Club	Play Talk event	1,700	1,700	1,700		1,700	Appendix C
Intergenerational National Network	10th Year Anniversary Celebration	1,750	1,750	1,750	-	1,750	Appendix D
Community Gala Grants							
No applications received				-	-	-	
				-	-	-	
B: For Information							
2016/17 Budget				45,000	10,000	55,000	
Grants Approved to Date				20,927	21,489	42,416	
Budget Remaining						12,584	
Potential Approvals from Above				6,800	-	6,800	
Balance remaining if recommendations approved						5,784	
Approved to date + Recommended Approvals from Table				27,727	21,489	49,216	

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The awarding and approval of grants and financial assistance is a significant element of council business and as such millions of pounds are paid to external organisations each year. Appropriate and suitable means of approval following the principles of 'Following the Public Pound' require to be maintained in order to ensure Best Value.

3.2 Part B of the above table summarises the budget available for financial assistance/community gala grants and the balance of budget remaining if the recommendations are approved.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no other implications arising from this report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 At the meeting of 19 April 2016 the Committee approved funding packs to be used for small financial assistance grants and community gala grants. These included guidance on each type of grant.

In summary

Small Financial Assistance Grants	
Who Can Apply	The Committee will consider one-off requests which arise from time-to-time and do not fall within the assessment criteria of another established Council funding budget
How Much is Available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fund has limited resources. Applications can only be considered whilst budget remains available • In exceptional circumstances where an award of funding in excess of £2,500 is approved, it will be on the basis that the arrangements in relation to the Local Code of Guidance on Funding External Organisations and Following the Public Pound will require to be put in place
What We Will Not Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects/events already being funded from another Council Budget • Projects/events which secured a small financial assistance grant in the previous 12 months

Community Gala Grants	
Who Can Apply	The Committee will only consider one application per community group in each financial year for events within the City
How Much is Available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fund has limited resources. Applications can only be considered whilst budget remains available • In exceptional circumstances where an award of funding in excess of £2,500 is approved, it will be on the basis that the arrangements in relation to the Local Code of Guidance on Funding External Organisations and Following the Public Pound will require to be put in place
What We Will Not Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events outwith Aberdeen City Council Boundaries • Alcohol • Personal gifts

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience – by awarding grants and funding the Council supports individuals, groups and organisations within the city and broadens the experiences available to the citizens of Aberdeen.

Improving Staff Experience – Staff have collaborated to update the process for financial assistance grants and gala funding and therefore should be engaged and committed to the process.

Improving our use of Resources – this report allows Elected Members to consider each applicant in an open and transparent way.

The Council will, within financial constraints, seek to support individuals, groups and organisations with the City. All applicants will be given equal consideration within the criteria for the award of grants and donations from Council budgets.

This report is likely to be of interest to the public as it demonstrates the use of public funds.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

There is a risk that funding provided will not be used for the purpose for which it is awarded.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Project/Event Details

Name of Project/Event: NORTHERN TROPHY DAY

Location: BEACH BALLROOM, ABERDEEN

Date: 16TH OCTOBER 2016

Brief description of proposed project/event:

The Northern Trophy Day (including the Aberdeen Lord Provost Trophy) is a day of Ballroom and Latin American Competitions. This has been an annual event since 2004 and has always previously been funded by Aberdeen Council.

Financial Information**Total Cost of Project/Event**Please provide details of **total** planned expenditure

Type of Expenditure	Amount
<i>Eg hire of venue; food/drinks; travel; accommodation etc</i>	£
Hire of Venue (Beach Ballroom)	850.00
Catering	120.00
Officials	
Judges fees and travel	450.00
Scrutineers fees, accom and travel	270.00
Music Man	100.00
Compere	100.00
First Aiders (St Andrews First Aid)	127.00
Prizes, Medals and Vouchers	150.00
Admin, Flyers and Printing	75.00
Dancesport Officials (Volunteers) Travel	200.00
Total (A)	2,442.00

Any Other Sources of Funding

Please provide details of any other funding already secured for the project/event

Type of Funding	From	Amount
<i>Eg grant; donation; fundraising event</i>	<i>Eg individual; other organisation (name)</i>	£
No other funding		
Only Income is ticket sales at the door	(Based on previous years)	1,500.00 (approx)
Total Other Funding (B)		1,500.00

Total Financial Assistance Requested

Please provide a summary of the amount of funding being requested

Details	Amount
<i>Usually Total (A) less Total (B).</i>	£ 942.00
Total Amount Requested (C)	850.00

Project/Event Details

Name of Project/Event: New drainage for ground where no drainage exists and upgrade existing drainage

Location: Mannofield Cricket Ground, Morningside Road

Date: Sept 2016 to March 2017 and Sept 2017 to March 2018

Brief description of proposed project/event:

The Council has in the past supported bringing international cricket to Aberdeen. Prestigious international events are possible because our Morningside Road ground has held international status to host such matches (one of four certified one-day grounds in Scotland and the premier four-day ground). Unfortunately the changes in the spring and summer weather, particularly frequent and heavy rainfall, has led to our ground being waterlogged for significant periods, so much so that in August this year Cricket Scotland switched the venue for three 2016 internationals to another ground and there is a real danger that we lose all such matches to the central belt unless we can rectify the drainage.

Moreover, Aberdeenshire Cricket Club is widely seen as the hub for local cricket – hosting junior and senior cricket matches and training, the venue for all competitive University cricket and for finals played by other local cricket leagues. In short, it is an important local asset (and has been for 119 years) which we want to preserve for the current and future generations. Our current community programme has worked with 5 schools in 2016 providing over 200 pupils with opportunities to experience and develop cricket over 6 weekly sessions. The initiative expands to 8 schools in 2017.

The work that is required consists of new drainage to two-thirds of the ground (current drainage covers the other one-third). The ground is primarily clay on granite and so drainage is needed along with earth works which will start to change the soil profile; this will 'future-proof' the facility.

The drains are connected into the main drains on Cranford Road (the City Council technical staff have been assisting to ensure the drain connections will be robust and this assistance is very much appreciated).

We have had to commence phase one works so that critical reseeding could be undertaken before the winter and so enable a useable ground in 2017. We have therefore commenced phase one with some initial funding. The works and costs will proceed over the next two years with phase two being earth works and substantial reseeding (cost of materials only – our groundsman will undertake the phase two work).

The overall sum is £46,145 inclusive of VAT. Phase one is in hand at a cost of £34,770 inclusive of VAT (quotation for contractor works) and the club continues to fund raise to meet this (from our 600+ members £18,000 has been raised in donations and member pledges of short term loans of up to £17,000 have enabled us to proceed with phase one while we raise the balance).

The second phase will commence in 2017 and is a sum for materials of £11,375 inclusive of VAT. The labour will be undertaken by the Groundsman and extra heavy equipment this is required will be available from Robert Gordon's College (reciprocal arrangements in place for mutual assistance). This involves scarifying, tining, seeding, fertilising and sand dressing the playing area which equates to 20,000 sq/m.

We launched an appeal for phase one funds from our membership and from supporters and we are applying for Sport Scotland/Lottery support (up to 50% of costs provided we can match fund). Our club reserves are at a level which meet our obligations as an employer but no more, with any surplus re-invested into our club and community programmes.

Our request is for the City Council to assist us through a contribution to our phase two costs – this will greatly assist our efforts to complete this project and retain our ground as a local asset for international events and promoting youth involvement in sport, training and exercise.

Thank you for your consideration.

Financial Information

Total Cost of Project/Event

Please provide details of **total** planned expenditure

Type of Expenditure	Amount
<i>Eg hire of venue; food/drinks; travel; accommodation etc</i>	£
A main drain to be dug and laid with lateral (feeder) channels created using external contractor (phase one)	34,770
Materials for earth works (phase two)	11,375
Labour for earth works – our groundsman will undertake the work	nil
Total (A)	46,145

Any Other Sources of Funding

Please provide details of any other funding already secured for the project/event

Type of Funding	From	Amount
<i>Eg grant; donation; fundraising event</i>	<i>Eg individual; other organisation (name)</i>	£
Member donations	Members	18,000
Total Other Funding (B)		18,000

Total Financial Assistance Requested

Please provide a summary of the amount of funding being requested

Details	Amount
<i>Usually Total (A) less Total (B).</i>	
Contribution to overall costs which will go alongside grant applications and further fundraising and assist match funding	4,000
Total Amount Requested (C)	4,000

Project/Event Details

Name of Project/Event: Play Talk at the Aberdeen Lads Club (for Boys and Girls)

Location: Dill Road, Tillydrone

Date: 25 March 2017

Brief description of proposed project/event:

Children's Play at the Aberdeen Lads Club will encourage Parents/Carers, Practitioners and all those interested in Children's play within the regeneration areas (Torry, Middlefield, Tillydrone, Woodside, Northfield and Fresands) to come together, to discuss new ideas; the policies and principles of childrens play, as well as learning new activities and artistic skills that can be introduced into their individual settings. The day will also support and encourage networking between the regeneration areas and help promote and enhance play issues within Aberdeen.

There will be 6 themed workshops on the various elements of Childrens Play. The day will be opened by Theresa Casey, a Play consultant and author of many years and President of the International Play Association. The workshops will focus on different aspects of play; inclusive play; free/non structured play, creating play environments, play strategies within settings, play resources and involving parents in their childrens play.

The organisers will encourage Parents/Carers to attend so we can have as wide and inclusive approach to play and how it affects families.

Financial Information**Total Cost of Project/Event**

Please provide details of **total** planned expenditure

Type of Expenditure	Amount
<i>Eg hire of venue; food/drinks; travel; accommodation etc</i>	£
Venue: Aberdeen Lads Club x 6hrs + janitorial and catering staff	400
Teas & coffees x 3 + buffet lunch x 60 attendees	300
Speakers and Play Consultant (Day)	400
Arts and Crafts workshop + Circus workshop x 4 hrs	400
Promotional material leaflets posters + admin support	100
Resources (post its; pens; writing material)	100
Total (A)	1,700

Any Other Sources of Funding

Please provide details of any other funding already secured for the project/event

Type of Funding	From	Amount
<i>Eg grant; donation; fundraising event</i>	<i>Eg individual; other organisation (name)</i>	£
		n/a

Total Financial Assistance Requested

Please provide a summary of the amount of funding being requested

Details	Amount
<i>Usually Total (A) less Total (B).</i>	£
Total Amount Requested (C)	1,700

Project/Event Details

Name of Project/Event: Intergenerational National Network

Location: Aberdeen

Date: March 2017

Brief description of proposed project/event:

The Intergenerational National Network will celebrate its 10th anniversary in March 2017. Aberdeen City Council have been very supportive of the network throughout its life, and we would be keen to hold the celebration in Aberdeen, and, if possible, the Town House.

A grant would allow us to offer 50 participants from Aberdeen and from across Scotland a buffet lunch and tea and coffee in the morning and the afternoon. It would also give us a small budget to pay expenses to attract some interesting speakers from further afield, as well as showcasing some of the interesting work happening more locally.

Financial Information**Total Cost of Project/Event**

Please provide details of **total** planned expenditure

Type of Expenditure	Amount
<i>Eg hire of venue; food/drinks; travel; accommodation etc</i>	£
Total (A)	1,750

Any Other Sources of Funding

Please provide details of any other funding already secured for the project/event

Type of Funding	From	Amount
<i>Eg grant; donation; fundraising event</i>	<i>Eg individual; other organisation (name)</i>	£

Total Financial Assistance Requested

Please provide a summary of the amount of funding being requested

Details	Amount
<i>Usually Total (A) less Total (B).</i>	£
Total Amount Requested (C)	1,750