

The Highland Council

Minutes of Meeting of the **Community Challenge Fund Applications Panel** held in Committee Room 2, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, on Thursday, 6 June 2013, at 4.30 p.m.

Present:

Dr D Alston Mr J Gray

Committee Chairs:

Mr A Christie Mr D Fallows

Officials in attendance:

Ms M Morris, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr D Robertson, Head of Accounting, Finance Service
Mr R Guest, Head of Roads and Community Works (TECS)
Ms L Lee, Committee Administrator

Dr D Alston in the Chair

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mr D Hendry, (OCB), Mrs C Wilson, Ms F Robertson, Mr G Phillips, Mrs B McAllister, Mr T Prag and Mr G Farlow.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Meeting of 18 April 2013

There had been circulated and were **APPROVED** Minutes of meeting held on 18 April 2013.

4. Assessment Criteria

There had been circulated for reference and were **NOTED** the Assessment Criteria agreed by Highland Council at its meeting on 25 October 2012.

5. Expressions of Interest Received – Round 2

Eight Expressions of Interest had been received prior to the Round 2 deadline of 1 May 2013. Copies of these had been circulated, together with copies of the recommendations of the Officers' Working Group meeting held on 17 May 2013.

Each application was considered in turn, with additional information provided in response to Member questions.

The Panel **AGREED** the following Expressions of Interest:

Approved to the next stage:

- The Kirkmichael Trust

Hold, pending further information/Discussions

- Rag Tag n Textile
- Nairn River Community Council

Not Approved to the Next Stage:

- Lochaber Action on Disability
- Viewfield Garden Collective
- Community Land Scotland
- Cornerstone Café
- Achnacarry, Bunarkaig and Clunes (A, B &C)

The Panel **NOTED** that:

- i. the five projects which had been found not to meet the Assessment Criteria would be directed to other sources of funding and it was hoped they would ultimately go ahead;
- ii. Ward Managers now provided information and support to groups considering submitting Expressions of Interest; it was hoped that this would help clarify the Community Challenge Fund criteria at an early stage;
- iii. response letters to unsuccessful applicants would explain the reasons the application had been rejected; and
- iv. the full application for the Kirkmichael Trust project would be considered at a future meeting of the Panel.

The Panel **AGREED** that the Local Members be informed when an Expression of Interest was approved to the next stage.

6. Full Applications – Round 1

There had been circulated Report No. CCF2/13 dated 18 May 2013 by the Assistant Chief Executive presenting the applications for Round 1 of the Community Challenge Fund for Members' further consideration. Summaries of the current position with regard to the applications from (i) Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company; (ii) Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust; and (iii) Nairn Cricket Club) were appended to the report.

Members considered each project in turn, and **NOTED**:

- i. the current position and information provided in response to questions; and
- ii. that the application from Nairn Cricket Club had resulted in an improved level of service being delivered by the Council, and so had been withdrawn.

The Panel **AGREED**:

- i. that discussions would continue with the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company and a report brought to the next meeting; and
- * ii. to recommend to the Council that the Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust project be approved in principle.

The meeting ended at 5.00 p.m.