

The Highland Council
Caithness and Sutherland Area Committee

27 May 2014

Agenda Item	13.
Report No	CS/21/ 14

Dornoch Common Good
2013/14 Q4 Monitoring Report and Budget Setting 2014/15

Report by Acting Head of Community & Democratic Engagement

Summary

This report provides Members with a monitoring statement for Dornoch Common Good Fund to the end of March 2014. The report also sets out the anticipated income and expenditure for the coming year and invites Members to set a revenue budget for the Dornoch Common Good Fund for the financial year 2014/15.

1. Monitoring Statement to end of March 2014

- 1.1 Appendix One reports income and expenditure to end 4th quarter 2013/14 for Dornoch Common Good Fund based on the near final accounts. Members should note that a full report including any accruals will follow later in the year once the audit has been completed.
- 1.2 Based on the monitoring statement there will be a surplus for £5,975.20 in 2013/14; however, there is an anticipated charge of approx. £4,000 for the completion of the beach shelter at the Beach car park that is not included in these figures. This will result in an increase in reserves of approx. £2,000.

2. Anticipated Revenue 2014/15 (see Appendix Two)

- 2.1 Rental Income – Rent is due for Dornoch Caravan and Camping Park, Dornoch Water Treatment Works, Dornoch Firth Salmon Netting Rights, Dornoch Golf Course (part), Coastguard Station, land at Well St. and Historylinks. The total rent due for 2014/15 is £21,530, although this will increase should current requests for leases proceed.

Members are asked to note that, as agreed by Caithness and Sutherland Area Committee on 20 May 2013, following the exchange of leases between Highland Council, Royal Dornoch Golf Club and the community, rental income will decrease by £500 in 2014/15

- 2.2 Interest and Revenue Balances – Assuming that the current low interest rates continue, it is anticipated that interest receivable on projected surplus balances will be approx. £1,000 in 2014/15.

3. **Anticipated Expenditure 2014/15 (see Appendix Two)**

3.1.1 Property and Miscellaneous Costs

Property costs (usually relating to repair and maintenance of footpaths benches etc. around the Beach car park, on the links and Dornoch Burn) tend to be low. Likewise, other costs covered by the Common Good Fund tend to be minimal. It is proposed that £5,000 is sufficient to cover these costs in 2014/15.

3.3 Grants to the Community

In order to protect reserves it has been agreed in future to limit grants to £12,000 per year to allow approx. £5,000 annually to accumulate in the reserves. Whilst reserves are healthy, there is a commitment to contribute £100,000 to the proposed Dornoch Sports Hall. However, given that commitments have already been made from the 2014/15 budget, it is proposed to budget for grant expenditure of up to £17,000 in 14/15 only.

4 **Implications**

4.1 Financial Implications

Dornoch Common Good Fund will be managed to protect reserves by ensuring income exceeds expenditure.

4.2 Other Implications

There are no legal, equalities, climate change or risk implications.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to:

- note the income and expenditure on Dornoch Common Good to end Q4 2013/14
- agree the Dornoch Common Good Fund budget for 2014/15 detailed within the report.

Designation: Acting Head of Community and Democratic Engagement

Date: 13 May 2014

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Appendix 1:

Dornoch Common Good Fund Monitoring Statement to end Q4 2013/14

Income	Amount
Rents	£22,030.00
Interest on revenue balance	£1,022.46
Total Income	£23,052.46
Expenditure	
Grants and contributions (See Note 1)	£16,492.50
Property fees	£87.26
Property repairs	£437.50
Central Support	£60.00
Total Expenditure	£17,077.26
Surplus (deficit) to Reserves	£5,975.20
Note 1: Voluntary Sector Grants	
Project	Amount
Sutherland Agricultural Society – Sheep Pens	£2,000.00
Dornoch CC – Christmas Lights	£2,500.00
Dornoch FC – Changing Rooms	£4,980.00
Dornoch Free Church – Church Hall Renovation	£5,000.00
East Sutherland Rescue Association – Tractor	£1,500.00
Dornoch Area CIC – Retail Survey	£512.50
Total	£16,492.50

Appendix 2

Dornoch Common Good Fund Proposed Revenue Budget for 2014/15

Income	Amount
Rents	£21,530.00
Interest on revenue balance (est.)	£1,000.00
Total Income	£22,530.00
Expenditure	
Grants and contributions	£17,000.00
Property repairs	
Central support	
Miscellaneous costs	
subtotal	£5,000.00
Total Expenditure	£22,000.00
Surplus to Reserves	£530.00