

Agenda Item	8c
Report No	SRC/021/15

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Common Good - Budget Setting 2015/16

Joint Report by the Head of Policy and Reform and the Director of Finance

Summary

This report outlines details of anticipated income and expenditure and invites Members to approve a budget for the Fortrose and Rosemarkie Common Good Fund (F and RCCF) for the financial year 2015/16.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Monitoring reports are regularly provided to Area Committee to enable regular monitoring of activity in the fund against budget. An Annual Report is also provided giving the audited accounts for the previous financial year and a proposed budget for Members to consider and approve.
- 1.2 The audited accounts for 2014/15 are not yet available. In future years the intention is to present the audited accounts and at the same time set a budget for the following financial year. However the 2015/16 budget has not yet been set and clearly it is important to have this in place as early as possible. Therefore this report presents a proposed budget in **Appendix One** for 2015/16 for the Committee to consider.

2. Anticipated Revenue for 2015/16

- 2.1 **Rental Income** – Rent is due for Town Hall, Fortrose, King George V Playing Field, Fortrose Caravan Site, Rosemarkie Caravan Site and Car Park at the Golf Club. The total rent due for 2015/16 is £11,995.
- 2.2 **Interest on Revenue Balances** – Assuming that the current low interest rates continue, it is anticipated that interest receivable on projected surplus balances will be approximately £721 in 2015/16.

3. Anticipated Expenditure

The main revenue budget headings can be summarised as follows:

3.1 Property Costs

Property costs have tended to be low as properties are leased to The Highland Council and rented to Highlife Highland and individuals or groups.

3.1 It is however suggested that a revenue property budget of £1,500 be set for 2015/16 for essential repairs. Capital projects for development or protection of assets would require separate consideration and an appropriate funding package which would be brought to Committee for consideration.

3.2 **Administration and Insurance costs**

These are minimal and a roll forward budget of £500 is proposed to cover additional support costs in relation to quarterly monitoring information being provided by Finance.

3.3 **Grants to the Community**

In order to protect reserves and the likely future requirement for protection or development of Common Good assets it is proposed that a budget of £3,000 be made available for small grants to community groups and £5,000 budgeted for projects relating to safeguarding or improving Common Good assets.

4. Implications

4.1 Equalities Policy. Any future major project for protection or refurbishment would seek to improve equality of access.

4.2 Climate Change – Any future project for protection or refurbishment would seek to increase energy efficiency where possible. There are no other climate change implications in the report.

4.3 Legal and Financial Implications – The application of funds will fall within the competency guidelines set out both in statute and in common law in relation to Common Good Funds. Additionally, through the governance being implied by the Finance Service, funds will remain compliant with all financial regulations. The proposed budget will result in a surplus of £2,716. This will increase the balance on the revenue reserves which stood at £160,985 on 31 March 2014 .

4.4 There are no Carbon Clever, Rural Risk or Gaelic implications in the report.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to approve the Fortrose and Rosemarkie Common Good Fund budget for 2015/16 detailed within the report and shown in Appendix One.

Designation: Carron McDiarmid, Head of Policy and Reform and Derek Yule,
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Date: 10 April 2015

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Appendix I

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Common Good Fund Revenue Budget 2015/16

	Proposed Budget 2015/16 £
Income	
Rents	11,995
Interest and investment income	721
Total income	<hr/> 12,716
Expenditure	
Property costs	1,500
Grants	3,000
Safeguarding or Improving Common Good	5,000
Administration and Insurance charges	500
Total expenditure	<hr/> 10,000
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	<hr/> <hr/> 2,716