

The Highland Council
Caithness and Sutherland Area Committee –
16 September 2015

Agenda Item	20.
Report No	CS/37/15

Dornoch Common Good Quarterly Monitoring Report - 1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015

Report by Director of Finance and Head of Policy and Reform

Summary

This report invites Members to consider the position of the Dornoch Common Good Fund as shown in the Quarter 1 Monitoring Statement.

1. Quarter 1 Monitoring Statement

- 1.1 A monitoring statement showing transactions to the end of June 2015 against budget is attached as Appendix 1.

2. Expenditure

- 2.1 No expenditure has yet been incurred; the budget set is for minor essential repairs only. There are no implications for buildings repair or maintenance and the amount set has, in the past, comfortably covered ground maintenance.

- 2.2 There may be an expense incurred in the next quarter relating to Tree Surgery on Common Good ground for which professional advice is pending but the costs of this have as yet not been confirmed, and certainly not thought to cause concern, considering the budget set of £5,000.

2.3 Grants to the Community

- 2.3.1 Within the period of this first quarter there were no grants or contributions to the community, but of note, subsequent to this period, a grant of £3,000 has been awarded to Dornoch Beach Regeneration Group which will be shown in the monitoring report for the second quarter.

- 2.3.2 Further applications for grants from the Common Good are expected to be received over the coming quarter but in order to protect reserves it has been agreed in future to limit grants to £12,000 per year to allow approximately £6,000 annually to accumulate in the reserves.

- 2.3.3 Whilst reserves are healthy, there is a commitment to contribute £100,000 to the proposed Dornoch Sports Hall as well as a pending application from Dornoch and District Community Association, both of which would have a significant impact on reserves.

3. Income

3.1 Income received to date, as shown and noted in budget from rents on Common Good Ground, is £12,670. This is for the rental of ground within the Common Good area to Dornoch Caravan Park, Dornoch Water Treatment Works, Dornoch Firth Netting Rights, Dornoch Golf Course (part), Coastguard Station and land at History links and Well Street Dornoch. Only part of this rental has been invoiced in this first quarter, with further income due in the second quarter period.

3.2 Change to Lease

Members are reminded that, as agreed by Caithness and Sutherland Area Committee on 26 May 2015, the tenant of the ground at Dornoch Airfield who had proposed the building of a hanger has been released from that agreement. This will result in £750 less, per annum, being received in rental, but there is a pending one-off payment of £3,000 to be paid to compensate Dornoch Common Good. This will be shown in the second quarter monitoring report and will decrease rental expected from £22,280 as shown, to £21,530 rental, in total, per annum.

4. Implications

4.1 There are no known resources, legal, equalities, climate change/Carbon Clever, rural, risk or Gaelic implications in the report.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to consider the Quarter 1 monitoring as set out in Appendix 1.

Designation: Director of Finance and Head of Policy and Reform

Date: 3 September 2015

Author: Garry Cameron Temporary Ward Manager and Victoria MacDonald, Accountant.

**Dornoch Common Good - Quarterly Monitoring
Period to June 2015**

	Actual to date £	Budget £	Estimated Outturn £	Estimated Variance £
INCOME				
Rents	12,670	22,280	22,280	-
Interest and investment income	-	1,000	1,000	-
TOTAL INCOME	<u>12,670</u>	<u>23,280</u>	<u>23,280</u>	<u>-</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Grants & contributions	-	12,000	12,000	-
Property costs	165	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Costs	-	5,000	5,000	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>165</u>	<u>17,000</u>	<u>17,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Income less Expenditure	<u><u>12,505</u></u>	<u><u>6,280</u></u>	<u><u>6,280</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>