

Agenda Item	11.
Report No	CC/14/22

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Caithness County Committee

Date: 22 August 2022

Report Title: Wick Common Good Update

Report By: Acting Depute Chief Executive and ECO Performance Governance
ECO Communities and Place

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report provides an update for the first quarter of Financial Year 2022/23 and provides an update on current Wick Common Good issues.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. note the position of Wick Common Good fund at the end of the first quarter
- ii. note the update on current Wick Common Good issues

3. Implications

3.1 Resource implications

The report highlights predicted income only. A report on expenditure will follow on at a later date.

3.2 Legal 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. The application of funds will comply with all financial regulations.

3.3 Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island) impacts

Community consultations are carried out in line with Community Empowerment Act on potential disposals of Wick Common Good land. This ensures community involvement in informing the decision made on the Common Good Fund.

3.4 There are no Climate Change, Risk or Gaelic implications.

4. Common good update Q1 2022/23

4.1 Income

Income received by the fund in the year to date is as outlined below

- Rental income received in Q1 £1684.00
- Donations/Sponsorship is £146.00

Further rental income is expected to be received in the remainder of the year.

4.2 Expenditure

It is common practice across the other common good funds administered by the Council that, where possible, those funds meet all expenditure relating to their assets using the income generated from them.

The costs related to the properties associated with the Wick Common Good Fund are being compiled and will be shared at a future meeting of this committee. **Appendix 1** provides a list of the cost items being investigated.

4.3 Once a complete list of costs associated with the funds assets is compiled further discussion will be required to understand how the fund's existing or potential income will be used to offset those costs.

5. Current Common Good Issues

5.1 Community Consultation

A consultation on a proposal to dispose, by lease, of Bignold House to Wick Academy Football Club has been undertaken and is the subject of separate paper to this committee.

Designation: Acting Depute Chief Executive and ECO Performance and Governance
ECO Communities and Place

Date: 10 Aug 2022

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Potential liabilities to the Common Good

LAND AND BUILDINGS

Bigbold Park including: Changing rooms – Grass/Grounds maintenance, Property maintenance, Utility bills

Camps Bay car park – surface/drainage/lining/lighting maintenance, Staff

Green Road Playing Fields - Grass/Grounds maintenance

Market Place - Surface/drainage/lining/lighting maintenance, Staff

Riverside Park (north of River) including: Riverside car park, quaiting shed and boating shed -
Surface/drainage/lining/lighting maintenance, Staff

Riverside Park (south of River) including: Fountain - Grass/Grounds maintenance, fountain maintenance

Riverside Fountain – as above

Town Hall – including Town Hall car park - Property maintenance, Utility bills, rates/Council tax, staff/legal

ART AND ARTIFACTS

Maintenance/restoration costs.