

The Highland Council

Minutes of the special meeting of the **Easter Ross Area Committee** held remotely on Monday, 13 March 2023, at 2pm.

Present:

Ms T Collier
Mr D Louden

Ms S Rawlings
Mr A Rhind

Officials in Attendance:

Mr M Rodgers, Executive Chief Officer, Housing and Property
Ms H Ross, Senior Ward Manager
Ms P Betts, Project Officer – Community Regeneration
Ms F MacBain, Senior Committee Officer

1. Apologies for Absence Leisgeulan

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Mrs P Munro, Ms M Nolan, and Ms M Smith.

2. Declarations of Interest Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt

Item 3 (Invergordon Naval Museum and Heritage Centre only) – Ms T Collier

3. Community Regeneration Funding – Application Approvals Maoineachadh Ath-bheòthachadh Coimhearsnachd – Aontaidhean Iarrtasan

Ms T Collier declared an interest in the application from Invergordon Naval Museum and Heritage Centre due to a family connection, and she left the meeting during discussion of that application.

There had been circulated Report No ERA/08/23 by the Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy.

Following a summary and discussion of each application, Members considered the applications as follows:

Applicant	Project	Grant approved
Milton Community Woodland	Path maintenance	£28,750
Invergordon Naval Museum and Heritage Centre	Heat hub	£20,832 , subject to the applicant sourcing match funding within 6 months.

Royal British Legion, Invergordon	Refurbishment of Legion Hall	£14,155.40 , subject to the applicant sourcing match funding within 6 months.
Change Mental Health - (previously Support in Mind Scotland)	Easter Ross Outreach	£26,342 , on the clear understanding that the funding was a one-off grant for one year only.

Clarification was sought and provided that appropriate evidence was sought to ensure all funding was used appropriately.

The Committee:

- i. **NOTED** all applications presented for funding and that approval of funding should detail the amount approved, and outline any conditions of funding that Members wished to attach to the approval over and above the required technical conditions. A deferral would allow an applicant to resubmit the current application at a future date with updated information or for the project to be approved subject to further funding becoming available. A rejection would mean that the application will not proceed and any future application to the fund should be brought forward initially as a new expression of interest; and
- ii. **AGREED**, as detailed above, which applications should receive a funding award from CRF up to the value of the available area allocation.

The meeting ended at 2.55pm.