

Draft

Minute of meeting of the Falkirk Common Good Fund Committee held remotely on Thursday 18 June 2020 at 11.00 a.m.

<u>Councillors:</u> David Alexander

Lorna Binnie Robert Bissett

Provost William Buchanan

Dennis Goldie Cecil Meiklejohn John Patrick Pat Reid

Depute Provost Ann Ritchie

Officers: Brian Pirie, Democratic Services Manager

Hazel Jones, Senior Accountant

Also attending: Kevin Beattie, Bainsford War Memorial Association

Emma Peattie, Bainsford War Memorial Association Charles Reid, Bainsford War Memorial Association

In accordance with section 43 of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Convener had directed that the meeting would be conducted by video conference to allow remote attendance by elected members.

In accordance with section 50A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 the public were excluded from this meeting as it was likely that, if members of the public were present, there would be a real and substantial risk to public health due to infection or contamination with coronavirus.

CGF1. Apologies

None.

CGF2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Bissett declared a non-financial interest in item CGF4 - Application for Financial Assistance - Bainsford War Memorial Association, as Chairman of the Association which made the request for funding. Councillor Bissett considered that although he had no direct financial interest in the application his relationship to the Association required him to recuse himself from consideration of the item and take no part in the discussion or decision making.

Councillor Bissett left the meeting at this point.

CGF3. Minute

Decision

The Minute of the meeting held on 26 June 2019 was approved.

CGF4. Application for Financial Assistance - Bainsford War Memorial Association

The committee considered a report from the Director of Corporate and Housing Services presenting an application for financial assistance from the Bainsford War Memorial Association sought financial assistance to create a memorial to the people of Bainsford who lost their lives during World Wars I and II.

The memorial would be located in Dawson Park on land owned by Falkirk Council. On completion, the memorial would be adopted by Falkirk Council.

The cost of the project was £82,520. To date £2,400 had been raised by the Association towards the costs. Applications had been made to funding bodies such as the National Lottery Fund for funding towards the project costs. The Association had sought £65,000 from the Common Good Fund.

Hazel Jones advised that the balance of Falkirk Common Good Fund was £696,880 at 31 March 2019. Rents and interest in 2020/21 would generate approximately £27k.

Kevin Beattie, Emma Peattie and Charles Reid answered questions from the committee in regard to:-

- the funding raised to date and other streams of funding available
- the project cost
- the project design
- the proposals by the Association to engage with the community, in particular local schools
- the details which would be provided on the memorial itself

The committee discussed the level of funding requested, the cost of the memorial, and the extent to which fund raising had taken place. Councillor Reid confirmed that approximately £13,000 of funding could be returned to the Fund by the Friends of Falkirk War Memorial which had received funding for its War memorial project in 2018/19.

Decision

The Committee agreed:-

- 1) to award a sum equivalent of the anticipated income from rates and interest for the year 2020/21 (£27k) and to provide the anticipated £13k which was due to be returned to the Fund from the Falkirk War Memorial Association project to the project; and
- to invite the Association to come back to the committee should its own fundraising efforts result in a project shortfall in funding.