

The background of the slide features a large, light blue watermark of the Coat of Arms of the City of Christchurch. The crest includes a crown with four fleurs-de-lis, a shield divided into four quarters (top-left: a ship, top-right: a stag's head, bottom-left: a ship, bottom-right: a bird), and a ribbon at the bottom with the motto 'ANE FOR A'.

## **Agenda Item 4**

# **Application for Financial Assistance - Christ Church**

**Falkirk Council**

**Title:** Application for Financial Assistance - Christ Church

**Meeting:** Falkirk Common Good Committee

**Date:** 22 December 2020

**Submitted By:** Director of Corporate & Housing Services

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 An application has been received from Christ Church for funding towards essential building repairs.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **The Committee is asked to consider:-**

**(1) The application for funding of £2,000 from Falkirk Common Good Fund to Christ Church towards this project.**

**3. Background**

- 3.1 Christ Church Falkirk is a place of worship and is a charge within the Diocese of Edinburgh of the Scottish Episcopal Church. It is located in central Falkirk.
- 3.2 Weekly services are held on Sundays and Thursdays as well as weddings/funerals/baptisms upon request. The church services are open to all. The church facilities are also shared with local community groups, including a family contact centre, a theatre group and a choir.
- 3.3 A recent Quinquennial survey reported evidence of damage to the sandstone masonry walls of the church through ingress of water, allowing deterioration of the stonework. It is now necessary to replace the gutter, clear and/or replace downpipes and refurbish or replace the soakaways. As the church is a listed building it is necessary all work is in compliance with the conservation of historic buildings. The proposed start date of the work is Spring 2021.

- 3.4 The following information has been provided as a breakdown of the project costs and the funding sought from Falkirk Common Good Fund:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cost £</b>	<b>Amount requested from Falkirk Common Good Fund £</b>
Scaffolding/site facilities	7,872	
Masonry work	5,088	
Joinery work	2,006	
Slater work	5,084	
Plumber/lead work	36,174	
Professional fees	2,000	
15% contingency	9,194	
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,418</b>	<b>2,000</b>

#### 4. Considerations

- 4.1 The balance of Falkirk Common Good Fund is £693,930 at 24 November 2020. This includes rents and interest received for the financial year 2020/21 which is anticipated to be around £25,000.

#### 5. Consultation

- 5.1 No consultation has been carried out on the report's proposals.

#### 6. Implications

##### Financial

- 6.1 The total cost of the project, as detailed in 3.4, is £67,418 and funding of £2,000 is sought from Falkirk Common Good Fund.

- 6.1.1 The project will be funded as follows:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>Status</b>
Quinquennial fund (Christ Church own fundraising)	28,782	Raised and in reserved funds
Scotland Churches Trust	2,000	Awarded
National Churches Trust	6,000	Awarded
EBS Scotland Ltd	10,000	Awarded
Viridor Credits/FCC Communities Foundation/Historic Environment Scotland	7,400	Awaiting decision
VAT recovery	11,236	-
<i>Falkirk Common Good Fund</i>	<i>2,000</i>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,418</b>	

- 6.1.2 In the financial year 2019/20 grants of £99,421 in total were awarded. In 2020/21 to date £40,000 has been awarded.
- 6.1.3 The last award was to the Bainsford War Memorial Association in June 2020 for £40,000.

### **Resources**

- 6.2 There are no resource implications (such as staff and assets) which arise from the report recommendations.

### **Legal**

- 6.3 There are no legal implications which arise from the report recommendations.

### **Risk**

- 6.4 There are no risk implications which arise from the report recommendations.

### **Equalities**

- 6.5 An equality and poverty impact assessment has not been required.

### **Sustainability/Environmental Impact**

- 6.6 A sustainability assessment has not been completed as part of compiling this report.

## **7. Conclusions**

- 7.1 The sum requested is £2,000. The project is of community benefit.
- 7.2 The Falkirk Common Good Fund has a healthy balance, however, members will need to consider if they wish to reduce the fund balance by awarding the grant.

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### **Director of Corporate & Housing Services**

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Date: 22 December 2020

## **Appendices**

None

### **List of Background Papers:**

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

- Final application and supporting documentation received from Mr Gordon Nelson, Volunteer Member of Property Committee, on 24 November 2020.