



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
MUSSELBURGH COMMON GOOD COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER 2015  
REGENT ROOM, BRUNTON HALL, MUSSELBURGH**

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**Committee Members Present:**

Councillor J McNeil, Chair  
Councillor J Caldwell  
Councillor F McAllister  
Councillor J Williamson  
Councillor S Currie  
Councillor A Forrest

**Council Officials Present:**

Ms P Maciver, Senior Accountant  
Ms K Brand, Corporate Devt Accountant

Mrs F Stewart, Clerk

**Applicants Present:**

Ms L Smith, Arts Service, Brunton Hall, Musselburgh (Item 4a)

**Apologies:**

None

**Declarations of Interest:**

None

## **1. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

### **a) Meeting of 15 September 2015**

The minutes of the meeting on 15 September 2015 were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING**

The Committee discussed the recent firework display and it was stated that all fireworks had been procured through the official system of CC21. It was also unanimously agreed that the cost of the fireworks would be put through Supplies and Services and not Awards.

The Financial Adviser to the Committee advised that there was now only £19,000 remaining in the Common Good Fund for 2014-15.

## **3. FEEDBACK FROM ORGANISATIONS IN RECEIPT OF GRANT FUNDING**

### **3a) Roman Roots**

The Chair was pleased to receive thanks from Vibrant Musselburgh for funding of £500 towards a family event on 12 September 2015 during Scottish Archeology Month. Four excellent photographs showing the community participating in the event in Roman costumes had also been submitted to the Committee.

### **3b) Clark Community Choir**

The Chair was pleased to receive a letter of thanks from the Clark Community Choir for funding of £6000 towards the choir's visit to France on behalf of the Musselburgh Twinning Association (1-4 April 2016). Councillor Forrest paid tribute to the choir and their achievements advising that, initially, the choir had only assembled to perform for one evening. He was confident that the choir members would be excellent ambassadors for the Twinning Association.

## **4. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **4a Application for Assistance – Arts Service, Brunton Hall, Musselburgh**

The Common Good Committee considered an application from Lesley Smith on behalf of the Arts Service for funding of £9071 to upgrade the technical facilities Venue 2 in the Brunton Hall.

### **Decision**

The Common Good Committee agreed by a majority to grant the application in part, in the sum of £5000.

## 5 PRESENTATION FROM ELC FINANCE OFFICER

Kim Brand, ELC Corporate Development Accountant, provided an update on the financial position of the trusts. She advised that it is intended to amalgamate all the Musselburgh Trusts which provide for “the poor and elderly” and in order to do this, she would need to discuss the matter with OSCR (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator). Only one of those charities was currently registered with OSCR. Ms Brand also presented her recommendations for distribution of funds in December 2015 which, for organisations and individuals, would total £2,905.

The Chair proposed that an award was given to the Starfish Recovery Cafe at Hope Street Church which supports rehabilitation for those recovering from drugs and alcohol abuse. Councillor Currie suggested that there might be other deserving groups in the community and proposed that the Committee could have a separate discussion on which groups could be considered. Ms Brand advised that, although awards had concentrated mainly on the elderly in the past, anyone or any group could be nominated for an award.

Councillor Currie enquired about the Brown Bequest. Ms Brand replied that very few grants were disbursed from this fund and proposed that, in future, other conditions could possibly be added to the terms of this trust, for example to support more general health issues rather than just dental treatment. She also suggested the use of funds in the James McKelvie Trust could be widened. The Chair agreed that Ms Brand could look into making these changes.

### Decision

The Common Good Committee agreed to:

- i. award the sum of £25 to individuals at Christmas, the same level of award as in 2014;
- ii. award the same sum as last year to organisations
- iii. award a total of £2905 to organisations and individuals;
- iv. consider an award for the Starfish Recovery Cafe at the beginning of 2016; and to
- v. award £25 to an additional recipient nominated by Councillor Williamson

Signed .....

Councillor J McNeil  
Convener of Musselburgh Common Good Committee