

ANGUS COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 30 APRIL 2024

FORFAR COMMON GOOD FUND – PROJECT APPLICATIONS

REPORT BY GRAEME DAILLY, DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENT

1. ABSTRACT

This report advises members on two Common Good funding applications that have been received and seeks Committee approval to fund both the projects. The applications are from the Angus Young Engineers to support a sports science project for young people in the local area, and from the Forfar Horticultural Society to support their annual flower show.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

This report aligns with the Council Plan 2023-2028 priorities as follows.

Caring for People:

- We will support children, young people and adults to access appropriate opportunities which allow them to progress in their learning.

Caring for our Place:

- We will engage with communities to support their ambitions to deliver on local aspirations (e.g. community asset transfer requests, community gardens, food hubs)
- We will maximise funding opportunities and grants to the Third Sector and communities to support their ambitions to deliver services

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) approves the application from the Angus Young Engineers, as detailed in **Appendix 1**, from Forfar Common Good Fund; and
- (ii) approves the application from the Forfar Horticultural Society, as detailed in **Appendix 2**, from Forfar Common Good Fund.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council administers the five individual Common Good funds:

- Arbroath
- Brechin
- Forfar
- Kirriemuir
- Montrose

4.2 The process for approval of Common Good fund bids is set out in the council's Financial Regulations. Members for wards which have Common Good funds are consulted on applications for the use of the funds either for management of the Common Good properties or where funding is requested by communities or Angus Council services. Reports on such applications are submitted to Policy & Resources Committee for approval.

- 4.3 As part of the budget cycle council services have the opportunity to submit bids for Common Good funds and this is particularly prevalent where the bids are for the maintenance of the Common Good asset for repairs and maintenance which is a liability on the Common Good funds. Other organisations may make bids for funding from Common Good funds in accordance with the application process and guidance notes.

5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1 Report [84/24](#) to Policy & Resources Committee on 12 March 2024 set out the annual 2024/25 Common Good Funds budget and provided indicative budgets of income and expenditure (including asset maintenance schedules) projections for the following two years.

6. PROPOSALS

- 6.1 Details of the Common Good funding request from the Angus Young Engineers for £9,000 to cover the cost of a sports science project for young people is contained in **Appendix 1**. Details of the Common Good funding request from the Forfar Horticultural Society for £855 to support their annual flower show is contained in **Appendix 2**. Local elected members views were sought regarding the funding applications and the responses are noted in the **Appendices**.

- 6.2 The process for accessing of Common Good Funds for any further one-off projects was followed and after assessment of the applications, and consideration of local elected members views, it is proposed that both the applications are approved in full.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 A summary of the financial implications are outlined below if the Committee are minded to agree the proposed funding of the project set out in **Appendices 1 and 2**.

Common Good Fund	Audited Revenue Balance as at 01/04/23 (£)	Estimated Revenue Balance as at 31/03/24 (£)	Estimated Revenue Balance as at 31/03/25 (£)	Additional 2024/25 Cost per this Report (£)	Updated Estimated Revenue Balance as at 31/03/25 (£)
Forfar	783,866	705,975	768,790	9,855	758,935

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 It is considered that there are indirect impacts from the proposed funding of the two projects that are positive for the environment. The Angus Young Engineers project will provide an opportunity for more young people to become interested and involved with science and this in turn may foster a better understanding of the science around key environmental issues such as climate change. Supporting the Forfar Horticultural Society to host the annual flower show may encourage more local interest in biodiversity and other environmental issues.

9. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

- 9.1 A screening only assessment has been undertaken and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the following reasons: -

- Is reflective e.g., of budget spend over a financial year.

10. CONSULTATION (IF APPLICABLE)

- 10.1 The Director of Finance and Director of Legal, Governance and Change were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report [08/24](#) to Policy & Resources Committee on 12 March 2024

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Angus Young Engineers Project Application

Appendix 2 – Forfar Horticultural Society Project Application

FORFAR COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION

Project Name	Angus Young Engineers (AYE)
Organisation	Angus Young Engineers (AYE)
Value	£9,000
Description	<p>Angus Young Engineers (AYE) is an organisation set up and run by high school teachers and other concerned members of the Angus community. It was established to create opportunities for disadvantaged young people to engage in enterprising activities and advance their education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) based subjects.</p> <p>AYE target disadvantaged young people from deprived rural areas in Angus (SIMD1&2) who are underachieving, troubled, disengaged and lacking positive direction. They run workshops 3 afternoons each week for young people aged 12-24.</p> <p>AYE is seeking funding for STEM based new sports science project for disadvantaged young people predominately in Forfar and the surrounding rural areas. AYE is taking advantage of a long-standing partnership with Strathmore Rugby Club who have recently extended and refurbished their rugby club building in Forfar and created classroom space in the building for AYE students. AYE intend to use the classroom and surrounding facility to run the project</p> <p>AYE will use GPS data trackers to look at physiological performance of rugby players, Jog Forfar athletes and park runners for data analysis, spreadsheet creation, using software to track stats and create filtered graphs which will then be analysed and presented on power point in a classroom setting using a SMART board. This project helps AYE to expand their activity range, explore new territory that puts a new slant on STEM-based activity whilst keeping digital upskilling embedded at the core of their service.</p> <p>This application was assessed by a panel of three Council officers and an eligibility checklist was followed. The recommendation of the assessors was to approve the application.</p>
Elected member consultation	All four elected members for the Forfar and District ward were consulted and all conveyed their support for funding of this project.

FORFAR COMMON GOOD FUND APPLICATION

Organisation	Forfar Horticultural Society
Value	£855
Description	<p>Forfar Horticultural Society, annual flower show will take place in the Reid Hall in August 2024. The society is 124 years old, and the volunteer led committee run the largest annual flower show in Angus. The application requests funding to support the hire of the Reid Hall over the show weekend.</p> <p>This application was assessed by a panel of three Council officers and an eligibility checklist was followed. The recommendation of the assessors was to approve the application.</p>
Elected member consultation	All four elected members for the Forfar and District ward were consulted and all conveyed their support for funding of this project.