

Minute

Community Development Fund Sub-committee

Monday, 6 November 2023, 14:00.

Council Chamber, Council Offices, School Place, Kirkwall.



Present

Councillors Graham A Bevan, David Dawson, Kristopher D Leask, Gwenda M Shearer, Gillian Skuse, Jean E Stevenson and James W Stockan.

Clerk

- Hazel Flett, Service Manager (Governance).

In Attendance

- Sweyn Johnston, Head of Enterprise and Economic Growth.
- Erik Knight, Head of Finance.
- Stuart Allison, Service Manager (Enterprise).
- Stuart Bevan, Solicitor.
- Carol Coleman, Economic Development Officer.
- Morag Robertson, Economic Development Officer.

Not Present

- Councillor W Leslie Manson.

Declarations of Interest

- Councillor Graham A Bevan – Item 3.
- Councillor Kristopher D Leask – Item 3.

Chair

- Councillor Graham A Bevan, Convener.

1. Application 0/5/8/85 – North Ronaldsay Trust

Trebb Community Resource Hub

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from Morag Robertson, Economic Development Officer, the Sub-committee:

Noted:

1.1. That North Ronaldsay Trust had applied for assistance from the Community Development Fund towards Phase 1 of the Community Resource Hub, comprising renovation of the derelict house at Trebb to create a flat on the first floor and a gym, well-being centre, flexible office space, meeting room, kitchen and toilets on the ground floor, at a total estimated cost of £628,445.

1.2. That messages of support had been received from the undernoted:

- North Ronaldsay Community Council.
- A North Isles Councillor.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

1.3. That, subject to the full funding package for Phase 1 of the project being in place, a grant of up to 16% of total eligible costs, up to a maximum sum of £100,000, to be met from the Community Development Fund, be offered to North Ronaldsay Trust towards Phase 1 of the Community Resource Hub at Trebb.

1.4. That powers be delegated to the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Governance, to determine whether appropriate security could be put in place and to conclude an Agreement, on the Council's standard terms and conditions, with North Ronaldsay Trust in respect of the funding detailed at paragraph 1.3 above.

2. Application 0/5/8/86 – Pickaquoy Centre Trust

Mountain Bike and BMX Cycling Facility

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from the Service Manager (Enterprise), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

2.1. That the Pickaquoy Centre Trust had applied for assistance from the Community Development Fund towards the construction of a purpose-built mountain bike and BMX cycling facility, for use by members of Orkney Cycling Club, the local community, and users of the Pickaquoy Centre, at a total estimated eligible cost of £374,186.

2.2. That messages of support had been received from the undernoted groups and individuals:

- Orkney Cycling Club.
- Orkney Islands Games 2025 Board.
- Liam McArthur Orkney MSP.
- NHS Orkney.

2.3. That the Pickaquoy Centre would be a pivotal venue for the Orkney 2025 International Island games that would include cycling and mountain biking in the sporting itinerary.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

2.4. That a grant amounting to 22% of total eligible costs, up to a maximum sum of £81,200, to be met from the Community Development Fund, be offered to the Pickaquooy Centre Trust towards a purpose-built mountain bike and BMX cycling facility, subject to:

- Confirmation of the subsidy control position to the satisfaction of the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration.
- The full funding package being confirmed.

2.5. That powers be delegated to the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Governance, to conclude an Agreement, on the Council's standard terms and conditions, with the Pickaquooy Centre Trust in respect of the funding detailed at paragraph 2.4 above.

3. Regeneration Capital Grant Fund – Stage 2 Funding Application

Pier Arts Centre

Councillor Graham A Bevan declared an interest in this item, his connection being that a close family member was the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Pier Arts Centre, and left the meeting at this point.

Councillor Kristopher D Leask declared an interest in this item, his connection being that he was a Director on the Board of the Pier Arts Centre, and left the meeting at this point.

Signed: (Convener's signature).

As the Chair, Councillor Graham A Bevan, had left the meeting, the Clerk called for nominations for Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

The Sub-committee resolved:

3.1. That Councillor Gwenda M Shearer be appointed Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Councillor Gwenda M Shearer took the Chair.

After consideration of a report by the Corporate Director for Enterprise and Sustainable Regeneration, copies of which had been circulated, and after hearing from the Service Manager (Enterprise), the Sub-committee:

Noted:

3.2. That, on 15 June 2023, the Community Development Fund Sub-committee resolved:

- That the Council should submit Stage 1 funding applications to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, on behalf of both the Pier Arts Centre and Birsay Heritage Trust.

- That, in accordance with the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund guidelines, the applications be ranked in the following priority order:
 - Priority 1: Pier Arts Centre, at the requested amount of £1,608,000.
 - Priority 2: Birsay Heritage Trust, at the requested amount of £760,000.

3.3. That, on 28 September 2023, the Scottish Government confirmed that the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund Investment Panel had recommended that the Pier Arts Centre's Stromness Creative Arts Hub project be invited to submit a Stage 2 application by the deadline of 10 November 2023.

The Sub-committee resolved, in terms of delegated powers:

3.4. That the Council should submit a Stage 2 funding application to the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Grant Fund, on behalf of the Pier Arts Centre, at the revised amount of £1,408,000.

4. Conclusion of Meeting

At 14:25 the Chair declared the meeting concluded.

Signed: Gwenda M Shearer.