



*Community Council  
of the  
Royal Burgh of Peebles & District*

**Update on application for assistance with funding for the flower beds  
in Peebles.  
8th November 2019**

An application has been made to the common Good Fund of Peebles for funding assistance with regard to the maintenance of flower beds in the town.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Common Good Trust with an up to date picture of how our project is progressing. To distinguish between the original Bonnie Peebles, this new group is to be known as Bonnie Peebles Plus. Bonnie Peebles, as currently constituted, is to continue its operations with some flower beds as currently structured, using its original volunteers and using the same methods for raising funds from the community. Bonnie Peebles Plus, as set out in the application is a separate organisation with a different structure and slightly different, more flexible approach to the maintenance of the new flower beds. In relation to funding, Bonnie Peebles Plus has chosen, initially, to concentrate on approaching businesses in the town and seeking sponsorship. Whilst the two organisations have different structures and approaches to funding, our aims are the same and we work closely with one another, sharing expertise and experience. We also intend to collaborate closely when and as the need arises.

In relation to funding Bonnie Peebles Plus, this is quite successful, though we have not yet reached our target of £10,000 of pledges. The amount of pledges made thus far is £7,800 with £6450 received. In terms of pledges we do need £2,200 to reach our target and to secure the project for the next year. Therefore, our application for support from the common good fund should now be for the sum of £2,200 rather than the £4,500 requested in our original application. The majority of the money raised thus far has come from various businesses around the town, though other associations and individuals have also contributed, some by way of single donations, others by standing orders.

Another critical area for our project is the recruitment of volunteers who will maintain the flower beds. We have successfully recruited about sixty new recruits to

this worthy cause. We held our inaugural meeting of these volunteers along with members of Bonnie Peebles on November 7th. It was very successful with about seventy people in attendance. They were divided into teams and briefed and are set to begin work.

To summarise, this project has caught the imagination of the town; residents are horrified at the thought of losing the colourful flower beds, tubs and hanging baskets. We have the volunteers with the necessary enthusiasm, we now need to secure the funding for the coming year. This is a project that benefits all the residents of the town directly, enhances the beauty of the town which in turn encourages visitors to come and stay awhile, helping to improve the economic viability of the town. This is a project that is important for the town and should be supported by the Common Good Fund.

Les Turnbull,  
Chairman,  
Peebles and District Community Council.