

**SCOTTISH BORDERS COUNCIL  
CHEVIOT COMMUNITY FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL**

MINUTES of Meeting of CHEVIOT NEIGHBOURHOOD FUND ASSESSMENT PANEL held  
via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 at 7pm.

Present:- A. Carter;  
P. Jeary,  
G. Horsburgh;  
D. Weatherson;  
G. Hayward

In Attendance:- Community Co-ordinator (G Jardine),  
Community Engagement Officer (E. Husband)

Apologies:- B. Burton

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Apologies were noted, G Jardine welcomed everyone to the meeting. Each member went around and introduced themselves to new CEO in post, E Husband.

**2. OUTCOME OF ASSESSMENT PANEL RECCOMENDATIONS TO CAP**

Following previous CAP meeting, all funding recommendations were supported, application limit was increased from £2,500 to £5,000 and the two application per group limit was removed. The removal of the £5,000 limit is to be reviewed at the March CAP meeting to assess the difference it makes.

Following the March meeting, the SBC team will pull together statistics and figures to display the overview of the Neighbourhood Support Fund for 22/23.

**3. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF CHEVIOT ASSESSMENT PANEL**

Following the resignation of the previous panel Chair, G Jardine welcomed members to volunteer to take the role as Chair

G Horsburgh made a nomination for D Weatherston as Chair

D Weatherston will stand as interim Chair until the end of the financial year

P Jeary will be leaving the panel following the next meeting.

G Jardine highlights the need for more members on the panel and SBC will work to introduce this to local groups.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

G. Horsburgh – Declared interest in Kelso Community Council

D.Weatherson – Declared interest in Kelso Heritage Society

G. Hayward – Declared interest for Jedburgh Community Council.

There was a panel agreement that the declaration of interest should occur when the member has an interest in an application and must remove themselves from the conversation and will not score. An interested member can be asked questions regarding the project but cannot be involved in the discussion.

It was also agreed that if a panel member requires more information on an application, they will continue to score with this in mind.

## **5. PROJECT ASSESSMENTS**

### **A. OVERALL REVIEW OF MARKS**

The panel agreed, that given the volume of applications, any project with a mean score of over 80 would be recommended for approval. Projects which fell in this category were:

Kelso Walking Festival  
Jed Community Council – Perennial Plants Project  
Perfect Harmony  
Kelso Heritage Society  
St Boswell's PS  
Kelso High School  
Kelso Skatepark Project

**Further project discussion went as follows:**

### **B. PERFECT HARMONY**

An application for £1,350 was received from Perfect Harmony to provide an additional 5 concerts, per year, throughout Cheviot care facilities. These concerts engage local musicians with the purpose of enhancing the lives of the recipients.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Perfect Harmony's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £1,350.

### **C. QME CARE**

An application for £2,250 was received from QME Care to offer a subsidised meal during their Sunday Lunch Club as well as a contribution to resources for additional activities, e.g. music, games, crafts, group discussion and reminiscence, and cognitive stimulation, within their existing Place and Space Day Service.

Panel suggested that they should publicise their wish list, they very might be supported by the community.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Following discussion and request of further information, there was consensus amongst the panel to recommend this application for funding.

The panel wanted to note that given this project will be a pilot, should the group which to continue beyond the pilot stage, and further funding is required, the panel would require a report on the operation and success of the pilot.

#### **D. ANCRUM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

An application from Ancrum Community Council was received for the total of £468.98 to erect signage to encourage responsible dog ownership, and disallow dogs on the village green.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** A thorough panel discussion concluded that, as this signage would have no legal precedent, they would not recommend this project for funding.

The panel recommended that the group make use of SBC services to inform and educate the community, as well as lobby the Scottish Government to change legislation which would make it possible to erect such signage.

#### **E. JEDBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

An application for £1,215 was applied for from Jedburgh Community Council to replace all floral displays throughout the town with perennial plants to move to a more sustainable model and reduce the use of bedding plants.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Jedburgh Community Council's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £1,215

#### **F. KCC WALKING FESTIVAL COMMITTEE**

An application for £5,000 was applied for from Kelso Community Council's Walking Festival Committee to deliver the annual Scottish Borders Walking Festival, in September 2023. Funds will be used to support the rental of the community centre as well as the design, publication and marketing of event resources.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Kelso Community Council's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £5,000.

#### **G. KELSO HERITAGE SOCIETY**

An application for £989 was applied for from Kelso Heritage Society to support the purchase of updated software and equipment to be used throughout their programme of monthly talks of local and Scottish historical interest.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Kelso Heritage Society's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £989.

#### **H. ART AT ANCRUM**

An application for £540 was applied for from Art at Ancrum to support the annual arts fair located within the village of Ancrum. This fair supports artists and makers to display and sell

their work, drawing interest and tourism to the village. Funds will be used to produce a high-quality A3, colour catalogue for the event displaying information as well as a village map.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Art at Ancrum's annual fair is an asset to the community, bringing publicity and tourism to the small village of Ancrum. The panel felt they produced a strong case in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £540.

*\*The following two applications were considered concurrently.*

#### **I. JEDBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

An application was received for £4,027.50 to support the painting of railings around the Play Park at the Bus Station location and in Abbey Place, which the Council felt gave a poor impression of the town.

#### **J. JEDBURGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

An application was received for £2569.95 to support painting of lampposts in Abbey Place, Jedburgh, which they also felt gave a poor impression of the town.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** The panel agreed that general upkeep to a town was not an appropriate use of the fund and they would not recommend this project for funding.

They added that perhaps if the application had demonstrated a community-led element to the project, that it would have been a stronger application for the fund.

#### **K. KELSO CAMERA CLUB**

An application was made for £1062.18 from Kelso Camera Club to host their annual exhibition. This exhibition is open to the public, free of charge and funds would be used to support the town hall hire, as well as the printing and mounting of the images.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** The panel was in agreement that this application produced a strong case in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £1062.18

#### **L. RURAL SPACE AGENCY**

An application was received for £500 to support Rural Space Agency, a newly established community group. Rural Space Agency, a soon to be established charitable organisation, aims to create cultural and creative activities throughout Jedburgh. Funds will be used to support the rental of a temporary space as well as art renewables and stationary for workshop delivery. Any approved funds will be delivered and accounted for by The Bridge as Rural Space Agency are in initial stages of establishment.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Rural Space Agency present a strong case in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and

sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £500.

#### **M. ST BOSWELLS PS**

A partnership application was received requesting £1,159 from St Boswells Primary School Parent & Friends Partnership and St Boswells Community Council sub-groups, Green St Boswells and Friends of the Community Woodland. This project aims to create a Community micro-orchard, a commemorative Queen's Green Canopy mini-woodland and associated wildlife areas around St Boswells Primary School grounds. The project aims to create community opportunities for learning and development surrounding wildlife and fruit.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** St Boswell's PS application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £1,159

#### **N. KELSO SKATEPARK PROJECT**

An application was received for £5,000 from the Kelso Skatepark Project to support consultancy fees for the improvement of safety, security and lighting to the Skatepark.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Kelso Skatepark Project's application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £5,000

#### **O. THOMAS MACONOCHIE KHS TRUST**

Application was received for £2,106 from the Thomas Maconochie KHS Trust, in partnership with CLD Service to run an intergenerational project between the residents of Kerfield Court and pupils from the High School. The group will work with a stone carver to produce sculptures that will be placed within the residents' garden at Kerfield Court.

**DECISION NOTED that:-** Thomas Maconochie KHS Trust application scored an average of 80+ in terms of their ability to deliver, clear evidence of need, potential impact, use of public money, innovation and sustainability and therefore is recommended the Cheviot Area Partnership awards a grant of £2,106.

#### **P. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING AND EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS**

No additional conditions of funding were required

#### **6. REVIEW OF FUNDING AVAILABLE AND CLOSING DATE FOR NEXT FUNDING ROUND**

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

#### **7. DECISIONS AND REPORT TO AREA PARTNERSHIP**

#### **8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Cheviot Assessment Panel will take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March following the closure of applications on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, in advance of the Cheviot Area Partnership Meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March.

Signed:

Dean Weatherston

Chair of Cheviot Neighbourhood Support Fund Assessment Panel