

Helensburgh Outdoor Museum – Arts Strategy Fund

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask that Member's agree to the offer of grant in support of two applications to the Outdoor Museum Arts Fund, to request that Member's approve amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Design Panel and also to request Member's approve a variation in the administration of future funding rounds.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 13 December 2016, the Committee agreed to allocate £55,500 from CHORD Surplus Funds for the continuation of the Outdoor Museum, subsequently a Design Panel has been constituted with the remit of assessing applications and making considered recommendations to Area Committee for approval.
- 1.3 Applications were invited to the Arts Strategy Fund between June and September 2018 and were assessed by the dedicated Design Panel on 5-October 2018. This paper therefore seeks to provide recommendations from the Design Panel for Area Committee's consideration and determination.
- 1.4 Two applications were received and deemed to meet the criteria of the Arts Strategy and be of sufficient quality to be recommended for approval.
- 1.5 In terms of future funding rounds of the Art Strategy Fund, it is recommended that authority to approve artworks, allocate plinths and award grants of up to £3,000 for total costs of artworks, is delegated to the Design Panel.
- 1.6 A variation to the administration arrangements for the Fund are also recommended. It is proposed to open a rolling funding call in 2019 with four set Design Panel meeting dates to consider complete applications, opposed to one call per year as previously agreed.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Helensburgh and Lomond members:

- 2.1 Approve Application 1 – Submariners Association

- 2.2 Approve Application 2 – The Arts Society
- 2.3 Approve amendments to the Design Panel Terms of Reference
- 2.4 Approve new arrangements for administering the Arts Strategy Fund
- 2.5 Approve Conditions of Grant

Helensburgh Outdoor Museum – Arts Strategy Fund Initial Applications

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 The purpose of this report is to ask that Member's agree to the offer of grant in support of two application's to the Outdoor Museum Arts Fund, to request that Member's approve amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Design Panel and also to request Member's approve a variation in the administration of future funding rounds.
- 3.2 At its meeting on 13 December 2016, the Committee agreed to allocate £55,500 from CHORD Surplus Funds for the continuation of the Outdoor Museum, subsequent to which a Design Panel has been constituted with the remit of assessing applications and making considered recommendations to Area Committee for approval.
- 3.3 Applications were invited to the Arts Strategy Fund between June and September 2018 and were assessed by the dedicated Design Panel on 5-October 2018. This paper therefore seeks to provide recommendations from the Design Panel for Area Committee's consideration and determination.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Helensburgh and Lomond members:

- 4.1 Approve Application 1 – Submariners Association
- 4.2 Approve Application 2 – The Arts Society
- 4.3 Approve amendments to the Design Panel Terms of Reference
- 4.4 Approve new arrangements for administering the Arts Strategy Fund
- 4.5 Approve Conditions of Grant

5. DETAIL

5.1. Helensburgh's award winning Outdoor Museum displays a collection of treasured objects brought forward by local residents / organisations in the town to depict stories of local, national and international significance, and makes them available to the people of Helensburgh, Scotland and beyond. The Museum has been very well received by the local community, visitors to the town, and by the arts, heritage and culture bodies in Scotland and further afield.

5.2. The Area Committee has set aside £55,500 to expand Helensburgh's Outdoor Museum and requested that officers bring forward a strategy to incorporate detail on the creation, operation and management of the Fund over its delivery period.

5.3. A Design Panel was subsequently established and convened on 29-Sept 2017, which includes representatives from Helensburgh Community Council, Rhu and Shandon Community Council, the Arts Society Lomond, the Culture, Heritage and Arts Assembly, elected members and members of the public.

Applications

5.4. The Design Panel invited applications to the Outdoor Museum Arts Strategy Fund between June and September 2018. One application was received which was assessed and scored by the Design Panel using the criteria detailed in the Arts Strategy, approved at 21-Dec 2017 Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee.

5.5. An application from the Arts Society was previously assessed by the Design Panel and recommended for approval, however this was subsequently placed on hold by the applicant. This application is now presented for approval.

5.6. Application 1 – Submariners Association is recommended for approval.

5.7. Application 1 was submitted by the Submariners Association. The proposal comprises a bronze profile model of HM Submarine K13, the date of her accident, the Submariners Association crest and a chart of the Gareloch showing the accident datum in the vicinity of the former Shandon Hydro Hotel. It is proposed to locate the model on plinth SC20, plinth type 'A3' to the south side of West Princes Street.

5.8. The applicant advises the proposal is designed in bronze which will not deteriorate due to extremes of generally cold, maritime climate but will patinate, exhibiting colour variance and shadow. This material has also been chosen to blend with existing artworks in the Outdoor Museum.

5.9. Appendix 1 provides further detail of this application, including the full text to be engraved on the plinth. Appendix 2 provides detail on the location of the proposed plinth.

5.10. It is recommended £3,000 requested in respect of Application 1 is approved. Of a total cost of £6,048, the applicant would provide the remaining 51% match funding.

5.11. Application 2 – The Arts Society is recommended for approval.

5.12. Application 2 was submitted by the Arts Society. The proposal comprises a steel representation of the Arts Society logo. The sculpture represents interwoven letters 'A' and 'S' and will be galvanised and painted with a durable 2-pack epoxy paint. The applicant advises the artwork will present a raised profile that allows for the interplay of light and shade that will change during the course of the day. It is proposed to locate the sculpture on plinth SC11, type E1 to the south of West Princes Street.

5.13. Appendix 3 provides further detail of this application, including the full text to be engraved on the plinth. Appendix 2 provides detail on the location of the proposed plinth.

5.14. It is recommended £540 requested in respect of Application 2 – The Arts Society is approved. Of a total cost of £1,140, the applicant would provide the remaining 52% match funding.

Design Panel Terms of Reference

5.15. In terms of future funding rounds of the Art Strategy Fund, amendments to existing arrangements have been considered by the Design Panel. At present, the Terms of Reference allow awards of up to £500 for development costs to be determined by the Design Panel, with all other awards requiring approval from Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee.

5.16. In the interest of efficiency it is recommended that authority to approve artworks, allocate plinths and award grants of up to £3,000 for total costs, is also delegated to the Design Panel. This will increase the speed at which artwork proposals can be delivered whilst also reducing papers requiring consideration by Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee. The proposed Terms of Reference are in appendix 4.

Future Funding Rounds

5.17. At Helensburgh and Lomond Area Committee December 2017 it was agreed that the Arts Strategy funding would be administered via one funding call per year. After discussion, the Design Panel agreed their preference would be for a rolling funding call to be open in 2019 with four Design Panel meeting dates set to consider complete applications. This would allow applications to be submitted at any time throughout the year and be considered at the next available Design Panel.

5.18. It is recommended that Elected Member's approve this variation to the arrangements for administering the fund.

Conditions of Grant

5.19. Conditions of grant have been prepared and can be read in full in appendix 5. These conditions state that ownership of artworks will be retained by applicants, with all responsibility and liability for maintenance and repairs lying with the owner. Artworks cannot be removed from the Outdoor Museum unless agreed and confirmed in writing by Argyll and Bute Council.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1. The Outdoor Museum has been well received both locally and nationally as is evidenced by the numerous award nominations. Approval of the recommended applications would allow for the continuation of this arts/culture asset.

6.2. Amendments to the Design Panel Terms of Reference and administration of the Arts Fund will increase the efficiency of the process and encourage new artwork proposals to be brought forward.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1. **Policy:** The delivery of this project fits with the Council's Corporate Plan, Local Outcome Improvement Plan and approved Development Plan key actions and policy for safeguarding our built heritage and town centre regeneration.

7.2. **Financial:** The Area Committee has set aside £55,500 from the CHORD Surplus Funds for the future enhancement of the Outdoor Museum

7.3. **Legal:** None

7.4. **HR:** None – the Fund will be managed by the Economic Development Officer, who will provide updates to the Area Committee.

7.5. **Equalities/ Fairer Scotland Duty:** None

7.6. **Risk:** None

7.7. **Customer Service:** None

**Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure Services, Pippa Milne
Policy Lead, Cllr Aileen Morton**

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Application 1 - Submariners Association

Appendix 2: Bollard Survey

Appendix 3: Application 2 – The Arts Society

Appendix 4: Terms of Reference

Appendix 5: Conditions of Grant