

Trusts and Bequests - Financial Position as at 31st March 2013

Report by Director, Corporate Services

1 Purpose of Report

This report provides Members with a summary of the financial position of the Trusts and Bequests and Common Good Funds vested in the Council. In the interest of completeness, Mining Community Funds held solely (and jointly) in the Council's name have been included.

2 Background

The Council administers a number of Trust Funds, as described in the attached Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period to 31 March 2013 (**Appendix 1**).

Trusts and Bequests

Each Trust and Bequest has its own criteria for the purposes and circumstances in which the funds can be used and it is these criteria which the Council uses in its determination of disbursements as shown in **Appendix 2**. In relation to some of the Bequests, difficulty has been experienced in meeting the criteria and therefore, no disbursements have been made for some time.

Common Good Funds

Disbursements from the Common Good Funds can only be made for the benefit of the inhabitants of the former burghal area concerned.

Opencast Coal Funds

Disbursements from these Funds can only be made for the benefit of the environment in the vicinity of the Opencast and the haul route to the trunk road concerned (save for the one for the Blinkbonny Drift Mine which extends to cover the creation of employment in the Mayfield area).

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the report.

7 May 2013

Background papers: Statement attached Contact Person Bob Attack

Appendix 2

TRUSTS AND BEQUESTS

1. **Cockpen and Lasswade and Falconer.** The purposes for which income from this Fund may be applied are in respect of purposes outwith the National Health Service to or for persons residing within the burghal area and the immediately adjoining District and unable in the opinion of the Council reasonably to afford the whole cost thereof.

The Council can award benefit to or on behalf of residents in the former Burghal area of Bonnyrigg and Lasswade and the immediately adjoining District who are unable to reasonably afford the cost of *inter alia* providing or paying for medical or surgical expenses or other articles which may assist the health or comfort of such persons if such appliances and articles are not available at the public expense.

The Council is bound to consult one or more persons out of the following four categories namely a local Health Visitor or District Nurse or a local Parish Minister or a local Bank Manager or a local Medical Practitioner.

2. **Mrs. E.W. Yorston Bequest** for *the purpose of providing poor young persons belonging to the former Burghal area of Lasswade who had suffered from infectious diseases and who were in a state of convalescence with funds to enable them to pay for the cost of a suitable rest in the country or stay at a Convalescent Home.

3. **John and Margaret Haig Bequest** for deserving poor persons of 70 years of age or over resident within the former Bonnyrigg Burghal Ward.~

4. **Fraser Hogg Bequest** for the benefit of the poor of the Parish of Dalkeith

5. **Sir Samuel Chisholm Bequest** for the benefit of the poor of the Parish of Dalkeith

6. **Ainslie Bequest** for poor persons in Dalkeith

7. **The Tod Bequest** for charitable purposes for the advantage of the poor of Loanhead and Polton Districts.

8. **Stair Bequest** for charitable purposes for the elderly on the Estate.

9. **Educational Trust** for awards to assist in vocational, special equipment, visual arts, music, and drama, particularly for pupils / students from Borthwick, Dalkeith, Fala, Newbattle, Newton, Loanhead, Cranston and Temple.

10. **Pringle** for an annual prize at Pathhead Primary School.

11. **Pentland House** for facilities there.