

4 COMMON GOOD FUND (AN37-2008)

(a) BROUGHTY FERRY HALLS

The area of the City of Dundee Scout Council has recently completed a new Broughty Ferry Halls capital project at a total cost of £380,000. The halls provide a tremendous facility for the scouts, as well as creating a great overall improvement to the built environment around Ambrose Street and David Street. The organisation is also engaging with other community groups to maximise the potential offered through widening the usage of the facilities.

The vast majority of funds to pay for this project have been raised through a combination of support from local and national trusts, benefactors, the Broughty Ferry Traders and significant local fund-raising, leaving a shortfall in funding of approximately £8,000.

The Policy and Resources Committee is requested to approve a contribution of £2,500 towards the total cost of this project. This funding can be met from the 2007/2008 Common Good Fund budget.

(b) DEMONSTRATION HOUSE - WHITFIELD

The former janitor's house at Whitfield Primary School was identified as a demonstration project to develop and test existing and new energy efficiency technologies and best practice construction techniques.

The principle of the project is to refurbish the house as standard, that is with a new kitchen, bathroom, windows and improvement works to the roof. In addition to this, a sun-space will be constructed around the south and east elevations to collect and store heat and the insulation standards will be upgraded throughout. Several proven types of renewable energy technologies will also be employed including solar heating and photovoltaic panels, a wind turbine, a wood-burning stove and geothermal heat pumps.

Once complete, the house will be open for three years and available to the citizens of Dundee and other surrounding areas as an energy efficient demonstration house. Displays and other information will be on show explaining how the various technologies work and meters will measure their effectiveness. In addition, there will be a web-based monitoring facility making it nationally available. A major aim of the project is to educate young people and it is expected that school children from Dundee, Angus, Fife and Perthshire will visit the house as part of their curriculum.

SCARF, who are partners with the Council in Dundee Sun City have offered to occupy the house during the three years of business. This will mean that the Council will not need to incur expense in keeping the house open for inspection. In addition SCARF has agreed to pay utilities costs and also an economic rent to the Council for this period.

The project is moving towards completion by the end of March 2008 and is being funded from a variety of internal and external sources. Over and above that, there is the free gift of materials and labour by the contracting partners and suppliers.

To allow completion of this worthwhile project, the Committee is requested to approve a contribution of £10,000 from the Common Good Fund towards the total cost of this project.