



To: Johnstone and Villages Local Area Committee

On: 21st May 2015

Report by: Director of Finance & Resources

Heading: *Mary Barbour*

1. **Summary**

1.1 At a previous meeting of Renfrewshire Council it was agreed that “the Council welcomes and supports moves to build a monument in Glasgow in honour of Kilbarchan born and radical visionary, Mary Barbour, Glasgow City Council’s first female councillor; understands that Barbour pushed for welfare changes including free milk for school children, pensions for mothers, wash houses, laundries and public baths, family planning clinics and undertook ground breaking work in relation to the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (War Restrictions) Act 1915.

Council further will work with interested groups locally to look at ways of recognising the work of this Renfrewshire born pioneer.”

1.2 Since then local elected members and officers have been liaising with Kilbarchan Community Council to identify and agree ways to recognise Mary Barbour. Following discussion and consultation, it is now proposed that:

- A Mary Barbour Prize be established at Kilbarchan Primary School, to be awarded annually to a pupil identified by the Head Teacher. The purchase of suitable trophy and the recurring costs for engraving will be met by Children’s Services.
- A memorial cairn, park bench and interpretative board be constructed at a site on Low Green, Kilbarchan. The site identified is in the ownership of the council. As Kilbarchan is a conservation area, appropriate planning consent will be sought if required.

1.3 The cost of the cairn, park bench and interpretative board will be approximately £6,000 and funding for this amount is requested from the Renfrewshire Citizens Fund to complete this project.

1.4 The maintenance of the cairn, bench and board will incur some additional future costs and it is proposed that these will be met from the LAC's general grant budget as and when required.

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 That the Local Area Committee:

- i) notes the proposals to recognise the work of Mary Barbour;
- ii) recommends to the Finance & Resources Policy Board that funding of £6,000 for the completion of the project as detailed in the report be awarded from the Renfrewshire Citizens Fund; and
- iii) agrees that any additional future costs be met from the LAC's general grant budget as and when required.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** - As detailed in the report.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** - *None*
3. **Community Planning** –

Empowering our Communities – Memorials provide recognition of the contributions made by individuals and organisations to the fabric of life in Renfrewshire.

4. **Legal** - *None*
5. **Property/Assets** - *None*
6. **Information Technology** – *None*.
7. **Equality & Human Rights** -
 - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** - *None*
9. **Procurement** – *None*
10. **Risk** - *None*
11. **Privacy Impact** - *None*

List of Background Papers

None

The foregoing background papers will be retained within Finance & Resources for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is *Ewan Coventry, Democratic Services Officer (Telephone- 0141 618 7108, e-mail - ewan.coventry@renfrewshire.gcsx.gov.uk)*

Author: *Ewan Coventry, Democratic Services Officer (ext 7108)*