**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015**

**NOTICE OF CONSULTATION ON DISPOSAL OR CHANGE OF USE OF COMMON GOOD PROPERTY**

Fife Council has received an offer for a disposal of a common good property. Before taking a decision, the Council requires to consult under Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

**Sale of Former Town Hall, 21 High St, Leslie. Fife KY6 3DA**

As the property no longer benefits the Community, the Council has declared the Former Town Hall (the “subjects”) surplus to requirements and advertised the property on the open market for sale. The Community (Common Good Fund) will then benefit from the proceeds having obtained Best Value. Subsequent to a period of marketing, an offer has now been received reflecting open market value and the subjects are now to be sold. The offer proposes to use the subjects as a base for charitable work within the community.

The purchaser proposes to use the subjects for rehearsal, performance and community-use, focussed on the arts after refurbishment.

The purchaser is Chair of Leslie Amateur Dramatic Club which performed at the Subjects from 1905 and through most of the 20th Century. The purchaser proposes to move from existing premises to the Subjects which would provide a better rehearsal venue and performance space as well as providing the opportunity to open a youth section which is not possible to do in the existing premises.

A number of local amateur musical companies, both adult and youth, are struggling to find rehearsal space, and have expressed an interest in hiring space at the Subjects. As the purchaser intends to equip the Subjects with theatre lighting and sound systems there will be the possibility of setting up a training venue to teach young people in the skills of theatre technicians.

The Scottish Community Drama Association and the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society have both indicated that they would like to use the Subjects also for festivals and events.

Further, some local artists may welcome the opportunity display their work in the Subjects.

The purchaser also advises that the Subjects would also be available to youth clubs, mother & toddler groups, exercise classes etc., however are aware of other premises in Leslie offering these services but would hope to work in partnership with them.

The purchasers have been in contact with the Leslie Community Council and look forward to working with them to provide many more opportunities for local groups and individuals in Leslie.

**Representations:**

Anyone may make representations about this request to Fife Council. Representations must be in writing and include the name and address of the person making it. All representations will be published at: [www.fife.gov.uk/commongood](http://www.fife.gov.uk/commongood)

Representations must be received by **Monday, 23rd May 2022**. They should be sent to Zahida Ramzan, Policy Co-ordinator, Fife House, Glenrothes, KY7 5LT or to Zahida.ramzan@fife.gov.uk or to communityasset.transfer@fife.gov.uk.

**Date of Notice:** 28th March 2022