

GRANTS TO THIRD SECTOR 2012/13

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations for Oban, Lorn and the Isles.
- 1.2 The Executive agreed to the proposal that applications would be considered twice yearly in April and again in August. This is intended to avoid allocation of the full budget at one meeting and enable activities held later in the year to be funded.
- 1.3 The Committee is asked to consider holding back a minimum of £5,000 for allocation in the second round of applications in August 2012.
- 1.4 The total Third Sector Grant budget made available by the Council for allocation in Oban, Lorn and the Isles for 2011/12 remains at £35,000.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Nine applications, out of a total of 22 have been received for Events and Festivals which represents approx 40% of the total number received to date. It is therefore recommended that all grant applications are treated on merit. The following recommendations are on this basis.
- 2.2 It is recommended that the organisations listed below are awarded funding of £21,753 from grants to the Third Sector. This is pending confirmation of receipt of End of Year Reports for 2011/12; outstanding documentation; and financial assessment. If agreed, the amount available for consideration at the area committee in August would be £13,247.
- 2.2 Due to the large number of applications against the budget, the recommendation is based on the following:
 - Applicants who have received funding for 2 years or more take a reduction from the amount they received in 2011-12

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Grant Awarded 2011/12</u>	<u>Total Project Costs</u>	<u>Amount Requested 2012/13</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
2.1	Clan Maclean	No	£10,995.00	£2,995.00	£1,100
2.2	Coisir Ceann An Tuirc (Argyll Male Voice Choir)	£140.00	£450.00	£225.00	£125
2.3	Crossroads (North Argyll)	No	£11,260.00	£3,760.00	£0
2.4	Development Coll	No	£34,300.00	£4,000.00	£1,500
2.5	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance	£1,600	£32,210.00	£2,500.00	£1,280
2.6	Lorn Agricultural Society	No	£3,335.00	£1,667.00	£0

	<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Grant Awarded 2011/12</u>	<u>Total Project Costs</u>	<u>Amount Requested 2012/13</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
2.7	MOD Ionadach Na Dreolluinn	No	£12,490	£2,000.00	£500
2.8	Mull and Iona Community Trust	£1,000	£54,985.34	£3,000.00	£1,000
2.9	North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme	No	£22,168.00	£9,268.00	Postpone to next round
2.10	OASIS	£5,000	£37,000.00	£5,000.00	£0
2.11	Oban & Lorn Sports Festival	No	£7,600.00	£1,750.00	£800
2.12	Oban and Lorn Branch Alzheimer Scotland	No	£3,650.00	£1,000.00	£1,000
2.13	Oban and Lorn Lions Club	No	£1,556.80	£778.00	£778
2.14	Oban Community Sensory Garden sustainability and training project	No	£1,560.00	£780.00	£780
2.15	Oban Phoenix Cinema	No	£5,025.00	£2,512.50	£1,000
2.16	Oban Sailing Club	No	£3,595.00	£2,220.00	£1,000
2.17	Oban Winter Festival	No	£19,554.00	£9,054.00	£3,440
2.18	Oban-Laurinburg 20th Anniversary Exchange	No	£2,720.00	£1,360.00	£0
2.19	Scottish Association for Marin Science (SAMS)	No	£31,700.00	£5,400.00	£2,700
2.20	The GRAB Trust	£1,450	£25,925.60	£12,962.80	£4,250
2.21	The Island Parrot Sanctuary	No	11,300	2,800	£500
2.22	Western Isles Yacht Club	No	£18,800.00	£18,800.00	Not eligible
	Total		£35,512.00	£93,832	
		Total Recommended			£21,753
		Area Budget			£35,000
		Balance			£13,247

3. DETAIL

	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
2.1	Clan Maclean	This week long event will be held on the Isle of Mull, and it is predicted will attract visitors to the area, in line with the requirements for events and festivals. An award of £1,100 is recommended.
2.2	Coisir Ceann An Tuir (Argyll Male Voice Choir)	This will be the last recording session with the group aiming to produce their CD later this year. An award of £125 is recommended.
2.3	Crossroads (North Argyll)	This group were awarded a grant of £1,000 at the end of financial year 2010/11 to contribute to staff training to launch this programme in 2011/12. This was a one-off grant to launch the programme and allow them time to

		secure further funding – it was not an on-going commitment to running the service. The organisation receives funding from Argyll and Bute Council to contribute to its core service provision. No grant is recommended.
2.4	Development Coll	This is an ambitious event which has scope to be scaled back if the organisation does not manage to secure all the funding. The remote location and logistics of attracting people to the opening event have motivated them to develop a four day festival consisting of a wide variety of events. An award of £1,500 is recommended pending successful completion of financial checks.
2.5	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance	This is a well attended annual festival which attracts a good number of visitors to the area and contributes to the development and participation of young people in traditional music and dance. The festival generates some income through local business sponsorship and grants, but the majority of its costs are met through its own income generation and it operates on a very tight budget without emergency reserves – however, this is a repeat application and a reduction has therefore been applied. An award of £1,280 is recommended.
2.6	Lorn Agricultural Society	The group have requested assistance with groundworks and new advertising signs as a result of having to resite the agricultural show however their charitable status is currently “passed to compliance”. The new Treasurer has contacted OSCR and is working to submit the required paperwork to resolve the situation - recommendation is that no award is made until the group have met their reporting obligations.
2.7	MOD Ionadach Na Dreolluinn	The Mod is an important part of community life, supporting the development of Gaelic language and music. Last year is the first year in many that this group did not apply for an award. An award of £500 to contribute to the event is recommended.
2.8	Mull and Iona Community Trust	Grant application is for a contribution towards community consultation into whether to progress with a Business Improvement District on Mull – recommendation of £1,000 award to support the consultation.
2.9	North Argyll Volunteer Car Scheme	There is a chance that this group may receive Rural Transport Scheme funding – It is recommended a decision is postponed until the next round to establish an accurate picture.
2.10	OASIS	This group were awarded a grant of £5,000 at the end of financial year 2010/11 to contribute to staff training to launch this programme in 2011/12. This was a one of grant to launch the programme and allow them time to secure further funding – it was not an on-going commitment to running the service. The organisation receives funding from Argyll and Bute council to contribute to its core service provision. No grant is recommended.
2.11	Oban & Lorn Sports Festival	This festival celebrates sporting prowess and participation and is particularly pertinent in an Olympic year. However, the third sector grants scheme is not intended as a repeat funding stream and a reduced award of £800 is recommended.
2.12	Oban and Lorn Branch Alzheimer Scotland	Up to date this activity has been led by a volunteer and has proved very successful. The activities are a well proven method which enables people with dementia to sustain their abilities for longer than otherwise would be the case. An award of £1,000 is recommended.
2.13	Oban and Lorn Lions Club	Oban & District Lions provide volunteer marshalls for a variety of community events, reducing security costs for other community groups and organisations. This grant would enable them to buy warm and waterproof clothing to provide some protection for their volunteers. An award of £778 is recommended.
2.14	Oban Community Sensory Garden sustainability and training project	This grant will enable the group to further develop the garden project, supporting its fundraising events, as well as improvements to the existing community space – an award of £780 is recommended.
2.15	Oban Phoenix Cinema	The re-opening of the cinema has been cited as important in a number of community consultations carried out in Oban and the refurbishment etc., is nearing completion. This group have pulled in a considerable amount of funding to the Oban area for this project but will have to become sustainable when opened. Appropriate signage will contribute to this and an award of £1,000 is therefore recommended.

2.16	Oban Sailing Club	The club is hoping to train two members as instructors who will then, in turn, be able to train more volunteers to operate the safety boat. An award of £1,000 to contribute is recommended.
2.17	Oban Winter Festival	The Oban Winter Festival was very successful last year and pulled together three grant recipients. The event was well attended and the group wish to continue to build on their success however, the Third Sector Grants are not intended to be a repeat stream of funding and awarding more than the previous year may create an expectation that cannot be sustainable. The recommendation is for £3,440
2.18	Oban-Laurinburg 20th Anniversary Exchange	This is a social event for a closed group of people. No award is recommended.
2.19	Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS)	The Festival programme includes a range of educational events catering for a wide audience and designed to promote a greater understanding of the marine environment. Much of Oban, Lorn and the Isles is coastal with a strong historical and economic link to the sea – through its educational events, SAMS aims to increase awareness of this heritage, current developments and career possibilities within the marine environment. An award of £2,700 is recommended.
2.20	The GRAB Trust	The GRAB trust are taking over management of this project and have identified that increasing the trading potential of the organisation will increase its sustainability, and in turn increase the sustainability of the whole organisation. This application is to assist with the initial set up of a town centre trading facility, leaving more workshop space for the training part of the project up at the waste site. A grant of £4,250 is recommended.
2.21	The Island Parrot Sanctuary	The sanctuary intends to offer a few public open days during Kerrera's high season, offering educational activities for families. It is intended that the resulting donations would contribute to the sustainability of the sanctuary, as well as offering a family activity for tourists / walkers in the South End of the island. However the original application was for a much more ambitious project and a reduced award of £500 is recommended.
2.22	Western Isles Yacht Club	The club have applied for assistance with the purchase of boats which fall under the council's definition of capital purchase. This application is therefore not eligible within this funding stream.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 All organisations have been contacted and grant applications assessed, and presented for financial assessment where applicable. Some recommendations are pending a successful outcome of the financial and other assessments.

5. IMPLICATIONS

Policy: None

Finance: The report sets out the expenditure from the Oban Lorn and the Isles Area Committee budget for the allocation of Third Sector Grants. this grant budget is disbursed in a manner that will deliver optimum support to Third Sector organisations

Personnel: None

Legal: None

Equal Opportunities: The grant allocation is consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.

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