

**MONITORING OF THE SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2017/18**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide monitoring information on the grants distributed through the Supporting Communities Fund 2017/18.
- 1.2 13 constituted, not-for-profit community organisations were awarded funding. Projects were required to spend their funding within financial year 2017/18 and to submit an End of Project Monitoring Report outlining the project funded, projected costs, actual costs incurred and beneficiaries.
- 1.3 In 2017/18 the Supporting Communities Fund provided up to 50% of project costs and required match funding. Organisations were eligible to apply for up to £4,000. The Fund is a revenue stream and capital costs are therefore ineligible.
- 1.4 Members are asked to consider the contents of the report showing a summary of the information supplied by organisations in their End of Project Monitoring Reports.
- 1.5 Members are asked to note the return of monies and consider whether these should be carried forward to be included in funds available for dispersal in 2019/20.
- 1.6 Members are asked to agree the carry forward of the funds allocated to Dunoon's Men's Shed and Historic Kilmun to financial year 2018/19.

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report highlights the positive outcomes for communities in Bute and Cowal through the allocation of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund in 2017/18.
- 2.2 A total of £26,343 was awarded to 13 organisations in 2017/18. Organisations have up to three months from the end of the project to complete and return a project monitoring report.
- 2.3 A total of £2,560 is due to be returned from projects. The amount can be made available for allocation in the financial year 2019/20.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Bute and Cowal Area Committee:

- 3.1 Note the positive contribution of the grants to community projects, detailed in section 4 and the attached table.
- 3.2 Note the return of unspent funds in paragraph 4.4 of the report.
- 3.3 Agree the carry forward of the funds allocated to the Dunoon Men's Shed as detailed in paragraph 4.5
- 3.4 Agree the carry forward of the funds allocated to Historic Kilmun as detailed in paragraph 4.6

**4.0 DETAIL**

- 4.1 The grants distributed to community organisations supported a total of 4,297 people to participate in a variety of projects encompassing outdoor activities, sports, music and mental health. Highlights include:

- As a direct result of the increased tutoring the Rothesay and District Pipe band secured third place in grade 4 at the British Championships held in Paisley this year. Also the Drumming Corps won first place at the Scottish Championships held in Dumbarton in July 2018.
- A successful spring adventure weekend, resulting in 3 boys being promoted to the Company Section in the Boys Brigade.
- 500 people taking part in The Kyles 10K, with the marketing plan allowing the annual event to be self-sustaining.
- The Shore Hub held weekly at Blairmore Village Hall won a Community Championship award from the National Park Community Partnership for its work in reducing social isolation in the area

4.2 The attached table summarises information received from individual projects.

4.3 11 grant recipients have submitted an end of project monitoring form.

4.4 We expect a return of unspent funds totaling £2,560 this can be distributed in the 2019/20 round of grant funding.

4.5 The Dunoon Men's Shed would like to carry forward funding until the end of September 2018 to allow them to complete the Gardening Project.

The reason for the delay was the landlord chose not to renew the lease at short notice and the Shed had to look for new premises. The Shed has secured new premises and recently moved to Hamilton Street which offers larger and more modern premises and offers the group the scope to do much more and hopefully attract new members. The Men's Shed scaled down the project and has returned £1,650.

4.6 Historic Kilmun would like to carry forward funding until the end of September 2018. There was a delay in employing the project development manager.

The remaining work to be completed by end of September 2018 is aimed at assisting those with limited access to employment to gain the skills and confidence to enter/ re-enter the world of work.

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
1	1st Rothesay Company Boys Brigade	Cost of taking 10-12 year old boys on a Spring Adventure weekend	£1,039.00	£1,019.58	£0.00	£515	Successful weekend, increasing the confidence of the boys using teamwork and developing woodland skills. 3 boys have also been promoted to the company section following the weekend.	7	1	5-9: 2 10-16: 4 25-64: 2
2	Argyll & Bute Youth Forum	Costs of organising the Argyll and Bute Youth Achievement Awards	£5,550.00	£2016	£747	£694	There were 55 nominations with 26 finalists in 9 categories and 10 winners. The event was well attended and promoted a positive image of young people.	91	97	10-16: 43 17-24: 46 25-64: 99
3	Blairmore Village Trust	Running costs of weekly drop-in Community Hub, including the hire of Interloch Transport	£1,768.00	£1,851.00	£1,016.00	£884	The Hub was available to the community for 50 weeks of the year, and has been awarded a Community Champion award by the National Park Community Partnership. It has met all of its key objectives and exceeded expectations.	78	76	0-4: 5 5-9: 15 10-16: 22 17-24: 19 25-64: 84 65 plus: 18
4	ButeFest	Cost of fringe activities for ButeFest	£11,550.00	£9,322	£5,300	£4,000	Over 2500 attended Butefest 2017, and fans took to social media to sing the praises of the island – many making their first ever visit to the Island – and the event Read more at: <a href="https://www.buteman.co.uk/news/butefest-2017-the-best-festival-yet-1-4519388">https://www.buteman.co.uk/news/butefest-2017-the-best-festival-yet-1-4519388</a>	Not given	Not given	Not given

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
5	Dunoon Men's Shed	Costs of running training courses for members in relation to developing the garden project attached to the Shed	£6,600.00			£3,300	Project was reviewed and it was decided to reduce it by 50%, and the group have asked for an extension of three months (Returned £1,650) See report item 3.5 for more information			0-4: 5-9: 10-16: 17-24: 25-64: 65 plus:
6	Dunoon MOD	Costs of running a series of events to raise the profile of the Gaelic language and culture.	£12,300.00	£9,595.65	£2,560.60	£2,000	Project not fully completed and £720 due to be returned. Four ceilidhs took place; one in Strachur and three in Dunoon. One was specifically focused on children's participation and provided them with the opportunity to use their talents for singing in Gaelic and English.	200	200	0-4: 10 5-9: 50 10-16: 40 17-24: 50 25-64: 200 65 plus: 50

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
7	Historic Kilmun	Cost of employing a part time Project Manager to help deliver three strands of the project, Arts and Mental Health, Oral History and working with youth benefit organisations to offer a range of training on certificated courses.	£15,019.00			£4,000	Project partly completed. Looking for an extension until end of September to complete. See report item 3.6 for more information			0-4: 5-9: 10-16: 17-24: 25-64: 65 plus:
8	Kilfinan Community Forest	Cost to stage an open day that showcases the work of Kilfinan Community Forest and Kyles Allotment Group	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£500.00	£500	The event was more substantial than previous years with organised activities, professional entertainment, more volunteer input and a larger capacity for the children's craft workshops. Poor weather affected the numbers on the day.	80	80	0-4: 5 5-9: 20 10-16: 10 17-24: 10 25-64: 80 65 plus: 35

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
9	Kyles Marketing Group	Costs of creating a marketing strategy and the general running cost for the Kyles 10k	£14,118.00	£13,907.61	£2,500.00	£4,000	Over 500 people took part in the event. The use of a marketing strategy including a digital and social media campaign increased numbers and has enabled it to be self-sustaining. 2017 was the first year that places were sold out prior to the race.	196	305	17-24: 28 25-64: 449 65 plus: 27
10	Lochgoilhead Community Sports Club	Cost to transport the climbing group to Climbing Centres to take part in competitions. Also towards cost of a climbing instructor and volunteer training and assessment.	£2,427.00	£2,150	£1,244.15	£1,000	The climbing club is thriving and is free for the local school children. It has opened up the ideas of the community and the climbers to alternative physical activity for health and enjoyment. It has provided excursions further afield for children who may not have been able to afford to go.	16	13	5-9: 15 17-24: 4 25-64: 10
11	Rothesay and District Pipe Band	Travel and costs for a Piping tutor and a Drumming tutor	£27,116.00	£27,366	£23,366	£4,000	As a direct result of the increased tutoring the pipe band secured third place in grade 4 at the British Championships held in Paisley this year <a href="https://www.buteman.co.uk/news/rothesay-pipe-band-in-tune-for-more-success-thanks-to-youth-drive-1-4743277">https://www.buteman.co.uk/news/rothesay-pipe-band-in-tune-for-more-success-thanks-to-youth-drive-1-4743277</a>	17	15	10-16: 32

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
12	Sandbank Senior Citizens Club	Costs of venue hire, lunch club, live entertainers, coach for outings, and to start to run computer classes this year	£3,100.00	£2,715.14	£1,225	£1,100	Club numbers are increasing for both the lunch club and meetings. The computer classes have proved successful in increasing knowledge of new technology.	15	94	25-64: 27 65 plus: 82
13	Tighnabruiaich Primary School Parent Council	Costs of running a bonfire and firework night	£700.00	£700.00	£350.00	£350	A successful fireworks and bonfire night with basic catering took place. The event added to community cohesion.	115	115	0-4: 10 5-9: 20 10-16: 20 17-24: 30 25-64: 120 65 plus: 30



## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

5.1 The project monitoring form has a section asking for comments on the grant process. Not all applicants have completed this section but of those received, the comments have largely been very positive. The majority note that the process is simple, straightforward, clear and concise. Thanks are noted for the support received from staff and elected members.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Policy: None

6.2 Financial: The report sets out the expenditure from the Bute & Cowal area 2017/18 budget for the allocation of Supporting Communities Fund

6.3 Legal: None

6.4 HR: None

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

6.6 Risk: None

6.7 Customer Service: None

**Chief Executive Cleland Sneddon**

**Policy Lead Cllr Robin Currie**

08 August 2018

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