

MONITORING OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2017/18

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 18 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 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 in 2017/18. 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.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**OBAN, LORN & THE ISLES AREA
COMMITTEE**

**COMMUNITYPLANNING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

12 September 2018

MONITORING OF SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2017/18

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report highlights the positive outcomes for the communities in Oban, Lorn & the Isles through the allocation of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund in 2017/18.
- 2.2 The total of £29,500 was awarded to 18 organisations in 2017/18. Organisations have up to three months from the end of the Project to complete and return an End of Project Monitoring report.
- 2.3 A total of £750 is due to be returned. The amount can be made available for allocation in the financial year 2019/20.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Oban, Lorn & the Isles Area Committee:

- 3.1 Note the positive contribution of the grants to community projects, detailed in paragraph 4.1 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 fund allocated to Appin Community Development Trust as detailed in paragraph 4.5.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The grants distributed to community organisations supported a total of 2,898 people to participate in a variety of projects with focusses including; outdoor activities, sports, music and mental health. Highlights include:

- Weekly and Bi-weekly carriage driving sessions provided by Argyll Riding for the Disabled Group for 55 recipients.
 - Cùram Tìree provided a range of activities and support for older people on Tìree.
- 4.2 The attached table summarises information received from individual projects.
- 4.3 17 grant recipients submitted an End of Project Monitoring report.
- 4.4 We anticipate unspent funds of £750 which relates to the funding originally allocated to 1st Oban Boys' Brigade. This can be distributed in the 2019/20 round of grant funding.
- 4.5 Appin Community Development Trust have requested to carry forward their award of £2,550 towards the costs of a part-time community transport co-ordinator. The purchase of the vehicle (which was not funded by the Supporting Communities Fund) was delayed and the co-ordinator was not recruited until May 2018.

The group have confirmed that:

- The grant will be spent on the purpose outlined in the original application.
 - Match funding is in place and is as outlined in original application.
 - Funding will be spent by 31st March 2019.
- 3.6 Oban Gaelic Choir was granted a project extension from the 2016/17 cycle and is included in the attached table.

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
								M	F	Age
1.	1st Oban Company Boys Brigade	The purchase of a uniforms and non-capital equipment.	£5,011.00			£750 not required.	Now disbanded – funding was awarded for uniforms but due to a system error, was not paid out. Group disbanded in the Autumn and funds are not required.			
2.	Appin Community Development Trust	The first year cost of a part-time coordinator.	£5,600.00			£2,550	Group have requested to carry funding forward to be spent within financial year 2018/19			
3.	Argyll Riding for the Disabled Driving Group	Running costs.	£7,600.00	£5,736.00	£2,500.00	£1,000	We continue to promote awareness of our group both locally and across Argyll. Throughout the 2017 carriage driving season, we ran bi-weekly sessions, giving our drivers the opportunity to drive either weekly or fortnightly.	10	45	10-16 3 17-24 2 25-64 25 65+ 25
4.	Aros Hall	Salary costs for three part-time members of staff to support the hall.	£13,312.00	£10,618	£15,9337	£3,100	As a result of the funding we were able to maintain staff hours and keep in place roles that are vital to the Hall's service to the community. The development officer has increased the halls use, running a Winter Arts project, and from April to October has run a weekly producers market that offers local businesses the opportunity to engage with the community and each other, promoting sustainability.	Not Specified.		

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
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5.	The Clan Maclean Association	The erection of a marquee, portable toilets and infrastructure in Tobermory for a three day Clan Congress in 2017.	£11,272.00	£12,043.70	£70,270.00	£3,100	We attracted 581 individuals of Maclean heritage from home and abroad, with 152 non clan members. 82% of attendees were from overseas (12 countries in total). Total attendees at events over 6 days was 3,600 with 730 unique visitors.	Not Specified.		0-4 7 5-9 7 10-16 14 17-24 70 25-64 315 65+ 315
6.	Cùram Thiriodh Ltd	Running costs.	£37,684.00	£34,374.00	£23,404.00	£1,000	We employed an outreach worker for 30 hours per week who provided: a twice weekly lunch club, seated exercise classes, visits to local cafes, a visit to the mainland, and bingo sessions, thereby integrating clients with the whole community.	Not Specified		25-64 4 65+ 28
7.	Dunollie Projects Ltd	Start-up costs.	£4,466.27	£300 (£2,736.16)	£2,000.00	£2,000	Our underspend was approved to carry forward to year 18/19 to continue the project to the end of June. The project has been a great success and all participants wish to continue coming to Dunollie, so we are looking to add New Routes as a long-term Dunollie Links activity. Although this group has grown as a follow on	3	3	25-64 6

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							from Branching Out, with the core participants coming via Community Mental Health Team, we now have two self-referred volunteers in the group recently and one more in the pipeline.			
8.	Fèis na h-Appaine	Tutor costs and the purchase of 3 accordians and 3 fiddles.	£7,948.10	£6,760.00	£11,254.08	£1,500	We gave the opportunity to people of all ages and from many local communities the chance to experience and learn various musical instruments and traditional Scottish activities. The most common feedback we get is how friendly it is, and how much fun.	50%	50%	0-4 50 5-9 50 10-16 30 17-24 15 25-64 80 65+ 25
9.	Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival	The costs of running the Highlands and Islands Music and Dance Festival.	£29,837.00	£27,227	£12,225	£1,000	The four day festival was very successful, with competitions held in eleven disciplines including clarsach, fiddle, singing and accordion. The numbers in the Highland Dancing Competitions increase considerably year on year. Over 200 pupils competed during the schools day.	200	800	0-4 130 5-9 350 10-16 275 17-24 200 25-64 45

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10.	Isle of Kerrera Development Trust	The cost of community development, community engagement and management of the Giving our Community a Home - Kerrera School project.	£14,000.00	£13,600.00	£10,000.00	£3,600	IKDT now has a full feasibility report for the refurbishment of the former school and a business plan which outlines that it is viable for the community to run the facility as a community owned asset. IKDT is currently at the second stage of applying to the Scottish Land Fund to fund the purchase of the school from Argyll and Bute Council, which has now agreed in principle to sell the school to IKDT.	Not Specified		0-4 7 5-9 4 10-16 3 17-24 1 25-64 39 65+ 8
11.	Lorn and Oban Healthy Options	Running costs associated with the 'healthy villages' programme.	£21,088.00	£21,088.00	£17,706.00	£3,050	Delivery of Strength and balance classes in Dalmally and Isle of Seil (Easdale) Although our application was for classes to be delivered in Port Appin, our ethos is to be led by the needs, wishes and readiness of the communities within which we work. During this funding period, Port Appin were not ready to embark on the classes, so the funding matched a programme which was delivered in Dalmally and the Isle of Seil. We are pleased to be able to report that we have now started classes in Port Appin with funding support from another source, Scottish Sea Farms Trust."	4	72	17-24 1 25-64 6 65+ 69

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12.	Luing Community Trust	Staffing costs and an annual programme of activities.	£48,494.00	£17,219.00	£17,189.00	£2,000	We did not get Creative Scotland funding which was the intended main funder for this project so our aspirations had to reduce in line with funds available. We delivered a range of events from the Atlantic Islands Centre and held a small slate festival.	189	209	0-4 1 5-9 8 10-16 15 17-24 20 25-64 155 65+ 200
13.	Mull Safe and Sound	WRAP training, investigate social prescribing and website costs.	Unknown	£1,260.95	£1,260.95	£500	We have connected 13 group members with non-medical resources to promote good physical and mental health. We concentrated on good social relationships, physical activities, signposting and self-management of physical and mental health problems.	4	9	25-64 13
14.	Newstart Oban	The provision of essential non-capital household items.	£2,500.00	£2,518.48	£2,160.17	£250	Basic items to help low wage, and homeless people establish a home in the community. All packs delivered within 3 days on referrals from agencies such as Carr Gomm.	Not Specified. 67		
15.	Oban Lorne RFC	Coaching and training costs and non-capital items associated with the young player academy.	£4,000.00	£4,900.00	£2,000.00	£1,000	This money has allowed us to provide accommodation for coaches. We have also been able to provide specialised S & C equipment to utilise within the new OHS gym. We have put 3 staff through their S&C course and this has allowed us to promote the off	80	25	10-16 85 17-24 20

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							pitch activities as targeted in the project. This has been a big success and continues to grow.			
16.	Oban Youth Café Project	The costs of two overnight trips.	£3,420.00	£1,594.29	£893.00	£700	We went for an overnight trip to the Wigwams with a group of s4's who struggle socially, find it hard to maintain friendships (for some of them), sit in and play a lot of x-box, don't often try new things that challenge them and that often don't mix well together as a group.	7	2	10-16 9
17.	Salen SWI	The cost of a Christmas lunch.	£1,017.81	£913.58	£605.00	£150	A most satisfactory Christmas lunch, enjoyed by all who attended.	18	32	65+ 50
18.	Tiree Piping Society	The cost of piping tuition and instructor's travel costs.	£4,977.00	£4,757.00	£2,536.50	£2,250	The tutoring programme has made a huge difference to the pupils of Tiree High School. Although it is not the first year of the programme, the consistence of this year's coordination and frequent visits has been massively beneficial to the progress of pupils. The programme has been a catalyst for other activities relating to piping, including the Tuesday evening Pipe Band session which has been a great addition to players.	10		5-9 4 10-16 6

No	Organisation	Project funded	Total Projected Costs	Actual Costs	Match funding	Award	Comments	Beneficiaries		
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19.	Oban Gaelic Choir	Production of CD and travel costs for member to attend the Verona Festival	£2,1900	£22,688.02	£6,500	£4,000	The organisation of the projects went well and this was assisted by good coordination by the Verona Festival organisers and good communication between committee members and our conductor in relation to the CD production. This funding was for the 2016/17 cycle and was granted a project extension.	Not Specified		17-24 1 25-64 28 65+ 8

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. A comment was received from one group that they found the grant forms are too complicated. This will be considered for future. 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 Oban, Lorn & the Isles 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. A comment was received from one group that they found the grant forms are too complicated. This will be considered.
- 6.6 Risk: None
- 6.7 Customer Service: None

Chief Executive: Cleland Sneddon
Policy Lead: Cllr Robin Currie
Community Planning Manager: Rona Gold
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For further information contact: Laura Macdonald on 01631 567944 /
laura.macdonald@argyll-bute.gov.uk