
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

**BUTE AND COWAL AREA
COMMITTEE**

**DEVELOPMENT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

5 MARCH 2019

FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the delivery of festive lighting across Bute and Cowal in 2018, as well as the community handover arrangements now that the Council is ceasing to provide this non-statutory service.
- 1.2 Overall the outlook is very positive, and it is expected that community arrangement in place, at least in principle, by the end of this financial year. Each situation is slightly different from the last in terms of the historic provision; as well as the mix of skills, funding and capacity available to communities, with the result that this is a complex piece of work.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- Note the contents of this report;
- Agree that Port Bannatyne should be added to the list of Bute and Cowal communities to be considered for festive funding, on the basis that the Council has historically provided ad-hoc support to the project.

FESTIVE LIGHTING UPDATE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report provides Members with an update on the delivery of festive lighting across Bute and Cowal in 2018. The overall programme saw a mix of council-led and community-led festive lighting displays.
- 2.2 As per the Budget decision of February 2016, the Council is no longer in a financial position to deliver festive lighting. Community handovers are at various stages, with some complete and some still in progress.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 3.1 Note the contents of this report; and
- 3.2 Agree that Port Bannatyne should be added to the list of Bute and Cowal communities to be considered for festive funding, on the basis that the Council has historically provided ad-hoc support to the project.

4.0 DETAIL**4.1 DELIVERY OF FESTIVE LIGHTING 2018**

4.1.1 Festive lighting in Bute and Cowal was delivered as follows:

Town/village	Delivery mechanism		Comments
	Council	Community	
Dunoon		Dunoon Presents (PA23 BID) delivered this event via local contractor John Brown (Strone)	The BID received funding of £8,000 from ABC.
Rothesay	ABC delivery		The switch on event

			<p>itself in Rothesay was cancelled due to adverse weather.</p> <p>No community delivery partner has been identified in Rothesay, however, a number of options are being considered.</p>
Innellan		Community Council	Previously established community delivery method e.g. pre-2016
Sandbank		Community Council	Previously established community delivery method e.g. pre-2016
Port Bannatyne		Christmas Committee	<p>This is an addition to lists reported previously to members.</p> <p>There is a pre-2016 community event in this area, however, this has been added for the sake of completeness because the Council had historically provided some assistance to this event, with the result that local members might wish to consider allocating some of the remaining funds to this group.</p>

4.2 FINANCIAL POSITION

4.2.1 The estimated balance of the B&C festive fund is noted in the table below. The total costs are not fully reconciled in the ledger because timesheets require to be verified and final invoices are awaited from suppliers/sub-contractors. The exact balances will be available after the end of the financial year.

Area	2017/18 spend	2018/19 budget	2018/19 spend (or committed)	Balance
BC	27,345	24,557	8,000 in grants Repairs and labour TBC	c. 11,000

4.2.2 The Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee, at its meeting of 7 March 2018, will consider a paper on festive lighting which includes a suggested guide for area committees to use in order to establish their pro-rata allocation of the remaining funds.

5.0 CONCLUSION

5.1 The project to transition from Council-led to community-led festive lighting across Argyll and Bute is approaching a successful conclusion. Lighting events were delivered successfully in Bute and Cowal in 2018 via a mix of Council and community groups. In the case of Rothesay, where there is no identified group, steps are being taken to engage with potential partners.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy – none (ref Budget February 2016).

6.2 Financial – EDI is considering a model for the disbursement of remaining funds

6.3 Legal – there is a template agreement for groups to sign up to which make the roles and responsibilities of both parties clear.

6.4 HR – none

6.5 Equalities – none

6.6 Risk – there is a risk that in future years community partners may approach the Council to fund their events due to a lack of independent revenue streams or external funding.

6.7 Customer Service – none

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