
ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

Helensburgh & Lomond

Area Committee

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UNIT

17th June 2021

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2021/22

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to decide on the allocation of the council's Supporting Communities Fund (SCF) for Helensburgh & Lomond.
- 1.2 The total Supporting Communities Fund budget made available by the Council for allocation in Helensburgh & Lomond for distribution in 2021/22 is £22,823.09.
- 1.3 It is recommended that 11 applicants are awarded funding.
- 1.4 Applicants awarded funds from the council's Supporting Communities Fund have 18 months in which to spend the funds.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The report details recommendations for the award of the council's Supporting Communities Fund (SCF). The total Supporting Communities Fund budget made available by the Council for allocation in Helensburgh & Lomond for 2021/22 is £22,500. In addition, there is a carry forward from the financial period 2019/20 of £323.09 from return of unspent funds from previous applicants. The total available for allocation is £22,823.09.
- 2.2 Following consultation on the SCF with the community and recommendations from this agreed at Council on 26 November 2021. Organisations can apply for up to £2,500 and the period of spend is 18 months. This is what the respondents of the consultation wanted. Improvements were also made to simplify the application process.
- 2.3 The SCF is a popular fund and has attracted 18 applications from the Helensburgh & Lomond area requesting a total of £37,650.95 in funding.
- 2.4 Applications are scored against criteria set out in the guidance (<https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/council-and-government/third-sector-grants>)
- 2.5 Due to Covid-19 restrictions applicants who received funding in 2020/21 were granted an extension to carry funds forward to March 2022. Where an organisation has been recommended for an award and received funds in 2020/21, the award recommended in this report is either for a different project or where the original award has been spent and an End of Project Monitoring Form received.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are asked to agree that 11 applications are awarded funding from the Supporting Communities Fund budget totalling £22,823.09. These are listed with an award recommendation in Table 1 under 4.0 of the report.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The SCF is marked through a robust process which involves financial checks and contact with the applicant to verify any information where required. All applicants need to provide satisfactory essential information on governance and finance to be eligible for further assessment. The scoring is based on a set of criteria outlined in the guidance and made available on the council's website: ([Guidance for applicants](#)). Applications to the fund in March 2021 must meet one or more of the criteria:
- Fairer Communities – tackling poverty by sharing opportunities.
 - Resilient Communities – rebuilding and repairing from a pandemic; noting that this is only in the case of the group being unable to access other specific funds for this, e.g. Scottish Government funding.
 - Greener, cleaner communities – climate change mitigation
 - Creative Communities - Creativity for Health and Wellbeing
- 4.2 Of the 18 applications received 17 (requesting a total of £36,994.95) are eligible. The application not eligible has been notified and provided with support on applying to other funds where relevant.
- 4.3 11 applicants have not applied to the fund in the previous year/ two years. Applications to the fund are listed in alphabetical order, by applicant name, in Table 1.
- 4.4 1 of the 17 eligible applications is a partnership project seeking to reduce fraudulent activity due to Covid-19 and has been passed to the Community Planning Partnership which is currently supporting partnership working on this.
- 4.5 Of the remaining 16 eligible applications to the SCF, 11 are recommended to be awarded funding from the total available of £22,823.09. The applications recommended for award of funding are indicated by the award amount shown in column 'Award 2021/22' in Table 1. The detail of the projects is in Table 2.
- 4.6 Unsuccessful applicants are marked 'no award', and will be provided with information on alternative sources of funding and support.
- 4.7 Successful projects funded have to complete a report to evidence the impact of the spending of the money. The results of this are brought to Area Committee in June 2023, if not before depending on project duration.

Table 1 – Supporting Communities Fund Recommendations of Award 2021/22

Ref No	Organisation	Grant 20/21	Total Project Cost	Amount Requested	Award 2021/22
1	Albatross Arts CIC Jean's Bothy	No	£4,385	£2,500	£2,500
2	Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy Agency (ALlenergy)	No	£3,700	£625	No award – refer to 4.4
3	Cove and Kilcreggan Youth Café	No	£2,500	£2,500	No award
4	Family Mediation Argyll & Bute	No	£19,500	£2,500	No award
5	Friends of Duchess Wood	No	£8,215	£2,500	£1771.07
6	Gareloch Riding for the Disabled Association	Yes	£2,500	£2,500	No award
7	Garelochhead Station Trust	Yes	£1,808	£1,808	£1,808
8	Geilston Hall Management Committee	No	£3,950	£2,500	£2,500
9	Grey Matters Active Ageing	Yes	£2,742	£2,500	No award
10	Helensburgh Amateur Swimming Club	No	£2,750	£2,500	£2,500
11	Helensburgh and District Access Trust	No	£2,589	£2,089	£1771.07
12	Helensburgh Art Hub	Yes	£3,174	£2,500	£2,500
13	Helensburgh Tree Conservation Trust	No	£6,250	£2,500	No award
14	Males Tales Helensburgh	No	£12,780	£2,500	£2,500
15	Plastic Free Helensburgh	No	£1,603.58	£1,603.58	£1,603.58
16	Rosneath Community Garden	No	£2,145.02	£952.37	£952.37
17	Visiting Friends	No	£3,227	£2,417	£2,417
		Total Available			£22,823.09
	* Events & Festivals	Total Recommended			£22,823.09

Table 2 – Supporting Communities Fund Recommendation

Ref	Organisation	Application Detail
1	Albatross Arts CIC Jean's Bothy	To deliver a 'Culture Club' pilot project in partnership with Jean's Bothy. The project aims to support local people living with mental health challenges to re-engage with wider society post pandemic, whilst learning new skills. Costs are requested towards staff costs, travel and entrance fees for 8 cultural excursions.
5	Friends of Duchess Wood	To construct a new path linking the Nature Corridor path at the rear of Duchess Gait to the path around the Wood and re-surface the track leading from the car park round to the entrance at Millig Street and Rhu Road High through the lower part of the Wood. Costs are requested towards materials, hire of equipment and contractor fees.
7	Garelochhead Station Trust	The provision of online mindfulness courses. The project is being delivered in response to the deterioration in mental health of members during the Covid-19 pandemic and will be available to members of Garelochhead Station Trust as well as other third sector organisations. Funding is requested for staff and tutor costs and course materials.
8	Geilston Hall Management Committee	To create a safe woodland play and learning area for children at the Geilston Hall. The project will provide space for outdoor activities and learning with an environmental focus, for use by the After School and Breakfast Club as well as the Cardross Climate Action Network. Funding is requested to clear and fence the area.
10	Helensburgh Amateur Swimming Club	To deliver a package of growth mind-set training to help tackle the health and wellbeing impacts of the pandemic. Funds are requested to provide training for coaches, volunteers, teens and young swimmers.
11	Helensburgh and District Access Trust	To repair surfaces and address drainage problems on the Helensburgh Reservoir path as well as sections of the Upland Way and Three Lochs Way. Costs are requested towards materials, hire of equipment and contractor fees.
12	Helensburgh Art Hub	To deliver the 'Art of Recovery' project which will provide 40 workshops between July and November 2021 including online sessions, outdoor classes and kids activities. Funding is requested for the planning, promotion and delivery of the workshops along with materials.
14	Males Tales Helensburgh	To increase the frequency of the group sessions from fortnightly to once per week and offer additional one on one support. Funding is requested to support volunteer training and promotional materials.

Ref	Organisation	Application Detail
15	Plastic Free Helensburgh	To deliver a series of activities, events and training as part of Climate Change week and COP20. This will include leading litter picks and beach cleans in conjunction with Helensburgh Community Council. Costs are requested for purchase of litter picking equipment, hire of venue and refreshments for events, training for the committee and a zoom subscription.
16	Rosneath Community Garden	To expand the community garden to increase the number of growing plots and improve access for children and people with disabilities. Costs are requested to purchase small tools, materials for raised beds and support volunteer training.
17	Visiting Friends	To hold a series of coffee mornings targeting adults at risk of loneliness and social isolation. This project focuses on rebuilding social confidence following the pandemic and will be delivered in conjunction with Grey Matters Active Ageing, Jean's Bothy and Garelochhead Station Trust. Funds are requested for hall hire, travel, refreshments and promotion.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Supporting Communities Fund application and assessment process has been completed as set out within the guidance.
- 5.2 The recommendations made fully allocate the funding available for financial year 2021/2022.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy: n/a
- 6.2 Financial: Recommendations in the report are limited to the budget allocation available in 2021/22 for the Supporting Communities Fund in Helensburgh & Lomond.
- 6.3 Legal: Applications are initially assessed to ensure that groups are constituted with managed accounts.
- 6.4 HR: n/a
- 6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: The Supporting Communities Fund supports community groups in tackling poverty, reducing inequality and building a fairer and more inclusive Scotland.

- 6.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics: Applicants are given the options of receiving the application in large print and other languages.
- 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty: None known
- 6.6. Risk: risk to the public pound is managed through the assessment and scoring, and through the end of project monitoring process.
- 6.7 Customer Service: None

7.0 Appendices

- 7.1 Table 3 No Grant Recommendation

Chief Executive Pippa Milne

Policy Lead Cllr Mary-Jean Devon

Community Planning Manager Rona Gold

19 May 2021

For further information contact: Kirsty Moyes on 01436 657635

Appendix 1

Table 3 – No Grant Recommendation

Ref	Organisation	Eligible applications receiving lower scoring
2	Argyll, Lomond and the Islands Energy Agency (ALLenergy)	This application is a partnership project seeking to reduce fraudulent activity due to Covid-19 and has been passed to the Community Planning Partnership which is currently supporting partnership working on this.
3	Cove and Kilcraggan Youth Café	Funding is requested towards youth worker sessional fees and to contribute to minor refurbishment of the youth café premises.
4	Family Mediation Argyll & Bute	To provide 100 hours of family support and mediation in response to the additional help needed by families throughout the pandemic. Funding is requested for staff costs.
6	Gareloch Riding for the Disabled Association	To support young people with disabilities from low-income families to participate in horse riding sessions. The funding will be used to reduce session costs for those identified as requiring support.

9	Grey Matters Active Ageing	To extend and grow the Creative Arts Programme developed to support members during the pandemic. Costs are requested to support art, knitting, pottery and craft activities.
13	Helensburgh Tree Conservation Trust	To undertake a major planting of trees to mark the queens platinum jubilee and 20 th anniversary of the tree trust. Funding is requested to purchase the trees.