

## **Area Community Planning Group: Community Development Update**

Community Development continue to work with a range of voluntary organisations around the Helensburgh and Lomond area. The CDO has been in contact with both successful and unsuccessful groups from the recent Supporting Communities Fund. For unsuccessful applicants, this has included the offer of help to identify alternative sources of funding, or to discuss future plans and development needs.

Below are some of the latest developments for a number of groups supported by Community Development; many looking for involvement from individuals, community groups, Community Planning partners and agencies.

### **Princess Louise Hall Committee**

The PLH hall committee are close to completing their planned asset transfer of the PLH and Howie Pavilion to community ownership; from the council. The group are in the final stages of agreeing a lease.

In the months following, the PLH committee are undertaking community engagement exercises to explore future potential uses of the building; and are making a call out to any community members and agencies who may be interested in using this space.

### **Welcome In**

The ***Welcome In Recovery Café*** have set provisional relaunch date of the **28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**. The group is a support for people recovering from addictions and will be peer lead. The group are currently undertaking training, including food hygiene with laptops being provided by Live Argyll.

Community Development involvement has been helping the volunteers identify and access training opportunities, to assist in its reopening.

### **Kirkmichael Community Development Group**

The group have recently with help of Community Development made links with Victoria Daveny at UHI Argyll and are in discussions of launching an informal gardening group. This is to make use of vegetable growing beds at the college, and as a means of wider community engagement.

The group have also started their Volunteer Scotland Disclosure process and have set the aim of delivering holiday time football sessions to local children, through an insured and reputable sports provider. The group have recognised the need to engage new active members and consider the garden and football projects as a means to strengthen the group. As such the KCDG, has made a general call for involvement by any community members or agencies in the area

### **Climate Action Plan – Working group**

Following the identification of Climate Change as one of the top 3 concerns for residents in H&L, a range of community groups have come together to discuss the potential of a local climate action plan for Helensburgh and the immediate surrounds. Representatives from the **Helensburgh Community Council, Plastic Free Helensburgh, Cardross CAN** and **GRAB Trust** have met with David Hagerty (Comm. Development) and Tracey Wightwick (Climate Change Officer) to discuss this idea.

As a follow up, all groups have been informed of options from both Keep Scotland Beautiful and Adaptation Scotland on how a plan could be formed. Future meetings are planned for September onwards - again with an open invite for community groups looking to be involved in creating and delivering this climate action plan.

*28/07/23*