

THIRD SECTOR GRANTS 2013/14

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details recommendations for the award of Third Sector Grants (including Events and Festivals) to Third Sector organisations for Oban, Lorn and the Isles
- 1.2 Applications are considered twice yearly in April and August. This is intended to avoid allocation of the full budget at one meeting and enable activities held later in the year to be funded.
- 1.3 The total Third Sector Grant budget made available by the Council for allocation in Oban, Lorn and the Isles for 2013/14 is £35,000.
- 1.4 To date £29,023 has been awarded to 18 organisations, leaving a balance of £5,977. Eleven applications have been received, 2 of which are for Events and Festivals. Due to the high volume of applications and limited funding available, all applications have been scored and an allocation formula applied across the board.
- 1.5 The Area Committee agreed to an upper limit of £4,000 to any one organisation in any one financial period, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The organisations listed below are awarded funding from the Third Sector Grants budget, as per the table below.
- 2.2 Those organisations that have received funding for two years or more should not be awarded more than the amount they received in 2012/13 unless increased developmental aspects are detailed in the application.
- 2.3 Grants will only be awarded pending receipt of the correct paperwork; an approved financial check; and an End of Project monitoring form (if a grant was awarded in previous year).

Ref No	Organisation	Grant Award 2011/12	Grant Award 2012/13	Total Project Costs	Amount Requested	Recommendation
3.1	Coll Recycling Group	No	No	£1,678	£839	£277
3.2	Hogmanay in Oban*	No	No	£23,096	£8,096	£2793
3.3	HOPE Kitchen	1155	650	£6,314	£2,900	£520
3.4	Ross of Mull Community Cafe	No	No	£5,850	£1,550	Nil
3.5	Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre	No	No	£1,188	£594	£196
3.6	Oban Community Playpark Group	No	No	£6,207	£2,791	£612
3.7	Oban Fireworks Group*	No	No	£6,900	£1,983	£654
3.8	Oban Mountain Bike Crew	No	No	£2,250	£1,125	£125
3.9	Oban Viewpoint Group	No	No	£13,570	£2,000	£800
3.10	Argyll and Lochaber Branches of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society	No	No	£4,942	£792 (across 4 areas)	Nil
3.11	Girdguiding Argyll Training	£480	£658 (£128 from OLI)	£4,300	£2,300 (across 3 areas)	Nil
				Total		£5977
				Total Recommended		£5977
				Balance		£0

*Events and Festivals

3.0 DETAIL

Ref No	Organisations	Comments
3.1	Coll Recycling Group	This group are working hard to improve recycling on the Isle of Coll and liaise regularly with Council staff to ensure integration of provision where possible. Assistance for them to apply for change of use of the old hall would substantially increase the activities of the group, potentially providing a small income stream – if viable, securing the appropriate quality standards for their imploded glass and compost would do the same, while securing an end use for the products.
3.2	Hogmanay in Oban	This is a new group aiming to establish a regular hogmanay event in Station Square, Oban. The event will be open to all and offers a family activity within the town, and one which offers direct benefits for local community members as well as a potential economic impact. This grant is a start-up grant to assist them in their first year.
3.3	HOPE Kitchen	This application is to support the expansion of HOPE kitchen into its own premises, creating greater autonomy for the group and an increase in what it can provide – although there is a clear developmental aspect to the application, the group have received funding in the previous two years.
3.4	Ross of Mull Community Cafe	This is a good project, providing a community activity that brings people together from across a remote rural area. It generates a good turnover and distributes grants to a number of other organisations. It is recommended that the costs associated with the application could be met by the group.
3.5	Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre	The group are seeking a contribution towards replacing the flooring in the therapy centre with a harder surface to increase accessibility within the building. They do have some reserves, but hope to use them to make other improvements to the building.

3.6	Oban Community Playpark Group	This is a small project to maintain the motivation of local fundraisers and children – developing the overall playpark takes time but by breaking it down into small steps, people see the progress that's being made. Maintaining public support and motivation is key to this project.
3.7	Oban Fireworks Group	The annual fireworks display is a popular annual event in Oban which did not take place last year. Feedback from the emergency services is that a central event such as this reduces risks across the town, as well as creating a sense of community. The group have managed to raise a significant portion of the funding to date.
3.8	Oban Mountain Bike Crew	This is a new group working on an ambitious project to develop a mountain bike trail centre in the Oban and Lorn area, applying for some funding to assist them with start-up costs. The group is currently receiving capacity building support and a meeting space from the council but wish to develop their publicity to gather more support and involve more of the community.
3.9	Oban Viewpoint Group	A feasibility study is an essential stage in assisting this group to consider the need and sustainability of a new build community centre in Soroba. It will present a business case that can then be used to support any future funding applications to external bodies.
3.10	Argyll and Lochaber Branches of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society	This Argyll founded organisation is celebrating its 90 th year and has identified a shortfall in its projected funding for its celebration event – there will also be some economic benefit to the Oban area. However, the group have received £500 from the Provost fund and should be able to manage the shortfall of £292.
3.11	Girdguiding Argyll Training	Annual County Training for Leaders to ensure that the Girl guiding programme is delivered in the three areas. It is a good opportunity for disseminating information and sharing ideas. The grant includes travel costs as well as costs of training weekend.

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 All organisations have been contacted and grant applications assessed.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy: None
- 5.2 Financial: As per area budget allocation.
- 5.3 Legal: None
- 5.4 HR: None
- 5.5 Equalities Consistent with the Equal Opportunities policy of Argyll and Bute Council.
- 5.6 Risk: Monitoring of the process will minimise any risk to the Council
- 5.7 Customer Service: None

6.0 APPENDICES

6.1 Officer assessment reports submitted

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22 July 2013