

**THIRD SECTOR GRANTS 2015/16**

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**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. Decision on the applications detailed below was deferred from the April committee for more information.
- 1.3 The total Third Sector Grant budget made available by the Council for allocation in Oban, Lorn and the Isles for 2014/15 is £35,000.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 A minimum of £5000 should be carried forward for allocation at the Area Committee meeting in August.
- 1.6 Twenty two eligible applications were assessed in Round 1. Eleven allocations were made in April and two have been carried forward for decision in Round 2. Nine applications are presented for consideration today.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Eight organisations listed below are awarded funding from the Third Sector Grants budget with one being carried forward for consideration in Round 2.
- 2.2 Those organisations that have received funding for the two previous years or more should not be awarded more than the amount they received in 2014/15 unless increased developmental aspects are detailed in the application. These repeat applicants may be subject to a 20% reduction on the previous year's allocation. This is to reduce applicants' dependency on Council grants and encourage fundraising and income generation initiatives.

- 2.3 Where possible, and if appropriate, new applicants should receive all or most of the amount requested (up to 50% total project costs), unless a very large amount of funding is sought.
- 2.4 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 2013	Grant Award 2014	Total Project	Amount Requested	Recommendation
1	Bid4Oban *	n/a	n/a	£12,050	£3,450	£1,666
2	Bridge of Orchy Village Hall Trust	new	new	£10,643.24	£4,000	£1,960
3	Cathedral Church of St John the Divine	New	New	£10,000	£4,000	£2,940
4	Coisir Ghaidlig Taigh an Uillt	£135	£0	£540	£270	Consider in round 2
5	Iona Village Hall *	n/a	£2,600	£13,650	£2,470	£1,470
6	Isle of Mull Riding for the Disabled	New	New	£3,010	£1,505	£1,176
7	Tiree Community Development Trust	na	na	£7,682	£3,682	£1,764
8	Tiree Music Festival *	£2,707	£2,000	£10,650	£3,000	£1,470
9	Tiree Resource Club	£1,233	£3,000	£25,500	£4,000	£1,960

### 3. DETAIL

Ref No	Organisation	Rationale for grant allocation
1	Bid4Oban *	This is a new pipe band event in Oban – a one-off award is recommended to support the endeavour. However, the organisation needs to plan for on-going sustainability.
2	Bridge of Orchy Village Hall Trust	The group have embarked on an ambitious project to improve the condition of the hall which combines external funding for improvements with the use of local volunteers and community organised events. Bridge of Orchy are a small fragile community and I agree that the refurbishment and reopening of their village hall is essential to building a stronger community. However, the costs are for commercial kitchen equipment but the business case for this is as yet unproven.
3	Cathedral Church of St John the Divine	This project aims to redevelop a listed building, combining improvements to the fabric of the building, with reconfiguring the space to make it more suitable for community and performance use.
4	Coisir Ghaidlig Taigh an Uillt	The project is to provide Gaelic workshops for choir members. It is recommended this application is carried forward to the second round for consideration in August

5	Iona Village Hall *	The organisation is looking for a small contribution towards their second festival. The pilot event last year was supported and went well – a contribution is recommended however, the group should receive support to consider other funding opportunities available to them for 2016/17.
6	Isle of Mull Riding for the Disabled	This project will establish a Riding for the Disabled Association on Mull and prevent members of the community having to travel to Oban, or not being able to access this activity. The project is being provided in partnership with a local riding school which will keep costs minimal. A start-up grant is recommended.
7	Tiree Community Development Trust	The series of events are mainly aimed at activities in the Winter months when the island is particularly isolated. The Summer event is the annual Trust community / open day which brings residents together to discuss and influence projects taking place across the island.
8	Tiree Music Festival *	This grant would allow the organisation to address a need identified from last year's event feedback, promote local produce food providers and contribute to their sustainability policy.
9	Tiree Resource Club	This organisation provide an important service that supports elderly people on the island however, there is a concern that they are relying on the Third Sector Grants for core running costs.

#### **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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