

**SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND - Monitoring of Projects Funded**

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**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide monitoring information on the funding
- 1.2 12 constituted, not-for-profit community organisations were awarded funding in 2022/23. Projects were required to spend their funding within 18 months of and submit an End of Project Monitoring Report outlining the project projected costs, actual costs incurred and beneficiaries.
- 1.3 Members are asked to consider the summary of information supplied by organisations in their End of Project Monitoring Reports highlighting the positive impact of projects in communities.
- 1.4 Members are asked to note the return of unspent funds of £676.69 and agree these are allocated to the 2024/25 round of Supporting Communities Fund.

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**2.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 This report highlights the positive outcomes for communities in Bute Supporting Communities Fund (SCF) in the 2022/23 round of funding.
- 2.2 A total of £22,980.29 was awarded to 12 organisations in 2022/23. Organisations have up to two months from the end of the project to complete and return a project monitoring report.
- 2.3 A total of £676.69 unspent funds has been returned; and is proposed to be included in the distribution of the SCF for 2024/25.

**3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Bute and Cowal Area Committee:

- 3.1 Note and consider the positive contribution of the Supporting Communities Fund detailed in section 4 and the attached table.
- 3.2 Note that a total of £676.69 in unspent funds has been returned and agree that this be included in the distribution of the SCF for 2024/25.

**4.0 DETAIL**

- 4.1 The funded projects supported over 2,350 people to participate in a variety of activities including outdoor, sports, music and activities to support positive mental health. Highlights include:
- An immersive and inclusive outdoor heritage interpretation project enabling children to access local archaeological sites, working with Bute Museum and Ardencriag Gardens and a historian. The project encouraged creativity, fun and self-expression with a drama tutor and



2022/23 SCF Round of Funding

No	Organisation	Project Funded	Award	End of Project Achievements	No. of people in communities benefitting
1	Achievement Bute				

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		equipment and materials, expert fees and marketing costs.		encouraged people to socialise and chat about the event they had just attended. As well as this the finish time for our events was always kept loose where people were welcome to stay and chat for as long as they liked.	
5	Cairndow Community Childcare	promotion, delivery and administration of 6 days of bicycle maintenance workshop sessions.	£2,250.00	The cycle workshops proved very popular and were much appreciated by those who attended. The levels of knowledge regarding cycle maintenance were raised along with an awareness of how to cycle safely in our locality. The project has encouraged greater use of cycles in the area and a greater ability for cyclists to maintain their bikes without having to take them out with the area for repairs.	24
6	Cormonachan Community Woodlands Ltd	provision of two free theatrical events during Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, one event aimed at children and the other for adults	£2,000.00	We had 71 visitors attend the 2 free events on 3rd June 2022.: - The Wonderland Adventure at 2 pm with 39 attendees including lots of children and: Macbeth the Red at 7 pm with 32 adult attendees. We could not have provided these events for the local community without this valuable funding.	71
7	Cowal Choral Club	venue hire and Musical Director fees to support the delivery of musical events and productions throughout 2022.	£2,500.00	The impact on club and local community members was positive. The Club reduced isolation, establishing a WhatsApp group for members in-between rehearsals. Club membership was boosted to 58 members. We welcomed Ukrainians newly arrived in Dunoon, their inclusion has benefited them and the club. " ... I've enjoyed being back in rehearsals and especially back on stage - but it's the camaraderie, friendship and support from all of you that makes it extra special and all the more fun." A review published in the Dunoon Observer following our first production at the Queen's Hall since 2014 demonstrated that the Club are 'back in business.'	58
8	Cowal Community Orchestra	purchase of new music for the orchestra and 50 hours of Musical Director fees	£1,500.00	We played in Oban for the Ukrainian Refugees event and also in Dunoon too. One of our new members is Ukrainian. Our youngest member has also been playing with the Nicola	279



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		helmets and a contribution to annual pitch fees		and playing equipment (sticks and balls). We ran a Family Fun Day at Dunoon Stadium which saw over 50 people attending to take part in fun games of shinty for all abilities.	
11	Tighnabruaich Development Trust	60 Gaelic classes online/face-to-face using Speak Gaelic Materials, pre-school sessions, Gaelic holiday scheme play sessions and outdoor workshop in Glenan Community Woodland	£948.88	The 'Bringing Gaelic Home' day was a success. The art club had produced 50+ art works with Gaelic titles and descriptions. The children's story writing workshops were successful and enjoyed by all.. Adults popped into the hall throughout the day to take part or use the cafe, and the evening Ceilidh and meal was enjoyed by many. Gaelic classes using the Speak Gaelic materials are ongoing. The group meets weekly and will finish the first set of materials before the summer. The weekly on line zoom group is going well and are a couple of weeks behind the 'face to face' group.	110

## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

5.1 The project monitoring form has a section asking for comments on the grant process. Not all applicants have completed this section but of those received, the comments have largely been very positive.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Policy: None

6.2 Financial: The report sets out the expenditure from the Bute & Cowal area 2022/23 budget for the allocation of Supporting Communities Fund

6.3 Legal: None

6.4 HR: None

6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty/Equalities/Islands: Compliant with policy and noting that 2 of the funded projects were on the Isle of Bute.

6.6 Climate Change: None

6.7 Risk: None

6.8 Customer Service: None

6.9 The Rights of the Child (UNCRC): None

**Chief Executive – Pippa Milne**  
**Policy Lead - Cllr Alistair Redman**  
**Communities and Partnership Manager – Rona Gold**  
12 February 2024

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