

Cowal

Dunoon Music Project

Dunoon Community Development Group

Project cost: £25000 Eligible cost: £25000 Grant award: £10000

Public match funding: £15000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Dunoon Music Project is a community-led initiative developed under the umbrella of Dunoon Community Development Group and it is a project being developed by young people for young people. The main project will create a high quality, multi-use, town centre venue offering a broad range of services to young people and local musicians. Planned services include: live music venue; rehearsal space; recording studio; instrument tuition; sound engineering tuition; alcohol free bar and a meeting space, seeking to address the lack of rehearsal, performance and recording facilities for musicians and bands in Cowal. Funding for this phase of the project will be used to employ a development worker who will oversee an options appraisal on the proposed buildings, identifying the most viable option for the project; engage the services of an architect to produce drawings and specifications for the selected building and a quantity surveyor to give accurate costs for the project. A business plan and full appraisal will be created, enabling the project to submit quality funding applications for project implementation.

Grant awarded 26 September 2008

Cowal

Rural Information Outreach

Cowal Elderly Befriending Scheme

Project cost: £24964 Eligible cost: £23740 Grant award: £11086

Public match funding: £2376 Private match funding: £10278

In-kind match funding: £

Cowal Elderly Befriending Scheme provides a range of services that improve the quality of life for isolated older people, encouraging them to remain active in the community by providing support and transport to enable them to access local services, social and leisure opportunities, and maintain contact with family and friends. These activities help to improve mental and physical health by offering increased social interaction and the opportunity to participate in regular gentle exercise. It has been established through a pilot project that an Information Service - Drop In and Rural Outreach - is needed to maximise uptake of benefits, services and entitlements. It has also been established that the project is needed in the outlying rural areas of the Cowal peninsula where elderly people can be very isolated and have little or no access to services. The project represents the needs of the elderly on a range of networks and partnerships and LEADER funding would allow provision of these services through increased staff activity.

Grant awarded 26 September 2008

Cowal

FiddleFolk project

FiddleFolk

Project cost: £76138 Eligible cost: £76138 Grant award: £25536

Public match funding: £40234 Private match funding: £10368

In-kind match funding: £

Fiddlefolk is an organisation that has developed from Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop which has been delivering traditional music classes, workshops and other music-related community activities in and around Lochgoilhead for the last six years. A well established programme of events has been delivered and by the end of 2008 LFW had put on 147 public events, attracting 9204 people, many tourists amongst them. In its teaching, it has taught over 250 different children in three years in school, and run around 700 community music classes with over 4000 participants. Lochgoilhead Fiddle Workshop is now self-sustaining on a strictly local level of supplying services just to Lochgoilhead and Strachur, with a few concerts a year in these locations only. However, demand for its programme has grown way beyond that already, so LFW must either immediately contract to that level or secure resources to underpin a planned expansion of services throughout Cowal and beyond over next three to five years and the organisation is now at the stage where it can no longer rely on voluntary activity and must move onto the next phase of becoming a Social Enterprise, moving beyond Lochgoilhead and the immediate surrounding area. The main aim of this next phase is to employ staff, a project manager and clerical assistant, who will help to deliver and develop the programme whilst ensuring the long-term sustainability of the project. A key feature will be the production of a feasibility study/business plan for Fiddlefolk which will enable it to become self-reliant during the coming years.

Project fits with LDS theme revitalising communities and meets SRDP measures 341-Skills acquisitions and 313 -Encouragement of tourism activities.

Grant awarded 27 March 2009

Cowal

Dunoon and Cowal Business Association

PA23 BID Steering Group

Project cost: £15000 Eligible cost: £15000 Grant award: £7500

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £7500

In-kind match funding: £

Dunoon & Cowal Business Association intends to :

Disseminate business related information to traders, retailers, hoteliers etc, and the general public

Conduct public surveys on shopping/ retail trends and concerns

Conduct surveys of tourists in local hotels to gain their views on the area

Conduct surveys with traders to ascertain their thoughts on what is required for increased trade

Promote the area nationwide to encourage businesses to relocate to Cowal

Increase marketing of the area and the businesses and services available therein

Liaise with key decision makers, informing them of survey results, and to assist in the planning of regeneration projects

In order to achieve these aims the association needs to employ a manager on a consultancy basis to carry out the work. This person will:

Network between local businesses and businesses nationwide

Liaise with key decision makers such as Argyll & Bute Council, HIE, National Park Authority and National Park Community Trust, Destination Dunoon & Cowal Steering Group, Visit Scotland, Scottish Government, and Local Emergency Services

Carry out public & business surveys to ascertain needs and provide basis for forward planning and improvements to natural and built environment, to provide areas conducive to increased trade

Organise events to promote the Association and trade in general

Provide information to member businesses that will assist them in their business

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Cowal

Forward ColGlen

Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust

www.cgdt.org

Project cost: £65500 Eligible cost: £65500 Grant award: £19650

Public match funding: £42575 Private match funding: £3275

In-kind match funding: £

The Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust Board has identified in excess of 10 projects which it wishes to move forward imminently. The board has also identified that as a body of volunteers, it does not have the capacity to implement even the first stages of most of them. The board therefore wishes to Recruit and employ a development officer for two years on a freelance basis who will :-

- a) Implement feasibility studies, needs assessments and pilot projects
- b) Forge partnerships with exterior agencies and organisations
- c) Develop funding packages for CGDT projects and businesses
- d) Implement and manage projects ongoing.
- e) Liaise with the community and its organisations in Colintraive and Glendaruel
- f) Attend seminars, lectures, meetings and networking days on behalf of the development trust
- g) Support the trust board in their duties.

All of these activities will lead to the further development of projects identified by the community as priority for the development of the area.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Cowal

Ardentinny Path

Lochgoil Community Council

Project cost: £29375 Eligible cost: £29375 Grant award: £9375

Public match funding: £20000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to create a new 10 mile path between Ardentinny and Lochgoilhead. Historically there has been a footpath between Carrick Castle and Ardentinny dating back for centuries but over the years it had become virtually impassable. There is considerable support from the National Park and the surrounding communities of Lochgoilhead, Carrick Castle and Ardentinny to create a new path, built to high specification, which will restore sustainable links between the communities. This will become a popular core path available to all at all times of the year which will enhance the Cowalfest annual event and will be welcomed as an additional arm of the Cowal Way which itself has just been extended. It has the potential of joining up with the forestry path from Lochgoilhead, the ancient and historical Corramonachan village and provides access to the private Carrick Wood which provides a local quiet recreational walk. Walkers can access public transport at regular intervals to and from Lochgoilhead and Dunoon. The new path will be promoted locally and nationally through the local press, the National Park publication, the proposed Cowal Way advertising campaign and leaflets to all tourist bodies and hotels.

The project will use specialised path building skills approved by the National Park and using local materials (SEPA consulted) and provide a high quality visitor experience. Future maintenance will be provided by local labour and resources. Part of an annual grant is available for this purpose.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Cowal

Blairmore - Gairletter Path Link

Benmore and Kilmun Community Development Trust

Project cost: £10000 Eligible cost: £10000 Grant award: £3000

Public match funding: £6500 Private match funding: £500

In-kind match funding: £

This project comes as a result of members of local communities getting together, addressing issues that they have identified through consultation within their communities. Developing this section of multi-use path will link existing paths identified in the core path network for the National Park. The path will enable walkers, cyclists and others to use the network more fully as it will be connected more extensively around the Kilmun peninsula. The route will also offer a safer, traffic free alternative as there will be no requirement to use the public road near Blairmore. The aim of this path link is to help improve and encourage access to the countryside to both locals and visitors to the area. The already successful Cowal walking festival attracts walkers into Cowal. Improved and new routes in the area hopefully encourages visitors to stay for longer benefitting both the local and wider communities of Cowal, helping to support local businesses, local services and accommodation providers. Providing formal routes help to manage how people take access in the countryside, taking into consideration landowners and land managers issues, minimising any potential conflicts. By providing a network of safe, multi-user paths the group is encouraging the responsible use and understanding of the countryside while minimising the impacts from the users.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Cowal

Dunoon Burgh Hall Stage 2 - Development

Dunoon Burgh Hall Project Group

Project cost: £70000 Eligible cost: £70000 Grant award: £35000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £27000

In-kind match funding: £8000

The Burgh Hall has historic significance for Dunoon and for over 100 years was a hub of social activity until disrepair forced its closure in the late 1980's. Recent change of ownership through John McAslan Family Trust (JMFT) allowed phase 1 of the project to take place –carrying out essential repairs and making the building safe for public use. On 2 May this year, the Burgh Hall was re-opened to the public for the first time in over 20 years. Around 3,000 people came through the doors to enjoy performances by local bands and performers, paintings and photographs by local and internationally renowned artists, stalls selling local craft and promoting local societies and organisations. Community interest in the Hall is gathering momentum and the project is ready to move to the next phase with the development of the Burgh Hall Trust which will become a registered charity and take on ownership of the Hall. This phase will involve the development, planning and delivery of the project, including the procurement of consultants to assist in delivering the project aims; promoting involvement from key stakeholders and all sections of the local community; investigating and putting in place opportunities for community engagement and training afforded by the project, focusing on the heritage encompassed in the building and the activities that it will house; promoting continued and expanding use of the building by the local community; developing a detailed programme for the project from now to the summer of 2010; developing an outline programme beyond 2010; capacity building and training for trustees and volunteers; visiting and learning from other projects; investigating all funding sources for the continued development and capital works and making applications where appropriate; undertaking local fundraising; promoting the project locally, nationally and internationally. The ultimate aim is to create “the cultural hub of Cowal and a major arts and cultural venue for Scotland”.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Cowal

Bird Viewing Hide - Holy Loch, Cowal

Sandbank Community Development Trust

Project cost: £29290 Eligible cost: £29290 Grant award: £11540

Public match funding: £16399 Private match funding: £1351

In-kind match funding: £

The aim of the project is to build a bird viewing hide at the head of the Holy Loch with a quality all-access footpath to reach it through a woodland glade, to allow members of the public and bird clubs to view the wide variety of birds that come to the Holy Loch. In addition to the construction of the bird hide and 200m all access footpath, two bridges will be installed to enable access. The project forms part of Sandbank Community Development Trust's development plan to construct a cycle path & walkway between Hunters Quay and Kilmun and the new footpath and bird hide will form a spur from that footpath. This project will integrate with the LLTNP/A&BC Core Path Plan to increase access throughout the Park. There are no bird viewing hides in the immediate area, other than an old boathouse at Kilmun, which allow the public to access a range of different birds that visit or live in the Holy Loch. The bird viewing hide is something different which will add to a range of already available activities for locals, tourists and bird watchers to do in the area. This project is a collaboration between Sandbank Community Development Trust, Argyll Bird Club and Argyll Forest Park Landscape Partnership Scheme to encourage people to learn about and access easily, the natural surroundings. SCDT will maintain the access path and building as and when necessary and will be able to obtain assistance from the Community Service Group to help keep the woodland glade/undergrowth under control, in addition to assistance from community volunteers.

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Cowal

Dunoon Town Centre Environmental Improvements

Argyll and Bute Council

Project cost: £576227 Eligible cost: £576227 Grant award: £246227

Public match funding: £330000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project forms part of an overall vision developed by the community in Dunoon to restore the town centre and attract new businesses and economic growth through environmental improvements to the town centre. A bid to the Town Centre Regeneration Fund was successful in gaining £300,000 towards a total project cost of £576,227 which will deliver a range of environmental improvements including:

improved pedestrian access

new street lighting and signposts

improvements to facade of Queen's Hall

public information & interpretation boards

The project is intended to benefit the general population of both Dunoon and the surrounding hinterland of Cowal that make considerable use of the facilities of the town centre. It will also substantially improve the town's attractiveness to visitors, which is the main economic activity in the area. Dunoon is a tourist destination in its own right and the marine gateway to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. It will directly benefit businesses in the town centre and those providing services to the town centre. Other beneficiaries will be pedestrians in terms of enhanced convenience and road safety, public transport users, ferry users, motorists and motorcyclists in terms of better facilities, signage and traffic movement. Working with the Council's Employability Team in the delivery of much of the proposed work will create many training opportunities, work and social benefits for members of the local community. Work on site will offer specific training opportunities for the long-term unemployed whilst at the same time encouraging confidence building, pride and a sense of ownership in the completed projects. The Council's Operational Services dept. is requesting Convergence funding to enable this project to go ahead and maximise the existing resources.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Cowal

DYFL Clubhouse Facilities

Dunoon Youth Football League

Project cost: £162995 Eligible cost: £162995 Grant award: £37995

Public match funding: £115000 Private match funding: £10000

In-kind match funding: £

This project will provide a purpose built extension to the existing DYFL clubhouse structure. The new build will include four separate, lockable changing rooms with their own toilets and showers, a referee's changing area, laundry room, reception area and a meeting/storage room. The project will provide a major boost to the voluntary sector in Cowal by providing additional capacity for community based organisations, including the junior sections of Cowal Rugby Club and Dunoon Shinty Club. The new facility will significantly increase the capacity of DYFL to host matches, organise tournaments, properly accommodate girls and young women's teams, provide coaching sessions and develop football as a physical activity amongst young people.

The group has been very successful in its fundraising efforts to date and has secured finance from SportScotland Cashback for Communities (100K), Argyll & Bute Council (15K), Cowal Highland Gathering (10K), Dunoon Youth Football League(10K). This still leaves them with a 17% funding gap of 28K.

In normal circumstances this would be an automatic referral to Rural Priorities under Measure 321. However, as this particular measure is at present being transferred to LEADER, with the administrative details still to be resolved it has come to LEADER. Current LEADER Guidance states under Section 5.7 that "Sports facilities should not be funded unless there is a wider community benefit". The wider community benefit is clearly demonstrated throughout the application and there is tremendous local support for the project from a wide range of local organisations, individuals, businesses and politicians.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Cowal

Colintraive Heritage Centre

Colintraive Village Hall Management Committee Council

Project cost: £4300 Eligible cost: £4300 Grant award: £2000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £2300

In-kind match funding: £

Colintraive Heritage Centre was run as a successful pilot project from May 2009 until the end of September with the assistance of a small grant for Argyll & Bute Council's Homecoming project. It received over 2000 visitors in an area that is relatively remote & isolated. The Heritage Centre is situated close by the popular Colintraive Community Garden and publicity would include encouraging visitors to enjoy it as well as the Heritage Centre.

A video of past events in the village and the story of the steamers that used to call at the pier was on display together with a photographic history of the village concentrating on the period from 1850. There was also a display of artefacts, mainly agricultural implements used locally.

The aim is to create a permanent exhibition which will expand the interpretation of exhibits, particularly the display of artefacts and enhance the presentation of the video.

Another aim is to increase the publicity to bring in a broader audience and to improve the local signage drawing attention to the centre. Publicity for the project will also include the production of flyers and the development of the web-site.

The development of the proposals would start early in 2010 to be in place for the Centre re-opening in May 2010.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Cowal

Upgrading and Greening of Memorial Hall Heating System

Strachur Memorial Hall Committee

Project cost: £50337 Eligible cost: £50337 Grant award: £10067

Public match funding: £37753 Private match funding: £2517

In-kind match funding: £

Strachur Memorial Hall complex is currently used by about 20 regular user groups with approximately 1000 total (including private) bookings per annum. The main aim of the hall committee is to provide and maintain facilities for the use of user groups and the community. Surveys of the community (as part of Communities Futures Action Plan) showed a wish for renewable energy technologies for the area.. Living within a forest, installing a biomass boiler at the Memorial Hall was identified as desirable giving opportunities for local business, reducing carbon footprint by 80% (20 tonnes CO2 per annum) and insulating the Hall from future oil price inflation. An energy audit was done and a feasibility study undertaken which showed upgrading the exist heating system sensible.

The plan is to install a containerised 35kW woodchip boiler and storage hopper to be installed with the existing oil boiler retained as back-up. This will provide opportunities for local woodchip suppliers, allowing significant carbon footprint reduction and reassurance of adequate heating for users, particularly the Playgroup (mornings 4 days a week). The project has been thoroughly researched and great consideration has been give to the most suitable installation. The majority of match funding is being provided by Community Energy Scotland.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Cowal

Dunoon BID Development

PA23 BID Steering Group

Project cost: £40000 Eligible cost: £40000 Grant award: £8000

Public match funding: £30000 Private match funding: £2000

In-kind match funding: £

Dunoon & Cowal Business Association was set up last year to support local businesses to disseminate business related information to traders, retailers, hoteliers etc, and the general public. Following a successful first year the Association now wishes to investigate the possibility of establishing Dunoon as a Business Improvement District (BID). (<http://www.bids-scotland.com>) BIDs are areas where businesses come together to invest collectively in projects which will strengthen their trading environment, where businesses have voted to invest in local improvements in addition to those delivered by statutory authorities. They are often, although not exclusively, a partnership arrangement through which the local business community and the statutory authorities can take forward projects which will benefit the local economy. In order for an organisation to operate BIDS projects, there must be approval from a ballot conducted amongst all non-domestic rate payers in the defined area. This ballot can only be conducted once and follows a set format. LEADER funding is being requested to support this ballot process over a 16month period.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Cowal

Mausoleum and Visitor Centre

Argyll Mausoleum Ltd

Project cost: £53512 Eligible cost: £53512 Grant award: £13036

Public match funding: £37800 Private match funding: £2676

In-kind match funding: £

Restoration of Kilmun Mausoleum had been identified as a high priority need by local people in their 2008 Community Action Plan. Benmore and Kilmun Community Development Trust has taken the lead in initiating the necessary actions to save the building and to open it to the public for the first time since it was built in 1790. The total project cost will be in the region of £850,000.

This project specifically addresses the first phase of the overall undertaking, the development of the plan which will not only cover the restoration of the Argyll Museum and its artefacts but also the creation of a first class visitor facility that will convey the historic significance of the area to visitors, and provide an income that will cover maintenance of both the Mausoleum and Visitor Centre in future years.

Part of the development plan involves preparing a detailed costed restoration plan for the Mausoleum and (with advice from RIAS on the method) appointing professional advisors for both the restoration phase and the design of the Visitor Centre. The key areas of activity will centre on the removal and storage of all the priceless artefacts in a safe and secure facility and the appointment of professional advisors, both for conservation and for the visitor centre. Match-funding has been secured from the Heritage Lottery Fund to enable this stage to proceed.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Cowal

Our Energy

Here We Are Limited

www.hereweare-uk.com

Project cost: £50800 Eligible cost: £50800 Grant award: £25400

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £25400

In-kind match funding: £

Here We Are is an innovative concept, established in 1998, with a core aim to assist with the development and the sustainability of the local community. The custom built centre opened in 2001 and is situated beside the Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, in the village of Cairndow in Argyll. It is charity run by a committee of 10 local people who meet once a month. The sustainability of the organisation is supported by the following renewable energy initiatives:-

Our Power—a wood chipping plant providing biomass heat to the local salmon hatchery and other biomass users in the area.

One Stop Renewable Info Centre in association with Alienergy—The HWA centre provides information on alternative energy technology and grant finding information.

The Merk Hydro Scheme—a unique joint venture between Here We Are and Hydro specialist C.R Foster based in Argyll. The principle behind the project is to assist in meeting the government renewable and its sustainable economic growth agenda, and its long term goal is to utilise income to assist Here We Are to be self sustaining and invest surplus funds within the local community to help employment, training, business opportunity, wellbeing, health and generally improve where required the local community and environment.

Energy Audit-Climate Challenge Funds supported an audit of energy use of all residents in the parish, providing energy saving suggestions re technology and grants.

As these projects have developed it has become apparent that a Project Manager is required to manage the overall development, co-ordination and implementation of these activities as per attached job description. This will be a two year post at the end of which it is anticipated that the income from the various renewable energy initiatives will allow HWA to stand alone.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Cowal

Project Development Officer

Kilfinan Community Forest Company

www.kilfinancommunityforest.com

Project cost: £72180 Eligible cost: £72180 Grant award: £36090

Public match funding: £32481 Private match funding: £3609

In-kind match funding: £

Kilfinan Community Forest Company began as a steering group of local residents who saw an opportunity to reverse the decline of the village of Tighnabraich and surrounding area through the sustainable development of an area of forest to alleviate underemployment, attract more full-time residents and develop smallholdings or woodland crofts. The steering group applied to the National Forest Land Scheme to purchase an area of forest from the Forestry Commission Scotland on behalf of the Parish of Kilfinan Community. The community secured the forest by raising the funds in March 2010 with 50% support from Highlands & Islands Enterprise Community Land Unit. In March 2010 the group was successful in applying to the Climate Challenge Fund for £167,000 to install the initial developments into the forest for recreational access, growing food, community composting and wood processing.

KCFC now wish to employ a Project Development Officer to co-ordinate management operations and develop the forest's potential for a range of recreational, environmental and community activities. The PDO will finalise the forest management plan and develop successful funding packages for identified development options such as the renewable energy schemes available to KCFC (micro-hydro/small-scale wind/solar) ; the woodfuel supply chain potential to guarantee firewood supply to local customers; the production of milled timber and other timber products ; development of woodland crofts & self-build plots. It will be necessary for the PDO to carry out detailed feasibility analyses of these economic activities which could generate sustainable employment and funding opportunities for the ongoing developments in the forest. The aim is for the project to maximise income generation to allow the community forest resource to be sustainably managed and developed over the next 5 years without relying on future external grant funding.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Cowal

Cairndow Community Childcare Facility Feasibility

Cairndow Community Childcare Ltd

www.cairndowchildcare.co.uk

Project cost: £17800 Eligible cost: £17800 Grant award: £8900

Public match funding: £8000 Private match funding: £900

In-kind match funding: £

Cairndow Community Childcare Ltd. is a voluntary community organisation with charitable status serving the village of Cairndow and the surrounding rural settlements. The organisation was established in 2002 in order to address the lack of childcare provision in the local area by members of the local community and has been run since as a social enterprise, operating from Cairndow Village Hall. They provide childcare for residents and visitors, running the organisation as a community business, with an emphasis on affordable childcare including pre-school education. They also provide training opportunities, taking students on placement from local colleges. Whilst Cairndow Village Hall has been an ideal venue for the business to start up, it is not sustainable over the longer term and the main aim of this project is to appoint a suitably qualified consultant to produce a Business Plan and Feasibility Study and a design team to produce plans for a new childcare facility in or close to Cairndow.

Grant awarded 16 June 2011

Cowal

Sandbank Play Project

Sandbank Community Development Trust

www.sandbankcdt.org.uk

Project cost: £80000 Eligible cost: £80000 Grant award: £40000

Public match funding: £1000 Private match funding: £39000

In-kind match funding: £

Sandbank Community Development Trust produced a community action plan which was prepared following extensive consultation with the community period from January to March 2007. It was identified that refurbishing and re-establishing the Sandbank play park was a priority for the village. This is over 40 years old; the equipment fails to meet modern standards and is in disrepair. SCDT has already built a multi sports court and intend to build play park which will adjoin the next phase, the community park. A partnership agreement with Argyll & Bute Council has been formed which includes on the play park land. This community project involves the Trust, Sandbank Community Council, parents in the play park action group and pupils of School. The children were consulted on the play park design, chose all the equipment and continue to be involved through the Pupil Council raising date. By refurbishing and re-establishing the Sandbank play park, a safe, central area will be provided where families, children and adults can meet, socialise. There are no alternative play areas, activities, facilities or clubs in Sandbank with the nearest play park being 3 miles and 2 bus journeys away bus service. All traffic entering Dunoon passes through Sandbank and it is anticipated that tourists will stop off and spend some time in the area.

Grant awarded 16 June 2011

Cowal

Dunoon Burgh Hall Capital Works Development

Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust

www.burghalldunoon.com

Project cost: £137582 Eligible cost: £137582 Grant award: £63403

Public match funding: £63100 Private match funding: £6879

In-kind match funding: £4200

The Dunoon Burgh Hall Trust was formed in March 2010 and its main activities are to create and manage a full programme of heritage, cultural and artistic events and activities in and around Dunoon Burgh Hall and to plan and manage the development of a capital project to repair and equip the Burgh Hall to house this programme into the future. Building on the first phase of development, funded in part by LEADER, work is now underway to progress the works that will see the building repaired and adapted to provide year round facilities for the expanding programme, with a second phase of work to upgrade the hall area due for completion to coincide with the Cowal Games in late August this year. An application to Historic Scotland for capital funding for repair work was successful and a further application to the Heritage Lottery Fund will be determined in mid September. The development will include working up plans already approved under Listed Building Consent, applying for other statutory approvals, most notably a Building Warrant for alterations, developing the detail of the repair and adaptation works, seeking further match funding and managing the grants. The capital development stage will also involve drop-in sessions and arts events that will help people to learn more about the heritage contained within the Burgh Hall and to participate in the management of the project. To undertake this development work, the DBHT need to procure a professional team including a full design team, a business / arts venue consultant and a heritage / training advisor. In addition, the DBHT will appoint a Project Co-ordinator to oversee the capital development project and form a link between the voluntary organisation driving the project and the professional consultants working to help deliver it. To manage the Trust's input into this work, continue the development and delivery of the programme of activities and build on the involvement of community volunteers, it will be necessary to increase the hours of paid staff (either utilising the current staff or by appointing additional individuals).

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Cowal

Glenfinart Walled Garden Project

Ardentinny Community Trust

www.GlenfinartGarden.org

Project cost: £21590 Eligible cost: £21590 Grant award: £10795

Public match funding: £6500 Private match funding: £4295

In-kind match funding: £

Glenfinart Walled Garden is a grade 2B listed structure, formerly belonging to Glenfinart House and currently owned by Forestry Commission Scotland, which has been left to fall into a state of disuse and disrepair. FCS offered the community of Ardentinny the opportunity to buy the garden in 2010, under the National Forest Land Scheme. A Working Group, appointed by Ardentinny Community Council, surveyed all the village residents and 76% of respondents voted 'Yes' to the idea of purchasing the garden. The majority were in favour of re-establishing it as a working garden producing affordable fruit and vegetables alongside a more formal, leisure garden. In addition, it was suggested it also be used for training and job creation and to provide a facility for all ages & abilities, from the village and beyond, with specifically designed education programmes and activities to meet their needs. These are the long-term aims of the project.

The current application to LEADER will support the employment of a project manager to help with the administrative work in the handover and to secure further grants for initial planning, layout and cultivation, employment of trainees, seeking tenders and other negotiation in the early stages. The funding application is for start up costs for the first year of operation and thereafter it is envisaged that the project will be self supporting.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Cowal

A Gazetteer of Cairndow - a Highland Community

Here We Are Limited

www.hereweare-uk.com

Project cost: £19450 Eligible cost: £19450 Grant award: £9725

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £9725

In-kind match funding: £

Here We Are is an innovative concept, established in 1998, with a core aim to assist with the development and the sustainability of the local community. The custom built centre opened in 2001 and over the years a number of exhibitions have been held which have demonstrated the key elements of rural life. The success and popularity of Our Houses: Their Stories, a Heritage Lottery funded project, demonstrated both the need, the demand for and interest in detailed recordings of changes over the last 100 years in this parish, which helps inform us today. The two major exhibitions staged at Kelvingrove and at Eden Court Inverness were widely acclaimed. The result has been to give HWA confidence to tackle another project with social history content but with a more strategic relevance to Argyll's economic future. The mid 19th century Statistical Accounts of Scotland were a gazetteer of the economy, cultural life and landscape of a parish, a snapshot over a decade. This project aims to carry out a similar "mapping" but to monitor socio-economic changes from 1900 via 1950 to the present time and to predict the future, with particular focus on economic viability and food production and, in the process, raise aspiration and the self esteem of traditional skills and know-how. The gazetteer will be created using various media: website; interactive kiosk; oral records; catalogued photographs; inventory of vocabulary used in farming, forestry, fishing etc.; record of annual events/activities. The interactive kiosk will continue as a permanent feature and tool for information at the Here We Are Centre, for staff and visitors alike.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Cowal

Restoring the Argyll Mausoleum and Visitor Centre – Implementation Phase

Argyll Mausoleum Ltd

www.argyllmausoleum.org

Project cost: £579786 Eligible cost: £579786 Grant award: £255880

Public match funding: £288811 Private match funding: £35095

In-kind match funding: £

The preservation and upgrade of Argyll Mausoleum was identified as a priority in Benmore & Kilmun Community Development Trust's Community Futures Action Plan 2008-11. This led to the establishment of Argyll Mausoleum Ltd in 2009, an organisation whose main aim is to save and preserve this grade A listed Argyll Mausoleum which was built in 1795 for the burial of the Dukes of Argyll. The original aim of the group was to address the poor condition of the mausoleum, make it accessible, interpret the building and its history, engage local people and promote this nationally important site to visitors to the area. In June 2010 the group received LEADER & Heritage Lottery Funding to create a Development Plan for the preservation of the mausoleum. They have worked closely with Stirling University, GUARD (Glasgow University Archaeological Research and Development) and others to research the history of the Mausoleum, carry out archaeological investigations and to remove and store safely the unique artefacts contained within the mausoleum. Extensive consultations with community groups, networks and other organisation such as businesses, other heritage managers and other key stakeholders has led to the completion of a 5 Year Activity Plan.

The overall aim for the Argyll Mausoleum project is to:

Create a visitor centre, interpret the Mausoleum, church and surrounding area to help the community and visitors learn more about and understand the rich heritage of this less discovered part of the National Park;

Provide a family and local history research centre with access to interpretation, local histories, archives, graveyard research, archaeology research and photo libraries, and provide a place for events to take place;

Upgrade toilet facilities by moving the toilet to the existing kitchen area to gain sufficient space to be DDA compliant and creating a more modern compact kitchen space;

Create an accessible welcome and orientation facility next to the car park which will:

give visitors an overview of the site including the mausoleum and the church

provide information on opening times and activities

encourage visitors to explore the site

provide information about other places of interest in the local area using interpretive panels

Employ a Project Co-ordinator to oversee the operation of this heritage resource;

Ensure that the restoration and management of the project is sustainable.

Grant awarded 14 June 2012

Cowal

Phase 3 - Forest Development

Kilfinan Community Forest Company

www.kilfinancommunityforest.com

Project cost: £181500 Eligible cost: £181500 Grant award: £79110

Public match funding: £79110 Private match funding: £23280

In-kind match funding: £

Kilfinan Community Forest Company is a charitable enterprise formed to work with and for the local community to manage and develop their local forest resource, the community forest at Tighnabruaich. The main activities of the organisation are to create opportunities for a sustainable future for the local economy, recreation, tourism, the environment and education.

Phase 1 was the purchase of 127ha of Acharossan Forest; Phase 2 was the creation of the initial access road, development of a community allotment site and composting facility as well as employment of a full time development officer; Phase 3' is the subject of this application, forming the next stage of the development project which entails development of 500m of access road up into the forest, a new timber processing yard, creation of garden retail outlet and the employment of 1 x full time position and 2 x part-time positions. The group also hope to offer some training positions for skills in forest management.

The forest was originally owned by FCS and as such was designed as a plantation to be harvested. The access road is vital as it will provide a main artery through the centre of the forest, opening access to the various stands and compartments of timber which the charity will be able to sell and reinvest in the project. . It is anticipated that the potential income will fund Phase 4 involving the development of cycle & walking trails, nature hides, forest crofts, eco accommodation and renewable energy projects, allowing the project to become self-sustaining.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Cowal

Energy Efficiency Update

Colintraive Village Hall

Project cost: £49250 Eligible cost: £49250 Grant award: £24625

Public match funding: £17500 Private match funding: £6375

In-kind match funding: £750

Colintraive Village Hall is owned by the Community and is the hub of rural village life. The hall use profile over the last three years shows frequent use for cultural, social, educational, sporting, charitable and community business purposes. An energy audit was carried out by Community Energy Scotland in 2009, which reported on the lack of insulation and inefficient heating and lighting systems. Recommendations with outcomes were made for insulation, heating, lighting and other energy efficiency measures. The committee also initiated a study into the fitness for purpose of the hall, its facilities and infrastructure, based on a 10 year plan, which engaged community members and user groups. The study found that the hall meets current needs “on a basic level, but not sustainable due to expectations of standards e.g. heating, lighting, acoustics and toilets”, and for potential use, “a combination of issues would limit the range of activities.” The most significant findings were; cold damp toilets, inadequate heating with extreme variations in temperature, harsh fluorescent lighting unsuitable for social events, hard surfaces causing a stark noisy environment with poor acoustics, and inadequate storage”.

An upgrade is planned which will address these issues, covering insulation, heating, lighting, toilet refurbishment and improvements to the acoustics, including the installation of a hearing loop. It is anticipated that these improvements will encourage increased use of the hall, which will contribute to the sustainability of this community facility.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Cowal

Developing a Sustainable Future for ColGlen

Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust

www.cgdt.org

Project cost: £55900 Eligible cost: £55900 Grant award: £25155

Public match funding: £25155 Private match funding: £3890

In-kind match funding: £1700

Colintraive and Glendaruel Development Trust (CGDT) will take ownership of an area of woodland extending to 615 ha in late November 2012 at a cost of £1.55m from the Forestry Commission under the National Forest Land Scheme. Given the high value of the Forest and the lack of significant grant funding sources to cover the acquisition costs, an innovative means of acquiring this valuable resource for the community has been agreed. Immediately upon taking ownership 510ha of the commercial forest area will be leased to a third party (in a back to back deal) with the majority of the remaining funding the subject of current applications to the Scottish Land Fund and Highlands & Islands Enterprise with private sector sources targeted for the small remaining balance. A major element of the community purchase of Stronafian is maximising provision of public benefits. In particular there is an opportunity to create recreational access for a range of disciplines targeted at the local community as well as the tourism market. Economic and social benefit to the area will be significantly enhanced through provision of forest crofts and entrepreneurial opportunities. Coupled with increased support of existing tourism business, the Forest will also create opportunities for new service sector businesses.

The Directors of CGDT recognise that an immediate task will require appointment of a Forest Officer to work towards co-ordinating the phased development of the Forest. Phase 1 will involve the early planning of development of the Forest within the first year of operation and the relative revenue costs are the subject of this application.

Grant awarded 13 December 2012

Cowal

Energy Efficiency Upgrade

Glendaruel Village Hall

Project cost: £63000 Eligible cost: £63000 Grant award: £29860

Public match funding: £29860 Private match funding: £2320

In-kind match funding: £960

The Glendaruel Village Hall was built before the First World War by a local landowner. The hall is difficult to heat and the standard of insulation can be described as “as-built” which is to say that 100 years ago, insulation was not used. It is the only community space in Glendaruel for people to socialise and people’s expectations and activities are more diverse these days. It has become normal to expect 20°C inside a building all year round, and people avoid using the hall in winter now. An Energy Audit of the building has been completed, supported by Community Energy Scotland, by On-Site Generation Ltd. and the recommendations provide the basis of the scope of work required.

The main aim is to reduce the carbon footprint of the hall and upgrade the infrastructure to modern energy efficiency standards, reducing heat-loss, and improving the thermal comfort and running costs for hall users. This will be achieved by improving the thermal performance of the building by having a well-insulated new roof. The hall will be more sustainable and flexible as a venue, which will ensure greater social cohesion within the community as more people will use the hall more often. A campaign to raise awareness of hall users of how changing behaviour will further reduce heat loss and save energy is planned. The main activities of the working group will be to manage the procurement, contractor, budget, monitoring and communications for the contractor to carry out the installation of a roof insulation.

Grant awarded 13 December 2012

Cowal

Glen Fyne - Website

Here We Are Limited

www.hereweare-uk.com

Project cost: £14950 Eligible cost: £14950 Grant award: £7475

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £7475

In-kind match funding: £

The "Gazetteer of Cairndow" project is in its final stages. The Gazetteer constitutes a data base covering land ownership and land use over the course of the 20th century in the parish of Cairndow (Kilmorich). This database was always considered step one of the Gazetteer project, involving laborious inputting of data into a bespoke database to ensure that what is "mapped" is accurate. Whilst this is a comprehensive record of information that is vital to the area, it is not currently presented in an accessible user-friendly format. The aim of this project therefore would be to create a website that will make the information available to the general public in an illustrative way and make use of the detailed local information – current and historical – that the project has been fortunate enough to access through local assistants. What the project aims to do now is commission an interactive website on one area – Glen Fyne - that will enable the viewer to get illustrative images of the land use of Glen Fyne during the last century. This will be a resource for local people to appreciate and add to into the future. It will inform local people about past changes and ensure that they can reflect on it to use for the future. It will also be an example to other communities in Leader areas as to how they too could portray their landscape, its produce and activities.

A part-time project officer will be appointed for six months to oversee the delivery of the website. A web designer will be engaged on a consultancy basis to create the website, working alongside people with local knowledge. At the culmination of the project an exhibition will be held in the Village Hall, which will describe the results of the project and what it achieved.

Grant awarded 15 May 2013