

Oban and Lorn

Improving visitor services

Isle of Kerrera Development Trust

Project cost: £6000 Eligible cost: £6000 Grant award: £3000

Public match funding: £2000 Private match funding: £1000

In-kind match funding: £

Kerrera lies just off Oban and attracts about 10,000 day visitors per annum who come for the natural unspoiled beauty, wildlife and lovely walks. However, the island has no public toilet facilities and this leads to serious environmental issues that impact both on the natural environment and the lives of the local community.

The aim of the project is to install two composting toilets at different locations on the islands to provide facilities for visitors. The toilets will be maintained by Isle of Kerrera Development Trust. In addition, boards with maps, history and wildlife information will be placed on the outside of the cubicles to complement existing interpretation of the island's natural and historical history .

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Oban and Lorn

Atlantic Islands Centre – Development Planning phase

Isle of Luing Community Trust

Project cost: £26575 Eligible cost: £26575 Grant award: £12236

Public match funding: £10000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £4339

The Isle of Luing Community Trust has purchased the site of a ruined quarry engine house in Cullipool through the Scottish Land Fund with the intention of rebuilding the former engine house to provide a café/restaurant and visitor attraction for the island. At present there are no eating or refreshment facilities on the island for residents or visitors as there is no hotel, pub or cafe .

The aim of the Atlantic Islands Centre –Development Planning phase project is to undertake robust project planning and research to ensure there is a solid basis from which to proceed to the next stage. There are three strands to the development process a) technical assessment of the site and commissioning of detailed plans for community approval. This will be carried out by professionals in the relevant fields. b) market research and the preparation of a detailed business plan. Consultants will be engaged to work with the trust and other volunteers on the preparation of the business plan. The market research will be undertaken by volunteers with training and support being given by a consultant and c) Undertake a programme of visits to other similar Atlantic Island based projects to learn from their experiences. Each visit will involve two volunteers travelling from Luing. The islands to be visited are: Lismore, Kerrera, Easdale, Colonsay, Coll, Tiree, Mull, Iona, Jura, Islay, Gigha.

Grant awarded 27 March 2009

Oban and Lorn

Dalmally Community Centre

Dalmally Community Company

www.dalmally.org

Project cost: £1015135 Eligible cost: £968401 Grant award: £330147

Public match funding: £514954 Private match funding: £123300

In-kind match funding: £

This is an important project for the community of Dalmally which has been the focus of a long-running campaign to provide an essential facility that will greatly improve the quality of life of local people. In addition it will provide a much-needed tourist facility in a village that ends to be passed-by by tourists at present due to lack of amenities. As well as the usual community activities that take place in village halls, this community centre will provide commercial, cultural and educational opportunities that will enhance local businesses and enable the Community Company to develop into viable Social Enterprise. It will increase sustainability of the voluntary sector; increase accessibility of information, support and services develop within the rural community: increase the number of community based actions to enhance the rural heritage and increase sustainability of tourism.

Grant awarded 15 May 2008

Oban and Lorn

Oban Interpretation and Heritage Trail

North Argyll Community Trust

Project cost: £15217 Eligible cost: £15217 Grant award: £5365

Public match funding: £9852 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This project involves the design, production and erection of interpretation material using visual, tactile and audio equipment to be mounted at locations in the town of Oban , as well as the design and production of an illustrated trail leaflet to accompany the trail, to be available free of charge to visitors via tourist outlets/public buildings. Community Council members and residents of Oban with a keen interest in the town's prosperity and future, identified a lack of easily obtained and interesting information about the town, its history and heritage. The project will provide an interesting and informative interpretative trail which will take visitors, on foot, to areas of interest within the town, providing information and allowing a wider audience to appreciate and understand the environment. It will also highlight the significance Oban and its place as Gateway to the Islands.

Grant awarded 27 June 2008

Oban and Lorn

Recreation and access improvements in Inverawe Forest

Forestry Commission Scotland

www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland

Project cost: £10000 Eligible cost: £10000 Grant award: £3500

Public match funding: £6500 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

The Inverawe Forest (near Taynuilt) is becoming increasingly popular with a wide variety of users including archers, orienteers, cyclists and climbers as well as the general public which has led to a need to improve access to the area. At present car parking is informal - on verges and laybys - which is no longer satisfactory due to the increased volume of use.

Forestry Commission Scotland plans to build a small car park off the forest road. It will have at least 12 spaces initially and will be landscaped to allow for expansion in the future if demand increases and to construct an all ability path of approximately 70m in length, which would start opposite the proposed car park and run to the archery practice area. A drop-off bay will be constructed beside the forest road at the start of the path to allow vehicles to drop off passengers and wheelchairs and there will be an area of hard standing at the end of the path on which helpers can stand beside archers in wheelchairs

Grant awarded 26 September 2008

Oban and Lorn

Lismore Heritage Centre: Phase III

Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr [CELM] – Lismore Heritage Society

Project cost: £16000 Eligible cost: £16000 Grant award: £8000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £8000

In-kind match funding: £

CELM was founded in 1994 by a group of mainly Gaelic-speaking islanders, with the aim of preserving and developing the history, heritage and culture of the island. Phase I (Reconstruction of the Croft House at Port Charron) started in 2000 and Phase II on the same site (Heritage Centre, incorporating Museum, Café, Library, Shop) was completed in March 2007. The experience of running the centre over two years has revealed the limitations of the accommodation. Management and administration of all the Centre activities take place in the room designed for and, supposedly, dedicated to archive work and storage of materials and other artefacts held by the museum.

Lismore Heritage Centre: Phase III aims to create additional office accommodation, within the footprint of the original building, to provide space for management and administration, genealogical research and consultation, and the establishment of a dedicated computer and printer to serve the publications needs of the whole island community.

In addition, being able to move the admin function out of the archive room will enable the group to apply for full museum accreditation which in turn may allow a range of Lismore artefacts held elsewhere to return to the island.

Grant awarded 27 March 2009

Oban and Lorn

Oban and Lorn Tourism Association Forward

Oban and Lorn Tourism Association

Project cost: £12000 Eligible cost: £12000 Grant award: £6000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £6000

In-kind match funding: £

Oban and Lorn Tourism Association (OLTA) was formed in 1995 as a direct result of the loss of West Highlands and Islands Tourist board. Its principle objective then and now is to promote Oban and ensure its continued success as a tourism destination. Over the years it has been both innovative and responsive to members needs. Recent work with national organisations such as Scottish Tourism Forum and Pride and Passion (Oban is one of P&Ps Community Challenge towns) has highlighted the potential for OLTA to develop its role further to become a Destination Management Organisation (DMO).

This project seeks to establish if the DMO model is the way forward for OLTA or whether the existing management structure and activities are all that can be sustained by its membership. It will undertake research into current marketing activities among existing members and non members and to find out why some tourism businesses in Oban continue to operate outwith the Association, raise awareness of OLTA's activities and to encourage uptake of VisitScotland's Quality Assurance (QA) scheme and increase cooperation and integration with other local and national groups. This will be achieved by hiring a consultant to work with us to organise and deliver awareness raising events, the production and distribution of a leaflet explaining the work of OLTA and a feasibility study with recommendations for the way forward.

Grant awarded 12 June 2009

Oban and Lorn

Out There - Phase 1 : Mapping

Scottish Orienteering Association for Argyll and Bute Orienteering Partners

Project cost: £20573 Eligible cost: £20573 Grant award: £10286

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £10287

In-kind match funding: £

The Argyll & Bute Orienteering Partnership formed to promote orienteering in Argyll & Bute and consists of the following members: Loch Eck Orienteering Club (EckO) Stramash Social Enterprise; Argyll and Bute Council; NHS Highland; Scottish Orienteering Association (SOA); Scottish Orienteering Six Day Event Company. SOA is the member nominated to undertake this funding application on behalf of the partnership. Due to the work of the partnership and the quality of the terrain in Argyll, the area has been chosen to host the largest orienteering event in the country-the Scottish 6 Days, in 2011

The aim of this project is to develop the orienteering maps around the Oban/Argyll region to give the best possible experience for competitors at the Scottish 6-Day International Orienteering Event and to maximise the amount of resources the Argyll and Bute Orienteering Partnership has in their drive to develop participation of orienteering in the Argyll region. The process involving map production highly specialised. A professional cartographer will be contracted to create maps for the following areas in Lorn: Creag Mhic North; Ardchatten; Ardnaskie ;Torinturk; Dunstaffnage and Loch Nell. EckO will retain the copy right of the maps produced and will use income generated from sales in future years to further its activities

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Oban and Lorn

Appin Community All Weather Sports Facility - Feasibility Study

Appin Community Sports and Leisure Association

www.strathappin.argyll-bute.sch.uk

Project cost: £7000 Eligible cost: £7000 Grant award: £3000

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £4000

In-kind match funding: £

Appin Community Sports And Leisure Association is based in the Appin District of North Lorn which covers Appin, Port Appin, Fasnacloich, Duror and the Isle of Lismore. Younger members of the community had identified the need for an all-weather multi sport facility within the district and the group formed to take the project forward.

Appin serves as the hub for the area and a potential site has been identified adjacent to Strath of Appin Primary School. The aim of the project is to demonstrate the need for the facility through a feasibility study to ensure that the group have gauged local opinion correctly and to establish the business case for the project.

This will be achieved by engaging a consultant to work with the members of the steering group to carry out a feasibility study, produce a report and following this, a business plan and funding strategy.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Oban and Lorn

Appin Community Council Communication Strategy Phase 1

Appin Community Council

Project cost: £2000 Eligible cost: £2000 Grant award: £1000

Public match funding: £1000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Appin Community Council covers a large geographical area and has several small distinct communities within its boundaries.

The aim of the project is to improve communication and the dissemination of information within the area by creating a network of information points and developing a web presence to give information about both Appin Community Council activities and wider community activity within the area.

6 double information boards will be erected at strategic points (Glen Creran, Inverfolla Road End, Gunns Garage, Station Cottages, Port Appin and Appin House). Future maintenance will be undertaken by Appin Community Council. Community Council members and other volunteers will be trained in the upkeep of the website to ensure that several people will have the skills to update on a regular basis.

Once the website is operational, an event will be held in Appin Hall to give information to the wider community.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Oban and Lorn

New Recycling Streams

Lorn and Oban Reuse Initiative Ltd

Project cost: £115414 Eligible cost: £115414 Grant award: £57707

Public match funding: £51408 Private match funding: £6299

In-kind match funding: £

Lorne & Oban Re-use Initiative, operating from a small base on Oban's Civic Amenity Site, supports a shop selling household goods and bric-a-brac diverted from landfill, making it available to the general public at minimal cost or free to people on low income. LORI supports the work of numerous charities by providing household items for Starter Packs and goods for charity shops and operates a collection/delivery service, volunteer opportunities and supported work placements. Limited training is offered to volunteers, staff and work placements. LORI aims to increase the productivity of its social enterprise together with the beneficial opportunities it can offer, creating sustainability, increased waste diversion, filling a gap in the market for recycling specific materials by recycling paint, paper, bicycles and electrical goods into its reuse strategy. The project will create an accessible reuse and recycling facility for both the general public and other reuse agencies located throughout Argyll & Bute through a 'central hub' and improve the capacity and financial turnover of other reuse agencies in partnership. The project will work in collaboration with local support agencies to ensure uptake and sustainability of potentially abandoned tenancies and improve education in the use of reusable materials. Discarded paint will be collected and recycled in conjunction with A&B Environmental Services, SHANKS Waste Contractors and current waste management arrangements. Discarded Bicycles will be collected and refurbished on site or sent to Community Can Cycle, with distribution to community groups and charitable causes and LORI will act as the North Argyll hub for paper collection in collaboration with Kintyre Recycling. All white goods and electricals will be accepted, and be used for refurbishment, spare parts or metal salvage. To achieve this, LORI requires additional staff, training, buildings and a vehicle in order to initiate this new element of the project and to ensure sustainability of the whole enterprise.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Oban and Lorn

Energy efficiency upgrade to Kilmelford Village Hall

Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Association

Project cost: £29099 Eligible cost: £29099 Grant award: £13822

Public match funding: £13822 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £1455

Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Association run Kilmelford Village Hall. The group received assistance from C4/08/P/321/032 West Highland Housing Association Constructive Communities (painting inside hall and energy audit).

The aim of this project is to implement recommendations made by the energy audit which will improve the Hall's energy efficiency. This will involve the addition of internal framing to walls and ceiling, behind which suitable insulation will be installed, installation of plywood/plasterboard surface over insulation, final painting and decorating to an agreed standard of finish.

The work will be contracted out to a suitable bidder and decoration will also be under the same contract. The overall project will be managed by Kilmelford and Kilninver Community Association.

Grant awarded 17 June 2010

Oban and Lorn

Oban BIS Scheme - Development

Oban Business Improvement District (BID)

Project cost: £18200 Eligible cost: £18200 Grant award: £8700

Public match funding: £8500 Private match funding: £1000

In-kind match funding: £

The BID proposals have come about as a result of the Oban Business community coming together under their own initiative. There has been desire expressed by the community to improve the facilities of the town of Oban for locals and visitors alike and as a by product creating a friendly well maintained and pleasant town for all. As a result discussions have moved through the Chamber of Commerce, leading to Oban Forward, OLTA, Oban Marine, and finally the Oban BID scheme. The public, business people, members of the local authorities and others have all agreed at many well attended meetings that a coordinated approach to those aims is required and the project will seek to achieve that aim.

(<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 ratepayers 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 an 11 month period.

Grant awarded 16 September 2010

Oban and Lorn

Installation of combined climb/Play zone

Oban Lorn Community Enterprise Ltd T/A Atlantis Leisure

www.atlantisleisure.co.uk

Project cost: £92099 Eligible cost: £92099 Grant award: £46048

Public match funding: £27630 Private match funding: £18421

In-kind match funding: £

Atlantis Leisure is a Community Enterprise sports and leisure centre which has been trading for 19 years. Atlantis offers a wide range of sporting and leisure activities across a wide age range and the organisation is always looking for new ideas and initiatives which will offer the community the opportunity to engage in activities and pastimes which will be of benefit.

To complement the existing business they now wish to install a combined climb and play zone. This will be located in the very centre of the building and will become a focal point within the centre. This project has been worked up over the last 3 years, and there is a definite need within the community. The structure has been designed to cater for young folks up to 11 years of age and the climbing zone will be situated for both young folks and adults. It will be suitable for the novice climber and for the enthusiast who wishes to improve skills and build stamina. The project aims to install the combined climb and play zone in such a way that it will become an integral part of the Atlantis offering.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Oban and Lorn

Dunollie Access and Interpretation Project

MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust

www.dunollie.org

Project cost: £17980 Eligible cost: £17980 Grant award: £8990

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £8990

In-kind match funding: £

The MacDougall of Dunollie Preservation Trust was established in 1998 to undertake the preservation and care of artefacts, archive and buildings relating to the Clan MacDougall at Dunollie in Oban and at Gylen Castle on Kerrera and to develop and open Dunollie House for public access as a heritage facility and research centre for local and visitor use.

The aim of this project is to provide the access infrastructure needed at Dunollie House to assist the delivery of other aspects of the overall development plan. This will be achieved by creating a carpark, creating/ upgrading pathing from the car park to the house, and from the house up to the castle. It will also research, design, and install an interpretation board at the Castle and develop signage for the grounds, covering entrance sign with opening hours information, and directional signage on the new and upgraded paths.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Oban and Lorn

Installation of combined ventilation air source and biomass heating system

Oban Lorn Community Enterprise Ltd T/A Atlantis Leisure

www.atlantisleisure.co.uk

Project cost: £243714 Eligible cost: £243714 Grant award: £121857

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £121857

In-kind match funding: £

Oban & Lorn Community Enterprise Ltd is a community enterprise which offers sports and leisure activities to the population of Oban and the surrounding area. Activities and events are offered and organised covering the full age spectrum. The swimming, gym and activity centres are a vital community meeting point and help to increase physical fitness and improve health.

The enterprise company has considered alternative heating sources for a number of years. As a very large area to heat, it has been difficult to see how best to proceed. However, two recent studies have shown the potential savings which can be made by use of a combined air source and biomass system and the Board now wish to proceed with this installation. This project will involve the installation of an approved combined ventilation air source and biomass heating system which will significantly reduce costs and improve efficiency and viability of the centre. Carbon footprint will be significantly reduced which fits in with government guidelines regarding sustainable and eco friendly heating sources.

Grant awarded 16 December 2010

Oban and Lorn

Scottish 6 days International Orienteering Festival- Infrastructure support

Scottish Orienteering Assoc obo. Argyll and Bute Orienteering Partnership

www.scottish-orienteering.org

Project cost: £26030 Eligible cost: £26030 Grant award: £13015

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £13015

In-kind match funding: £

The Argyll & Bute Orienteering Partnership formed to promote orienteering in Argyll & Bute and consists of the following members: Loch Eck Orienteering Club (EckO) Stramash Social Enterprise; Argyll and Bute Council; NHS Highland Scottish Orienteering Association (SOA); Scottish Orienteering Six Day Event Company. SOA is the member nominated to undertake this funding application on behalf of the partnership.

The aim of this project is to improve the access to the terrain for competitors taking part in the Scottish 6 Days International Orienteering Festival 2011 and future events. The main project activities are as follows:

- a) Provision of a footbridge over the river Lonan at Glenamachrie to provide access to the start and finish of the Scottish 6 Day competition and for future access for both orienteering; the farm, estate and walkers/mountain rescue etc.
- b) Services and material to provide better access to fields for competitor parking (currently only 4 x 4 access is possible in poor conditions)
- c) Services and material to provide access to car park at temporary campsite at High Field and Hawthorn sites near Benderloch,
- d) Creation of tracks through bracken by driving specific routes to assist with the courses for the Junior competitors
- e) Training programme for Scottish club volunteers in the recent developments of the orienteering specific software to be used at the Scottish 6 Day and future events in the Argyll and Bute area and
- f) Assistance towards the provision of marquees for the event.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Oban and Lorn

Upgrade 3rd Phase

Kilmore Village Hall

Project cost: £47000 Eligible cost: £47000 Grant award: £23500

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £21500

In-kind match funding: £2000

The village of Kilmore is South of Oban and is a rural village with no shops, primary school, post office or Petrol Station. The only other community building in the village is the Church which holds a service on the first Sunday of each month.

The group are taking a phased approach to the upgrade of the hall. Phase one upgraded the kitchen with new units, double sinks and separate sink for hand washing only, new hot water system and floor covering which took place September to November 2008. Phase two upgraded existing toilets, replaced and insulated ceilings, provided new lighting fixtures, painting and new floor coverings and took place in March/April 2010.

The group are now ready to undertake phase 3 of the project and are applying for support to undertake the following work : anew roof, new insulation and internal ceilings, internal alterations to be more energy efficient and to save on costs of heating hall, upgrade fire doors and external lighting, turn a store room into disabled toilet , provide disabled access at main door and put up external storage unit.

Grant awarded 10 March 2011

Oban and Lorn

Phase 1 - Refurbishment

Oban Phoenix Cinema

www.obanphoenixcinema.co.uk

Project cost: £37700 Eligible cost: £37700 Grant award: £18850

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £18850

In-kind match funding: £

In July 2010, the Highland Theatre cinema in Oban closed its doors for the last time. Since then, cinema goers have been forced to travel all the way to Glasgow (200 mile round trip) to see the latest movie. In December 2010, the community was mobilised and there was a well attended meeting just before Christmas when it was agreed that "Oban Phoenix Cinema" should be formed to purchase the Highland Theatre building and run a cinema there to benefit the community. Extensive community research has been undertaken. Hundreds of people within the community have been surveyed, focus groups have been set up within the local school, learning disability group, U3A and college and numerous public meetings have been held. Many fundraising events have been held and the community have been very supportive. Over 30 local businesses donated prizes for a fundraising auction that we held. The BIDs consultation showed that the majority of businesses in Oban wanted to see the cinema back up and running to help improve the attraction of the town centre.

From this activity a committee was formed, followed by a company limited by guarantee. The company has now attained charitable status. Following a lengthy process of negotiation, the charity has secured a deal to purchase the building. Entry shall take place on 20th September 2011. This will be the beginning of the Project and is known as "Phase 1 Refurbishment" which will address the immediate needs of the building to enable it to function as a community owned cinema in the short term whilst plans are developed for the longer term sustainability of the building.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Oban and Lorn

Healthy Options Community Health Initiative (Pilot)

Lorn and Oban Healthy Options Limited

Project cost: £110800 Eligible cost: £110800 Grant award: £54191

Public match funding: £20609 Private match funding: £31200

In-kind match funding: £4800

Lorn and Oban Healthy Options Ltd. (LOHOL) formed in 2010 to run a 2-year pilot project, which aims to develop a community health initiative which provides a way of linking people with non-medical sources of support within the community, to provide a client-based referral system with activities aimed at improving physical activity, health and well-being, reduce inequalities by increasing access to physical activity, address the wider determinants of health by expanding treatment and support options and reduce social isolation and exclusion by strengthening social networks and support.

This will be achieved by employing a full time project manager and a part time project coordinator to develop individual programmes for patients referred by doctors to project as an alternative or in addition to the usual treatments for patients suffering from mental and physical health problems. The approach used will be patient centred and community focussed. A 'social prescription' will detail physical activity agreed with the client and will be tailor made to suit their needs. This could include one or several of the following: Individual programme(home based or work based exercise)Community programme(Pathways walking group, cycling, archery, bowling, gardening, environmental groups, other community groups providing physical activity)Centre based programme(Gym based exercise, swimming or exercise classes).The project will also run health related workshops and programmes. Costs relating to promotional activities and the set up of an office base have been included.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011

Oban and Lorn

Appin All Weather Sports Court

Appin Community Sports and Leisure Association

www.strathappin.argyll-bute.sch.uk

Project cost: £150900 Eligible cost: £150900 Grant award: £80900

Public match funding: £55000 Private match funding: £15000

In-kind match funding: £

This project was passed over to LEADER following the changes made to SRDP policy on Rural Priorities, Community Facilities.

The project's aim is to provide a safe, purpose-built, all-weather sport and recreation facility for the people of the community of Appin and to institute a participation programme that will ensure the community is fully involved in using and managing it. It will be centrally located in the grounds of Strath of Appin Primary School on ground leased from Argyll and Bute Council. The court will be multi-purpose, catering for a number of sports, for informal recreation, for coaching and club activities, and for social and community events. It will be floodlit to enable use through the winter. The project was started in response to demand from the young people of the area and a formal community consultation in 2010 confirmed the demand for and support for the project. There is no existing facility in the area, with all people having to travel outwith their community to participate in many sporting activities. An important element of the project is the employment on a fixed contract of a sports co-ordinator or co-ordinating body who will implement a participation programme to encourage maximum use, and who will organise coaching courses to qualify local volunteers to continue the sports leader work, ensuring long-term sustainability.

Grant awarded 08 November 2011

Oban and Lorn

Appin Car Park and Cycle Track Access with Biodiverse Regeneration

Appin Community Trust

Project cost: £100360 Eligible cost: £100360 Grant award: £50180

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £25180

In-kind match funding: £25000

This project relates to 2+ acres of land which was donated to the community of Appin in 1986. For many years parking has been an increasing problem around the Parish Church and the new Appin Village hall especially at large events such as weddings, funerals, Sunday Services and the Drama Festival. The informal parking along the A828 is a real hazard, both to through traffic and to pedestrians, many of whom are elderly. In addition the new section of the Sustrans Cycle track through Appin has opened in the past year and is proving a popular attraction for visitors as well as local people. Many of these people arrive by car and at present there is little obvious safe parking at any point along the Oban to Glencoe stretch. This has been discussed at Public Meetings, Community Council Meetings, Congregational Board meetings, Community Cooperative meetings and at the Community Trust AGM. There has been massive support for the project and no stated opposition. The main activity will be to create a new, eco-friendly car park for the village of Appin which will benefit local people as well as visitors to the area. This will provide significant economic and social benefit for the community. The plan will enhance the environment by preserving as many trees as possible and adding any appropriate plantings following discussions with the relevant parties. An environmental interpretation board will provide an educational opportunity to users, and the planting and nurturing of native oak and hazel trees will also encourage inhabitation by the indigenous orange tipped butterfly.

Grant awarded 15 December 2011

Oban and Lorn

Red Fox Trail

Highland Council

www.highland.gov.uk

Project cost: £14000 Eligible cost: £14000 Grant award: £3150

Public match funding: £10850 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

This is an Action 2 Project with Highland LEADER.

The project aims to use the story of the Red Fox (James of the Glen) to promote a sense of place. By telling the story and pointing out other related sites and structures close to a new all abilities multi-user cycle/footpath route between Oban and Fort William, visitors will be encouraged to appreciate the area's history; make visits to local facilities and spend more time and money in the local communities.

This will be achieved by creating six interpretation panels which will be paced along the route. The first board will be located in Oban, the sixth in North Ballachulish, the four intermediate boards will be located along the route at points of interest relating to the main theme and other places of historic and cultural interest to visit. Once the boards are in place there will be a launch event and a press release. A leaflet will be produced and distributed to promote the initiative and raise awareness. The project will be managed by the Highland Council with assistance will from a consultant hired for this specific project.

Grant awarded 15 March 2012

Oban and Lorn

Taynuilt Pier Future - Development Plan

Taynuilt Community Council

www.taynuilt.net

Project cost: £23852 Eligible cost: £23852 Grant award: £10700

Public match funding: £11000 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £2152

The Taynuilt pier and surrounding land is privately owned. Public and commercial operations have been allowed to use the property without any restrictions and free of charge during the last years. The pier and surrounding land are very important to the local community and to many other stakeholders, including recreational users, tourists and commercial operators. Unfortunately the pier and surrounding land have not always been used in a responsible manner and significant problems including litter and fly tipping have built up over the years.

The aim of the project is to fully examine the feasibility of opportunities and identify options with regard to continued use and the development of the Taynuilt Pier and associated area. This will be achieved by working with a consultant, stakeholders and local residents to create a development plan for the area.

Grant awarded 14 June 2012

Oban and Lorn

Argyll - Community Access Links - Phase 2

Argyll and Bute Council

www.argyll-bute.gov.uk

Project cost: £95700 Eligible cost: £88200 Grant award: £44100

Public match funding: £44100 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

Argyll & Bute Council is working with Appin Community Council to improve access around The Jubilee Bridge, which is an iconic 19 span timber footbridge crossing the estuary of the Longruidh River at Loch Laich and provides a significant shortcut from Portnacraois to Port Appin. Appin Community Council is currently working on a project to upgrade the bridge while Argyll & Bute Council aims to improve access to and from the Jubilee Bridge (not including the Bridge itself).

Work would include widening and resurfacing 477m of whindust paths and replacing 140m of narrow rotten timber sections with 2m wide recycled plastic boardwalk or timber with edgeboards and passing places. The parking area at the start of the route off the Tyneribbie Road would be improved to provide cycle parking, a cycle counter and interpretive boards at either end of the route and signage on and off the National Cycle Network. Appin and Lismore Historical Society would be invited to develop the interpretive boards to be placed to support and enhance the existing information provision.

The project would also be providing a 14km link around the peninsula by signing the loop at the entrance/exit points of the national cycle network.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Oban and Lorn

Redevelopment of Taynuilt Sports Field and Pavilion

Taynuilt Sports Council

Project cost: £377121 Eligible cost: £355890 Grant award: £177945

Public match funding: £159034 Private match funding: £18911

In-kind match funding: £

Taynuilt Sports Council has, over the last 40 years provided sports facilities for the community and promotes a wide range of sports activities including shinty (junior and senior), rugby (junior), football (junior and senior), cricket, tennis, volleyball and golf. The facilities include a grass pitch, an all weather pitch/tennis court and a pavilion with toilets and changing areas which is also used as an occasional meeting space when the hall is fully booked. The current facilities are in need of upgrading to meet the needs of existing users and the group wish to use this as an opportunity to establish a community sports hub to serve the Lorn area.

The aim of the project is to undertake phase 1 of the overall project which will include replacing the existing sports pavilion with a bigger (176m² rather than 110m² - plus a covered external area), modern and well equipped pavilion to serve Taynuilt and surrounding area, providing external lighting to allow safe access/exit on dark evenings, providing a well drained, lit and well surfaced car park to ensure ease of access for all.

The project will be managed by the Taynuilt Sports Council and work will be contracted out following a tendering process.

Grant awarded 13 September 2012

Oban and Lorn

Community Centre Annexe (Changing Rooms)

Dalmally Community Company

www.dalmally.org

Project cost: £252000 Eligible cost: £252000 Grant award: £94500

Public match funding: £94970 Private match funding: £62530

In-kind match funding: £

The Directors of Dalmally Company have been amazed at the take up of the sports hall in the community centre for sporting and recreational activities. Before the new community centre opened, opportunity for sport and fitness activities in Dalmally were very limited and only around 20 adults and juniors participated in these activities. The opening of the community centre has seen a fivefold increase in the numbers taking part and has hastened the need for changing rooms to service this requirement. At present the Primary School children change in the foyer and chair store whilst adults change in their respective toilets, which is clearly an unsatisfactory arrangement. The proposal is to construct two team changing rooms fitted with four showers and two toilets in each room. A single room is also planned, fitted with shower and toilet, for a Supervising teacher / Referee.

These Changing Rooms will be an extension to the existing building and have access from inside and outside the Community Centre. Planning permission is in place.

The Directors original plans were to build the above mentioned facilities in the new Community Centre. The Community Company was advised that their "Village Hall" project was too expensive and that they needed to cut costs. The changing rooms were removed from the plan allowing them to raise the funds for construction of the Community Centre without Changing rooms.

The aim is to provide improved facilities i.e. Changing and washing facilities, for people undertaking sporting activities in the sports hall and on the all-weather pitch which they are presently designing and raising funds for. It is felt that the absence of these facilities is curtailing the expansion of sporting activity in the area.

Grant awarded 13 December 2012

Oban and Lorn

Oban Phoenix - Small Screen Pilot

Oban Phoenix

www.obanphoenix.com

Project cost: £47325 Eligible cost: £47325 Grant award: £23662

Public match funding: £2750 Private match funding: £18961

In-kind match funding: £1952

Oban Phoenix is a community owned cinema/ cultural venue in Argyll & Bute which was purchased by the community in 2011 and reopened in Aug 2012 after community campaign "save our cinema" gained huge support. With initial funding the cinema, studio one is now open 7 days a week with an average of 2 showings per day gaining a solid customer base with audience attendance. With Studio 1 (main screen) opening now completed and digital projection progressing in this area, Oban Phoenix is now in a position to further develop the venue into a sustainable arts/ cultural community hub.

Having been open for 8 months, Oban Phoenix is able to review programming and audience figures and listen to customer requests. Consequently they want to create a small screen project which will be located in what was previously a small studio, providing the opportunity to utilise the space for educational short films, workshop and meeting space, staff & volunteer training, bespoke film club and discussion forums and private film screening for children's parties. By expanding flexibility of use to customers the project will give more opportunities for involvement, for both individuals and other community groups. The option of extending services will provide the opportunity to pilot some new ideas and assess need, prior to development of a new Studio 2, which is part of a longer term plan.

In widening the scope of the venue the aim is to offer a greater range of volunteering opportunities as well as providing additional community space which could be used by other voluntary groups to progress other arts/culture activity. The expansion will allow further development of established links to local schools and youth groups to assist in the provision of workshops and learning to young people to encourage engagement in the arts.

Grant awarded 15 May 2013

Oban and Lorn

Scottish Shark Tagging Programme - Phase 1

Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network

www.tagsharks.com

Project cost: £61864 Eligible cost: £58676 Grant award: £28014

Public match funding: £27798 Private match funding: £144

In-kind match funding: £2720

Anglers have been tagging Common Skate and submitting data to a database stored by Glasgow Museum since 1975. Information has been gathered on Tope since 1991 and Spur Dog since 2007. The data regarding these species is submitted to the UK Shark Tagging Network. The databases are not linked. Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network (SSACN) members feel that by handing over the data to individuals / institutes often remote to where the fish are tagged they lose ownership and control of it and the data is not maintained or used in any meaningful way.

The aim of phase 1 to set up a way to collect data on all the shark, skate and ray species in Scotland together in one place and for SSACN to maintain the data so that it is possible to build a clearer picture of the movements, numbers and growth rates of all the species. This will be achieved by building a network of volunteer anglers who will be trained in tagging techniques and using an ICT based reporting system to collect the raw data which is then collated at a central location where a project officer will analyse any trends in the data on a monthly basis and provide biannual update on each species on the website. As well as undertaking scientific research using the data collected, the project officer will assist in the training of volunteers, provide feedback on the data collected to volunteers and raise awareness of the Scottish Shark Tagging Programme. The Project Officer will be located in the SNH Oban office .

Grant awarded 11 September 2009

Oban and Lorn

Festival of the Sea - Community Outreach and Engagement

Scottish Association for Marine Science

Project cost: £16900 Eligible cost: £16900 Grant award: £8450

Public match funding: £7605 Private match funding: £845

In-kind match funding: £

The Scottish Association of Marine Science is based at Dunstaffnage, nr Oban. The organisation works to improve the understanding and stewardship of the marine environment through research, education, business development and outreach. It is a collaborative centre of the UK Natural Environment Research Council and an academic partner of UHI Millennium Institute .

The aim of the project is to raise awareness of the importance of the sea on a local, regional and global scale, marine science as a career and business opportunity, pride and stewardship in the community towards their local marine environment, provide a discussion forum on how to manage multiple and conflicting uses of the sea, empower participants to understand and question latest advances in marine research and help the public associate Oban with the marine environment, marine research.

This will be achieved by running a 10 day festival of workshops, public lectures and other events at various locations throughout Lorn. An integrated schools awareness raising programme will take place before the festival and training in public speaking/engaging with a non scientific audiences will be given to the scientists taking part.

Grant awarded 11 December 2009

Oban and Lorn

Market Project

North Argyll Carers Centre

Project cost: £37828 Eligible cost: £37828 Grant award: £18914

Public match funding: £ Private match funding: £18914

In-kind match funding: £

It is estimated that there are over 2500 carers in North Argyll. North Argyll Carers is a social enterprise which provides support and guidance to carers aged 8 years and over, throughout the area. NAC's main activities consist of information & advice for carers including: bereavement support; counselling; advocacy; benefits checks; support for young carers; Parkinson's support group; Alzheimer's support for carers; bipolar support for carers. Social activities for carers are provided and home visits are carried out. NAC wishes to maintain its high standards of service and support for carers, who often find caring stressful both emotionally and financially. The services provided help to give the carers resilience, enabling them to better cope with what can be very stressful circumstances. Caring often brings with it a feeling of being isolated and of not being valued. There is a clear need to develop the self esteem of carers to help them feel valued in the difficult role that they have.

This application for funding would support engaging a worker who would facilitate carers to run a market stall at the Local Producers Market which is held on the first and third Thursday of the month at a local farm a few miles from Oban. The market is open from 10am to 3pm, entry is free and parking is available. The cost of the products would be reimbursed and any profit will go to the Carers Centre. NAC are confident of the viability of this project as carers already donate handmade cards, earrings, tablet, vegetables, flowers, Christmas decorations and knitted hats for sale. It is intended to develop the range of items/goods for sale and market them through their own stall at the local producers market. As well as increasing the sustainability of the Carers service this project would enable NAC to tap in to the wealth of skills that carers have, many of whom are very keen to support the centre and support other carers.

Grant awarded 11 March 2010

Oban and Lorn

Biomass District Heating Projects in Argyll - Phase 2

West Highland Housing Association

www.westhighlandha.co.uk

Project cost: £78656 Eligible cost: £78656 Grant award: £39323

Public match funding: £39333 Private match funding: £

In-kind match funding: £

West Highland Housing Association is a registered social landlord manages and maintains approximately 712 units of housing across North Argyll, Islay, Mull and Tiree.

The vast majority of the WHHA stock is located in “off gas” areas and therefore the heating system of choice has traditionally been Electric Storage heating with electric immersion for water heating. These systems are neither cost effective to run (particularly for households on low incomes) nor environmentally sustainable solutions. The group received LEADER funding in March 2010 to take forward the Technical development and Associated Works for Biomass District Heating Projects in Argyll project which aimed develop the use of biomass district heating systems by appointing 2 full time members of staff to undertake option appraisals both in terms of heating options and insulation upgrades for Glenshellach Phase 1, Dalintart & OHS District Heating System, Mull PCC, Tobermory District Heating System, Benderloch District Heating System and where biomass district heating is an appropriate option undertake full feasibility studies.

The aim of this project is to further develop the work undertaken by the previous project and to take forward the Glenshellach Phase 1, Dalintart & OHS District Heating System, Mull PCC biomass projects to implementation stage, Benderloch Community District Heating System –Detailed feasibility, community liaison and project delivery and implementation and Tobermory Community District Heating System –Community consultation and facilitation to establish a body to take the proposal forward and further develop the woodfuel supply chain . This would be achieved extending the existing staff member’s contracts for a year to ensure continuity in the project and make best use of knowledge gained to date.

Grant awarded 15 September 2011