

South Ayrshire

Funding News

Autumn 2022



Colmonell Community Association

Outdoor Gazebo Project

Colmonell Community Association manages the hall bookings for Colmonell Community Centre and also organises events and projects in the village. The committee wanted to build an outdoor gazebo to enable them to hold events safely during the Covid-19 pandemic. Mains electricity was also to be connected to the Gazebo. In order for this to take place they required roughly £16,0000 worth of funding. They have managed to secure this from:

- Awards for All - £10,000
- Corra Foundation Community Wellbeing Fund - £2,000
- Private Donation - £3,000
- Reserve funds - £10,000

The committee were then able to build the Outdoor Gazebo. It can now be used by the school for outdoor learning and has been used for outdoor meetings as well as events, including a childrens disco. Because they have installed electricity it has also meant they have been able to power some of the Christmas lights, which gave a brighter and more effective display.



Public Toilets Project

The association have recently taken ownership of the Public toilets from South Ayrshire Council. They planned to re-open the toilets and upgrade them, as well as paying for someone to clean them for a period of 3 years. A number of funders were approached to assist with the funding to make this happen:

- Kilgaroch Community Fund - £9,893
- Inspiring Scotland Rural Ideas into Action Fund - £3,000
- Carrick Futures - £3,000

The public toilets have now re-opened after being closed for a around 15 years. They are now regularly used by a range of visitors, community members and passing delivery drivers. The funding secured has enabled them to recruit for the cleaner as well as replacing the toilet roof which was leaking. They have painted the toilets, had baby changing facilities installed and are currently planning to replace the washer/dryer units with sinks and paper towels. One of the toilets is also being converted so that it meets disabled requirements. They have received good feedback in relation to the toilets:

“When we finally arrived in Colmonell, we looked for public conveniences. We would at least have to travel another 50 miles before getting home! Whoever takes care of them needs credit! They were absolutely spotless! Such a change to see folk taking care of their community!.... Keep up the good work. So many places have lost the ability to take care of their community, their town, their village. You don't need much; just respect and proudness of the place you live in! Getting together, working hard to keep up a standard. Top marks from both of us. It was a pleasure to pass through again.”

For more information in relation to Colmonell please contact

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Chair, Colmonell Community Association

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AYCC

Ayr Yacht and Cruising Club

The club is a small not for profit organisation run for it's members by a non paid voluntary committee.

AYCC has a long association with berthing in the river Ayr. Over 50 years ago the club was formed, its original location was where the Ayr Ship Building Company was, where the old fishing boat “Watchful” now sits. In those days the membership at its peak was around 120. Several sail boat races were competed for each year and trophies awarded. In 1999 due to sever silting issues in that area the club had to move to an area of deeper water in the river. It was decided then to move to the south side of the harbour in the river, upstream of the original position. This location proved to be unsuitable due to being directly in the flow of the river when it was in spate and also suffered from silting. In 2003 a new location was agreed with Associated British Ports (ABP) and pontoons were moved to the north side in a part of the harbour known as the “Gut” in North Harbour Street. This is AYCC present location. AYCC has a mixture of sailing boats and small water craft and all current members reside in Ayrshire.

In April 2021 due to the lack of berthing water in the “Gut” and in agreement with Associated British Ports the committee agreed to have some dredging work done in the river area of our pontoon location, The expense was borne by AYCC. When the pontoons were split up and temporarily removed to allow access for dredging, it was noticed that the decking hardwood was, in many places, in a very poor condition due to it's age. The pontoons have been in this area for over 20 years, and the soft Scottish rain had done its best to assist in the rot of a lot of the woodwork.



Secretary Douglas Herring had been in regular contact with SAC over the past year, in the search for funding support for this very replacement via the Coastal Communities Fund to allow them to replace the rotted material. When an opportunity was given to the club by SAC to put forward a funding proposal they presented their bid.

A quick refresh of the existing quotes they had obtained in the previous year allowed them to make a swift bid before the entry closure date.

The committee and members when we were told about two months later that the bid had been successful and that they would be able to proceed with the purchase of the necessary decking.

A Grant was requested from SAC, Coastal Communities Fund. A grant of £10,500,26 was awarded. That solved one aspect of the renewal. The other issue was the labour element, a large task, and that was then soon made possible, as the membership committed themselves to doing all the work, from the removal, repair of framing and eventual new mesh deck fitting.

As the club has no shoreside premises, a local contractor, John Law Roofing, was approached to take delivery of the new fibreglass mesh, cut it to our sizes, and deliver it to the pontoon location.

The Project started in November 2021 and was completed by the end of February 2022.

The project will be of great benefit going into the future, as the lifespan of the new fibreglass mesh is in excess of 30 years, so the Club has to give thanks again to South Ayrshire Council and the Coastal Communities Fund for the financial assistance.

In past years AYCC had hosted fund raising for the Royal national Lifeboat institution (RNLI) with a free barbeque, fun day sailing event and raffle, all prizes were donated by the members and money raised was given to the RNLI as a donation. Unfortunately, due to the poor and unsafe condition of the old wooden decking the committee decided to put this event on hold until a solution could be found. The Coastal communities grant will allow them to reinstate this event.

As they are located in a fast flowing river there was also a safety concern for their members using their boats. With the deck renewed with nonslip material this greatly improves safety.

For more information on AYCC please contact

Dougie Herring

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Send us your funding story

externalfunding2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Carrick Rugby Football Club

SCIO SC050725

Carrick rugby was established in 1978 and has provided local access to community and school-based rugby for the last 43 years. In 2021 they achieved charitable status and became a registered SCIO, an important stage in their development as a club and recognition of all the hard work that the volunteers undertake on a regular basis. At Carrick Rugby they are committed to promoting health & wellbeing through the sport of rugby in the Carrick area. Carrick Rugby is based in the communities of Maybole & Girvan & offers everyone the chance to take part in healthy activity, improve their social connections & support their mental health

Carrick RFC offers community wide access to rugby from the age of 5 (Primary 1) micro-mini section, through youth development squads (midi section) continuing to our adult squads (boys & girls). Young people are encouraged to remain with the club & contribute to their local community.

The club promotes the values of team sport & community engagement with its proven benefits within the Carrick area & beyond, focusing in areas of social, financial & geographical disadvantage. They are very proud of their success in keeping young people engaged in both playing & coaching younger members & in helping to develop their careers in sport & in many other areas.

Funding was applied for to help provide free transport for the young players to training, playing and other club-based activities.

They applied to the following funders:

- **The Robertson Trust - £2,000**
- **Jordan Sinnott Foundation Trust - £1,400**

The provision of transport has been crucial to the success in re-establishing youth rugby across the communities in both North and South Carrick. It has allowed young people to access training who would not otherwise have been able to join us. The provision of transport has been crucial to the success in re-establishing youth rugby across the communities in both North and South Carrick. It has allowed young people to access training who would not otherwise have been able to join us. They provide weekly transport between Girvan and Maybole for young people aged 12 to 18 on Friday evenings, transport to matches and rugby camps and help for our players to engage in SRU development activities.

This season they have provided over 1500 passenger journeys and the achievements of the teams and squads have demonstrated the value of this.

In September 2020 they started offering Friday night transport to training in Maybole with an average of 6 young people per week. The funding allowed them to persevere, despite the small numbers and can now fill 2 minibuses on a weekly basis.

The young people grow in confidence as they take on new challenges playing alongside new players in development events, taking part in National selection process events and participating in cup and club competitions, travelling from Annan to Lochaber and many places in between.

The involvement of young people as coaches and mentors to very young players is also only possible because of the transport provision.

They have also developed a great pool of adult volunteer drivers and built a strong working relationship with South Ayrshire Community Transport.

For more information please contact:

carrickrugby@gmail.com

Muirhead Tenants & Residents Association (Troon)

The association was formed 10 years ago to deal initially with housing related issues including anti-social behaviour and tenure issues. It has since progressed and is now an active community group offering the local community a range of seasonal events and activities.

The group are particularly active when helping to deal with issues around local poverty and have been assisting to help provide food parcels to local groups in a dignified manner. They are overwhelmed with the support they have received locally from this from local people and businesses.

They realised that there was a greater need within their community for support and help in relation to this and so made a number of funding applications:

They acquired funding from:

- [Arnold Clark](#)
- [The Gaiety Fund](#)
- [The Weir Foundation](#)

As well as food they have also been assisting local people with furniture donations and SAC have been able to assist with the donation of a container and a lock up. They have also provided people with clothes and power top ups.

They have also created a birthday bank so that no child goes without a birthday present.

The funding had an immediate and long lasting impact, it has helped to bring the community closer and to help reduce social isolation.

Some comments that they have received have included:



“Thank you so much for all the hard work and kindness you have all shown to those who really need it”

“Thank you MTRA for help with gas n Elect. If you didn't help me again with this I would have gone without for another week”

“Thank you for the help with Power Top ups. It means so much to us. We can turn on the heating now and also have a cuppa”

South Ayrshire Carers Centre

South Ayrshire Carers Centre have been supporting carers within South Ayrshire for the past 20 years. They provide support to unpaid carers in all localities in South Ayrshire. They support them with information, advise, advocacy, benefit maximisation, peer support groups, listening ear, training and sign posting to other services.

The organisation has applied for funding to help give unpaid carers respite away from their caring role. A bid was made to Shared Care Scotland and they were awarded **£71,360**.

The funding has enabled them to proceed with the project. As a result of this the carers have reported that they feel less isolated as it helps them to have a break from their demanding caring roles for a short respite break. This helps to improve health & wellbeing levels and they feel refreshed following the break.



1st Crosshill Girl Guiding

Crosshill guides covers the surrounding areas including Kirkmichael, Straiton and Maybole

On Sunday 8th August 2021 1st Crosshill had a long overdue adventure. They received funding from South Ayrshire Council to enable the girl guides to participate in outdoor education activities. They enjoyed a day of gorge scrambling, abseiling and mega stand up paddle boarding at Craigengillan, this was delivered by Active Outdoor pursuits.

The girls provided fantastic feedback as did the parents, saying how much fun everyone had. It was the first time some of them had seen each other all summer so they had lots of catching up to do.

For more information on girl guiding please visit www.girlguidingscotland.org.uk



Undersky

The Undersky organisation provides outdoor play experiences for children and families encouraging exploring the wonderful natural world. They run both staff-led play sessions for groups of children and also produce self-led play kits for families to enjoy together.

They applied for funding to enable them to run free outdoor staff-led Play Days, in South Ayrshire, suitable for children aged approximately 4-9 years. Families can choose from 3 different seasonally themed play sessions each day, where children can explore local greenspaces, play games relating to native wildlife and discover more about nature.

The fundings are applied to and funding received included:

- **Get into Summer Funding and the Local Planning Partnership - £4,000**
- **PB Decision Days - £2,000**

They regularly witness first-hand the transformative power of play upon the families attending outdoor play days. The overwhelmingly positive feedback that they received coupled with physically seeing the children develop throughout the sessions indicates that their impact upon the communities was very important.

Our Play Days provided active and meaningful opportunities for children to interact together with their peers in a local green space in three different ways:

- **Social and Mental Health Benefits:**

Children gained from this social experience, allowing them to play with friends and neighbours in a safe and enjoyable setting. Parental comments suggest that, for some children, this was a significant step, something that had been missing from their child's lives or previously rejected by the child (due to the impact of COVID19). The inclusive and friendly format to the days allowed children to interact on their own terms, building trust, gaining confidence and developing social skills.



- **Physical Benefits:**

The variety of activities within each play session allows all children to interact and enjoy the activities they feel most comfortable with. Children (and often adults) gained from the focus upon physically active games, increasing fitness levels and the subsequent benefits to physical and mental health.



- **Nature Engagement:**

Every game played during our sessions is meaningful and contextualised allowing learning to take place in a fun and accessible way. They focus upon highlighting native wildlife, combining stories and facts into the games. Where ever possible they include activities relating to wildlife found in the location: uncovering authentic experiences with nature. Children and adults all gained from the new discoveries increasing an understanding of the natural world and leading to greater engagement into the future.

In addition, the Play Days break down the barriers of cost and travel by locating in green spaces within areas of deprivation. They bring new game ideas to families and show how simple parks can provide great play opportunities, without the need to drive far (if at all).

The following are a couple of the many positive comments received through their survey after the Get into Summer Play Days:

"My children benefited hugely from this play session and it's something we would go to again if we could. My eldest son does not learn well in structured environments and there was just the right mix of gentle leadership and freedom to play. We've left so many group activities in the past where we knew we wouldn't come back again because my son couldn't stay focussed and wasn't getting anything from the session but this was perfect for him."

(Parent/ Carer from Wallacetown)

"My daughter loved the running about games & she particularly enjoyed the obstacle course they made themselves. She was quite shy at first but Katie & Kathryn were very friendly & brought her out of her shell."

(Parent/ Carer from Dalminging)

For more information please contact:

hello@undersky.co.uk

CRAG

The group began as Carrick Rural Arts Group in 2004 and in 2020 formed the SCIO. CRAG organise Arts Activities and Events with the aim of making arts more accessible to small towns and rural communities.

They also organise an annual Light Festival in Girvan with community lantern workshops a big part of this, as well as organising arts and crafts workshops and have recently got funding to start a community choir.

They applied for funding to enable them to hold the Festival of Light as well as hosting arts & Crafts workshops. The funding they secured was:

- **Carrick Futures Windfarm - £10,000**

This funding was part of a larger package including Visit Scotland funding to deliver a Light Trail around the Town of Girvan at Hogmanay 2021. The project was very successful with many families and groups taking part making lanterns and many spectators walking around the town on the night including many visitors to the town from wider Ayrshire, Galloway and Central Belt areas.

Such events create an enormous sense of community pride and also get people outside for gentle exercise, talking to each other, meeting other people in a safe way (outside, fresh air, distanced) during pandemic. Activities such as this are essential for community health and wellbeing.

For more information please contact crartsg@hotmail.com



Send us your funding story

externalfunding2@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Ayrshire Cancer Support

Ayrshire Cancer Support have been in operation since 1982. They exist to provide emotional support and practical help to those affected by cancer in Ayrshire. This includes those diagnosed with cancer, their family members, carers and the bereaved.

All the services are free to access and include patient transport, professional counselling, complementary therapies, workshops, support groups, cancer nurse appointments, bereavement support, a drop-in centre and children and young people services.

They have purchased their new building on Prestwick Road in Ayr which they plan to completely refurbish to create a purpose-built cancer support centre which will house children and young people's spaces. We have launched the Children and Young People Service and are now able to accept referrals for support for children aged 5 and above.

While working on raising sufficient funds to carry out a full capital build project, they applied for funding to enable them to carry out some immediate building works and purchase the furniture and materials necessary to start delivering the children and young people service in a tailor-made space. The funding secured was:

- **Coastal Communities Fund - £24,911.59**

The funding has allowed them to carry out some immediate works to a number of the rooms in the centre, and to equip these rooms with the furniture and materials necessary to start delivering our children and young person service (CYP).

Our CYP service has launched and has already started receiving referrals. While they are able to offer support from their current centre in Kilmarnock, and within the community as required, they desperately needed a tailor-made space for children and young people to be able to access vital services.

The funds received through Coastal Communities has allowed them to completely transform one of the rooms into a multi-purpose room, with works continuing in the other rooms. A before and after picture of the completed room is attached for info. This features various different spaces which can be utilised for more formal counselling, for group activities or for support for younger age groups.

For more information please contact:

cyp@ayrshirecs.org

South Ayrshire Community Transport

South Ayrshire Community Transport (SACT) aims to:

- **Connect People and places and services to combat Social Isolation**
- **Design, develop and deliver co-ordinated community transport services for all South Ayrshire which will link key demographic groups such as the elderly, disabled, young and unemployed with the amenities and facilities they need to aid independent living**
- **Improve connectivity with existing public transport services to help tackle social exclusion caused by lack of available and suitable transport**

The Health and Wellbeing Shopping Trip Project proposed to run shopping trips twice weekly for local elderly residents in North Ayr and Villages, including those in Sheltered Housing Units. Covid 19 has resulted in much greater levels of social isolation and anxiety regarding access to services, and prolonged periods of home confinement have also resulted in physical and mental deterioration among the elderly and disabled. The project will encourage more regular socialisation and combat social isolation.

The Group applied for funding for the above and managed to secure:

- **Coastal Communities Fund - £4,000**

The funding was received at the start of April 2022 and will fund up to 40 Health and Wellbeing Shopping Trips for Older Residents of North Ayr and the Villages. So far there has been two trips with 12 people participating.

The feedback from the trips have been positive and has including comments such as “**it is good to get out**”.

The Connected Scotland website points out that social isolation and loneliness can affect people in several ways. One in ten people in Scotland have reported often feeling lonely with particular emphasis on those living alone, the bereaved and those in socially economically disadvantaged areas. There are well documented mental health impacts, including becoming more susceptible to depression, and a greater likelihood of developing clinical dementia for older people who are lonely. Older people who are socially isolated are 1.8 times more likely to visit GPs, 1.6 times more likely to visit Emergency Departments, 1.3 times as likely to have emergency admissions and 3.5 times more likely to enter publicly funded residential care.

For more information please contact:

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