



North Ayrshire  
Community Planning Partnership

## Garnock Valley Locality Partnership

Tuesday 22 February 2022 at 7.00 pm via Microsoft Teams

### Business

Item	Subject	Pg No:	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	<b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.</b>			Cllr Bell	7.00 – 7.05
2.	<b>Action Note</b> Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Enclosed	Elaine Young	7.05 – 7.10
3.	<b>Garnock Valley Young People</b> Receive update on recent work.	-	Verbal	Garry Tait	7.10 – 7.25
4.	<b>Lochshore</b> Receive update.	-	Verbal	Jennifer Baker	7.25 – 7.40
<b>DECISION REQUIRED</b>					
5.	<b>Community Investment Fund</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Geilsland Courtyard – Full Application</li></ul>	Pg 8	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	7.40 – 7.55
6.	<b>Grants</b> Receive report from Angela Morrell.	Pg 16	Enclosed	Angela Morrell	7.55 – 8.05
<b>STANDING ITEMS</b>					
7.	<b>Learning Update</b> Receive update.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers	8.05 – 8.20
8.	<b>HSCP Update</b> Receive update from Michael McLennan.	-	Verbal	Michael McLennan	8.20 – 8.30
9.	<b>Locality Officer Update</b> Receive update from Christina Pieraccini.	Pg 20	Enclosed	Christina Pieraccini	8.30 – 8.40
10.	<b>Locality Plan Progress</b> Receive feedback from sub-groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Moving Around</li><li>Facilities and Amenities</li><li>Work and the Local Community</li></ul>	-	Verbal	Christina Pieraccini Community Reps	8.40 – 8.55
<b>OTHER BUSINESS – TO INFORM LOCALITY PLANNING</b>					
11.	<b>AOCB</b>	-	Verbal	Cllr Bell	8.55– 9.00

## Distribution

### **Elected Members**

Councillor John Bell **(Chair)**  
Councillor Robert Barr  
Councillor Anthea Dickson  
Councillor Todd Ferguson  
Councillor Donald L Reid  
Councillor Ronnie Stalker

### **Community Representatives**

Catherine Wigzell/Allan Wright, Kilbirnie & Glengarnock  
Community Council  
Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council  
James Waite, Beith & District Community Council  
Audrey Mason, Community Representative  
Henry Johnson, Community Representative

### **CPP/Council Representatives**

Kaileigh Brown, Third Sector Interface  
David Cameron, Police Scotland  
Neil Shearer, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service  
Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, North Ayrshire Council  
Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer  
Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer (NHS Ayrshire & Arran)

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Garnock Valley Locality Partnership</b>
<b>Date/Venue:</b>	16 December 2021 - Microsoft Teams
<b>Present:</b>	<p>Councillor John Bell (Chair);  Councillor Robert Barr;  Councillor Anthea Dickson;  Councillor Donald L. Reid;  Elaine Young, NHS Ayrshire and Arran (Senior Lead Officer);  Garry Tait, Community Development Worker, NAC;  James Waite, Beith Community Council;  John Higgins, Dalry Community Council;  Allan Wright, Secretary, Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Community Council;  Audrey Mason, Community Representative  Henry Johnson, Community Representative;  Dr Janet McKay, NAHSCP Locality Forum;  Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer, NAC  Pamela McCallum, Head Teacher (St Palladius Primary School);  Sergeant Douglas Clark, Police Scotland;  Jane Lamont, Development Manager, Beith Trust;  Michelle Sutherland, Partnership Facilitator, HSCP  Rosemary Ramsay, Funding Officer, NAC;  Louise Kirk, Senior Manager (Regeneration Services) NAC;  Craig Stewart, Committee Services Officer (Committee and Member Services), NAC</p>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<p>Councillor Todd Ferguson;  Councillor Ronnie Stalker;  Sheena Woodside, Dalry Community Council;  Angela Morrell, Lead Officer, NAC; and  Michael McLennan, Partnership Engagement Officer, NAHSCP.</p>

## ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the Garnock Valley Locality Partnership meeting and apologies for absence were noted.</p> <p>At the invitation of the Chair, and for the benefit of any new attendees, those present introduced themselves.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Action Note</b></p> <p>The Action Note from the previous meeting, held on 21 September 2021, was approved with a minor correction in respect of the following:-</p> <p>With regard to the item under the heading 'Locality Plan Progress', the reference to a new path through Kilbirnie Park should refer to an upgrade to the path at Valefield, Kilbirnie instead.</p> <p>The following points were raised as matters arising:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update from Donna Morrison regarding use of Dalry Community Centre as a community larder, the dance group which had since left the centre and had freed up space, and storage issues in general;</li> <li>• The current position with Lochshore, an update on which would be provided at the next meeting of the Locality Partnership;</li> <li>• Elderly Grants Fund – contact would continue to be followed-up with Kilbirnie and Glengarnock Age Concern, with a view to an update on this matter being provided to the next meeting of the Partnership.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	<p><b>Angela Morrell</b></p> <p><b>Rosemary Ramsay</b></p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Garnock Valley Young People</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Garry Tait, Community Development Worker on the work carried out with young people in the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>The Partnership noted the terms of the verbal update given, that covered activities undertaken recently in the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>The Partnership also noted the position with regard to a pilot project in Irvine, which involved Community Police Officers going out with Youth workers to break down barriers, and this had been considered successful and could be replicated in the Garnock Valley.</p> <p>Sergeant Clark informed the Partnership that there had been a downturn in reports, from residents in the area, relating to youth disorder, and it was likely that the youths in question might have been displaced to somewhere else.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that the security of the development site at 2 Main Street, Kilbirnie would be looked at to make sure it was as secure as possible, to deter youths who might have been displaced to this location and in order to prevent any future problems/difficulties arising.</p>	<p><b>Garry Tait/Sergeant Clark</b></p> <p><b>Louise Kirk</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Grants Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Rosemary Ramsay on the Grants Update. Rosemary advised that she would also arrange for the presentation to be circulated to the Locality Partnership.</p> <p>The Partnership noted the terms of the presentation given, particularly in relation to the 3 Trust Funds. Discussion also took place on the best method of paying out elderly fund grants, and it was agreed that officers would look at the possibility of utilising gift vouchers for local shops, instead of sending cheques in view of local bank closures.</p>	<p><b>Rosemary Ramsay</b></p> <p><b>Rosemary Ramsay</b></p>

5.	<p><b>B714 Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Louise Kirk on the above. In particular, the following points were highlighted:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council had been successful in securing £23.7m from the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund (LUF) for major improvements to the road;</li> <li>• Upgrading the B714 would significantly improve road connectivity between North Ayrshire and other parts of Scotland, helping to provide better road links and encourage investment in the area; and</li> <li>• Discussion on active travel routes, including cycle way feasibility study and looking at the possibility of a safe cycle route between the 2 Primary Schools in Dalry.</li> </ul>	<b>Louise Kirk</b>
6.	<p><b>Joint Health &amp; Social Care Locality Planning Forum and LP on Mental Health and wellbeing</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Michelle Sutherland on the above. In particular, the following points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the continuing challenges faced by Health and Social Care, with services under significant pressure due to Covid cases and staff requiring to self-isolate; and</li> <li>• continued ongoing work on the development of priorities, which were likely to comprise of (i) improvement mental health for all ages across the Garnock Valley, (ii) social isolation, (iii) drug and alcohol present, early intervention and recovery and (iv) recovering from Covid (both in terms of services and individuals).</li> </ul> <p>Councillor DL Reid encouraged any local community groups in the Garnock Valley to make application to the Fund which had been set up to tackle social isolation and it was noted that there was a £2,000 award of grant available in this regard.</p> <p>The Partnership took the opportunity to pass on their best regards to Janet McKay, who would shortly be retiring from her post, and wished her a long, peaceful and happy retirement.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Community Investment Fund – Expression of Interest</b></p> <p>The Partnership received a report by Christina Pieraccini, Locality Officer on an application received in respect of Gielsland Courtyard.</p> <p>After consideration, the Partnership agreed to approve the expression of interest to progress to a full bid for £15,000 to the Beith Community Development Trust. This will be considered at the next meeting.</p>	<b>Christina Pierraccini</b>

<p><b>8.</b></p>	<p><b>Learning Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Pamela McCallum, Head Teacher of St Palladius Primary School on the challenges faced and progress made around the education of school pupils during the pandemic, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the challenges associated with the high number of Covid cases and logistical issues in respect of teaching and support staff having to self-isolate;</li> <li>• work that was currently ongoing to help pupils develop and regain skills around socialising, as well as in raising self-esteem; and</li> <li>• the focus on health and wellbeing, including the emotional support needs of pupils.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>HSCP Update</b></p> <p>The Partnership received an update from Dr Janet McKay on the work carried out by the HSCP Locality Forum. The following points were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ongoing work on the development of current locality priorities, such as (i) improving mental health and well-being, (ii) reducing social isolation and loneliness, (iii) prevention, early intervention and recovery from drug and alcohol related harms &amp; deaths and (iv) recovering from Covid experience/backlog; and</li> <li>• the challenges faced by Health and Social Care, with services under significant pressure due to Covid cases and staff requiring to self-isolate.</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Covid vaccine booster rollout, which was proceeding well, and people (aged over 18) were encouraged to get the booster as it had proven to be effective against the new variant; and</li> <li>• the recent Scottish Government consultation which had recently taken place regarding the National Care Service.</li> </ul> <p>Noted.</p>	
<p><b>10.</b></p>	<p><b>Locality Officer Update</b></p> <p>Christina Pieraccini provided an update on the work which had been undertaken in the locality, full details of which were included in the agenda pack.</p> <p>A detailed report on the work undertaken in the locality had been circulated to the Partnership in the agenda pack. Christina provided a highlight on Lochshore and James Waite provided an update on the work of one of the sub-groups he was involved with.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	

<b>11.</b>	<b>Locality Plan Progress</b>  The Partnership received a report by Christina Pierraccini, Locality Officer, who highlighted feedback from the following sub-groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moving Around;</li> <li>• Facilities and Amenities; and</li> <li>• Work and the Local Community.</li> </ul> Noted.	
<b>12.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>  <b>12.1 Locality Membership</b>  The Partnership received a verbal update by Elaine Young, Senior Lead Officer, on the current and future position of the Locality Membership, particularly in view of impending Local Government Elections in May 2022. Taking cognisance of this, it was agreed to leave the appointment for the vacant position unfilled meantime.  Noted.  <b>12.2 Report for Information: Remembering Together – Scotland's Covid Community Memorial Programme</b>  Noted.	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Compliments of the Season</b>  Councillor Bell, Chair, took the opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.	

**The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.**



## **Community Investment Fund Application Form: Garnock Valley Locality**

### **The CIF will support proposals and projects that:**

- Connect with:
  - The North Ayrshire Fair for All Inequalities Strategy;
  - the Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities; and
  - North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives.
- Fulfil a compelling need and do not duplicate existing services or facilities;
- Provide long-term, sustainable, positive results for the greatest number of people possible;
- Exhibit project and/or organisational innovation in their approaches to their work in their way of addressing community challenges and in their request to Locality Partnerships and the Council;
- Come from (an) organisation(s) that is financially viable (can provide financial statements upon request) and efficiently and effectively managed. This can include an organisation to be created to deliver the project;
- Include options or potential for NAC and CPP employee engagement and volunteering where possible; and
- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

### **When to apply and how?**

- LPs should continue to engage with their communities, and stimulate interest in the CIF. The Locality Partnership will then strategically assess the applications, make links and look at the funding 'in the round'.
- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form, which they will decide upon before making a proposal to Cabinet for final approval.
- The finalised proposal will go to the next suitable Cabinet for final approval.
  
- Forms should be returned to your Locality Co-ordinator, by email if possible:

**Christina Pieraccini**  
**Locality Officer - Garnock Valley**  
Connected Communities  
North Ayrshire Council  
Walker Hall  
45, Main Street  
Kilbirnie  
KA25 7BX

Tel: 01505 680203  
Mob: 07966 160854  
Email: [cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**Support and information will be available for groups who are not successful.** For more information see the guidance form here: <http://www.northayrshire.community/wp-content/uploads/sites/60/2018/06/community-investment-fund-guidance-notes-17-12-17.pdf>



## APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Community Investment Fund

#### 1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation: Beith Trust .....

Postal Address for

Correspondence: Geilsland House, Geilsland Estate, Beith, KA15 1HD .....

Name of Contact Person: .....

Position in Organisation: .....

Contact Telephone Number: .....

E mail address

#### Brief description of your organisation

*Please include -*

**[a]** Legal status, e.g. voluntary organisation, public/private limited by shares or guarantee;

**[b]** How long has organisation been in existence?

**[c]** Aims & objectives;

**[d]** General activities or services provided

Beith Trust is a registered Scottish Charity and company limited by guarantee based in Beith, North Ayrshire, we were established in 2012 as a mechanism to drive forward a community led, asset based approach to the regeneration of our community.

We aim to improve the present condition and the future prospects of our community by advocating for our community, facilitating opportunities for change, growth and development of the inherent potential of people and places.

We operate a diverse programme of activity and services in and around the Garnock Valley, mainly focused around our facilities at Beith Astro and Geilsland but also in the wider communities of the Garnock Valley, we work in partnership with a number of public, private and third sector groups, clubs and agencies. We manage and operate a number of facilities which generate opportunities for training, volunteering, leadership, employment and enterprise. Any profits are reinvested in enterprise development or subsidise our community services

Beith Trust work is centred on 3 themes, Play, Progression and Place, we view the potential of people and places within our community as, as yet unrealised assets which, given the right conditions, will flourish and thrive. Our work aims to create those conditions.

Our community programme aims to create a pathway of opportunities for growth and leadership, beginning with weekly drop in style recreational and social groups clubs based at Beith Astro and Geilsland Estate, moving onto learning and skills development courses, employability drop in and support, work related courses and classes, volunteering opportunities and support, wellbeing & mindfulness and mediation groups, events and festivals and enterprise and leadership support and training

We support volunteers to facilitate valuable community services such as telephone befriending and food distribution systems in the Garnock Valley. We support approx. 100 volunteers on an annual basis to donate over 5000 hours to our community within community projects and services.

- To create and sustain quality sustainable job opportunities for local people
- To create and sustain meaningful work experience, training and development opportunities in and around the operational requirements.
- To improve amenity community amenity and conditions

***Does a new organisation need to be set up?***

No, Beith Trust has the capacity and experience to manage the project

***Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.***

Since submitting the EOI we have received quotes from our Architect and other design consultants to the following values. We are applying for the costs of the **feasibility** work, the other costs would be included in future capital development funding applications

Work to be carried out	Structural Engineer	Quantity Surveyor	Architect	Services Engineer	Total (+vat)
<b>FEASIBILITY</b>					
Develop brief, response to brief and architecturally develop design concept to scheme design to planning stage ( RIBA plan of work 0, 1 , part 2, part 3) – Assess structural options and provide budget cost for proposals	1000	2235	5000	4750	<b>15582 (inc Vat)</b>

***Please include where it will be held / delivered, who is your target audience, who will benefit from it and how and indicate any partners that are involved.***

The work will be conducted within Geilsland Estate and the outputs will inform the decision making of the board or trustees of Beith Trust and contribute to future funding requests for project development

The successful project will benefit -

- The communities of the Garnock Valley
- Visitor to the the area
- Consumers and customers of the various enterprises and projects based ( or will be based in and around Geilsland Estate
- Clubs, groups and organisations ( currently established and future)
- Private, public and third sector services
- 

Current partners and interested parties include Garnock Valley Helping Hands, Beith Trust Lend and Ear Service, Barrmill Conservation Group, Scottish Arts and Crafts Fair, North Ayrshire Music School, Luna Belle Wellness

**[a] What outcomes your organisation wishes to achieve**

Project Outputs	Project Outcomes
Project Brief created	Immediate - increased capacity within community organisation to attract and secure capital funding
Design Scheme created and costed	Future – Facilities and amenity which support progression and growth of community enterprise and services, public, private organisations and services
	Future – ,New employment, training and volunteering opportunities

#### **4. What difference will this project make within the locality and to local services and programmes?**

##### ***How you will approach reducing inequality?***

<b><i>Within the Locality &amp; Local Services</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ongoing development of opportunities and support for progression and growth – for individuals, volunteers and enterprise and community services</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved conditions which supports employment, training and volunteering opportunities</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved conditions which support the establishment of new private, public and third sector enterprise and services</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved conditions for economic activity in the GV</li></ul>



The facilities and amenity we will create as a result of this investment, are contained in the context of a wider sustainable regeneration strategy which focuses people first and foremost. This strategy and focus to date has created a demand and accelerated the need for the proposed new amenity. Moreover the activity generated on the wider Geilsland site elevates 'wealth' in the widest sense – experience, skills, knowledge, infrastructure and amenity which keeps people returning as visitor numbers and consumers of local produce, amenity, heritage, craft, art, services, hospitality and experience. This in turn attracts enterprising ideas and enables regenerative condition which supports sustainable economic growth

This condition, a virtuous cycle, creates employment, enterprise, training and volunteering opportunities which improves the intellectual and practical skill set of the community, improving employability attitudes and experience. Moreover the multiplier effect of increased local spend and increases family incomes as well as attracting visitors and consumers to the region.

##### ***[b] How this proposal fits with Garnock Valley's priorities of - Facilities & Amenity Group***

Our proposal is a direct fit for the GV identified priority of the Facilities and Amenity working group, where it was discussed and supported. The proposal also has synergy with Work and Local Community working group. Our proposal represents an investment in the infrastructure and capacity of our community. We have a demonstrated need within our work and from our community for this amenity. Beith Trust is a community anchor which plays a crucial role in the Garnock Valley economy, our work acts as local economic multipliers. The wealth we generate is redistributed in our neighbourhood within services and community programmes which meet local needs, in the employment of local people in good quality jobs, in the use of local supply chains, and in investing in people to themselves become economically active.

## **5. Please give an overview of the engagement that has taken place in relation to the project**

*Please include the number of people that have been engaged with/ consulted*

Beith Trust has a policy of ongoing engagement and consultation, we also make use of research, consultations and desk research and encourage feedback and test and trial our ideas, projects and assumptions in small project delivery in this way we ensure that projects reflect what people are asking for. Much of this is documented in a series of reports that are available on request

The 'Courtyard Project' is not a new project, rather, it is the next stage of development within the wider Geilsland Project, which in itself has been tested and piloted over the last 5 years. As the activity within the wider Geilsland Project accelerates, it is creating increased demand for appropriate space and amenity to accommodate and support the growth and expansion of existing services as well meeting the needs of new customers and enterprises

## **6. Please tell us how the project will be managed**

*Please include -*

**[a]** *How the finances will be managed*

Beith Trust employ a Finance Officer who oversees fund management. All spend within the organisation is subject to finance procedures (available on request) and delegated authority as defined by the Board of Trustees, a separate finance subgroup meets on a monthly basis and oversees organisational budget, project spend against agreed budgets, cash flow, funding applications and reporting

**[b]** *Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in Garnock Valley? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities*

This investment is seed funding which will allow Beith Trust to progress a capital project. There will be no immediate volunteering or employment opportunities relating to the investment, however in the medium term we would anticipate that a significant number of volunteering, employment and enterprises would be created and established as a result of the project.

**[c]** *If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans*

There are no staff requirements relating to this project

**[d]** *Is there evidence of partnership working in relation to the project within Garnock Valley locality?*

Since the inception of Beith Trust we have collaborated, supported and worked together with a range of clubs, groups, partners, agencies and individuals when it was sensible and appropriate to do so. At this time, it is not anticipated it would be appropriate for partner involvement in relation to activities which will be supported by the investment, however, we fully expect that the project will benefit from a steering group or development group structure with partners / potential partners in the future

## 7. Amount of funding being requested

Please supply details of the amount of funding being requested and any **other** funding you have had over the past 5 years, both financially and 'in kind'.

*Please include detail on -*

**[a]** Breakdown of costs if available;

**[b]** Recent quotations where appropriate

Costs are based on discussions with our architect and our experience with similar projects

ork to be carried out	Structural Engineer	Quantity Surveyor	Architect	Services Engineer	Total (+vat)
<b>FEASIBILITY</b>					
Develop brief, response to brief and architecturally develop design concept to scheme design to planning stage ( RIBA plan of work 0, 1 , part 2, part 3) – Assess structural options and provide budget cost for proposals	1000	2235	5000	4750	<b>15582(inc Vat)</b>
<b>PRE-CONTRACT / CONTRACT</b>	10000	10000	32000	10000	74400 ( inc Vat)
To develop scheme design, service strategy and structure. Make building warrant application, Produce tender docs, invite tenders and provide tender report. Contractor appointed					

## 8. Monitoring and evaluation process

*Please include detail on –*

**[a]** What monitoring and evaluation processes are planned/ in place

Beith Trust operate Upshot CRM system which allows us to manage, monitor and evidence our project work and demonstrate our impact. The outcomes defined by a project such as Geilsland Hall or any additional funder outcomes are added to the system and project activity linked against performance indicators with specific targets set and agreed for quantitative and qualitative in order to show how the project is delivering against Beith Trust strategic goals and those of our funders.



## **Locality Partnership: Garnock Valley Locality**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022

**Subject:** To advise the meeting of applications received in respect of the 2021/22 Elderly Grants Fund, the 2020/21 Elderly Grants Fund and the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund.

**Purpose:** To consider the applications as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**Background:** Applications have been received in respect of the 2021/22 Elderly Grants Fund, the 2020/21 Elderly Grants Fund and the Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund

### **Key Points for Locality Partnership:**

- The balance of the 2021/22 Elderly Grants budget for the Garnock Valley Locality is **£2,970**.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Elderly Grants Fund award for 2020/21 was carried over to 2021/22. Groups were invited to apply for grant funding to be used for one or more of the following activities:
  - Addressing digital exclusion
  - Reducing social isolation
  - Increasing confidence to re-engage in activities etc post COVID-19 restrictions

Please note the 2021/22 Elderly Grants Fund was fully disbursed in autumn 2021 and the 2022/23 Elderly Grants Fund will become available in the new financial year.

The 2020/21 Elderly Grants budget for the Garnock Valley Locality is **£8,474**

- The Margaret Archibald Bequest Fund has a balance of **£2,767**

**Action Required by Locality Partnership:** To consider the applications for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

**For more information please contact:** *Angela Morrell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*  
*Email - [amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)*

**Completed by:** Rosemary Ramsay ([rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk))



Date: 10.2.22

APPENDIX 1

**ELDERLY GRANTS FUND  
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2021/22**

**Grant Allocation for the Garnock Valley  
LPP Area**

**Balance £ 2,970**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Grant Allocated to Group</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Remaining Balance</b>
Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern	Contribution towards trips and meals out and events to encourage elderly to meet up again.	£ 2,970	£ 2,970	£ -
				£ -

**ELDERLY GRANTS FUND  
APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2020/21**

**Grant Allocation for the Garnock  
Valley LPP Area**

**£  
8,474**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Grant Allocated to Group</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Remaining Balance</b>
Kilbirnie & Glengarnock Age Concern	Contribution towards running activities to encourage elderly people to meet face to face again and increase their confidence to get out into the local community. The group plans to run a variety of social activities including coffee mornings, prize bingo, bus runs and meals out.	£ 2,970	£ 2,970	£ -

Beith Old People's Welfare Committee	Contribution towards running summer trips and providing community meals as well as holding morning/afternoon cake and coffee events to encourage elderly citizens to gain confidence to get together again, reducing social isolation.	£ 3,049	£ 3,049	£ -
Dalry Old Folks Treat Committee	Contribution towards summer outings and meals. As many of the elderly are on limited incomes the group subsidises their activities to ensure that the over 65s can enjoy these free of charge. These activities allow senior citizens to socialise and meet friends helping to reduce social isolation and increasing confidence to go out and enjoy social contact.	£ 2,455	£ 2,455	£ -
		£ 8,474	£ 8,474	£ -

**MARGARET ARCHIBALD BEQUEST**  
**APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2021/22**

**Margaret Archibald Bequest Criteria:**

<b>The application should benefit all those aged 65 and over and in poverty. Applicant</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Previous Awards</b>
St Margaret's Church Social Group	Financial contribution towards the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coach hire - £500</li> <li>• Boat trip - £250</li> </ul>	£750	2012/13 - £300 2014/15 - £350 2015/16 - £400 2016/17 - £300 2016/17 - £800 2017/18 - £1,200 2018/19 - £750 2019/20 - £900 2019/20 - £1,000
<p>Connected Communities, Finance, and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:</p> <p><b>Finance:</b>  A quote for both the coach hire and boat trip has been included confirming the cost applied for.</p> <p><b>Legal:</b>  The application detail on behalf of this Applicant appears to satisfy the criteria of the Trust.  So long as the Trustees are satisfied that the applicant group is "in need" financially, I am of the view that any financial assistance will be within the powers of the Trustees to award.</p> <p><b>Connected Communities:</b>  Connected Communities are supportive of this application. Details contained with the application demonstrate that the award will be used for those who are aged 65 and over and in need.</p>			



North Ayrshire  
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## Locality update

**Beith and District Community Council** – The community council were successful in securing £9991.50 from the Scottish Government's Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund. This funding will be for phase 1 of a longer-term project to introduce a circular route around the town - 'Beith Fitness Challenge – Get Beith Moving'. The funding will be used to purchase four pieces of outdoor gym equipment with one being placed on four different sites as part of the route. The overall project aims to install another piece of outdoor gym equipment, a mental health bench and a heritage board on each of the sites when funding becomes available. The objective is to encourage people to use the route to reduce isolation, meet people and start conversations. It will promote a healthier lifestyle and reduce mental health challenges, as people come together and realise they have things in common. The heritage boards will be an instrument for conversation, whilst keeping local history alive within the community.

**Café Solace** - Their volunteers and customers all welcome the return of Cafe Solace on a Friday evening from 5pm- 7pm. They say it is great to have everyone back and see and hear the hall filled with chatter again. For many people, it was their first get together since lockdown. The Wee School Pantry preparations are progressing well. They have now taken possession of both a container and a cabin and are awaiting NAC connecting these to the electricity supply at Bridgend.

**Participatory Budgeting** – The 2021/22 Locality and Arts and Culture PB recently closed for applications, with 21 applications for the Garnock Valley Locality funding being received and 6 for Arts and Culture. Shortlisting of projects took place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February and groups will be informed soon if they have been successful. All results, once finalised, will be available on the Community Planning Partnership website.

**Dalry Community Sports Club** – Dalry Community Sports Club run the Community Food Larder in Dalry Community Centre. The Larder is open on a Wednesday evening 6.30pm – 8pm and a Saturday morning 10am – 12 noon. Members pay £4 and receive approx. £15 worth of food. This service is a fantastic benefit to have within the community, especially as it is open to everyone in Dalry, no referrals required. This service can help with the recent increases in food costs. Planning is underway for larders in Kilbirnie and Beith, which will hopefully be opening soon.

**Garnock Valley Life** – A new community app exclusively for the Garnock Valley has been launched, led by Beith Community Development Trust. Local businesses and groups are encouraged to sign up for the free app, which will hopefully become an online hub of local knowledge for the Garnock Valley. The app can be downloaded from Google Play Store or Apple Store.

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** - OECD are an international organisation that works with governments, policy makers and citizens to find solutions to social, environmental, and economic challenges. Their goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, opportunity, equality, and wellbeing for all.



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In 2018, the OECD held a global conference to understand the factors that could stimulate job creation, economic growth and improved service delivery in rural communities. They are now undertaking further research in Japan, Canada, the USA, Switzerland and Scotland to gather examples of rural innovation and best practice.

The Garnock Valley has been selected as the case study for Scotland as an example of an 'accessible rural' location, with learning from here shared across the OECD's network. The OECD will be visiting the Garnock Valley in March as part of this research and will be visiting some local business and community groups, to hear and learn from their experiences.

**Beith Lasses and Lads Burns Club** – The Club are delighted to have been successful in their funding application for the Scottish Government Community Mental Health and Wellbeing fund, administered by Arran Community and Voluntary Service (assisted by The Ayrshire Community Trust). The group will now be working to produce two community information magazines and they cordially invite any groups, clubs or organisations, council departments etc who might wish to have a short article included in one of these two magazines to send their information to: [Kathleenagnesreid@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleenagnesreid@gmail.com)

There will be a specific link to "Mental Health and Wellbeing" in both magazines, so any group or organisation who might have important information to share are also asked to submit an article. It is hoped that the first magazine will be in print by early March 2022. The magazines will be widely circulated via shops and businesses in the Garnock Valley. A longer-term objective is that consideration be given to forming a partnership to produce a regular bi-monthly magazine similar to what already exists in areas such as Maybole, Dalmellington and Lochwinnoch. The two 'tester' magazines will provide evidence of the demand and support for such a proposition.

## Highlights



**Moving around  
(public transport,  
traffic and parking)**

**NCN7** – Work has been progressing well, which is exploring the feasibility of a National Cycle Network 7 route between Kilbirnie and Dalry. Consultants have been identifying possible routes and working on designs.

**Bike maintenance** - NAC Community Development, in partnership with CEIS and TACT, have recently run a two-day Velotech Bronze bike maintenance course at Dalry Pavilion, with another course starting in February. Velotech courses are the industry standard qualification for employment as a bike mechanic, and participants benefit from expert, hands-on tuition that equips them to service and maintain bicycles. Additionally, practical employability sessions are provided by CEIS, including Health and Safety, Moving and Handling, Covid Safe Workplaces and First Aid. Equipped with their new skills, participants will host a number of Dr Bike sessions at Dalry Parklives events in the Spring, which will give them really useful practical experience, as well as helping people within the community.

**Garnock Valley Walks** - Garnock Valley Health Walks group meets every Wednesday at 12.30pm to undertake health walks in a variety of locations across the valley. One



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of the group members will shortly undertake Walk Leader Training through Paths For All, which will build the capacity of the group and ensure sustainability in the longer term. Duration of most walks is around an hour and mostly take place on easy paths and pavements. New members are always welcome. For further information, please contact Stewart at: [stewartbeck@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:stewartbeck@north-ayrshire.gov.uk).

## Next Steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Please get in touch if you would be interested in getting involved.

## Highlights

**Dalry Community Garden** – The volunteers are looking forward to welcoming groups and volunteers back after their Winter break, to get started with our spring planting and planning our calendar for the year. They are delighted to have Leona join them to work towards her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. The Hub are elated to have been successful in securing funding from the Scottish Government's Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund. This will enable them to have a Garden Room built and allow them to offer year-round facilities, which will give their visitors and volunteers an opportunity to enjoy many more activities.

**Lochshore** - Construction of the Garnock Visitor and Community Hub is on schedule to complete at the beginning of August, with the building opening late August/early September. Construction of the active travel route connecting to Kilbirnie and the NCN7 is underway and should be complete by the end of April, with additional landscaping works being carried out later in the year. A contractor will soon be appointed to construct the 5km leisure route. In advance of this, vegetation clearance along the route will take place before the end of March. The final designs for the wider park, which have been developed through community consultation, will be shared via newsletter towards the end of February. The development of the wider plan will proceed in a phased way, in line with funding opportunities. A community engagement officer is currently being recruited and it is hoped they should be in post by the beginning of April. Once in post, they will develop a programme of community, education and volunteer activity at the site.

**History Talks** – The Garnock Valley Locality Team hosted a series of Local History taster sessions during Nov/Dec 2021. These sessions were very well attended and provided an opportunity to develop further sessions, which will involve co-production of content with group members. After discussion with members, these future sessions, including historical research, will be held at Bridgend Community Centre, which will provide a more accessible venue with improved catering facilities.

## Next steps

The working group will next meet on Wednesday 2nd March 2022 online. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in.



## Facilities and amenities



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**GVMS Modellers Club** – The group helps to address loneliness and social isolation amongst men by providing a friendly and welcoming space where they are comfortable and more likely to socialise. The group has built their confidence to such a degree that they are hosting a display of their work at this year's Scottish National Scale Model Show in Perth in May. The group will display a selection of members' model builds and dioramas including aircraft, tanks and figurines. Additionally, they have worked on a group-build of a 1:16 scale die-cast German Tiger Tank, which will also go on display at the Show. This will be an ideal opportunity for group members to network with the scale modelling community at large, broaden their horizons, and build a mutual support system. New members are always welcome at the group, and starter model kits and tools are supplied free of charge. The group meet every Friday evening 6.00pm – 8.00pm at Garnock Valley Men's Shed. For further information, please contact the shed or email [stewartbeck@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:stewartbeck@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**New Scots** - The New Scots ladies' group are inviting a Scots neighbour or friend to a coffee and chat session, which takes place once a month. The idea behind this is to generate subjects to discuss and expand their vocabulary, while also developing links within the local community. A local volunteer has begun sharing their photography skills with a young men's' group for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Café solace are re-opening their community café and it is hoped some of the new Scots can participate in volunteering opportunities at Café Solace.

**Adult Volunteer Recognition Award** – This award was launched in June 2021 and is designed to recognise the hours of commitment that Volunteers give to organisations throughout North Ayrshire. To date, 72 certificates have been issued with one person receiving our top award of completing over 200 hours and showing outstanding commitment. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Ann Wilson on [ann@tact.scot](mailto:ann@tact.scot)

In addition, the Volunteer Friendly Award is available for community groups who engage with volunteers. This award shows the commitment of groups to embed volunteers at the heart of their work. If anyone would like more information, please contact: [ann@tact.scot](mailto:ann@tact.scot)

**Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund** - The Ayrshire Community Trust supported their TSI partners Arran CVS, who had the lead role in regard to the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund. A high number of applications were submitted and in total 55 organisations with 61 projects were awarded funding. The total amount of Funding distributed was over £813,000 for services operating across North Ayrshire.

**Family Learning Team** - Currently within the locality, the family learning team have two workers, Daniele McIntyre and Cheryl Wilson. They offer family learning in the following schools: Moorpark Primary, Beith Primary, Dalry Primary, Gateside Primary, St Bridget's Primary, St Palladius Primary and Garnock Community Campus.



Work and the  
local community



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Family Phonics Fun is being delivered virtually to Primary 1, 2 and 3 in both Garnock Primary and St. Palladius Primary aimed at targeted families who will benefit from this further support and knowledge. A total of 14 families across the 2 schools are currently taking part. This is a six-week programme where the Family Learning Worker carries out various activities in school with the group. Resources are made to take home and then together families attend virtual sessions. Each week they focus on sound recognition, reading, writing in a fun simple way to improve both adults and children's confidence and development in Literacy.

Family Fun club is being carried out virtually with Gateside Primary, which allows families to spend quality time together interacting in various fun activities and challenges that enhance all areas of development. They are engaged in positive interactions throughout, whilst taking away ideas that can be easily replicated at home.

Young STEM Leader is being delivered in Moorpark Primary, Beith Primary and Dalry Primary throughout term 3, where a number of pupils will work towards achieving their Young STEM Leader level 2 award, engaging in different activities and tasks within school and at home with their families.

Moorpark Primary, p1-p3 parents were provided with the opportunity to engage in a 4-week virtual Family Maths programme, where they will take part in a range of fun activities to apply numeracy skills and knowledge when solving themed maths problems. The Family Learning Team have provided the families with the required resources to take part in Maths in a fun, relaxed and enjoyable way.

## Next steps

The next meeting of the working group will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Anyone with an interest is welcome to join in online.

### For further information contact:

Christina Pieraccini - Locality Officer  
[cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:cpieraccini@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)