



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

Kilwinning Locality Partnership

Monday 28 November 2022, 7.00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams

Business

Item	Subject	Pg	Ref	Officer	Timings
1.	Welcome, Apologies, Declarations of Interest	-		Cllr Davidson	7.00 – 7.05
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg 3	Action Note enclosed	Derek Frew	7.05 – 7.10
3.	B714 Receive update from Louise Kirk/Arthur Cowley.	-	Verbal	Louise Kirk/Arthur Cowley	7.10 – 7.30
DECISION REQUIRED					
4.	Grants Receive reports from Rhona Arthur.	Pg 8	Enclosed	Rhona Arthur	7.30 – 7.45
STANDING AGENDA ITEMS					
5.	Learning Overview Receive update.	-	Verbal	Head Teachers	7.45 – 8.00
6.	Kilwinning Youth Forum Receive report from Kimberly O'Neill	Pg 10	Enclosed	Kimberly O'Neill	8.00 – 8.15
7.	Locality Officer and Locality Plan Update Receive report from Louise Riddex.	Pg 12	Enclosed	Louise Riddex	8.15 – 8.30
OTHER BUSINESS					
8.	AOCB <ul style="list-style-type: none">2023 Meeting FormatTACT UpdateCommunity Planning Inquiry	- Pg 18	Verbal Enclosed Verbal	Cllr Davidson Rhona Arthur	8.30 – 9.00
Date of Next Meeting: Will be confirmed in due course.					

Elected Members

Councillor Scott Davidson (**Chair**)
Councillor Joe Cullinane
Councillor John Glover
Councillor Donald Reid

Community Representatives

Colin Hedley, Kilwinning Community Council (**Vice Chair**)
Peter Marshall, Community Representative
Aaran McDonald, Community Representative
Alison Stell, Community Representative

CPP/Council Representatives

Derek Frew, Senior Lead Officer
Rhona Arthur, Lead Officer
Louise Riddex, Locality Officer
Ann Wilson, Third Sector Interface, and HSCP
Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
David Cameron, Police Scotland

Meeting:	Kilwinning Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	1 September 2022 at 7.00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams
Present:	Councillor Scott Davidson (Chair) Councillor Joe Cullinane Councillor John Glover Councillor Donald Reid Aaran McDonald, Community Representative Derek Frew, Senior Lead Officer Rhona Arthur, Lead Officer (NAC) Louise Riddex, Locality Co-ordinator (NAC) Craig McFie, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Graeme Ross, Austin Smith-Lord David Haney, Regeneration Officer Louise Shaw, Community Co-ordinator, Corra Foundation Tim Swan, Head Teacher, Kilwinning Academy Paula Dickson, Head Teacher, Pennyburn Primary Kimberley O'Neill, Community Learning Development Worker (Kilwinning) Diane McCaw, Committee Services Officer (NAC)
Apologies:	Alison Stell, Community Representative Peter Marshall, Community Representative

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome and Apologies The Chair welcomed those present and apologies for absence were recorded.	
2.	Action Note The action note from the meeting held on 27 June 2022 was approved.	
2.1	Matters Arising The following points were discussed as matters arising from the action note of the last meeting:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Poverty Action Plan - The Child Poverty Board met to explore how services are accessed and on how to engage with the community. Laura Neill, Senior Manager, Employability and Skills, North Ayrshire Council will attend a future meeting of the Locality Partnership to discuss the approach to reach those who do not engage/access directly with Council services. Cost of Living Crisis – Cabinet on 23 August 2022 approved proposals for a range of community supports for North Ayrshire residents during the current cost of living crisis. There was discussion 	Rhona Arthur

	<p>on strategic support which could be provided including opening Council/community planning partner buildings to provide warm spaces with warm welcomes. The CPP are collating information on emergency places and numbers and work will be carried out with the contact centres in terms of any changes to contact numbers ie money matters etc. Locality Partnership members should contact Rhona Arthur with any suggestions related to the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Outcomes Improvement Plan – Ongoing workshops and activity through CPP Team. Kilwinning CC Sports Club– Cabinet agreed CIF bid regarding tennis court. Consultation on Closure of Main Street, Kilwinning – The Partnership was advised that a temporary TRO has been put in place for an 18-month period which has reverted back to the times of the original TRO. Councillor Reid indicated that signage had not been amended and the legal process had not been carried out with regard to reverting back to original TRO times. Louise Riddex undertook to follow up regarding this matter. <p>Noted.</p>	<p>All Members</p> <p>Louise Riddex</p>
3.	<p>Place Framework Update</p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Graeme Ross, Austin Smith-Lord which included information on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot Place Frameworks for Largs, Saltcoats and Kilwinning being prepared to identify priorities and projects to address local needs and ambitions; a range of public engagement events and activities which have taken place throughout Kilwinning; a shared action plan of key themes for development which will be aligned to funding sources and tie in with local Partnership outcomes; and progress to date including a summary of emerging priorities and projects. <p>The Partnership asked questions and received clarification in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Historic Environment Scotland funding application with regard to Kilwinning Abbey; the continuing review in terms of progress and new emerging issues; the Church of Scotland Committee being formed to work with the Heritage Association; and the surplus to requirements Police Scotland premises in Kilwinning and future engagement on the use of the building for a community purpose. 	

	<p>Derek Frew asked members if there were any contrary views to Kilwinning Police Station being surplus to operational policing requirements and being appropriate for consideration for a community purpose. No opposing views were offered.</p> <p>The Partnership was advised that the presentation slides would be shared with the Group along with a recording which could be viewed.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	David Haney
4.	<p>System Changers Group</p> <p>The Partnership received a presentation from Louise Shaw, Corra Foundation regarding the System Changers Group including information on:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ways in which community members and frontline workers can change systems for the better through enabling participants to reflect on and harness their own experiences; • support from the Corra Foundation and Lankelly Chase for up to 3 years; • group decisions in relation to the direction/themes for the programme; • the learning phase focussing on systems thinking, service design, behaviour change and experimentation; • the journey to building stronger relationships to enable support and reflection; and • putting learning into practice. <p>The Partnership asked questions and received clarification in relation to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the numbers and make up of the group; and • the emerging theme of mental health as the initial focus. <p>Noted.</p>	
5.	<p>Grants</p> <p>The Locality Partnership agreed (a) to award £3,447 to the Landward Old Folks Welfare Committee from the Elderly Grants Fund; (b) not to make awards to Pennyburn Community Association and ACES Woodwynd from the Kilwinning Charitable Trust Fund; and (c) that the Head of Connected Communities advise Pennyburn Community Association and ACES Woodwynd that the aspirations of the groups are applauded, and the Head of Connected Communities will work with both groups to source funding for their grant purpose from within other Council funds.</p>	Rhona Arthur
6.	<p>Learning Update</p> <p>Paula Dickson, Head Teacher, Pennyburn Primary School provided a verbal update on primary cluster school activity including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building relationships with families and supporting them with the cost of living crisis; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> welcoming families back into the school through a programme of events for the coming year; getting children back out into communities through local amenities which are free and help reduce the cost of the school day; visits from Locality Police Officers, who reported a more settled summer period; the focus on mental health and wellbeing following the Morgan Review; development of the young workforce and on providing skills for life; play pedagogy and stem in schools; and Pupil Equality Funding focussing primarily on staffing through the addition of 2 Early Years Practitioners and an Area Inclusion Worker. <p>Tim Swan, Head Teacher, Kilwinning Academy then provided a verbal update on activity including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the current school roll of 908 with 173 S1 pupils welcomed to the Academy; the completion to work on the water mains which will take place in October; the operation of a library within the language faculty for 2.5 days a week; the establishment of 2 sewing rooms following the donation of sewing machines; the gifting of a PE top from Embroidery Solutions to all P1 pupils; the excellent SQU results obtained by Kilwinning and St. Matthew Academy pupils; staffing changes within the Academy; the S3 and Senior pupils trip to Arran for 5 days; the refresh of school IT equipment; the 5 school priorities Learning and Teaching, Transitions, Wellbeing of Young People and Staff, Leadership and Self Evaluations; the Parent Council first meeting taking place on Wednesday 7 September in the Kilwinning Academy Conference Room; the Senior Awards Ceremony being held on Thursday 8 September in Abbey Church; and the commitment from all secondary schools across North Ayrshire in terms of a secondary support resource of 2 teachers to focus on working with young people who find it hard to engage in school. <p>Noted.</p>	
7.	<p>Kilwinning Youth Forum</p> <p>The Locality Co-ordinator provided a report on the activities of the Youth Forum highlighting the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All youth groups did not run during summer holidays, although there was a Summer Programme; 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Youth Forum worked with Kilwinning LGBT group to help arrange the Youth Festival at Kelburn Park, attended by 160 young people; • Youth groups restart week beginning 5 September and youth provision plans for groups may be extended; • Detached Youth Work will also recommence; and • The establishment of an early intervention group with second years in Kilwinning Academy in terms of anti-social behaviour. <p>Noted.</p>	
8.	<p>Locality Officer and Locality Plan Update</p> <p>The Partnership received a written report and verbal update by the Locality Co-ordinator, who highlighted the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress in terms of Kilwinning Bowling Club changing facilities with work expected to commence in January 2023; • Discussions on the locality priorities with the new community representatives at the forthcoming 'Getting to Know You Session'; • The focus on working groups and taking forward each of the locality priorities; and • The ongoing work around networking, chit chats etc. <p>Noted.</p>	
9.	<p>AOCB: Reports for Information</p> <p>Kilwinning LP Action Tracker provided for information.</p> <p>Noted.</p>	
10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Thursday 1 December 2022 at 7.00 p.m.</p>	

Meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.



Locality Partnership: Kilwinning Locality

Date: 28.11.22

Subject: To advise the meeting of an application received in respect of the Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund.

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

Background

Applications have been received in respect of the Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

The balance available for disbursement is bullet pointed below:

- The Kilwinning Town Charitable Trust Fund has a balance of £37,017.

Action Required by Locality Partnership

To consider the application for grant funding as outlined in Appendix 1 to this report.

For more information please contact: *Angela Morell, Senior Manager, Connected Communities, 2nd Floor Cunninghame House, Irvine.*
Email - amorrell@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: *Rosemary Ramsay, Funding Officer, Connected Communities*
(rosemaryramsay@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Date: 15.11.22

APPENDIX 1

KILWINNING TOWN CHARITABLE TRUST

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2022/23

Largs Town Charitable Trust Criteria - In terms of the trust deed there are 3 purposes for which assistance may be given:

Purpose A - the prevention or relief of poverty;

Purpose B - the provision of recreational facilities or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended; and

Purpose C - the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Applicant	Purpose of Grant	Amount Requested	Previous Town Charitable Trust
St Winnin's Over 60's	<p>Contribution towards 30th Anniversary celebration event on 23.3.23 and Fish & Chips Day in February 2023.</p> <p>Kandy Bar Cake - £90 Sashes, Banners & Napkins - £992.09 Fish & Chips Day - £220</p> <p>Total - £1,302.09</p>	£1,302.09	2019/20 £840

Connected Communities, Finance and Legal Services have been consulted and their comments are as follows:

Finance: Quotes have been provided for the sashes, banners & napkins and the Kandy Bar cake, confirming the total requested, no other quotes have been provided.

No current bank statement has been provided, to confirm the organisation have the funds to meet their commitment of £1,414.43.

Legal: The funds in the Kilwinning Town Fund are primarily held for Purpose A, with a small amount held for Purpose C. This application perhaps best fits Purpose B, as the main intention is to organise recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the activities are primarily intended, in this case the over 60s. However, the activities may also meet Purpose C by providing relief to those in need by reason of age. In particular, the activities are intended to provide opportunities for the over 60s, many of whom live alone, to socialise and help reduce isolation.

The application can therefore be granted as it meets one or more of the Trust Purposes. As some funds are held for Purpose C it may be best to consider the application under that Purpose as it does appear to meet the criteria for this. Alternatively, the grant could also be made under Purpose B, if there is a surplus of funds held for Purposes A and C due to insufficient eligible applications meeting those purposes to exhaust the annual total amount available.

In addition, the Trustees should also be satisfied that granting the application will be a beneficial use of the trust funds. In particular, they should be satisfied that the grant will provide a benefit to the whole community. In this connection, the Trustees may wish to consider the proposed use of the grant funds, which are primarily to provide a memento of the occasion, and the information on membership, which is open to all over 60s regardless of financial need.

Connected Communities: St Winnin's Over 60's group is seeking funding towards their 30-year anniversary event. The application meets the criteria of Trust Purpose B, which will improve the recreational activities for the elderly community of Kilwinning and improve their condition of life through reducing isolation and loneliness and improving their health and wellbeing.



Locality Partnership: Kilwinning

Date: November 2022

Subject: Youth Forums and Citizenship and Partnership work

Purpose: This report is to inform the Kilwinning Locality Partnership about Youth Forum, Youth Citizenship/Partnership activity, planned and actual for the Kilwinning Area.

Background

The Kilwinning Youth Forum strive to benefit the lives of young people in the Kilwinning area. We aim to achieve this by involving young people in Kilwinning in the decision-making process and giving them a voice.

The Youth Forum has seen an increase in its numbers, with 11 young people registered and actively attending.

The group has recently held its AGM and now have a fully functioning committee consisting of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Minute Taker and 6 Committee Members.

The group recently applied for and were successfully shortlisted to the voting stage for this years Youth PB. They have applied for the full £1000 to carry out a project in partnership with Eglinton Country Park. The Project is an idea the young people imagined themselves to try and destigmatise poor mental health within the park. Instead, they wish to inject positivity by creating wooden plaques of different shapes and sizes, which fit in with the aesthetics of the natural surroundings and place them around popular walk paths, on benches etc. These plaques will be highlighting positive affirmations, jokes, positive words.

The young people are supporting the Christmas light switch on again this year. 3 young people are dressing up as elves and helping in Santa's Grotto, while the rest of the group will be offering free facepainting to families.

Kilwinning Youth Forum took part in National Youth Work Week this month. They teamed up with our communications department to share with social media what being part of a youth forum looks like, how it has helped them and share what they are able to achieve as an active platform for youth voice and participation.

The group have strategised in future projects and events and would like to deliver a wide range of opportunities and support. Examples include, care packages for residents in hospital and assisted living, organise and deliver a community litter pick, particularly in Eglinton Country Park and surroundings areas and organise some community Fun days.

The future of the new committee is looking positive and the group are eager to support as many community lead projects as possible. Watch this space.

Key Points for Locality Partnership

Members of the Youth Forum will be happy to have an input to and support the partnership

For more information please contact: Kimberly O'Neill – Community Learning & Development Worker. kimberlyoneill@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Completed by: Kimberly O'Neill

Date: November 2022



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Kilwinning Progress Report

Reporting Period – Sept-Dec 22

General

The Locality Network meeting took place on 17 November. We had a presentation on 'The Promise' and an update from Bridge Church on their Heat Hub. The workshop will be looking at what winter warmers/heat hubs we are aware of in the locality and possible projects that could be done with the resources we have.

Continuing to support Kilwinning Community Council.

The draft Kilwinning Place Framework is being prepared by the appointed consultant (Austin:Smith-Lord) and is due to be issued to the Council by 18 November 2022. The Place Framework will comprise a Main Report and Action Plan. The Action Plan will contain short, medium and long-term projects that have been identified during the process.

The Kilwinning Place Framework is supported by capital funding from the Place Based Investment Programme (£90,000 comprising of £20,000 from 21/22 and £70,000 from 22/23). This fund will provide a community grant that will be spent in accordance with the recommendations from the Action Plans on a range of projects and initiatives in the town. The Place Frameworks Project Team will carry out an exercise to determine which groups to contact in relation to the grant once the Action Plan is finalised.

Kilwinning Bowling Club now have all funds in place for their ladies/junior locker/changing area. This will now be a building rather than portacabin. Work is due to start on the build at the end of 2022 early 2023.

The new Primary 7 transition group at St Matthews Academy started on Tuesday 1 November. There are almost 70 young people registered. This year's group consists of St John's, St Anthony's, St Luke's and St Winning's. The group will be part of the Find your Feet Programme before Christmas break and work towards the Hi5 Award.

The Kilwinning Primary 7 Transition Group started on Monday 7 November. There are over 80 young people registered. This year's group consists of Corsehill, Abbey, Pennyburn, Blacklands and Whitehurst Primary Schools. They will also do the Find your feet Programme before the Christmas break and work toward the Hi5 award.

National Youth Work week took place at the beginning of November. Staff worked in partnership with Jennifer Law from



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Council's Corporate Communications Teams to put together highlights on "what is youth work?". They also carried out filming with some pupils from the St Matthews Transition Group and the Kilwinning Youth Forum. All footage is live on the Council's pages from the week beginning 7 November.

Skills & Work Opportunities

Continuing to link up with Sharon Menzies who delivers core skills to students at Ayrshire College. Working with students to find them volunteering opportunities within Kilwinning. Arranging support for Cranberry Moss Larder and Café during heat hub hours.

Community Leadership Collective Calendar is still active and has been refreshed for 2022. The team are looking at revamping the training menu and are also looking into retrieving a pattern for Canny Cookers, to then deliver sessions on how to make them within the Heat Hubs.

Digital support sessions are now running in Kilwinning Library every Thursday from 12:30pm. This originally started off as 1:1 support and is now open to the public to come in with any device issues. Anyone looking for advanced support will be directed to the Community Leadership Collective for training/learning. This has been slow on the uptake however, there have been three new participants in the last week.

Employability Sessions taking place with The Hive students within Ayrshire College.

Working with Ayrshire college with three PEZ classes weekly. Each class has 18 young people who are going through employability skills and positive destination support.



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Community Wellbeing

Update

Me & My Mental Health Weekly Support Group for the residents of Kilwinning. The group is about exploring mental health and wellbeing in a safe, relaxed place. Looking at coping strategies for anxiety, overthinking and stress.

Stroll With It Kilwinning resumed week beginning 5 September and has now finished for the winter. It will restart around March 2023. They have also been doing a bit of partnership work with Ice-cream Architecture. We Teamed up with walkers to explore the new "know the place" App which is available. The App highlights walking routes available in North Ayrshire, particularly Kilwinning, as well as the new information point sculptures situated in the town.

Detached Youth Work restarted week beginning 5 September in partnership with Police Scotland. The number of engagements has dropped from what they were previously, however this is to be expected due to it being the winter months. One night per month Pryde is being utilised to hold a session, again numbers haven't been great at this.

ASN Groups continue to run well with numbers growing and referrals continuing to come in.

System changers - The six-month Programme has finished and they are now meeting independently as a group to explore how the dynamic of the group will form for future practice. The focus at meetings just now is Mental Health. Have we made any changes to make our lives easier or to make someone else's easier.

Community Chit Chats will take place from January 23.

Kilwinning Elderly Forum have decided that they would like to continue as an elderly group as opposed to a forum. A committee has now been elected and support is being given to the former chair and current treasurer to change hands of accounts. A visit from Citizen's advice has been organised to inform the group of the benefits and grants available to support through the cost-of-living crisis and soaring energy bills. The fraud team from No are also visiting to inform the group on how to protect themselves against scams and cold callers etc.

The Kilwinning Youth Forum have formed their new committee and are being supported by staff. They have been successful in reaching the voting stage in youth PB for their Eglinton Country Park Mental Wellbeing



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Project. They are also supporting this year's Christmas Lights by supporting Santa's Grotto and providing free facepainting.

Friends of North Ayrshire Group continues to run and is going well. The group carry out one hour literacy support out of the 2-hour time slot and the rest will be spent doing activities such as; cooking, music lessons, photography, walks, picnics, IT skills etc.

Winter Warmers are being set up across the community. Venues include Cranberry Moss, Woodwynd Community Centre, Bridge Church and PRYDE. Support has been provided by North Ayrshire Council for these. If you would like further info on the days/times, please let me know and I can provide this.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Community Mapping- a list of sources of support and signposting opportunities has been collected and condensed into a live document for each locality in North Ayrshire

Your Resilience- this is mental health and wellbeing and employability blended programme. Working in partnership with Ayrshire College Hive Department to put young people through the eight week workshop of Your Resilience by Mental Health UK.

Take Time Families – Corsehill Primary: The programme addresses Mental Health within families addressing targeted parent/carers and young people to achieve a joined understanding of resilience and emotions in the home.



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Environment & Green open space

Update.

Continuing to support Eglinton Growers Supporting Monthly Meetings through face to face and zoom. Temporarily using the library to hold face to face meeting for those who are comfortable and the rest via zoom live. The group are doing various activities at the minute including recovering the road, and distribution of manure.

Still hoping to have a partnership between Kilwinning Youth Forum and Eglinton Park Rangers regarding potential project, however the member of staff that was dealing with that has been off on long term sick.

No update on the Corsehill Community Champions Swing Park. Have hit a stumbling block on the land but this is being looked at by officers from North Ayrshire Council and Elected Members.

Kilwinning Green open Space Project - Adopt a spot application has been approved for Whitehirst Park area. Now organising a meeting with volunteers who were identified through the online consultation. Looking to start planting in early 2023.

Poverty & Equalities

Food with dignity projects are continuing to run well.

The Wee Shoap

Running well. Membership remains high and continues to be open on Wednesdays & Fridays. They have recently received over £1k funding from Co-op for the Larder. Work has now finished to transform the small lounge room that 'the wee shoap' was in, into a retro style café. The café is looking fab and has been very well received by the community. All food is at a low cost but they have specials on a Wed & Fri which consist of Soup and a roll or a roll and Slice sausage, with Tea/Coffee for £1.

Cranberry Moss

Membership continues to be high and appointments are being used up on a weekly basis. They have recently received over £1k funding from Co-op for the Larder.

The LGBTQ group has restarted. The team are continuing to work on gaining a Silver LGBT Charter mark for North Ayrshire Council which is going well. An information session for staff was held last week.



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Kilwinning Best Bites pilot, which was part of the System Changers Programme, at Nethermains went really well. Now looking to run a session at Cranberry Moss which will start early 2023.

For further information contact: Louise Riddex, lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk



Locality Partnership The Ayrshire Community Trust Update – 9th November 2022

The Ayrshire Community Trust continues to support the Community and Voluntary Sector with a range of services. Below is a list of support / activities since the last Locality Meeting:

- www.tact.scot continues to be updated with a range of information.
- We have sent out various information bulletins highlighting useful resources, funding information and general advice.
- TACT social media continues to be used as a platform to promote safety messages from Police Scotland, Funding Information, Benefit Support, Energy Advice and vital local service provision. We would welcome any information from other service providers that we can share.
- TACT Staff have been organising and facilitating quarterly 'networking' Forums for all 3rd Sector groups and organisations that wish to attend. The next online Forum Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6th December 2022. If you are a 3rd Sector organisation and you are interested in attending, please email: info@tact.scot
- Staff continue to maintain regular dialogue with North Ayrshire Council to update on progress and identify additional ways we can work together.
- TACT still have a small supply of PPE for local volunteers / groups to access. This includes: gloves, sanitiser, aprons and face masks. If you know of any groups that could benefit from this, please telephone the office on: 01294 443044.
- TACT Digital are continuing to work on a digital reconstruction of Kilwinning Abbey. We hope this will enable a greater number of individuals to access the Abbey's history on a range of digital platforms. We are also creating Virtual Reality experiences for the Neurodevelopmental Empowerment & Strategy Team (NEST) to raise awareness of the challenges faced by neuro-divergent individuals. We are currently working on the final phase of development for the North Ayrshire Green Health Partnership website. Find out more about our digital services here: <https://www.tact.scot/digital>
- Positive Steps with Partners is our Pre-Employability Project focusing on Personal development activities supporting barrier removal in helping people become more ready for exploring employability options. The team have adapted the programme to a hybrid setting offering a variety of short fun and interactive zoom sessions covering topics such as, Personal Skills and Strength's, Comfort Zones, Goal Setting and Cooking on a Budget. The project is involved at the Eglinton Community Garden supporting volunteers to develop and enhance their skills in horticulture. If you have anyone that may be interested in finding out more, please contact Cheryl Newall via: cheryl@tact.scot
- North Ayrshire Third Sector Chief Officer Group – This is open to Senior Staff working with a 3rd Sector Organisation across North Ayrshire. This Group works together to tackle local issues collectively whilst providing great networking opportunities. The next meeting is scheduled to take place via Zoom on Thursday 1st December at 10am. If you are interested in getting involved, please email: kaileigh@tact.scot
- Eglinton Community Garden Collaboration - we are continuing to work with a range of organisations including North Ayrshire Council, Turning Point Scotland, The Conservation Volunteers, HSCP Learning Disability Team and North Ayrshire Alcohol and Drug Partnership to deliver a successful Community Garden for local people to get involved and learn to grow their own produce. If you have any one who is interested in volunteering at the Community Garden, please contact Cheryl Newall by email at cheryl@tact.scot
- Organisational Support – continuing to work with groups and organisations delivering relevant training including Governance, Basic Bookkeeping, Constitution & Charity Registration, Funding, and Volunteer Management. We have again organised for

various 3rd party experts to deliver a range of training this year including Business Planning and Measuring Impact and Social Investment this training appears on the Learning Collaborative brochure. We are also assisting with Charity Registrations, PVG Support, Funding Support and Support with compiling Constitutions. Continuing to support groups in achieving SCIO status in regards to their CAT applications.

- Community Wealth Building, North Ayrshire is the first Community Wealth Building Council in Scotland – this is fantastic news and something very positive for North Ayrshire. As the Third Sector Interface, TACT sits at the Community Wealth Commission. This commission supports the implementation of the CWB Strategy and will encourage involvement from local businesses, government agencies and local organisations on CWB initiatives.
- Virtual Reality Taster Sessions - TACT Digital have been delivering taster sessions to a wide range of organisations and groups including: Autism Support Ayrshire, YES (Your Entire Self), CAMEO Group (LinkUp Saltcoats), SENSE Scotland. We have future bookings for Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, No-one Dies Alone Ayrshire and Ayrshire Cancer Support. These taster sessions are aimed at organisations interested in trying out VR as an aid to promote mental health and wellbeing for their service users and/or staff. Our aim is to explore collaborative opportunities and highlight the therapeutic benefits of immersive virtual reality environments and how they may be integrated into existing support frameworks. To book a free taster session contact: john@tact.scot
- SLACK – The Ayrshire Community Trust and Arran CVS as the Third Sector Interface are operating an engagement platform, known as SLACK, for the wider sector. This platform has a wide range of information and resources for 3rd Sector Organisations to access provided through 17 dedicated channels. If you know of any 3rd sector groups or organisation that could benefit from access to this platform please contact: info@tact.scot
- Staff are continuing to update and source a range of Volunteering Opportunities that are currently available. We are still receiving a high number of Volunteer Registrations and don't have enough placements for those interested. If you know of any groups or organisations that could assist with some additional volunteers please contact info@tact.scot
- TACT and Arran CVS are currently considering organising a 'Networking Conference' to take place in early 2023. This will be an opportunity for a range of groups, organisations and partners to showcase their own organisations and find out from others what great work is taking place across North Ayrshire. More details to follow.
- TACT Capacity Building Officers continue to promote Community Benefit opportunities to the 3rd sector, this also includes training and opportunities to learn topics such as first aid and tendering skills from successful NAC contractors.
- Organisation of the Month promotion still going strong. To date we have promoted 27 voluntary organisations. This promotion has been received favourably with the 3rd sector and it gives a chance to highlight and promote them. If you would like to nominate a voluntary organisation to be promoted, please contact Susan Manson on susan@tact.scot
- 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 is interested, please contact ann@tact.scot
- 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 112 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

- Supporting our Third Sector Interface partners Arran CVS with the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund for the second year. Applications closed at 3pm on Friday 18th November 2022. Applications are currently being checked and will be sent to scoring panels shortly, we are hoping to communicate the outcome of all applications by mid-January, but we are aiming to have made all award decisions pre-Christmas
- If any Third Sector Organisations are supporting New Scots living in North Ayrshire and are in need of some small pockets of funds to offer support please get in touch on 01294 443044 or email: info@tact.scot