

JUNE 2024

# COMMUNITY BENEFITS

North Ayrshire Community Benefit News



## Welcome to the spring edition of the North Ayrshire Community Benefits Newsletter!

The long days are finally with us and the temperatures are beginning to improve here on the west coast of Scotland!

Grab a cuppa and take five to have a read through our celebration of more of the fantastic contractor activity happening in North Ayrshire to support community benefits.

Want to be featured in the summer issue? Get in touch with Karen Hayburn on [khayburn@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:khayburn@north-ayrshire.gov.uk) to let us know what you've been up to!

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# Community Benefits News and Thanks



**Kilwinning Rangers Girls Under 10s Football Club** kicked off the new season in their brand new kit courtesy of **Redpath Construction**. Redpath donated £800 to the team to cover the cost of their new training kits, including the essential waterproofs to keep players dry in the West of Scotland weather.

**Browns Books** recently reached out to offer the **North Ayrshire Fairer Food Network** of community larders a donation of children's books for their members. We set up a book stall at a recent Network meeting and it's safe to say that there was nothing left at the end of the session! The books have been distributed to families who are regular larder members to provide a little treat for their children as an additional support beyond the food element of larder provision.



## Containers Needed!

Are you working on a project in North Ayrshire and wondering what to do with the containers or cabins on your site at the end of the build?

Several local organisations are keen to secure a container for storage or to replace aging existing containers on their project sites, and we would be really keen to speak with any contractors who might have the option to make containers or cabins available at the end of their project period, even if that's not likely to be for a while.

If you think you might be in a position to support a group in this way, please email [communitybenefits@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitybenefits@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)



# Community Benefits News and Thanks

**Amalgamate Safety** were at Auchendarvie Academy in Stevenston recently, where they "...delivered 3 sessions of basic first aid life skills to secondary pupils in Ayrshire who aren't old enough yet to complete the fully qualified course...We managed to deliver these sessions to around 130 pupils. Each pupil participated in carrying out CPR, choking and recovery position. All of the pupils really seemed to enjoy the training and were all very involved."

**Amalgamate**

**RJ McLeod** have been very busy up in the North Cost locality as part of their contract on Largs Seawall. **St Columba's Scottish Episcopal Church** is an important facility for community groups in Largs, and is located very close to the site compound for the project. The church was looking for support to extend and repair their car park and access road, which were badly pot-holed and in need of maintenance. RJ McLeod removed the top soil and replaced it with Type 1 in the car park, and filled in and regraded the access road over the course of 9.5 hours with a 17 tonne excavator, 9 tonne dumper and a Ganger.



The church carpark before (left) and after (right) the help from RJ McLeod

**Barrfields Community Garden Project** (run by Largs Green Futures) were looking for 30 tonnes of Type 1 to form a hardstand area for an upcoming community project.

This was supported over the course of a half day with the use of a 17 tonne excavator, 9 tonne dumper and a Ganger.

Finally, **Largs Men's Shed** have been looking for donations of timber that could be reused by their members at the Shed. RJ McLeod donated 2 flatbed pick-up loads of timber to the group, which had been previously used to form the perimeter hoarding around the site. As the timber had been painted after installation on the site, it was in great condition for donating to the group.



Donation of the Type 1 to Barrfields Community Garden

# Spotlight On: Volunteers' Week

2024 marks the 40th anniversary of Volunteers' Week, a national week of recognition and celebration of volunteers and the wonderful work that they do in communities across the country. As in previous years, we circulated a fundraising appeal on behalf of The Ayrshire Community Trust, who host the awards in North Ayrshire each year, and provide goodie bags for all the nominees and winners, as well as supporting local community projects through venue hire.

Nine North Ayrshire Council contractors came together this year to sponsor the event, with a fantastic £2,390 being raised thanks to the joint efforts of Ashleigh, RJ McLeod, George Carruthers and Sons, Whitewall Marketing, Karing International, CRPG Architects, Morgan Sindall, Dumbreck Decorators and Search Consultancy.



# Spotlight On: Volunteer's Week



Dalcon (a sub-contractor with Robertson Group) spent time working on the new community garden at Irvine Royal Academy. They have transformed the space and created a peaceful, productive area for staff, pupils and the local community to enjoy. Tracy from Irvine Royal Connects says: "Thank you Dalcon for the wonderful work they did in our garden. It looks amazing. They transformed the whole space! Pupils and staff are now enjoying spending time in the garden, and everyone is commenting on how good it looks. A special mention to the contractors who gave up their time and worked tirelessly for the duration."



Robertson Group staff were also out in Kilwinning during Volunteers Week, helping to paint Barnardos' new premises. The paint colour was chosen by the young people who will be using the hub, and Robertson Group arranged the paint donation from their sub-contractors and got some of their staff down to do a good day of painting for the charity. Diane Morgan from Barnardos said: "The rooms look amazing now, so much fresher and brighter looking. It has made the rooms look bigger and more inviting for people to use. Can't wait to see what the young people who were involved in the picking of the colours say when they come to see it"



# Community Benefits Wish List: New Wishes

It's almost time to get the out of office on for summer holidays, but before you log off for that well-earned break, take a look at some of the new groups on our Wish List who would love to hear from a helpful contractor!

If you think you could provide the support one of the groups are looking for - and be featured in next quarter's newsletter! - ping over an email to [communitybenefits@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitybenefits@north-ayrshire.gov.uk).

- **Sea Salt Streets** are looking for a 20 or 32 ft storage container to store their equipment which is used for community gardening and public realm improvement projects across Saltcoats town. They have identified a suitable site for the container but haven't been able to source a watertight one for their purposes yet.
- **Lamlash Improvements Association** are undertaking a series of projects on Arran. Could you support them by donating new football goals or contributing to their fundraising campaign to rebuild the Lamlash toilet block next to the pier?
- **Long COVID Chat Group** are looking for some support to help get the word out about their group through posters, leaflets and social media, as well as financial support to allow them to bring in Alternative Health Practitioners to support their members.
- **Saltcoats Active Lifestyle Team** successfully renovated a playpark and the town now has a fantastic pirate themed space for children to enjoy. As part of their ongoing maintenance, they are looking for volunteers to help them repaint sections of the ground in the playpark.
- **Three Towns Community Shed** are looking for a portaloos until the end of October while they wait for funding to come through to enable a toilet renovation in their new premises.
- **Balance and Bliss CIC** are looking for donations of yoga mats, blankets, cushions, sensory lights and other resources to enable them to deliver holistic therapy sessions for local people who may not otherwise be able to access them.
- **Isle of Arran Heritage Museum** are planning to build a new shed for their collection of agricultural machinery, and are looking for donations of wood for uprights, boards and roofing materials.
- **Ardrossan & Largs Sea Cadets** are looking for volunteers to help them demolish and remove 7 old-style portacabins to make way for new developments on their site to allow for more young people to participate in the club.
- **Dalry Community Garden** are looking for help to install a standpipe in the garden. The group are about to take over the maintenance of the town's planters and now need an improved on site water source, and hope that a contractor will be able to help them identify a water source and install the standpipe.
- **Hayocks Hall - Stevenston North Community Association** are looking for sponsors to enable them to create a new football team in the community, as well as allowing them to provide other activities such as craft groups for young people.

