



North Ayrshire
Community Planning Partnership

North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership

Tuesday 2 December 2025 at 6pm, Microsoft Teams

BUSINESS

Item	Subject	Pg No	Ref	Officer	Ask of the Partnership
1.	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest.	-	-	Cllr Hill	
2.	Action Note Review the action note and deal with any outstanding items.	Pg	Enclosed	Russell McCutcheon	Is this an accurate record of the meeting. Have all actions been completed?
3.	CIF Project Update – Parent Network Scotland Receive update on project funded by CIF.	-	Verbal	Jen McAllister	Receive update on project.
DECISION REQUIRED					6.20 – 7.00 pm
4.	Community Investment Fund – Change of Purpose The Locality Partnership are asked to consider change of purpose for the recently awarded Friends of Kirktonhall Glen CIF.	-	Verbal	Louise Riddex	LP to consider request for change of purpose to recently awarded CIF.
5.	Community Investment Fund The Locality Partnership are asked to consider two applications made to the Community Investment Fund. Full Application • Craufurd Simpson Park • Kirktonhall Glen 3g Facility • Community Roots		Enclosed	Louise Riddex	LP to consider applications made to the Community Investment Fund.
LOCAL MATTERS – TACKLING INEQUALITIES					7.00 – 7.15 pm
6.	Island Plan Receive update on the work of Cumbrae Island Plan.	-	Verbal	Sarah Baird/Cllr Hill	Receive update and consider partnership opportunities.
7.	Locality Priorities Officer Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Deirdre Oakley, Project	-	Verbal	Deidre Oakley	Receive update and consider potential

	Officer, Community Learning and Development.				CIF pipeline and promotion.
8.	Locality Officer Update The Locality Partnership will receive an update from Louise Riddex, Locality Officer.		Enclosed	Louise Riddex	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
WORKSHOP SESSION					7.15 – 7.45 pm
9.	Child Poverty Workshop Session The Locality Partnership will receive a presentation and have a workshop discussion.		Presentation	Donna Martin	Receive update and consider learning and partnership opportunities.
PARTNER REPORTS					7.45 – 7.55 pm
10.	- Education/Active Schools - Police Scotland - Scottish Fire and Rescue - KA Leisure			Partners	Reports enclosed for information
AOCB					7.55 – 8.00 pm
11.	AOCB Locality Priorities Officer Post			Cllr Hill R Leith	LP to use this time to raise/discuss matters linking to the Locality, the LP priorities and tackling inequalities.
REPORT FOR INFORMATION					
12.	North Ayrshire Wide CLD Report				Report enclosed for information.

2026 Meeting Dates

Date	Time	Venue
3 March 2026	6.00 – 8.00 pm	MS Teams
2 June 2026	6.00 – 8.00 pm	Clark Memorial Church
8 September 2026	6.00 – 8.00 pm	Clark Memorial Church
1 December 2026	6.00 – 8.00 pm	MS Teams

Distribution List

Elected Members

Councillor Alan Hill (Chair)

Community Representatives

TBC West Kilbride Community Council

Councillor Eleanor Collier
Councillor Todd Ferguson
Councillor Tom Marshall
Councillor Ian Murdoch

Isy Agnew, Skelmorlie Community Council
Alex Harvie, Cumbrae Community Council
Rita Holmes, Fairlie Community Council
Lizzy Barbour, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)
Carol Campbell, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)
Nick Hobson, Community Rep (*Co-opted*)

CPP/Council Representatives

Russell McCutcheon, Senior Lead Officer
Rhonda Leith, Lead Officer
Louise Riddex, Locality Officer
Lisa Thomson, Police Scotland
Paul Timmons, Scottish Fire and Rescue
Michael Thompson, KA Leisure
Barbara Conner, TSI

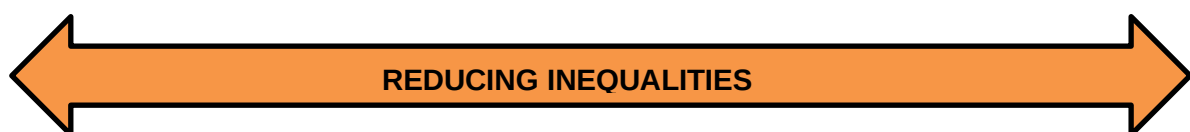
North Coast & Cumbraes Locality Partnership Priorities

**Improving
access to
financial
services**

**Increasing
social
inclusion**

**Improving
mental
wellbeing**

**Supporting
skills and work
opportunities**



Meeting:	North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership
Date/Venue:	Tuesday 2 September 2025 at 6pm, Clark Memorial Church
Present:	Cllr Alan Hill (Chair) Cllr Ian Murdoch Cllr Eleanor Collier Russell McCutcheon, Executive Director (Place) Louise Riddex, Locality Officer, Sarah Baird, Senior Officer (Islands) Lizzy Barbour, Community Rep Rita Holmes, Fairlie CC Jim Phillips, Largs CC Tony Gilhooley, Active Schools Coordinator Rhonda Leith, Head of Connected Communities Sgt Donald Fisher, Police Scotland Stephanie Fisher, Head Teacher Alicia Train, Head Teacher
In Attendance	Sharon Fleming, Grants and Performance Officer Jenny Clark ,Craufurd Simpson Park Gordon Black, Cycling Without Age. Jennifer McGee, Policy & Community Planning Officer (Notes)
Apologies:	Councillor Tom Marshall Councillor Todd Ferguson Barbara Conner, TACT Paul Timmons, SFRS Michael Thompson, KA Leisure Nick Hobson, Comm Rep Deidre Oakley, Community Development Worker

ACTIONS

No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome/Apologies/Declarations of Interest The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies for absence were noted and no declarations of interest were made.	Noted
2.	Action Note The action note arising from the June LP meeting was approved.	Noted
3.	Community Investment Fund Applications- EOI and Full Application Expression of Interest – Craufurd Simpson Park The Partnership considered application £100,000. The proposed play park would serve a densely populated area with around 200 children. A communications and engagement exercise had already drawn feedback	

	over 200 residents who are in favour of the park being reinstated. The park will include areas suitable for both younger and older children. Cllr Collier asked whether previous HRA barriers had changed. It was confirmed that this is now part of the CAT process. Maintenance was raised as an issue. Streetscene have confirmed support for litter collection and safety checks, with the committee to handle day-to-day management/repairs etc. Cllr Murdoch queried maintenance beyond the first two years. It was confirmed that future running costs would be met by the SCIO through fundraising, with a dedicated group of trustees and volunteers in place. Cllr Hill asked about other funding sources. J Clark highlighted that the group have looked at PB, the Landfill Fund and the Aria fund as well as some others. The Partnership discussed: • Concerns around setting a precedent for other areas with limited CIF funds remaining. • Whether other types of parks could be considered, though consultation feedback showed residents were clear on their preference for play equipment. • The need for discussions with Housing. • Options for partial funding. • Concerns over longevity and the risk of vandalism, with a need to ensure funds are reserved for repairs. • Windfarm funds and other opportunities for communications support. • What different phased funding levels (e.g. £30k) could deliver. The Partnership agreed to progress the application to full application stage, noting that the full amount is unlikely to be funded, and applicants should be encouraged to present images at the next meeting and explore a mix of funding sources. Full Application - Cycling Without Age Largs The Partnership considered an application from Cycling Without Age who are seeking £10,800 funding to purchase a second Trishaw for the Largs area. The group provided an overview of the Largs Chapter of Cycling Without Age and highlighted that they work with more than older people, instead focusing on all people with challenges including loneliness and mental health. To broaden their impact, the group is seeking funding for an additional trishaw, with delivery expected to take approximately two weeks. The Partnership agreed to approve the funding for this application.	L Riddex L Riddex
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4.	Grants The Partnership considered grant applications made to the Millport Common Good Fund and Elderly Grants Millport Common Good Fund Application from Millport SWI for £345 for a Hozelock Superhoze 40 meters, Hanger, spray gun, mobile auto reel 35 meters to allow the group to maintain flower beds. The Locality Partnership approved this application. Elderly Grants Semple Centre – Application submitted for £7,399 to support with cost for day trips, entertainment and building maintenance. The Locality Partnership approved this application. Skelmorlie Senior Citizens - Application submitted for £1,366 to assist with the running costs of The Semple Centre to provide a safe, comfortable space for the elderly to meet, socialise and pursue various activities. The Locality Partnership approved this application. The Cameron Centre – Application submitted for £1,488 to contribute to the costs of a senior citizens Christmas party for around 100 residents of the community, consisting of a 3-course meal, entertainment, refreshments and will cover the cost of stationery and postage for invites. The Locality Partnership approved this application. Age Well West Kilbride – Application submitted for £2,623 for a Christmas meal for 200 older people at the Seamill Hydro Hotel. The Locality Partnership approved this application. L Riddex highlighted that the same groups apply each year for the fund, and a question was raised about what should be done. If those groups do not respond to the grants team, should the opportunity instead be offered to other organisations in the area? R Leith undertook to speak to legal to confirm whether the powers are devolved to the Locality Partnership and report back. Cllr Collier left the meeting at this point.	Noted S Fleming S Fleming S Fleming S Fleming S Fleming S Fleming R Leith Noted
5.	Island Plan S Baird provided the Locality Partnership with an update on the work of the Islands Plan.	

	S Baird highlighted that an application has been submitted to the Scottish Government's Island Programme for £3.5m capital funding, to be delivered in partnership with the Local Authority to support island communities. A previous example of this was the works at Garrison House and Millport Town Hall. Seven projects totalling £1.98m including: • Keppel Pier Improvements • Solar-Powered Waste Compactors • Community Energy The outcome of the application is expected mid-September, with an update to be provided at the next meeting. In addition, the Council will launch small island grants for Cumbrae and Arran, covering themes such as health and wellbeing, social inclusion, and work opportunities. Details will be circulated when available. The Chair thanked S Baird for her update.	S Baird
6.	Locality Priorities Officer Update Report from the Locality Priorities Officer was enclosed in the agenda pack for the Locality Partnership to note.	Noted
7.	Locality Officer Update L Riddex advised the Locality Partnership that her report was enclosed as part of the agenda pack. L Riddex provided the Partnership with some key highlights from the report: • The Locality Team is trailing a new report template. L Riddex asked the Partnership to feedback their thoughts on the new template. • Participatory Budgeting is now open for applications, and the team hosted launch events within the locality. • Events took place over the summer offering free activities for whole families. A total of 667 people attended these events. Team had to cancel the 5th event in Fairlie beach due to bad weather which 60 people had signed up for. Team looking in to a new date for this event. The Chair thanked L Riddex for her update.	Noted
8.	Partner Updates The Locality Partnership received the following updates:	

	Police Scotland D Fisher highlighted that a scams awareness event will take place next week and is being promoted across all age groups. This event is in partnership with Trading Standards and Campus Police. Safety is a key focus in schools. Locality Team are attending as many events as possible to enhance their visibility in the community. Education • St Mary's – Awarded the Gold Sports Scotland Award. Pupils from the horticultural group participated in the Largs Flower Show. The EYC team were successful in <i>Beat the Street</i>, achieving 1st place locally and 3rd overall. An infant nutrition group also ran activities over the summer, with further planning underway. • Largs Campus – 18 pupils achieved 5 Highers, an increase of 8 on the previous year. 50% of 4th years achieved National 5 passes. • Cumbrae – Julie McAleese currently active Head Teacher at Glebe Primary with Jennifer Neilson stepping in to the Head Teacher role for now. • Largs and Skelmorlie – Parent and carer "Welcome" events have been held, and the first PTA meeting has taken place. Schools also participated in the Beat the Street competition which also supports pupil transition activities. Active Schools • Largs Academy Sailing Club – Six weeks of training delivered with free membership offered; wetsuits and equipment supplied. Eight pupils have now joined the club from an initial twelve participants, with significant progress noted. • Volunteering/Youth Ambassadors – Recruitment of new volunteers underway. The Young Ambassador group received £2,500 from Helter Skelter to provide kits and support activities. • Active Girls Group – Participation levels remain very strong. • NASA Programme – Ongoing work with young people continues. • Competitions – A range of local competitions are taking place. The Chair thanked everyone for their inputs.	
	Area Mapping Discussion took place on area mapping in the North Coast, with the Locality Team keen to ensure awareness of as many groups as possible in the area. The Chair highlighted that the Council's Cabinet received an overview at its meeting that afternoon on poverty figures and he would be keen that at the December meeting these are discussed with perhaps a small subgroup to meet beforehand to map local groups and activities.	L Riddex

	It was noted that encouraging clubs to run at lunch and after school could widen opportunities. The importance of building relationships to address hidden poverty was emphasised. Links will also be made with LCDT and their ongoing work. R. McCutcheon suggested defining desired outcomes, identifying gaps, and signposting to existing services while supporting new ones where required. A smaller workshop session will be arranged to focus on these outcomes. It was further suggested that KA Leisure could share an MS Form to collect information, or that groups could be asked directly when booking, with McCutcheon stressing the need to explain why the information is being requested. This was seen as an opportunity to strengthen networks, and a marketplace event was proposed, following the success of previous PB events. J. McGee will create the MS Form to gather information on local groups, and L. Riddex will speak with KA Leisure regarding the data they hold.	J McGee/ L Riddex
	AOCB The Chair highlighted that funding for the Locality Priorities Officer would come to an end in February 2026. Cllr Murdoch asked if other possible funding avenues could be explored, with liaison suggested with the Grants Team. Cllr Murdoch also noted the post is very important and expressed interest in exploring additional channels. The Partnership agreed that funding options should be explored. R Holmes reported that Fairlie Community Council had been approached to apply for funding for Changing Places facilities and sought clarification on the Council's position. R McCutcheon noted that further information is required from the Scottish Government regarding sustainability and ongoing maintenance. Cllr Murdoch highlighted that Clyde Coast and Cumbraes are finalists in this year's prestigious 'Scottish Men's Shed of the Year Awards' 2025 and conveyed his thanks to the Partnership for their support. Awards ceremony is on 3rd October 2025. The Chair congratulated the group on being finalists. Valedictory The Chair wished to convey his thanks to John Lamb who has stood down after 42 years of service to the West Kilbride community. He also noted his significant contributions made the Locality Partnership and to the local community.	L Riddex – S Fleming Noted Noted Noted

	L Riddex highlighted that she is in contact with the Community Council and will advise who the rep will be going forward.	
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The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - the [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) 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 (attached), 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 Officer, by email if possible:

Louise Riddex
Locality Officer (Kilwinning & North Coast)
Economy and Communities
Community Development Team
St John's Primary School
Morrison Avenue
Stevenston
KA20 4HH

Email: lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294475913
Mob: 07980964858

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>



1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation
Craufurd Simson Park

Postal Address for Correspondence



Name of Contact Person Jenny Clark

Position in Organisation Trustee

Telephone Number [REDACTED]

Email Address [REDACTED]

2. Brief description of your organisation

Please include its legal status, aims and objectives, activities or services provided and how long it has been in existence.

Craufurd Simson Park is a SCIO registered with OSCR on 1 July 2024.

This initiative is a community-driven initiative to develop a safe and inclusive playground for local residents. The playground will provide a much-needed recreational space for children and families, fostering community engagement and promoting physical and mental well-being.

The initiative will be managed by Scottish Charitable Organisation (SCIO) formed for this purpose (SCIO), funded through grants, donations, and community fundraising efforts.

Vision

To create a vibrant and inclusive community playground that fosters fun, healthy play, social connections, and a sense of belonging.

Mission

To provide a safe and accessible recreational space for children and families in our community, promoting physical activity, social development, and community engagement.



3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

- where it will be held / delivered
- who is your target audience
- who will benefit from it and how
- any partners that are involved.

The Craufurd Simson Park is intended to provide safe space for children to play.

Park equipment will be procured and built on the land. The equipment will aim to provide activities for children ages 1 to young teenagers. Accessibility is important to the community and the selection of equipment will seek to accommodate a wide range of abilities, and diversity.

The space will house a variety of play equipment for climbing, balancing, motor skill and flexibility development as well as space for plants to be grown and nurtured. Seating will be provided to provide space for parents and carers to sit and watch the children.

Children will be encouraged to be responsible for the park by keeping it tidy and making sure it is safe by reporting any issues that would affect the safety of children using the park, helping keep the park clean and tidy and participating in painting or growing activities to maintain the park.

Adults will be responsible for making sure that the park is maintained and a safe, warm, welcoming space for the community and the children. A plan to involve the community in managing this will be formed.

The community will arrange periodic events to involve the children in developing the park to meet their needs and into a space that they love using.

In order to achieve this the community have set up a SCIO who will manage and maintain the area as well as do the required work to develop the park. The SCIO will be responsible for:

- Insuring the park
- Managing the maintenance contract with Streetscene



- Managing a caretaker roster with the community
- Managing the finances and ensuring sufficient funds available to meet the responsibilities
- Managing the procurements, and replacement of any new equipment or failed equipment
- Meeting the OSCR requirements for a SCIO
- Applying for funding grants

Property acquisition

The land will be procured through a Community Asset Transfer with support from the Land Fund during the process and for funding.

The land was previously a play park and the equipment was removed by the council some time ago. The land is disused and the remaining rubber matting is degrading and creating a health hazard for the children who still congregate in the space.

The area is fence and has a combination of grass, concrete and rubber matting. A survey of the land will be conducted to ensure there is no risk of subsidence and the value of the property.

Location

The Craufurd Simson park is located between Craufurd and Simson Avenue on a piece of land in a densely populated area. +/-322 m² with a perimeter of +/-78m This image shows the position of the park within West Kilbride. The red marker shows the location of the park.



belonging, helping to create a supportive and cohesive social environment. For children, playing with peers aids in developing social skills such as sharing, negotiation, and teamwork.

Mental and Emotional Well-being

Access to green spaces and play areas has been shown to reduce stress and improve mental health. The presence of a play park can provide a peaceful retreat for individuals seeking a break from their daily routines. For children, unstructured playtime is crucial for emotional development, allowing them to explore their creativity and imagination.

Educational Opportunities

A well-designed play park can include educational elements such as vegetable gardens or interactive installations that stimulate learning. These features can teach children about nature, sustainability, and healthy eating habits. Additionally, the park will be a space that can host community events and activities that provide further educational benefits.

Community Engagement

West Kilbride has a very advanced volunteer culture with many amenities in the village provided by well organised volunteer groups. The process of creating and maintaining a play park has galvanised community members, promoting volunteerism and collective effort. This engagement can lead to a stronger sense of ownership and pride in the community. Initiatives like the Craufurd Simson Park development demonstrate how collaborative efforts can transform a community asset into a beloved gathering place.

Economic Benefits

Attractive and well-maintained play parks can enhance the aesthetic appeal of a neighbourhood, potentially increasing property values. They can also attract visitors, boosting local businesses and contributing to the local economy. There are members of the community who bought the property they own because there was a park.

Accessibility and Safety

A new play park can provide a safe and accessible environment for children to play, especially in areas where existing parks are not easily reachable. Ensuring that parks are well-maintained and include safety features (like AED sites) further enhances their value to the community.



5. What engagement has taken place in relation to the project?

Please include the number of people who have been engaged with or consulted as well as the range of people.

The voice of the community

The community were devastated when the park was taken away. Children still play in the empty space but deserve a good quality recreational area instead of disused rubber mats for toys.

There have been a number of formal consultations to develop the park and these are noted below.

In June 2023 community members met with their children to show support for the initiative and highlight the need. This was attended by about 100 people including children.

In July 2024 a survey was conducted to confirm the need and gather community feedback. The survey was available online through a QR code that was shared in various Facebook groups, WhatsApp and posted in public places. Hard copies of the survey were made available from the NiSA, the closest shop, the library and the community centre.

238 people responded to a survey representing 527 individuals and the survey results are below.

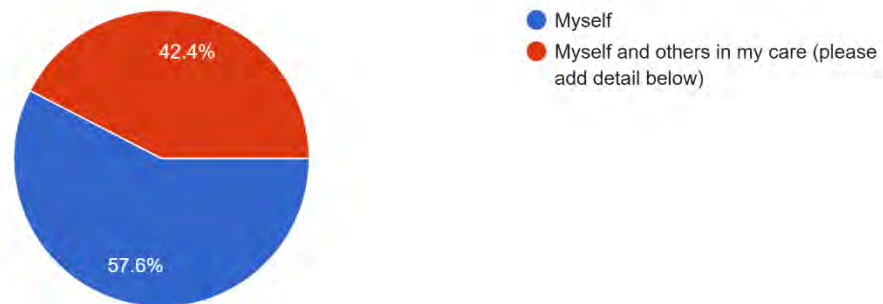
In August 2024, a community meeting was held to decide on the form the initiative should follow and it was agreed that a SCIO would be formed and the Trustees selected to do that.

In June 2025 there was an event held on the old park site where children were invited to look at the options available for developing the park and choose their favourites. This was attended by well over 200 residents. Children indicated that they liked the newer and the most different equipment options that were shown. It was a great event where the whole community pulled together to deliver a great afternoon.

A summary of the survey conducted in August 2024 is below.

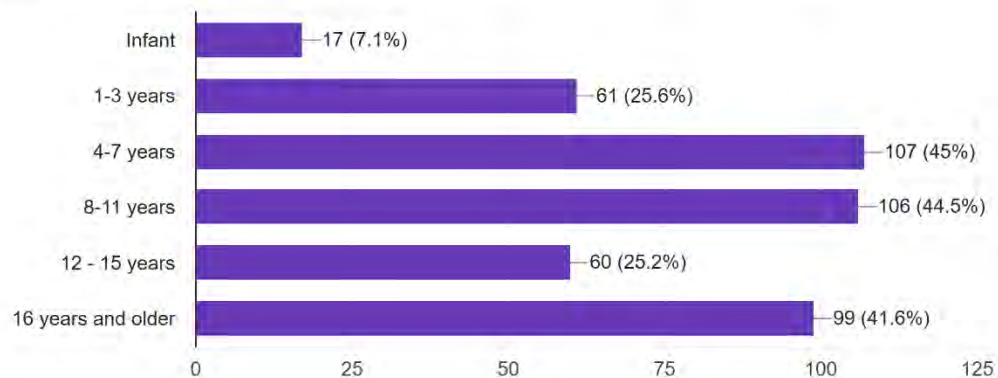
Are you responding for yourself and/or anyone in your care.

238 responses



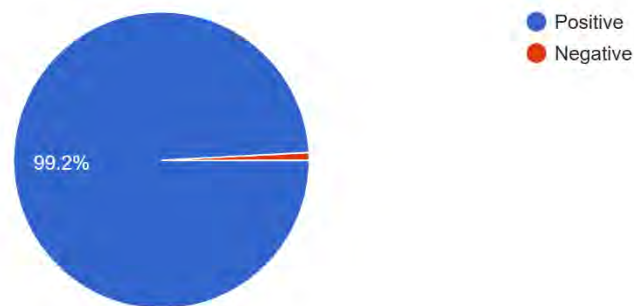
Please choose the age groups represented by your response (yourself and/or others)

238 responses



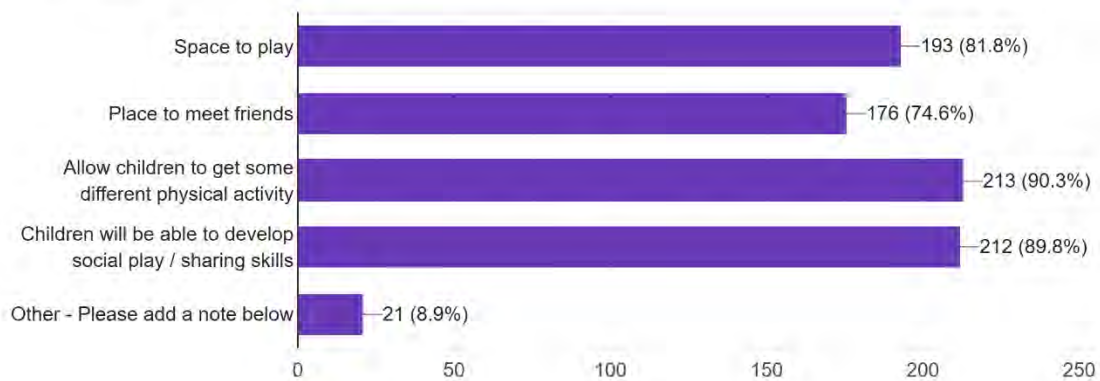
Do you think having a park at Craufurd/Simson Avenue, West Kilbride will be positive or negative for the community?

238 responses



What benefit will a park have for you or your family?

236 responses





6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in North Coast? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans

Managing the SCIO

The Craufurd Simpson Park SCIO was created after a community meeting agreed that this would help achieve the group's objectives.

There are 6 trustees and each trustee is on board to add value in a particular way. We have a treasurer nominated to ensure funds are managed effectively and a secretary responsible for documentation, applications for grants, and managing membership.

Trustee meetings will take place periodically with an annual membership meeting happening in July each year.

Procurement

Securing the land and park equipment will be managed by the Trustees and will ensure sufficient due diligence of the supplier and community buy in.

Maintenance

The maintenance of the park will include:			
	Streetscene	Community members	Maintenance committee
Identifying items for maintenance		X	X
Identifying items for repairs	X	X	X
Repairing items	X		
Keeping the area free of rubbish and debris	X	X	X
Cleaning bins	X		
Inspecting items for safety	X		
Maintaining plants and beds		X	X



Renewing paint	X		X
Replacing broken or old equipment			X

Managing the organisation

The SCIO is managed by a group of 6 Trustees and a committee will be formed to manage the day-to-day running of the park.

The roster will be held at the NISA for volunteers to complete or view.

Managing finance

The treasurer will be responsible for ensuring all funds are managed according to accounting principles. Annual accounts will be presented at the AGM and members are encouraged to attend and apply critical thinking to the information shared.

The secretary will ensure that feedback for grants is managed and apply for new grants where available that will meet the purpose of the SCIO.

The Trustees and community members will be asked to look for funding opportunities to help develop the space over the years.



7. Amount of funding being requested

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

The Craufurd Simson Park has received £1,000 from the North Ayrshire Participatory Budgeting in 2024/2025. This was used to create the community consultation event in June 2025 and the remaining funds will go towards the land survey required for purchase of the land.

Amount of funding requested (£) **100,000**

Please give a breakdown of cost and recent quotations where appropriate.

Procurement for equipment and set up at start - £89,120

Equipment – 65%

Flooring - 20%

Labour – 10%

Other – 5%

The land purchase will be funded through the Land Fund if the application is successful. Additional funds will be sought through other grant applications.

Funds to maintain the equipment and land for the first 2 years – £10,880

Maintenance includes insurance, equipment fixes, garden supplies.

Year 2	7 330
Year 1	3 550



8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on the monitoring and evaluation processes planned or in place.

Goal: To provide a safe and accessible recreational space for children and families in our community, promoting physical activity, social development, and community engagement.

Objectives:

1. **Procurement of the land:** Procure the land through a CAT Transfer before December 2025.
2. **Development of the land:** Construct and open a new playground before Spring 2027.
3. **Implement an ongoing maintenance programme:** Set up the maintenance committee with a plan for ongoing maintenance.
4. **Secure ongoing funding:** Apply for and manage funding requirements with a 1 to 3 year horizon.

Monitoring plan:

This plan outlines how we will track our activities to ensure the project stays on schedule and budget.

What	How	When	Who
1. Land Procurement	- Create a plan with key milestones and dates. - Track completion of milestones against the dates. - Report on progress to Trustees	Monthly	Jenny Clark, Trustees
2. Development of the land	- Create a plan with key milestones and dates and associated budget. - Track completion of milestones against the dates. - Track the budget against the mile - Report on progress to Trustees	Weekly during construction.	Jenny Clark, Trustees
3. Implement an ongoing maintenance programme	- Keep records of all volunteers and action items. - Review maintenance team log - Review feedback forms	Weekly for the first 3 months, then monthly	Trustees, maintenance Committee.



4. Secure ongoing funding	- Maintain a log of all submitted funding applications, including submission dates and funder responses. - Track received funds and manage financial records.	Monthly	Treasurer, Secretary, Trustees
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Evaluation Plan (Measuring Impact)

This plan details how we will formally assess the project's success and measure its impact against our stated objectives.

What	How	When	Who
1. Land Procurement	- Land transfer complete with all legal documentation delivered. - Confirm that the land was procured by the December 2025 deadline.	End of December 2025	Jenny Clark, Trustees
2. Development of the land	- Final inspection by a certified playground safety inspector - Submission of an "as-built" drawing and safety certificate.	End of Spring 2027	Jenny Clark, Trustees
3. Implement an ongoing maintenance programme	- Review the completed and implemented maintenance plan. - Confirm the committee has been formally established and has a work schedule.	End of year 1 of operations	Trustees, maintenance Committee.
4. Secure ongoing funding	- Conduct a financial review to assess the total amount of funding secured. - Evaluate the diversity and sustainability of funding sources over the 1-3 year horizon.	End of each financial year	Treasurer, Secretary, Trustees

Reporting and Dissemination

We will ensure that our progress and findings are shared transparently with all stakeholders.

- **Progress Reports:** Quarterly reports will be submitted to the funder, detailing progress on project objectives, key milestones, and financial status.
- **Final Report:** A comprehensive final report will be submitted upon project completion. It will include all evaluation findings, lessons learned, a financial summary, and a plan for long-term maintenance.
- **Community Meeting:** An annual public meeting will be held to share project outcomes and gather feedback.



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- Include measurable outcomes and can report to NAC on outcomes on a regular basis.

When to apply and how?

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- If the partnership supports a bid then the group will be encouraged to submit a full application form (attached), 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 Officer, by email if possible:

Louise Riddex
Locality Officer (Kilwinning & North Coast)
Economy and Communities
Community Development Team
St John's Primary School
Morrison Avenue
Stevenston
KA20 4HH

Email: lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294475913
Mob: 07980964858

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>



1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation - West Kilbride Community Sports Club (WKCSC)

Postal Address for Correspondence - [REDACTED]

Name of Contact – George Cloughley

Position in Organisation Trustee – Project Lead

Telephone Number - [REDACTED]

Email Address - [REDACTED]

2. Brief description of your organisation

Please include its legal status, aims and objectives, activities or services provided and how long it has been in existence.

West Kilbride Community Sports Club was established in 2013 and is a registered charity (SCIO No. SC043632). Our aims are to:

- *“provide or assist in the provision of community sports facilities and activities, increase access and encouraging public participation in sports and leisure opportunities and improve the health of the inhabitants of North Ayrshire”*
- *“advance community development by encouraging the community to take part in sport or physical activity and involving volunteers to help ensure the services offered meet the needs of the community and help to provide new skills and perspectives and increase contact and involvement with the community”.*

In recent years, we have taken an active role in managing and developing the sporting facilities within Kirktonhall Glen, the main recreational site within the village.

In 2018, we were granted a 25-year lease for the football pitch at the Glen site by North Ayrshire Council at a nominal rent of £1 per year, with an option to extend for a further 25 years. WKCSC oversee the sports activity on the site and have an inclusive partnership which includes user agreements with 2 sports clubs - West Kilbride Tennis Club and West Kilbride Amateur Football Club (WKAFC). Both Clubs are supported by the Trustees of WKCSC and are represented on the WKCSC Board.



WKCSC has no current employees, with all activity undertaken and managed by committed volunteer Trustees. We benefit from a very skilled board of Trustees bringing significant experience and acumen from a broad range of private, public and third sector roles. Profiles of WKCSC Board members are set out in Appendix 1 of the Business Plan which we have submitted in support of this application.

West Kilbride Amateur Football Club (WKAFC) will be our delivery partner for this project. They were established in 1947 and currently operate six teams with 129 players and 60 volunteers. They are responsible for organising all football activity on the site which includes operation of the booking system, clubhouse, the current grass pitch and football changing rooms.



3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

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

West Kilbride has a growing population, currently of c4,850 but expected to increase soon to over 6000. Kirktonhall Glen is the village's main recreational area. However, the current grass pitch suffers from poor drainage, lacks floodlighting and is only usable for a portion of the year. Use of the existing grass pitch drops from 22 hours per week in summer to just 4 hours in winter - restricting football development and forcing youth teams to train and play elsewhere during the winter. We have established that these teams currently travel over 34,000 miles annually to train and play home games – the equivalent of 1.37 times around the globe. This equates to 9.04 tonnes of carbon emissions and fuel costs of over £5,500 per year.

Whilst West Kilbride CSC/West Kilbride AFC have done their best to secure training and playing facilities for their teams, current arrangements are not sustainable in the longer term:

- The nearest appropriate facility is 5 miles away and is run by a busy Semi Professional Football Club in Ardrossan who have various teams of their own using the facility.
- Although the Kirktonhall Glen pitch is leased on a peppercorn rent West Kilbride AFC still are required to spend significant sums per annum to adequately maintain the pitch for wider use. Despite this effort and cost the pitch remains playable only for a limited period during the year.
- Kirktonhall Glen does not have floodlights and therefore is unavailable for hire at night requiring teams to leave the town to train in winter months.

Our proposal involves replacing the existing grass pitch at Kirktonhall Glen with a modern, floodlit 3G facility and providing new changing accommodation to accommodate 4 teams so games can be played back to back. The facility will provide a permanent home venue for all West Kilbride teams but will also be able to accommodate wider community use.



The main beneficiaries of the project will be the teams and players currently forced to travel substantial distances to access suitable facilities. Our survey results confirm that all local teams would make regular year-round use of a 3G facility which would support grassroots football development, enabling increased participation across all age groups.

In overall terms we anticipate the typical weekly use at Kirktonhall Glen 3G will rise to around 560 users once the new facility is established. This will include:

- Use by West Kilbride AFC and their associated Youth Football Teams
- Use by other adult and youth teams in the North Coast Locality
- Public and community use of the facility beyond those participating via recognised football clubs e.g. local residents who wish to use the facility on an ad hoc basis to play games with friends and 5/7 a side games
- Development of women and girls teams to play both competitively and recreationally at the facility
- Use by the Primary School for delivery of elements of the PE curriculum and extension of existing links with Active Schools and KA Leisure to offer a series of extra-curricular activities such as a Primary School football festival, multi-sport (e.g. netball, basketball, rounders, athletics) and wider fitness and fun activities
- Holiday camp provision on the pitch for local children during Summer, Easter, October breaks - with both football and other multi - sports based activity
- a developing club infrastructure has been planned at West Kilbride for women and girls, with the expectation of further growth in the years ahead
- Hosting walking groups and social fitness sessions at the pitch, targeting people not comfortable with traditional gym environments
- Linking with key local service providers such as KA Leisure to develop a programme of activities that cater towards people with Mental and Physical disabilities e.g. ASN football sessions, multi-sport activities, Boccia
- Organising Walking Football to create an inclusive option for local residents of all fitness levels, abilities, and ages
- Collaborating with organisations such as the Sporting Memories Foundation to offer interactive sessions for older people with Dementia and other memory related conditions
- Hosting use by local Rugby Clubs for training sessions and a local Netball Club who had disbanded due to lack of facilities and have written a letter of support to suggest they would start back up again and utilise this facility to play Netball.
- Encouraging the delivery of coaching sessions at the facility by the SFA, Coerver, KA Leisure and private coaching schools



In delivering the project we will be working with a wide range of local partners including Active Schools, KA Leisure, West Kilbride Primary School, West Kilbride Boys Brigade, Clyde Coast Netball Club, Coerver Coaching, and Ardrossan Academicals Rugby Club - all of whom, together with our local youth teams and the MSP for the area, Kenneth Gibson, have offered letters of intended use or support for the project. These are set out in Appendix 3 of our Business Plan.

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

Please include:

- *The outcomes you aim to achieve*
- *How you will approach reducing inequality*
- *How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Improving access to financial services 2. Increasing social inclusion 3. Improving mental wellbeing 4. Supporting skills and work opportunities*

West Kilbride is one of the few communities within North Ayrshire without a full-size synthetic surface. The closest facility is 4.5 miles away in Ardrossan, with most alternatives located between 8 and 13 miles away. The North Coast Locality (with a population of c24,700) has just two full-size 3G pitches, amounting to one of the poorest provision rates in North Ayrshire (1 pitch per 12,350 residents) creating inequalities in access to opportunities locally to participate in sport and physical activity.

The project will directly address this issue and make a substantial difference to our local community in the following ways:

- Establishing an accessible and affordable 3G facility which provides a permanent “home ground” for all West Kilbride Community Sports Club teams and also meets the needs of the wider local community.
- Increasing youth participation in football and sport by providing a quality environment for regular coaching, training and matches
- Growing opportunities for women and girls and underrepresented groups to play football by offering a welcoming and inclusive space
- Supporting broader community health and wellbeing by using the versatility of the pitch for multi-sport and wider community use, including activities for older people and those with disabilities.
- Improving mental wellbeing and social connection for local residents through access to a range of programmes at the facility



- Creating a community hub that attracts visitors and creates employment and volunteering opportunities tied to the day-to-day running of the facility
- Lowering carbon emissions from reduced car travel out with the village to access external facilities
- Increasing civic pride and identity within West Kilbride, with Kirktonhall Glen recognised as a focal point for community life.

We have identified a range of specific target outcomes for the project over the first 5 year period:

- Provision of year-round community access to quality sports facilities for 75 hours per week across 7 days
- Over 560 weekly users across all programmes including players, coaches, volunteers, community groups and local residents
- Up to 10 youth teams with 150 plus registered layers using the facility on a regular basis by Year 3
- Establishment of a pathway for up to 30 girls and women to train and play on both a competitive and recreational basis over the first 5 years
- Up to 100 Primary School Aged children regularly benefit from the delivery of elements of the PE curriculum and extra-curricular activities at the facility
- Hosting regular activities (walking football, sporting memories, ASN football, Boccia etc) provided by local partners for up to 30 older residents and people with disabilities by Year 5
- Improved perceptions of community connection and mental wellbeing reported by local residents via local surveys by Year 3
- Increased participation in physical activity reported by local residents via local surveys by Year 3
- At least 80 volunteers engaged in activities at the facility annually.
- Accredited coach education and volunteer training opportunities for at least 10 people annually
- Annual revenue from hire fees, sponsorship and events increasing to £68k over 5 years
- Creation of 1 part-time Facility Officer and 2 sessional Facility Assistant or Coaching opportunities (paid at/above Real Living Wage levels) during the first 5 years.
- Hosting of up to 15 tournaments, festivals and community events at the facility over 5 years, increasing visitor numbers to the town



- Reduction of over 34,000 miles of team travel per year reducing carbon emissions by up to 9 tonnes of CO2 annually reported by West Kilbride teams via annual surveys.

Finally, the project aligns well with the 4 key priorities and main themes outlined in the North Coast Locality Plan:

1. Improving access to financial services and reducing financial exclusion
2. Increasing social inclusion
3. Improving mental wellbeing
4. Supporting skills and work opportunities

The project will contribute directly to these in the following ways:

- West Kilbride currently has no pitch which can be used intensively all year round, forcing teams to pay for travel and rental elsewhere. The new facility will offer affordable, local access to sport and physical activity and keep participation costs down, ensuring bookings are accessible for all and including free or subsidised access for targeted groups (Priority 1)
- The pitch will create a welcoming, inclusive space for people of all backgrounds to take part in sport or community activity – for example it will support girls' and women's football, walking football for older people and informal play opportunities for families and children. (Priority 2)
- The facility will help people improve and maintain their mental wellbeing through regular physical activity and social connection (Priority 3).
- The facility will help stimulate new volunteering and coaching opportunities for young people and adults – opportunities which build confidence, employability, and life skills. (Priority 4)



5. What engagement has taken place in relation to the project?

Please include the number of people who have been engaged with or consulted as well as the range of people.

We commissioned a significant community exercise in summer 2023 to assess local residents' views on the creation of a multi – use games area in Kirktonhall Glen. 153 responses were received. The key themes which emerged were.

- Clear frustration around the lack of suitable, accessible sports facilities in West Kilbride, particularly for young people.
- Year-Round Access - a major benefit would be that it would be usable in all weather, unlike the current grass pitch.
- Many respondents highlighted the positive role this facility could play in supporting children, young people, and families.
- Respondents saw clear links between physical activity and mental and emotional wellbeing, especially in a rural community.
- There was strong evidence of demand from residents and local sports clubs for a local, accessible and modern facility.
- Many residents support a space that's flexible, inclusive, and multi-purpose.

Typical quotes received from local residents included:

- *"The village is expanding... and there is nowhere for children and young adults to participate in sporting activities without going out of town."*
- *"Children need somewhere to play that is safe. Currently this area is full of water-filled holes."*
- *"This is a wasted area of ground... that could be used as a sports facility all year round."*
- *"Anything that may encourage young people and adults to get more physical activity, especially outdoors, would be great!"*
- *"It would enable many more people to engage in activities by offering variety and accessibility."*
- *"The number of children playing sports locally is increasing—more pitches are needed if we want to keep them involved."*



- *“Having a facility that isn’t just about competitive football opens it up to the whole community – kids, adults, older people.”*

These themes were also echoed by the community consultation work which informed the Local Place Plan (LPP), submitted by the West Kilbride Community Council in October 2023. This highlighted that Kirktonhall Glen is currently the primary recreational area in West Kilbride and noted that while the tennis club has seen improvements with the installation of all-weather courts, the football facilities were lacking, with the existing pitch suffering from poor drainage.

The LPP confirmed that the area is experiencing significant residential development, with several housing projects approved or underway projected to increase the local population to over 6,000 residents. This growth will inevitably lead to higher demand for recreational facilities, particularly for youth and community sports.

Of the 4 Highlights mentioned in the Place Plan, the “Development of all-weather sports facilities in the Glen” featured at No 2.

Finally we also consulted with the teams within the local area who are currently struggling to gain access to good facilities within the village. A total of 129 players (125 male and 4 female), 19 coaches, and 60 volunteers are involved in these teams - with the majority based in West Kilbride and Seamill, with others traveling from nearby areas such as the Three Towns, Fairlie, Largs, and Dalry.

Most teams train 2–3 times per week across 46–48 weeks. Between October and March they are forced to travel to train and play home games at facilities such as Kilwinning Academy 4G, Sport Scotland in Largs, and Auchenharvie in Stevenston - due primarily to the lack of floodlit or weather-resistant spaces in West Kilbride. Average weekly training facility hire increases from £30 - £50 in summer to £70 plus in winter whilst travel distances become a major issue, particularly for families without private transport or players traveling from outlying.

A key point raised is that West Kilbride is falling behind other towns like Largs and the Three Towns in sports infrastructure. A local facility would lower transport and pitch hire costs and help create a stronger community identity as a shared hub would bring West Kilbride teams and users together.

Consultations have also taken place with the Scottish Football Association identified as the key potential funder for the project through their Community Football Spaces Fund in 2025 which supports projects that deliver inclusive, accessible, and affordable football opportunities for people of all backgrounds and which help community clubs develop a sense of identity, purpose and ownership. The SFA are aware of the project



proposals and are anticipating our application when the Fund opens again in January 2026.

6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- *How the finances will be managed*
- *Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in North Coast? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities*
- *If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans*

As indicated previously the project will involve a delivery partnership between West Kilbride Community Sports Club and West Kilbride Amateur Football Club with the respective roles of each partner as follows

West Kilbride Community Sports Club will:

- raise the capital funding for the 3G project covering the installation of the artificial pitch, upgraded floodlighting and new changing room facilities.
- procure the construction works and, with the support of the project architect, manage the contract with the pitch contractor and the purchase and siting of the modular changing unit
- ensure capital funding is used as per conditions of grant and the submission of grant claims and progress reports to funders as required
- sublease the 3G pitch and new changing facilities to WKAFC to operate.
- establish a Sinking Fund for the future renewal of the artificial surface
- employ a part time Facility Officer to ensure the facility is effectively promoted, ensure high use and work with local organisations and partners to develop and deliver a range of community activities and initiatives from the facility.

West Kilbride Amateur Football Club Committee will:

- enter into a lease with WKCSG which would see them assume responsibility for overall facility management and pitch maintenance, accounting for pitch fee income and expenditure and management of pitch bookings including managing cash flow.
- be the key anchor user of the facility together with West Kilbride Youth Teams and providing sufficient income to help ensure the financial sustainability of the facility.



- make the facility available for the wider local community and other football teams beyond West Kilbride as required.
- contribute to a Sinking Fund for the future renewal of the artificial surface using income from pitch fees and other grants.
- establish a Facility User Group with representation from each of the Youth Teams and other appropriate community users to monitor the operation of the facility and to help maximise wider community use.

West Kilbride Community Sports Club will undertake the role of employing a Part Time (16hrs a week) Facility Officer and provide line management, support and supervision. The primary reason for this is that West Kilbride AFC are not an incorporated body and therefore not suited to a role currently as an employer. The postholders key responsibilities will include:

- Ensuring a strong brand and effective marketing of the facility to ensure high usage rates and engagement within the local community
- Identifying and developing sport, recreation and health initiatives which can take place at the facility.
- Identifying opportunities to secure external funding to support the facility and activities.
- Attending meetings and events and liaise with schools, partners, community groups and other stakeholders to develop new opportunities.
- Raising local awareness and participation in sport, particularly amongst underrepresented groups.
- Monitoring and reporting on activities and outcomes to funders and other stakeholders

We would like explore the potential to support this role by creating 2 Facility Assistant or Coaching training opportunities for local residents through employability placement programmes over the coming years. Currently 60 volunteers are involved with the running of the existing facilities and youth teams at the Glen – we expect this to grow to around 80 when the 3g facility is completed and the activity programme expands.

In developing our proposals for the facility we have ensured that we will be able to operate sustainably based on pitch hire income from local teams, wider community bookings, holiday camps, limited grant funding, and sponsorship. Our business plan has been based on prudent assumptions and informed by good practice from other 3G facility operators. The plan contains robust 5 year projections based on a number of key income and expenditure assumptions.

The main source of earned income (68%) for the facility will come from 3G pitch hire during the peak periods of weekday evenings and the weekends. Our pricing policies



have been determined by benchmarking at the lower end of rates of other regional facilities and following consultations with West Kilbride Teams and other local Clubs to ensure an appropriate balance between community affordability and the facility's financial sustainability.

We expect on average a further 14% of total income to come from wider community uses and holiday camp provision on the pitch for local children during Summer, Easter, October breaks. An annual target of £5000 for grant funding has been set within the plan which is realistic and achievable given our good track record in securing funding to date. Over the plan period income from grants will contribute 8% on average of total income.

The main operating expenditure categories for the project relate to the employment of a Part Time Facility Officer position to promote visibility and use of the Centre and stimulate pitch hire income; costs for WKAFC to lease the facility; and the Sinking Fund provision required to be able to replace the synthetic pitch when it is required following wear and tear which we expect to be around Year 10. These costs will account for c57% of total expenditure across the Plan period.

Benchmarking with other successful 3g operators has given us comfort that the our income and expenditure targets have been set at realistic levels and will enable us to deliver modest surpluses over the plan period and ensure we have a sustainable business model.



7. Amount of funding being requested

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

Amount of funding requested (£) **85000**

Please give a breakdown of cost and recent quotations where appropriate.

We have been able to secure capital costs estimates for the project from Carrick Construction. The indicative cost for project works and fees as per the specification below is anticipated to be c£955,000 excl VAT – however the Club has secured VAT advice to suggest that VAT on the project will be able to be recovered. The cost breakdown for the project is as follows:

Description	Amount
Prelims	
Contractors prelims	£78,228
Drainage systems	£23,468
Artificial pitch profile	£386,299
Fencing system	£98,650
Floodlighting system	£77,591
Miscellaneous items	£33,960
Testing and inspection	£4,800
Specialist maintenance	£13,875
Accommodation etc	£132,000
Contingency 5%	£42,000
Fees	£34,500
Inflation @3%	£30,000
Grand total	£955,371

A full cost breakdown is attached as Appendix 1

Our funding plan for the project is set out in the table below. The key strategic funder would be the Scottish Football Association Community Football Spaces Fund – with a contribution of 62% of total cost targeted.

Other Best Fit funders for the project have been identified as North Ayrshire Council CIF Fund and the Scottish Football Partnership Trust both of whom have contributed



8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on the monitoring and evaluation processes planned or in place.

We are a community sports club currently run entirely by volunteers but we understand the impact of what we're trying to achieve and the need to show that we are making a difference. We plan to keep things simple and will gather the following range of information which we feel is realistic given the resources we will have available.

Area	What Will be Monitored
Use of the facility/ Beneficiaries	Recording of: • No of Games and Training Sessions / No of Hours Used • No of Players/Participants and information on participants including age, gender, residence, disability, protected characteristics • % Occupancy levels in Peak and Off-Peak periods Use of information to monitor uptake as per business plan projections and to identify excess demand / access problems, and to help guide marketing and promotion activity to underrepresented groups; and identify need for creation of specific initiatives to address any issues arising.
Financial Sustainability	• Monthly financial reports noting peak and off-peak income from facility hire; event income; grant revenue funding received – all against target • Monthly financial reports noting expenditure against budget Use of information to monitor financial position, identify variances against budget and need to take remedial actions where required.
Satisfaction Levels	Surveys of facility users to gain feedback on services provided – from booking systems, access arrangements and affordability to quality of surface, changing rooms, spectator areas and refreshment facilities. Use of information to address concerns and review any policies or procedures necessary to ensure safe, welcoming, affordable, and accessible facility.



Coaching Infrastructure and Volunteering	Annual monitoring of: • Numbers and profile of coaches; qualifications obtained; progress through recognised national pathways • Numbers and profile of volunteers; no of volunteer hours; types of volunteering opportunities • Questionnaires gathering information from coaches/volunteers on impact of these opportunities on skill levels, confidence, self-esteem, and future aspirations Use of information to ensure facility is creating non-playing infrastructure and opportunities to supporting the development of volunteering.
General Management	• Survey work (suggested in Year 3) to establish improved perceptions of community connection and mental wellbeing and increased participation in physical activity reported by local residents • Case studies and testimonials highlighting positive impacts on individuals and the community • No of Health and Safety incident reports and safety-related incidents, with a focus on injuries and accidents.

Appendix 5 – Kirktonhall Glen Site Images





The CIF will support proposals and projects that:

- Connect with:
 - o The [Community Planning Partnership](#) (CPP) and [Locality priorities](#); and
 - o North Ayrshire Council's (NAC) 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 (attached), 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 Officer, by email if possible:

Louise Riddex
Locality Officer (Kilwinning & North Coast)
Economy and Communities
Community Development Team
St John's Primary School
Morrison Avenue
Stevenston
KA20 4HH

Email: lriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Tel: 01294475913
Mob: 07980964858

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>



1. Details of your organisation

Name of Organisation

Community Roots SC051963

Postal Address for Correspondence

Name of Contact Person Fi Thorburn

Position in Organisation Chairperson

Telephone Number

Email Address

2. Brief description of your organisation

Please include its legal status, aims and objectives, activities or services provided and how long it has been in existence.

Community Roots is a registered Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) based in West Kilbride. We support local residents through a holistic blend of community food access, sustainable growing, and wellbeing initiatives. Our work is rooted in reducing inequalities and building community resilience.

We run two core programmes:

- **The Village Larder** – providing affordable, dignity-based access to food, distributing fresh local produce, and supporting around 60 people weekly with over 150 registered users.
- **The Community Roots Garden** – a therapeutic garden offering food growing, volunteering, shared meals, herbal education, and nature-based wellbeing.

We have operated since 2020 (previously a constituted group West Kilbride Community Support Group before becoming Community Roots 2tier registered charity in 2022) and developed from the local COVID-19 mutual aid response. We



are governed by a volunteer board, operate with robust policies (including safeguarding, H&S, PVG, GDPR and financial management), and work closely with local partners including Age Well, West Kilbride Community Initiative, local churches, Ayrshire College, and a wide volunteer base.

Community Roots currently holds a 3-year National Lottery Community Led Fund award, supporting three part-time roles for people traditionally facing barriers to employment due to disability or caring responsibilities. These roles directly support the delivery and long-term sustainability of the Garden Haven project.



3. Title and summary of proposal

Tell us about your idea. Please describe in as much detail as possible, what the funding will be used for.

Please include:

- where it will be held / delivered
- who is your target audience
- who will benefit from it and how
- any partners that are involved.

The Garden Haven – A Community Food, Nature & Wellbeing Space

The Garden Haven is a purpose-built, insulated garden room within our Main Street Community Garden. CIF funding will allow us to complete the Phase 1 construction and provide essential fittings, security, and accessibility elements needed to safely open the space to the public.

Where it will be delivered

- Main Street Community Roots Garden, West Kilbride
- Additional accessible activities will be delivered at the lower Boyd Orr Garden (recently agreed for transfer), which offers level access for disabled participants.
- Polyunnel growing & learning provided at the garden at 53a Main Street where we have a 3m by 6m polycarbonate polyeco tunnel purchased with CMHWP funding.

Who will benefit

- Older adults
- Disabled and neurodivergent residents
- People experiencing poor mental health or isolation
- Families facing financial hardship
- Carers and people with chronic illness
- Volunteers and community groups
- Residents wanting skills in food growing, budgeting, sustainability, and wellbeing



What the Garden Haven will provide

- A year-round insulated indoor space for workshops, wellbeing sessions, peer support, craft groups, learning, and social gatherings
- A small kitchen for cooking lessons, nutrition education, and shared low-cost meals
- Free complementary therapies delivered by qualified practitioners and supervised Ayrshire College students
- Community-led sessions on gardening, sustainability, nature connection, and climate-friendly living
- An accessible, welcoming space for those unable to join outdoor gardening due to mobility, confidence, or health limitations

Partners involved

- Ayrshire College (Complementary Therapy students delivering supervised sessions)
- Age Well (older adult wellbeing activities)
- West Kilbride Community Initiative
- Local churches
- Environmental Group (lower Boyd Orr garden transition)
- Volunteer therapists and skilled community members
- Thrive Social and Therapeutic Horticulture support



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

Please include:

- The outcomes you aim to achieve
- How you will approach reducing inequality
- How this proposal fits with the Locality Partnership priorities of 1. Improving access to financial services 2. Increasing social inclusion 3. Improving mental wellbeing 4. Supporting skills and work opportunities

The Garden Haven will make a significant contribution to wellbeing, inclusion, food security and climate awareness across the North Coast locality.

At Community Roots, we follow a permaculture approach in how we grow food, how we care for our spaces, and how we run the organisation as a whole. Permaculture is about working with nature, reducing waste, sharing resources and designing systems that support people as well as the environment. This ethos guides every part of what we do—from how we grow and compost, to how we support wellbeing, to how we plan future activities.

We want to be a practical, local example of how small, manageable changes can make a meaningful difference to both personal health and to the environment, locally and globally. The Garden Haven gives us a dedicated place to share this learning through workshops, demonstrations, conversations and hands-on activities. The building itself, alongside the garden, acts as a model of sustainable living, showing how energy-efficient design, thoughtful planting and low-impact choices can benefit the whole community.

Outcomes we aim to achieve

- Improved mental wellbeing through free therapies, stress management and nature-based activities
- Reduced loneliness and increased social connection through peer support and inclusive community activities
- Improved food confidence and nutrition skills, helping families manage during the cost-of-living crisis



- Increased environmental awareness, sustainable growing, and climate-friendly food engagement
- Strengthened community resilience through volunteering and shared leadership
- Safer, more accessible social spaces for disabled people and those with limited mobility

Reducing inequalities

The project specifically addresses key inequalities identified locally:

- 27 people said they want therapies but cannot afford them
- 43 people want mental health peer support
- 38 people want meditation or quiet mindful space
- 41 people want to learn how to eat well on a tight budget
- 12 people are unable to attend groups due to physical/mental health barriers
- 14 people feel uncomfortable attending alone
- 6 people cannot find local groups at all
- Add about lgbtq

By offering free, local, non-clinical, accessible support, the Garden Haven removes the financial, confidence and transport barriers identified by the community.

Fit with Locality Partnership Priorities

1. Improving access to financial services (including cost-of-living resilience)

- Cooking on a budget, batch cooking, and reducing food waste (41–45 people interested and we aim to increase interest in promotion of these goals)
- Energy-efficient building with solar and low running costs
- Helping families manage food costs through fresh produce, growing skills and cooking support

2. Increasing social inclusion

- Quiet, non-judgemental space for people who struggle in traditional social spaces
- Peer support groups for: mental health, neurodiversity, carers, chronic illness, grief, sobriety
- Accessible activities in the lower Boyd Orr garden



- Consultation responses described the Haven as “inclusive”, “welcoming”, “safe”, “comforting”, “supportive”, “peaceful”.

3. Improving mental wellbeing

- High community demand:
 - o 43 for MH support
 - o 38 for meditation
 - o 20 for chronic illness support
- Free complementary therapies – 44 say they would use them
- Early-intervention, preventative wellbeing approach (linked to CPP priorities)

4. Supporting skills and work opportunities

- Three part-time roles already secured via NLCLF with people who face challenges accessing work (disability, caring responsibilities)
- Volunteering roles in gardening, hospitality, events, peer support and maintenance
- Skill-building workshops: cooking, growing, sustainability, herbalism
- Student placements through Ayrshire College
- Thrive training and resources in Social and Therapeutic Horticulture (Trellis recognised training awards)



5. What engagement has taken place in relation to the project?

Please include the number of people who have been engaged with or consulted as well as the range of people.

A community consultation was conducted between the 9th October and 26th November 2025- advertised on local social media pages and community groups, shared with Village Larder customers and visitors to the Community Roots Garden. Collected digitally online via Office Forms and participants encouraged to assist those without social media or digital access with completing the form. The raw excel data and screenshots of the entire consultation and results are available in the folder attached to this application. 98 responses were made to the form.

Key statistics:

- **95%** say transforming derelict spaces into community use is “very important”
- **89%** say environmentally sustainable building is very important (average 4.79/5)
- **35 people** rated access to green space as “very important”
- **58** want seasonal/local cooking workshops
- **54** want to learn to grow herbs and vegetables
- **45** want to learn how to reduce food waste
- **43** want mental health support
- **38** want meditation/mindfulness
- **27** want complementary therapies but cannot afford them
- **44** would access free therapies at the Garden Haven
- **14** feel uncomfortable attending groups alone
- **12** cannot attend groups due to health conditions

Key themes:

- People described the space as “**peaceful**”, “**hope-inspiring**”, “**safe**”, “**inclusive**”, “**heartwarming**”, “**supportive**”, “**magical**”, “**essential**”, “**empowering**”, “**filled with life**”.
- Residents emphasised the need for accessibility improvements, which is why we will deliver accessible activities in the lower Boyd Orr garden and install path surfacing, seating and handrails.



This consultation clearly demonstrates strong demand, diverse engagement, and community ownership.



6. How will the project be managed?

Please include:

- How the finances will be managed
- Does the proposed project contribute to volunteering or employment opportunities in North Coast? Please include the number of volunteering opportunities and employment opportunities
- If there are any staff requirements, please outline your HR plans

Financial Management

- Managed by Community Roots SCIO board and treasurer
- Transparent financial reporting using a live dashboard
- Annual independent examination of accounts
- CIF funds will be ring-fenced and fully receipted

Volunteering & Employment

- 3 part-time freelance staff funded for the next 2 years via NLCLF
- Thrive STH training underway for Coordinator with the other 2 freelancers expected to undertake the Intro and Practice modules in 2026-27. Coordinator will do the additional training for the STH Award Certificate. Thrive is recognised by Trellis (main body for STH) and we will work to their guidance and use their resources
- Volunteer roles: gardening, hospitality, events, peer support, path maintenance, admin
- Opportunities for NAC and CPP staff volunteering

HR

- Freelance agreements in place
- PVG checks where required
- Strong safeguarding, H&S and supervision procedures



7. Amount of funding being requested

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

Amount of funding requested (£) **17500**

Please give a breakdown of cost and recent quotations where appropriate.

Breakdown

Phase 1 construction gap: £13,664.59



Phase 2 Interior fittings & fixtures: £2,259.24
Boundary fencing: £1,260

In response to feedback at the EOI meeting:

Coded gate lock: £135.20

Solar cameras (x2): £139.98

SD cards (as no wifi connection planned immediately (x2): £29.98

Total: £17,488.99 (rounded to £17,500)

Match Funding

Received:

- **Ayrshire Climate Hub: £2,100** (including £1,000 for Haven build and £1,100 for workshops/landscaping)
- **National Lottery Community Led Fund: £150,000** over 3 years (Year 1 completed)
 - Includes **£50,000** for the Haven build (where £2,200 has already been spent on engineer and warrant fees)
- **Own organisational funds + CMHWB underspend (with permission):** used for architectural drawings, planning fees, tree clearing, and **£2,500 contractor deposit**
- **In-kind:** Volunteer time, produce, skills, space use

Pledged:

- **CWB Participatory Budgeting: £210**
- **In-Kind:** Workshop and Taster Session Practitioners

Applying For:

- **Restoring Nature Fund** for decking, rain garden and further landscaping amount tbc
- **NAC Energy and Sustainability for Solar Panels £15000**
- **WKCT £2000**
- **CMHWBF Year 5&6** for continuation of Larder Coordinator Role and workshop and training programmes



8. Monitoring and evaluation process

Please include detail on the monitoring and evaluation processes planned or in place.

We will monitor and evaluate the project using:

- Attendance logs for each session



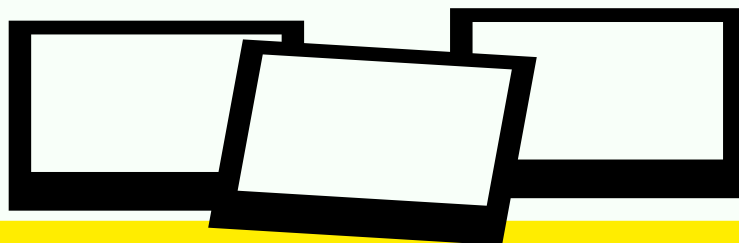
- Pre/post wellbeing indicators (based on validated wellbeing scales)
- Participant feedback forms and testimonials
- Volunteer tracking and progression
- Annual report submitted to NAC
- Financial monitoring (itemised spend, receipts, statements)
- Monitoring against CIF outcomes and locality priorities
- Measure our work against the Trellis and Thrive framework for Green Health and Social Horticulture submitting case studies also



Locality Partnership Progress Update

Poverty/Financial Inclusion

- Skelmorlie Community Council – Created sub committee for lights in the park. Com Dev team will support group to access funding for lights. .
- Skelmorlie Community Association – Supporting association to access funding to improve IT services within the building for the group. CDT will help group to access rural funding to support them.
- Skelmorlie Youth group –Free opportunity to access youth work services. CDT Supported young people to apply for PB with a view to replenish resources.
- Supported 22 Locality applicants with their application for PB and 13 Youth groups. Worked with community reviewers to establish which groups go through to voting, support public and groups to utilise their votes.

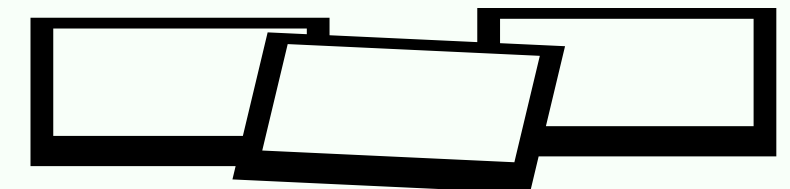


Health and Wellbeing

- Actively supporting Skelmorlie community council to build positive relationships amongst the group. This will in turn improve relations for the community and allow the group to work pro actively to support their community. Working to build confidence in their roles as office bearers and the process of community councils.
- Transferable skills learned by young people attending youth group such as teamwork, leadership, communication problem solving, decision making, confidence, active listening and building relationships these skills are valuable not only in personal life but also in academic settings.
- Edited a short video on the evaluation of the Cooking on A Budget Course that took place in West Kilbride CC. The video gives a flavour of the course, and feature interviews from the learners that took part. The video is to be shared as part of Adult Learners Week at the end of November.

Regeneration and Increasing Civic Pride

- Supported Skelmorlie garden group and Skelmorlie community association to get support in fixing paving around the community centre. This will improve the area but increase the safety of community members. Linked support with Community payback team.
- Numerous groups throughout the north Coast Locality are being supported through the Community Asset Transfer Process.
- Clyde Coast & Cumbrae Men's Shed were the winners of the Scottish Men's Shed Association's Shed of the year for Scotland.
- Various groups within the North Coast Locality were successful in gaining UKSPF (Shared prosperity fund).

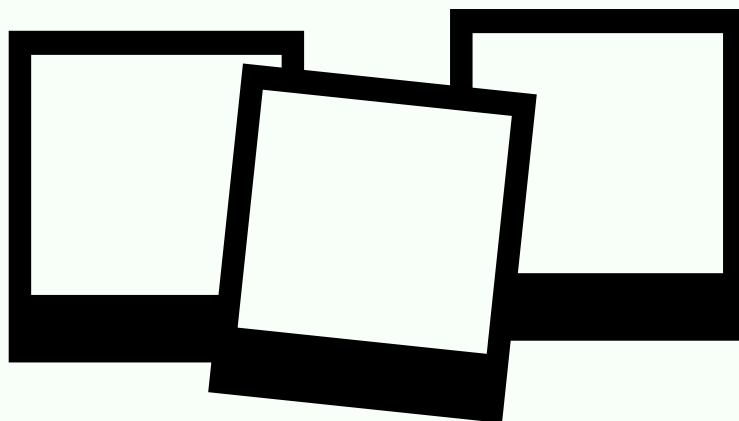




Locality Partnership Progress Update

Poverty/Financial Inclusion

- Housing have made referrals to both Money Smart and CHAP for residents in North Coast.
- LP sub group meeting has been arranged to look at the stats of child poverty, and discuss how

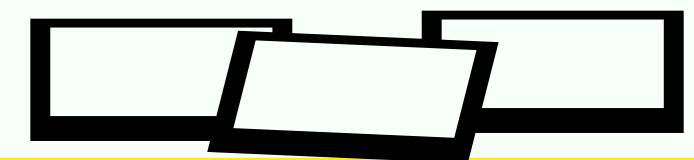


Health and Wellbeing

- Staff at Largs youth group noticed young people discussing vaping as less harmful than smoking. To address this, they delivered a workshop on the dangers of vaping, including harmful ingredients, addiction risks, and long-term lung damage. During the session, young people also shared concerns about exam stress, prompting an open discussion on healthy coping strategies and mindfulness. Participants contributed their own techniques, leading to a peer-led session on managing stress. This reinforced that vaping is not a healthy coping mechanism but a harmful habit that can lead to addiction, linking both topics to promote informed choices and wellbeing.
- CLD providing support to Moorburn Park. Met with residents for a consultation on what is needed etc and came to the agreement of launching an NC Discovery Award. A coffee morning will be hosted on 28th November where other services and current participants of discovery will attend and share knowledge and experiences.

Regeneration and Increasing Civic Pride

- Young people from the North Coast Youth Forum are currently in the preparation phase of helping facilitate at the West Kilbride Yuletide event. The young people will be charged with manning 'the secret garden' in which community members will be invited to walk through a light show and interact with the young people who will be dressed as elves, under supervision of staff. It is hoped that this will lead to informal intergenerational work as the young people will be engaging with community members of all ages, showing active involvement from local young people in a large community event. This would be an opportunity to advertise the North Coast Youth Forum to local young people through engagement, there will be an opportunity for other local young people to interact with the forum and see how young people are involved in various capacities within their communities.

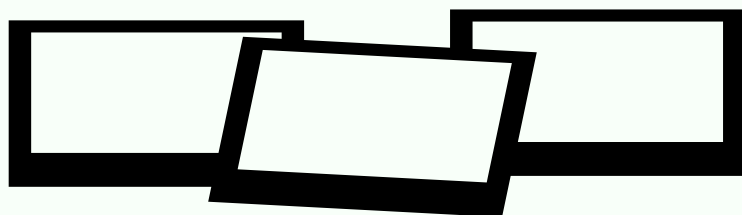




Locality Partnership Progress Update

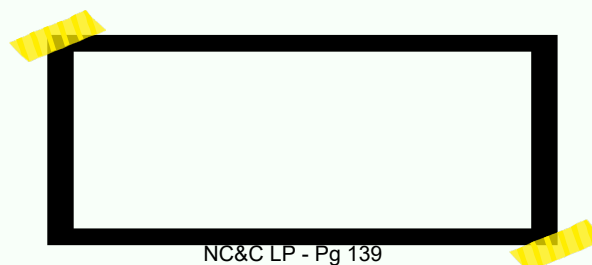
Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- Skelmorlie youth group – Actively participated within surveys in partnership with the health and social care partnership. This allowed young peoples voices to be heard and allowed them have their say on issues that affected them.
- Supporting Skelmorlie community council to create sub committee and support lighting being installed within the park. Community members are also involved.
- PB – Encouraging groups to vote for projects of their choosing.
- As part of Challenge Poverty week, TACT brought together over 40 services through a Community Connections event where members of the public had the opportunity to speak to a range of support / advice organisations



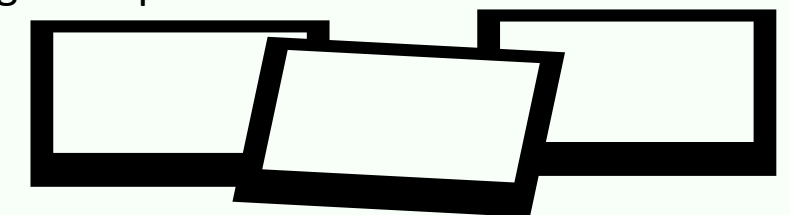
Work and Skills

- Skelmorlie community council – Updated their constitution. Will adopt the new constitution at the end of this month.
- Older young people attending Skelmorlie Youth group will be invited to work in collaboration with Skel CC to ensure youth voice is being represented within the community. The young people will work with the rest of the group to gather feedback to share with community council going forward.
- West Kilbride Adult Learning Committee autumn term is up and running. There is an array of various payable courses (37) available. Courses commenced from the start of September. This terms the committee are also running the following free courses: Digital Security in the Digital World, Digital Skills for the Over 50's, and British Sign Language Taster.



Climate Action and Local Environment

- Support was given to gardening group in Skelmorlie to contact Community Payback Team to gain help to improve access to their garden and community centre.
- North Coast Youth Forum are still working with Largs litter project campaign. They were recently involved in putting up the last 'litter emoji' sign within Largs campus. There are various signs across Largs, with aim being to promote utilising local green spaces and clean and tidy. Young people are also representing the Youth Forum at various litter picking events that are facilitated within Largs, with the goal to be for young people to take ownership of the grounds around the school, there's a lot of green space around the school at the hills etc so its to encourage young people to take pride in their campus which in turn benefits the local green spaces.

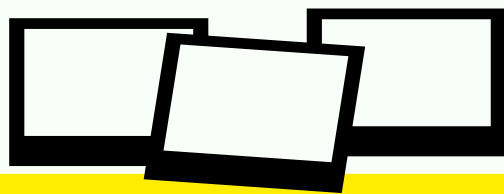




Locality Partnership Progress Update

Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

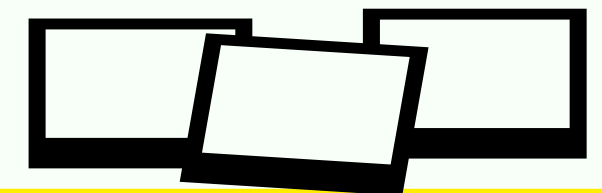
- CLD team facilitated an Older Persons Voice event at Cumbrae Gardens, bringing representatives from all localities together to explore how NAC can improve life for older people. The council leader attended, and discussions focused on key issues: communication, transport, community safety, healthcare access, and public spaces. Next steps were agreed, with staff taking actions to address these issues locally. Fifteen representatives participated, ensuring broad input. Additionally,
- North Coast Older Persons Voice group have secured a free meeting space at the Cameron Centre and CLD staff have been engaging partners, including Largs unpaid carers group and Dementia Friendly Largs. All are keen to collaborate. The next challenge is finalizing a meeting date that suits most participants, which has proven difficult but remains a priority.



Work and Skills

- While our youth work in West Kilbride is with under 12s and is primarily focused on personal and social development, some activities have supported early skills development that aligns with the Work & Skills priority. These include: Confidence-building workshops and team-based activities that promote communication, problem-solving, and collaboration – all foundational skills for future learning and employability.
- TACTs Kindness Krew project is now operating in Largs and are working towards social inclusion through befriending, digital support, journey buddies & handy helpers
- Tacts Positive Pathways employability support covers the whole of North Ayrshire with North Coast residents being eligible to take part.
- Digi Drop-in to start in Largs. Four participants enrolled. Working collaboratively with LDT to plan logistics and set up the delivery space. Focus on digital inclusion skills to ensuring accessible learning opportunities for participants.

Climate Action and Local Environment





Locality Partnership Progress Update

Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

Work and Skills

Climate Action and Local Environment

- Young people from the North Coast Youth Forum have just started working on a second project in partnership with the West Kilbride Media Studio. Young people from the group have expressed interest in filmmaking and acting, with one young person planning to leave school at the end of the year to attend a college course in film production. The project aims are - develop creative confidence and storytelling skills, learn film production techniques, including one-take planning, gain practical experience in collaboration, communication, and project management, celebrate local identity and youth voices from North Ayrshire and Inverclyde, finally showcasing the work the young people have done and submit it to amateur film awards. The initiative provides young people with valuable experience in film production, helping to build skills and confidence in this industry that could lead to further education and future careers.

North Coast Locality Partnership

Date: 02/12/2025

Subject: Police Scotland: Wellbeing and Partnership Working.

Purpose: To provide the Locality Partnership with an update on relevant activity linking to wellbeing and partnership working and the priorities of the North Coast Locality Partnership:

1. Improving Access to Financial Services
2. Increasing Social Inclusion
3. Improving Mental Well Being
4. Supporting Skills and Work Opportunities

1. Overview of relevant activity linking to the Locality Priorities, Wellbeing and Partnership Working since the last meeting.

Campus Officer (Largs Academy)

Moorburn Manor

Following multiple reports to police regarding youths attending at the derelict Moorburn Manor Care Home, both during school time and outwith, youths have been identified and intervention work carried out to prevent reoccurrence. This has resulted in a dramatic reduction in attendance at the care home and calls to the police, leading to reduced community unrest around the area.

Work Experience

12 Pupil selected from S4/5/6 from Largs Academy, Ardrossan Academy, St Matthews Academy, Auchenhavie Academy attended at a campus officer organised week long work experience. Pupils gained valuable experience of the work place, policing work opportunities, made friends out with their own friendship group and gained increased confidence from participating in role play examples.

Fire Safety

Working alongside Scottish fire and safety delivery of firework safety to all S1/2 pupils, education was provided around the legalities of purchasing fireworks, the community impact of bonfires and fireworks and the staying safe during this time of the year.

Seasonal

Input delivered to full school assemblies of St Mary and Largs Primary school highlighting the risks and dangers associated with trick or treating for Halloween and Bonfire night and making sure appropriate action was taken to keep themselves safe going around doors, crossing roadways, being visible. Topics covered were passed to parents in school newsletter.

Anti Bullying

Launch of Anti bullying week at St Marys primary delivered to full school assembly highlighting positive relationships, treating others with respect both in person and online.

Road Safety

Full school assembly delivered to St Marys primary highlighting the dangers they may face traveling to and from school and when they are crossing the road. Highlighted the importance of using school crossing patrol persons, pedestrian crossings, not walking whilst being on mobile phone crossing between parked vehicles amongst other topics. Reason was identified due to reduced hours of light in winter months.

Hate Crime

Attendance at the Largs Academy equalities group, a lunch time group where members of the LGBTQ community are giving opportunity to ask questions and report any instances of hate in a safe environment.

“THE GAFF”

Delivery of the topic of “the gaff” an open conversation with pupils of S4 PSE classes, covering topics to keep themselves safe when attending house parties. Conversation allowed campus police officer the opportunity to cover multiple topics (smoking/vaping/drugs/alcohol/MVP) whilst relating it to age related life experience. Topic has been a self identified learning technique the campus officer hopes to roll out further across the school if successful. Plans being identified for **(the match/the prom/ the streets)** where multiple topics can be covered and relating it to appropriate age and stage.

Preventions and Interventions Officer

Joint work alongside NAC Trading Standards has been carried out in order to support the local community, 9 events have been attended in relation to provide advice and guidance on how to prevent being victim of “scams”. Events covering Millport, Largs and West Kilbride have been attended.

Locality Policing

Attendance at the recent event at Largs Academy “Helping Ayrshire’s Children Thrive in the Digital Age”. This involved discussion and talks on aspects around Mobile phone use and the mental wellbeing of children through school ages.

2. Asks of the Locality Partnership

Nil

Name Lisa Thomson

Title Inspector, Police Scotland.



New Scots, Core Skills and Gaelic Team Locality Partnership Progress Update

Poverty/Financial Inclusion

- New Scots Whitehurst Hub sessions supported benefit entitlement checks and applications working with partners to deliver support – **North Ayrshire Wide**
- 1-2-1 support for New Scots not able attending the New Scots Whitehurst Hub sessions have been offered - **NA Wide**

Health and Wellbeing

- New coffee morning for elderly Asian community launched in Irvine with participants for all over North Ayrshire attending - **Delivered Irvine Locality attendees NA Wide**
- Bourtree Belles new Scots women's group shows improved independence and confidence through social activities and trips with 14 women attending – **Irvine Locality**
- Mental health awareness embedded in ESOL curriculum using storyboards and roleplay – **North Ayrshire Wide**
- New Scots Women's Group in Garnock fosters social inclusion and cultural exchange – **Garnock Valley Locality**
- In October, the Equality and Inclusion Manager from Ayrshire and Arran NHS attended the Big Community ESOL class. The team spoke to learners to gather their views on any healthcare they have received and the challenges that ethnic minorities face when accessing healthcare – **NA Wide**

Health and Wellbeing

- 3 New Scots Family Fun days were delivered in partnership with HSCP for Ukrainian, Afghan and Syrian communities respectively – **Delivered in Kilwinning Locality attendees NA Wide**
- New core skills referral introduced for Occupational Health partners introduced – **NA Wide**



New Scots, Core Skills and Gaelic Team

Locality Partnership Progress Update

Community Engagement/Participation and Voice

- ESOL Learner Forum established with 14 learners participating to shape service provision and remove barriers – **NA Wide**
- Largs Gaelic Choir recently took part in the Royal National Mòd in Fort William - **North Coast Locality**
- Fèis Arainn summer week attracted 80 young people, promoting traditional music and culture - **Arran Locality**
- We ran a Summer School for young New Scots and unaccompanied minors in Saltcoats and Irvine, the summer school provided a safe and supporting space to keep learning, practising English and socialising – **Delivered Irvine and Three Towns Locality attendees NA Wide**
- New Scots Women's group continues to run weekly at The George Steven Centre and is now open to all women in the community to attend making friendships with each other and the Scots women who attend – **Garnock Valley Locality**

Work and Skills

- Core Skills drop-ins in Irvine, Kilwinning and Stevenson support literacy, numeracy, and digital skills; 3 learners gained permanent employment – **Irvine/Kilwinning/Three Towns Locality**
- ESOL and Employability class in Irvine focuses on CV writing and digital skills for job searches – **Delivered Irvine Locality attendees NA Wide**
- Skills for Work sessions at Kilwinning Library help adults develop employability skills – **Kilwinning Locality**
- Core skills volunteer recruitment drive launched with 7 volunteers completing induction and shadowing with the core skills team – **NA Wide**
- New Scots have been supported to take up volunteer opportunities supporting them with interviews, language required and ongoing support while volunteering – **NA Wide**

Work and Skills

- We conducted a survey of ESOL learners to gather feedback on what is important to them and identify areas for improvement. We received around 30 responses, and the survey results were featured in our newsletter for partners – **NA Wide**
- New Scots were assisted with CVs, college & work applications. referred to CEIS employment services and supported to secure a place on a Street League programme - **NA Wide**