
NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

15 June 2021

Cabinet

Title:	Proposal for Community Investment Fund (CIF) Expenditure
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Purpose:	To determine two applications by the Kilwinning Locality Partnership to allocate CIF funding to proposed projects and to seek permission to draw down previously agreed Community Investment Fund funding in respect of the Millport Town Hall project.
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Recommendation:	<p>That Cabinet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Reviews the enclosed applications from the Kilwinning Locality Partnership in line with CIF criteria;b) Approves the CIF application in relation to Kilwinning Community Events;c) Approves the CIF application in relation to Kilwinning Community Football Academy; andd) Approves the early release of a further £75,000 from the £200k CIF funding previously allocated by North Ayrshire Council for the Millport Town Hall project.
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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided a funding allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All strategy.
- 1.2 Locality Partnerships have subsequently continued to work on their local action plans and are refining proposals for expenditure in line with their locally identified needs. This is a challenging process, and it is a testament to the dedication of the Locality Partnerships and their community partners that proposals are now emerging to provide creative approaches to addressing local challenges.
- 1.3 This report brings forward proposals from Kilwinning which respond to the specific need of the local community and which has been developed based on local circumstances and opportunities.

- 1.4 The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership developed the Millport Town Hall proposal through a process of collaboration and consensus and £200,000 was approved from CIF Funds, subject to the matched funding being secured in 2019. Cabinet approved the early release of £30,000 to allow the project to progress in 2020.
- 1.5 Millport Town Hall has continued to make progress and secure external funding including £1.5million from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grant Fund in January 2021. This is pivotal to the completion of the project funding and the Millport Town Hall SCIO is requesting to draw down a further £75,000 to support cash-flow during the next phase of the restoration works.
- 1.6 These proposals have been approved to be submitted to Cabinet through a process of collaboration and consensus by the respective Locality Partnerships.

2. Background

- 2.1 Within its budget for 2017-18, North Ayrshire Council provided an allocation for the creation of an innovative fund to enable communities to address the priorities they have identified through Locality Planning Partnerships and within the context of North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership's Fair for All Strategy, to be distributed among Localities as follows:

Locality	Population	Value
Irvine	29%	£754,000
Kilwinning	11%	£286,000
3 Towns	23%	£598,000
Garnock Valley	15%	£390,000
North Coast	18%	£468,000
Arran	4%	£104,000

- 2.2 It was agreed that the CIF will support proposals and projects that connect with:
 - The North Ayrshire Fair for All Strategy;
 - The Community Planning Partnership and Locality priorities;
 - North Ayrshire Council's values, priorities and business objectives;
 - The Community Wealth Building and Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Strategies;
 - 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.

2.3 The proposal development and application process has been agreed as follows:

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

2.4 The enclosed applications have been developed by community partners and North Ayrshire Council officers and are now recommended for approval by Cabinet. The proposals are as follows:

2.4.1 The Kilwinning Locality Partnership

The allocation and funds committed to date are outlined in the table below.

The Kilwinning Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£286 000
Kilwinning McGavin Park	£45,000
Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub	£41,190
Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub – Phase 2	£15,000
Balance	£184,810

Proposal: McGavin Park Phase 3 – Kilwinning Community Events: £45,000 (Appendix 1)

The proposal is to further develop McGavin Park in Kilwinning with stage 3 of the project being the introduction of an assault course and separate link crossover from the play area to the central path network. This follows the successful transformation of the former tennis court area into a community playpark and outdoor gym to encourage health and wellbeing. The demand for the original project was based on extensive community engagement and the Kilwinning Charrette. The outdoor gym has proved very popular with the public, especially during the recent lockdowns when indoor facilities have been closed. A gap in play and exercise provision has been identified. This was through the initial community engagement but was unaffordable in early phases. The need has been further supported by face to face feedback as well as online comments after 6 months of successful operation. The current resources in the park are aimed at younger children, and adults/young adults. The addition of the assault course will appeal to the age group that aren't currently catered for. The North Ayrshire Council Streetscene team has agreed to include the new equipment in their regular inspection for health and safety and cleaning regime. The community group will be responsible for the repair or replacement of any broken equipment.

2.4.2 Kilwinning Locality Partnership

The allocation and funds committed to date are outlined in the table below.

The Kilwinning Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£286 000
Kilwinning McGavin Park	£45,000
Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub	£41,190
Multi-Purpose Youth and Community Hub – Phase 2	£15,000
Kilwinning McGavin Park Phase 3 (subject to approval)	£45,000
Balance	£139,810

Proposal: Almswall Park Pitch Replacement – Kilwinning Community Football Academy: £45,000 (Appendix 2)

In December 2020 KCFA secured the Community Asset Transfer of Almswall Park (3G Football Pitch), Pavilion and Car Park from North Ayrshire Council. This will become the hub for outdoor football, physical activity and community programmes. In March 2021 KCFA secured the lease of the Blacklands Hall which the group has renovated and opened for use as at the end of April 2021. The club have secured external lets which have already created a sustainable operation for the Academy. Appendix 2 outlines the significant community contribution that KCFA is already making in Kilwinning.

Their funding request is to contribute towards the cost of a replacement pitch, providing a 4G surface at Almswall Park. There has been no significant investment into Almswall Park for a number of years and the surface coming to the end of its natural life expectancy. Almswall is viewed as a poor weather facility by the local footballing community. KCFA want to redevelop Almswall into a facility that players, volunteers and anyone connected with the club can feel proud of and become one of the many fantastic community venues in Kilwinning and North Ayrshire. KCFA want to provide high-quality experiences for their players and a venue that they can be proud of and want to use on a regular basis. By being able to offer a state-of-the-art facility they will be able to increase opportunities and activities that will be on offer to the local community. The total cost of the project is £242,805.

2.4.3 The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership

The North Coast and Cumbrae Locality Partnership CIF allocation	£468 000
Cycling Without Age- Fairlie	£22 800
Clearer Minds	£30,200
Millport Town Hall	£200,000
Sing Your Sing	£14, 892
Locality Priorities Worker	£35, 948
Balance	£164,160

Proposal: Millport Town Hall: £75,000 (Appendix 3)

In August 2019 the Cabinet agreed to award £200,000 from the North Coast's allocation of the CIF to Millport Town Hall for the restoration of the building subject to:

- (i) the award being set aside for 12 months to allow for the full cost of the project to be funded; and
- (ii) a proportional reduction in the award should the overall cost of the project reduce.

The North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership is requesting the early release £75,000 to Millport Town Hall. In February 2020 Cabinet approved the early release of £30,000 to enable the project to progress with architectural and quality surveyor reports. That leveraged in time-limited external funding. The project's progress depended on reports from an architect and a quantity surveyor to inform the next step of the restoration and for further funding applications where the essential detail requires to be provided by specific experts. The Covid-19 pandemic impacted on the external funding available and made an already challenging task, more difficult. In September 2020, Cabinet reviewed the timescale and extended this until August 2021. Despite the challenges Millport Town Hall has continued to make progress and secure external funding. In January 2021 the project secured £1.5million from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grants Fund. This is pivotal to the completion of the project funding. In February 2021 Cabinet approved the early release of £70,000 to enable the project to progress to the next phase of the restoration works.

The property has been alienated from Millport Common Good and the Community Asset Transfer to the Millport Town Hall SCIO is now complete. The Millport Town Hall SCIO is requesting to draw down a further £75,000 to aid cash-flow as the work progresses into the next phase of the restoration works. If the current request is approved, the balance of the previously agreed CIF funding would be £25,000. This is an essential part of the project's funding package and further proposals will be brought to Cabinet when the project's funding package is completely agreed with other external funding partners.

3. Proposals

3.1 That Cabinet:

- a) Reviews the enclosed applications from the Kilwinning Locality Partnership in line with CIF criteria;
- b) Approves the CIF application in relation to Kilwinning Community Events;
- c) Approves the CIF application in relation to Kilwinning Community Football Academy; and
- d) Approves the early release of a further £75,000 from the £200k CIF funding previously allocated by North Ayrshire Council for the Millport Town Hall project.

4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty

Financial

4.1 CIF funding is allocated within existing resources.

Human Resources

4.2 In Kilwinning, local volunteering opportunities and 2 employment opportunities will be sustained, and these are detailed in Appendix 2. In Millport, capital works are creating local employment opportunities and volunteering opportunities.

Legal

4.3 None.

Equality/Socio-economic

4.4 The purpose of Locality Planning is to reduce inequalities, increase community cohesion and advance community empowerment. Each of the CIF proposals is tested against that purpose before being presented to Cabinet. The Kilwinning applications provide opportunities for health, physical activity and wellbeing in the heart of Kilwinning are no or low cost. In addition, Kilwinning Community Football Academy has already recognised and provided interventions to support financial inequalities. Kilwinning Community Football Academy recognise the inequalities in their area and are developing community programmes to address issues like digital inclusion. The Millport Town Hall proposal addresses inequalities by better meeting the needs of island communities and addressing social isolation and wellbeing needs amongst older people, in particular.

Environmental and Sustainability

4.5 Environmental and sustainability issues are considered in relation to each CIF application. The Millport Town Hall building will meet building and environmental standards and recently secured £20,000 for solar panels from the Green islands Fund.

Key Priorities

4.6 The proposals contained within the report support the North Ayrshire Council Plan priorities:

- Active and strong communities
- Inclusive, growing and enterprising local economy
- People enjoy good life-long health and wellbeing.

Community Wealth Building

4.7 The applications support the following pillars of community wealth building:

- Creating volunteering and skills development opportunities.
- Sustaining local employment through the redevelopment and in the ongoing operation;
- Advancing community enterprises;
- Advancing local ownership of underused land and buildings; and
- Supporting local business activities and increasing the variety of ownership models.

5. Consultation

5.1 The proposals contained within this report have been developed by the Locality Partnerships, through consultation with local people, including McGavin Park and Kilwinning Community Football Academy user-groups of young people, adults and partner organisations in Kilwinning. There have been three formal community consultation events on Cumbrae, as well as ongoing informal engagement with the majority of the island population and many visitors, culminating in the end of Feasibility Report presentation on 30 March 2021. Millport Town Hall community consultations have taken place during the development of the Community Investment Fund and the Community Asset Transfer applications.

Audrey Sutton
Executive Director (Communities & Education)

For further information please contact **Rhona Arthur, Head of Service (Connected Communities)**, on **(01294) 324415**.

Background Papers

Appendix 1: CIF Application: McGavin Park Phase 3 – Kilwinning Community Events

Appendix 2: CIF Application: Almswall Park Pitch Replacement - Kilwinning Community Football Academy

Appendix 3: CIF Application: Millport Town Hall

Appendix 1: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Kilwinning Community Events</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Kilwinning Community Events are a local constituted organisation.</p> <p>Kilwinning Community Events has been operating for 9 years.</p> <p>The groups constitution is to support and encourage community spirit in Kilwinning. This started with the fireworks to provide a safe community display around November 5th each year. Picnic in the Park developed and is now approaching its 4th event. The group have also carried out the first 2 stages of the redevelopment of McGavin Park, installing an outdoor gym and updating the play equipment.</p> <p>The committee is open to all who wish to apply and currently stands at 8 members.</p>
Locality	Kilwinning
Amount requested from CIF	£35,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>The proposal is to further develop McGavin Park in Kilwinning with stage 3 of the project being the introduction of an assault course and separate link crossover from the play area to the central path network. This follows the successful transformation of the former tennis court area into a community playpark and outdoor gym to encourage health and wellbeing. The demand for the original project was based on extensive community engagement and the Kilwinning Charrette. The outdoor gym has proved very popular with the public, especially during the recent lockdowns when indoor facilities have been closed. A gap in play and exercise provision has been identified. This was through the initial community engagement but was unaffordable in early phases. The need has been further supported by face to face feedback as well as online comments after 6 months of successful operation.</p> <p>The current resources in the park are aimed at younger children, and adults/young adults. The addition of the assault course will appeal to the age group that aren't currently catered for.</p> <p>The aims of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further unlock the potential of McGavin Park as a community health & wellbeing asset; • Develop volunteering opportunities for the Kilwinning Community to meet up and pass on their knowledge and in turn, give young people the confidence and skills to lead more active lives; • Develop McGavin Park as a centre of Kilwinning community life; • Reduce social isolation by using McGavin Park as a focal point; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer a pathway for communities to maintain their skills e.g. fitness & wellbeing, and volunteering in conjunction with community organisations. <p>Total cost of project: £69,496.16</p> <p>Approximate Breakdown of Funding Spend</p> <table> <tr> <td>Additional Cycle Rack</td><td>£990</td></tr> <tr> <td>Link Footpaths</td><td>£5400</td></tr> <tr> <td>Safety Surfacing at Zip Slide</td><td>£4800</td></tr> <tr> <td>Assault Course</td><td>£23,614.49</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cross Over Link</td><td>£29,691.67</td></tr> <tr> <td>Drainage Priorities</td><td>£5000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£69496.16</td></tr> </table> <p>The North Ayrshire Council Streetscene team has agreed to include the new equipment in their regular inspection for health and safety and cleaning regime. The community group will be responsible for the repair or replacement of any broken equipment.</p>	Additional Cycle Rack	£990	Link Footpaths	£5400	Safety Surfacing at Zip Slide	£4800	Assault Course	£23,614.49	Cross Over Link	£29,691.67	Drainage Priorities	£5000	Total	£69496.16
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Total	£69496.16														
Timescales	Completed by end 2021														
Contact details	<p>Louise Riddex – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475913 louiseriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>														

Appendix 2: Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Kilwinning Community Football Academy (KCFA)</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p>Kilwinning Community Football Academy (KCFA) are a charity registered in Scotland SC048379 and have a board of 7 Trustees who meet once per month. They employ 3 part time members of staff in development and community coaching positions. The remaining volunteers have various roles within the Academy including coaching, child protection officer, treasurer, secretary etc. The club has been operational from 2012 and became a registered charity in 2018. KCFA uses physical activity and football to engage and inspire people to build a better life for themselves and unite the communities in which they live.</p> <p>Dedicated staff deliver football coaching, educational programmes and personal development, providing people with opportunities to change their lives for the better. The organisation's purposes are for the advancement of public participation in football and physical activity within Kilwinning & surrounding areas providing opportunities for all to take part in structured training, games and activities no matter ability or background with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the activities are primarily intended. These include football, fitness and movement, Kilwinning FA currently have 17 teams from age 4 up to our senior squads 18+ (boys & girls teams).</p> <p>Pre COVID 4 community staff were delivering free football and physical activity to over 1000 children per week in local schools, Fun community sessions from children 18 months -5 and free community sessions within Kilwinning (parent & child, creative player) Fitness sessions for the community including (dad & lad, at mums, team fitness, circuit classes, HIIT sessions). KCFA operate their own community hub in the centre of the community offering different opportunities including hall hire, third sector support, meetings, youth clubs, functions and fundraisers.</p> <p>KCFA do not believe there should be a financial barrier to participate in any of activities. This is reflected in a full sibling discount to members and a discretionary wellbeing fund that supports players to attend the training/games/activities.</p> <p>In December 2020 KCFA secured the Community Asset Transfer of Almswall Park (3G Football Pitch), Pavilion and Car Park from North Ayrshire Council. This will become the hub for outdoor football, physical activity and community programmes. In March 2021 KCFA secured the lease of the Blacklands Hall which the groups has renovated and opened for use as at the end of April 2021. The club have secured external lets which have already created a sustainable operation for the Academy. The Blacklands Hall will allow KCFA to extend their community activity and 3 staff members have completed training as walk leaders, digital champions (providing IT support to the community and 2 staff members have recently completed their Ready for Youth Work course via Youth Scotland.</p>

Locality	Kilwinning
Amount requested from CIF	£40,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>In December 2020 KCFA secured the Community Asset Transfer of Almswall Park (3G Football Pitch), Pavilion and Car Park from North Ayrshire Council. This will become the hub for outdoor football, physical activity and community programmes. In March 2021 KCFA secured the lease of the Blacklands Hall which the group has renovated and opened for use as at the end of April 2021. The club have secured external lets which have already created a sustainable operation for the Academy. KCFA is already making a significant community contribution in Kilwinning.</p> <p>Their funding request is to contribute towards the cost of a replacement pitch, providing a 4G surface at Almswall Park. There has been no significant investment into Almswall Park for a number of years and the surface coming to the end of its natural life expectancy. Almswall is viewed as a poor weather facility by the local footballing community. KCFA want to redevelop Almswall into a facility that players, volunteers and anyone connected with the club can feel proud of and become one of the many fantastic community venues in Kilwinning and North Ayrshire. KCFA want to provide high-quality experiences for their players and a venue that they can be proud of and want to use on a regular basis. By being able to offer a state-of-the-art facility they will be able to increase opportunities and activities that will be on offer to the local community.</p> <p>The main outcomes that KCFA aspire to achieve are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased volunteer opportunities for young people; • Increased volunteer opportunities for adults, parents and carers; • Increased opportunities to participate in football, physical movement and fun activities; • Work experience and employability skills development opportunities • Increased employment opportunities (Community Jobs Scotland, Volunteering etc.); • Improved feedback and perceptions from local residents and users; • Creation of a Youth Forum to support in the development of the Academy; • Increased partnership working including businesses, 3rd sector and local organisations; and • Increased confidence, mental health and life skills. <p>KCFA aim is to be fully sustainable, and not be reliant on grants, with Almswall and Blacklands Hall. The increased income streams from a high-class facility with a FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) Grade Pitch would allow KCFA able to sustain their current 2 paid part time roles at the club and realise the potential of offering more employment opportunities.</p> <p>Total cost of project - £242,805.57</p>
Timescales	By Summer 2022
Contact details	<p>Louise Riddex – Locality Partnership Coordinator 01294 475913 louiseriddex@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>



Appendix 3 - Community Investment Fund: Proposal to Cabinet

Organisation name	<i>Millport Town Hall – SCIO 49279</i>
Brief details of organisation	<p><u>Mission Statement</u></p> <p>To preserve a building of heritage significance and to create a community facility for the future which is sustainable and run by the community, for the community.</p> <p>To create a space capable of accommodating a variety of uses which is vibrant, facilitates community and social cohesion and spirit and enhances not only the economy of the Isle of Cumbrae but also enriches the lives of its residents and visitors.</p> <p>SCIO status has been granted and an associated trading arm set up to minimise risk and maximise tax efficiency.</p>
Locality	North Coast and Cumbraes
Funding requested	£75,000
Brief overview of proposal	<p>In August 2019 the Cabinet agreed to award £200,000 from the North Coast's allocation of the CIF to Millport Town Hall for the restoration of the building subject to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the award being set aside for 12 months to allow for the full cost of the project to be funded; and 2. a proportional reduction in the award should the overall cost of the project reduce. <p>The North Coast and Cumbraes Locality Partnership is requesting the early release £75,000 to Millport Town Hall. In February 2020 Cabinet approved the early release of £30,000 to enable the project to progress with architectural and quality surveyor reports. That leveraged in time-limited external funding. The project's progress depended on reports from an architect and a quantity surveyor to inform the next step of the restoration and for further funding applications where the essential detail requires to be provided by specific experts.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic impacted on the external funding available and made an already challenging task, more difficult. In September 2020, Cabinet reviewed the timescale and extended this until August 2021. Despite the challenges Millport Town Hall has continued to make progress and secure external funding.</p>

	<p>In January 2021 the project secured £1.5million from the Scottish Government's Regeneration Capital Grants Fund. This is pivotal to the completion of the project funding. In February 2021 Cabinet approved the early release of £70,000 to enable the project to progress to the next phase of the restoration works. The Millport Town Hall SCIO is requesting to draw down a further £75,000 to aid cash-flow as the work progresses into the next phase of the restoration works.</p> <p>If the current request is approved, the balance of the previously agreed CIF funding would be £25,000. This is an essential part of the project's funding package and further proposals will be brought to Cabinet when the project's funding package is completely agreed with other external funding partners.</p> <p>Work is continuing with external funders and a cross-service range of council officers to support the £2m project, manage increased materials costs due to Covid-19 and to close the revised small funding gap, which is still clarifying as tenders are currently being returned. Work is currently underway to ensure the project is fully funded.</p>
<i>Timescales</i>	<p>The property has been alienated from Millport Common Good and the Community Asset Transfer to the Millport Town Hall SCIO is now complete.</p> <p>The tenders are currently being returned and the building programme starts in August 2021.</p>
<i>Contact details</i>	<p>Rhona Arthur, Head of Service, Connected Communities 01294 324415 rhonaarthur@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</p>