

Meeting

Date: Thursday, 3 December 2020
Time: 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Location: Via Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

1.	Welcome and Meeting Protocols
2.	Feedback from Meeting on 6 February 2020 (Pages 3 - 12) Consider Minute of meeting held on 6 February 2020. (Attached.)
3.	Other Information and News
	(a) Outstanding Community Fund Applications for 2019/20 (Pages 13 - 14) Note the outcome of the outstanding Community Fund applications from 2019/20 which had been dealt with as per the report which was approved at the meeting of Scottish Borders Council held on 27 August 2020. This report also contained an evaluation of the Localities Bid Fund 1 & 2, and Participatory Budgeting. (Summary attached of outcomes.)
	(b) Berwickshire Community Fund 2020/21 Note that the Berwickshire Community Fund for 2020/21 is now open, with guidance and an application form available on the SBC website: https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20076/community_grants_and_funding/261/community_fund
	(c) Community Councils Note that grants to Community Councils are being paid as normal for 2020/21.
	(d) Festival Grant Scheme Note the commitments re public liability and insurance are being met for 2020.
	(e) Federation of Village Halls Note that grants are being paid as normal for 2020/21.

	<p>(f) VE Celebration Fund Note that this Fund is now closed and commitments re expenses are being met.</p>
	<p>(g) Berwickshire Locality Plan and Action Plan Note that the Locality Plan and Action Plan, which outline the priorities for the Berwickshire Area, are now published. These could be the focus for a future Area Partnership meeting.</p> <p>https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/downloads/file/7592/berwickshire_locality_plan</p>
	<p>(h) Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 Currently, there are no formal Asset Transfer Requests being considered within Berwickshire. There are five ongoing Participation Requests relating to the involvement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eyemouth Community Council – economic regeneration • Eyemouth & District Community Trust – economic regeneration • Eyemouth & District Community Trust – Eyemouth Community Campus • Eyemouth Community Council – Eyemouth Community Campus • Eyemouth Community Council – maintenance of grassed areas <p>https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityempowerment</p>
4.	<p>Fit for 2024: Review of Area Partnerships and Community Fund (Pages 15 - 16) Consider actions for the Berwickshire Area Partnership for the review of Area Partnerships and the Community Fund. (Summary of the reports attached.)</p>
5.	<p>Berwickshire Community Fund 2020/21 (Pages 17 - 50) Consider 6 applications for funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reston & Auchencrow Community Council – Play park improvements (£10,000) b) Cockburnspath Community Enterprise – Community Shop (£15,000) c) Duns PlayFest – Community Festival (£4,000) d) Abundant Borders – Community garden, Todlaw, Duns (£8,000) e) Coldstream Gateway Association – Floral display (£1,800) f) Ayton Heritage – Preservation of ruins of St Dionysius (£2,538) <p><i>Please note that the Community Fund 2020/21 is currently over-subscribed.</i> (Assessments and Community Fund information attached.)</p>
6.	<p>Next Meeting - 4 March 2021 Are there any items you would like to propose for the agenda of the next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership?</p>
7.	<p>Any Other Formal Business</p>
8.	<p>Open Forum An opportunity to raise local matters.</p>

MINUTE of Meeting of the BERWICKSHIRE
AREA PARTNERSHIP held in Whitsome
Ark Village Hall, Whitsome on Thursday 6
February 2020 at 6.30 pm

Present:- Councillors J. Greenwell, H. Laing, C Hamilton, D Moffat, M. Rowley (together with 16 representatives from Partner Organisations, Community Councils and members of the public.

Apologies:- Councillors J A Fullarton

In Attendance:- Strategic Community Engagement Officer, Locality Development Co-ordinator (J Pringle), Clerk to the Council, Trainee Democratic Services Officer

1. **CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of the Chair - Councillor Fullarton - Councillor Laing chaired the meeting, welcoming everyone to the Berwickshire Area Partnership and thanking the Community Councils, Partners and local organisations for their attendance. Councillor Laing outlined the programme for the evening and introduced the speakers.

2. **MINUTE**

The Minute of the Meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership held on 5 September 2019 had been circulated. The Chairman gave a brief outline of the previous discussion, which was attached to the Minute as an Appendix.

DECISION

APPROVED the Minute.

3. **TRANSPORT UPDATE**

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of 5 September 2019, Scottish Borders Council Passenger Transport Manager, Mr Timothy Stephenson, gave a verbal update on Transport Planning. Mr Stephenson explained that local bus services were not a statutory requirement, with subsidies on local bus services (LBS) costing £1.5m per annum, and moved 1m travellers. As with other Local Authorities, budgets of the LBS were always being reviewed. Savings made in 2018 totalled £200k and were based on data collected on-bus and passenger trends, providing alternatives and some innovative thinking. Savings in 2019 of £85k were already secured without further cuts to bus services and £165k of budget savings were needed in 2020. The Plan for 2020 and beyond identified a number of under-performing bus routes, declining passenger numbers; re-tendered pricing across Scotland was around 20%; the cost per passenger (subsidy) was very high and was not sustainable. There were some tough decisions to be made to secure a workable plan to save £165k and look at alternatives rather than cutting services. In August and September 2019 officers met with communities and had conversations on meeting their local needs. Mr Stephenson advised that four bus routes within the Berwickshire area (the No. 32, 85/87, 710 and 902) were being reviewed due to the high cost per passenger. The Berwick/Hutton/Paxton service was not doing well and was currently on a 1-2 year contract. He advised that he would meet with the Hutton/Paxton community to assess what the route should look like before going back out to tender as there were very few passengers using the service at the moment. It was proposed to try and get the cost down from £5.33 to £3.60 to bring in line with the average cost per passenger for the Borders. The 85/87 service would be reduced to 2 days per week (Tuesday and Thursday) and a revised timetable had been sent out to all Community Councils on the route. The service was only carrying 4.5k passengers per annum and

was the most expensive route in the Borders. The 710 service would go entirely as it only had 110 passengers last year. The 902 timetable had been changed to include the link through Greenlaw, Leitholm and Kelso, with a consultation out at the moment and due to close in a few days. Engagement had taken place with Hutton & Paxton CC to look at a provision to replace the 87 service and a workaround was being assessed. In response to a question about the re-opening of Reston Station, Mr Stephenson advised that he would be happy to sit down with the Community Council and the wider community to see what transport links could be made. With regard to the loss of the 87 service, there could be further discussions on the use of an on-demand service similar to that provided to West Linton. Mr Stephenson confirmed that Berwickshire Wheels had secured another year of SBC funding for their Hub and was aware that they were struggling for volunteer drivers due to the size of the area. The operating model would be assessed as it was recognised the importance of this service in the area and the need for a gradual change going forward to have paid drivers. The Chair thanked Mr Stephenson for his time in attending the meeting.

4. **JIM CLARK RALLY 2020**

- 4.1 Copies of a joint report by the Executive Director and Service Director Assets and Infrastructure on the Jim Clark Rally 2020 Public Consultation Process had been circulated. Revised legislation for motor sport events on closed public roads had been introduced in 2019 and gave increased rigor to the planning process for such events which aimed to reduce the likelihood of a repeat of the tragic events of 2014. As part of that process, the organisers of the Jim Clark Rally had applied to the Council, as local roads authority, for a Motor Sports Order, to hold a rally on closed roads in the Scottish Borders on 30 and 31 May 2020. In determining whether to make a Motor Sports Order, the Council had to consider a number of factors laid out in the Regulations. The report outlined those factors and provided an opportunity to examine the proposals submitted by the rally organisers in respect of the routes and timings for the rally on 30 and 31 May 2020.
- 4.2 It was noted that the event organisers had, prior to submitting the application, been in consultation with representatives of Scottish Borders Council and Police Scotland through the established Safety Advisory Group (SAG) system in place at the Council. The intention of the Jim Clark Rally organisers was for the event to be based in Duns and to run a total of 8 rally stages (over 4 different routes) on the Saturday and 6 rally stages (over 3 different routes) on the Sunday. The four routes on the Saturday were Westruther, Scott's View, Eccles and Longformacus – Abbey St Bathans. This would see a single run, in an anti- clockwise direction of travel, over the first three routes followed by vehicle servicing and refuelling in Duns and then a repeat of that earlier sequence. Following a further re-group and service in Duns, the day would then conclude with two runs over the Longformacus – Abbey St Bathans route. Sunday would see routes at Edrom, Ayton and Whitsome; the intention being to run a clockwise loop of those routes followed by servicing and refuelling in Duns, before a repeat loop over the three routes and a podium finish in Duns.
- 4.3 The Chairman welcomed the SBC Infrastructure Manager, Mr Brian Young; the Chairman of the Jim Clark Rally, Professor Dan Wright; and the Jim Clark Rally PR Manager, Mrs Frances Renton to the meeting. Mr Young emphasised that the Jim Clark Rally was a major sporting event and brought significant economic benefit to the Scottish Borders. It attracted a high number of spectators, supporters, staff and competitors to the area, many of whom stayed a number of nights. By extending the route it would spread the benefits throughout the Borders. It had been acknowledged the significant officer time spent getting the rally back to the Borders following the tragic events in 2014. In response to a request that the Community Councils affected be contacted individually, Mr Young confirmed that the organisers had already committed to doing so. Clarification was sought with regards to the timings of the planning of such an event and why the information had not been made available earlier. It was confirmed that this event had been planned out-with the normal schedule and it would have usually been planned a year in advance. There was a full discussion held and the representatives from the Jim Rally answered the following questions:-

Questions/Comments

- (a) Question – the community of Whitsome has a programme of events which run for 6 months and include a plant sale on the weekend of the rally. It was only discovered on 22 January what the plans were for the rally, but the application must have been made back in October, so why was the community not informed earlier?
Response – Mr Young confirmed that the application to SBC came in at the end of November. Prof. Wright explained that the organisers had started looking at routes early on and normally this would take a year to organise. The event had stopped running while the Fatal Accident Inquiry was underway and the new legislation was only enacted in June 2019. An event of this size had about 600 volunteer marshalls. The preparation for the event could not start on the normal timetable and reconnaissance of routes only started around the end of November after the rally held on 9 November had finished. The first step was to come up with a set of proposals for a route which were legal, and then apply for a permit. Having got that permit and worked with the police, etc. the next step was to go out to the community (as was happening now) to find out the consequences of that route for the community and try to see what could be done to accommodate them e.g. change of timing. The timing of planning in future would revert to one year and again it was explained that this was a one-off arrangement for this year only
- (b) Comment – you knew the dates last November and it was not out in the community until January this year which has caused us issues.
Response – the dates were partly down to the rally organisers and partly due to the need to negotiate with other rallies due to the national support required. Prof. Wright would need to check to see if the information could have come out earlier. It was already known that the rally would run on the last weekend in May in 2021 and 2022.
- (c) Comment – the plant sale is booked for 31 May which is the main source of income. Someone could have given us the heads up.
Response – before you change the date, please check with the rally organisers to see if the event could be accommodated as part of the timing of the rally.
Comment – people come into the village from all over for the plant sale and would be put off by the road closures.
Response – there would be extra marshalling and signage put up and the organisers would do anything to help with this. At the previous event, additional marshalling and signage had been put in place to accommodate a wedding at Wedderburn Castle.
Comment – the plant sale has been planned since the previous year and if it had been known the rally was to be on that weekend then a different date could have been chosen. Publicity notices were already out. They were not against the rally but concerned as to its impact.
Response – if publicity notices needed to be changed then the rally organisers could help with that, including funding. The rally could only run with the support of the community and organisers would be happy to attend meetings with the Community Council and other groups.
- (d) Question – have you gone round the Community Councils giving presentations?
Response – the Rally PR Manager had sent an email to all Community Councils in the area to be affected, but had only received 3 responses so far.
- (e) Question – the letter received from the Rally organisers stated that the lane at Whitsome was to be closed to both vehicular and foot traffic. There were 9 properties on this lane and the residents would like to know the exact timing of the start, the duration and no of vehicles anticipated as people were concerned about access to their properties?
Response – the organisers would be happy to come back and have a look. The road closure was quite long as there would be up to 140 cars at 30 second intervals at this part. They would do everything they could to allow people access to their

properties during that time and would look in more detail to see if anything could be changed.

Comment – it was appalling to have an event like this in the country on a single track road.

Comment – notification was only received last week.

Comment – it was far too late to get notification. Some people have holiday cottage lets to consider with bookings made well in advance.

Response – as previously explained, normally planning started much earlier but this year was a one-off. This stage was a proposal with the road closure due to start at 09:21, the first car due at 12 noon, and then the second run through from 14:20, and the road due to re-open at 16:21. However, this could be earlier, as when the last rally car had gone through and the checks made on the road, then it could re-open earlier. Two hour closure prior to the event was needed to get set up. If you did need to access your property during the road closure then the rally organisers would visit you in advance and look at more detail to see if anything could be changed.

- (f) Question – with regard to the overall consultation process what happens if the route was felt to be inappropriate in its entirety for the village? Do you have a backup plan if the Whitsome stage was cancelled and what consultation would there be on any backup plan?

Response – the planning was done before the event and a stage could be moved if there was an accident. Tests and desktop exercises were carried out before the event took place so scenario planning with SAG and all contingencies tested before a permit would be granted. It would not be practical to reroute the rally so the backup plan was for that stage to be cancelled.

Response – Councillor Laing commented that for very specific individual issues, these could be sent on to local SBC Councillors who would pass them on the rally organisers. It was appreciated that this information and consultation had been issued at short notice but Prof. Wright had explained the reasons that this was for this year only. It was necessary to thrash out the issues with each community. Mrs Renton confirmed that any comments and complaints could be sent to communities@jimclarkrally.org and also through the consultation process website which was due to end on 8 March <https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/>. Prof. Wright confirmed that this consultation was the Council one and the rally organisers worked all the time on the event making changes as necessary e.g. work access, pregnant ladies, hospital appointments, etc.

Comment – one thing that would not change would be the rally dates.

Response – it was confirmed that assuming the Motor Sports Permit was granted, the dates for the rally would not change. It was not likely the Permit would be granted until about 15 May, with tests run on the routes before then and if these tests were not satisfactory then the Permit would not be granted.

- (g) Question – it has not been possible to find the strategy about sustainability and carbon neutral stance for the rally – where could it be found? Formula One had managed to aim to have all events net zero carbon foot print by 2025. If the event could not be carbon neutral then it should not go ahead.

Response – all the information, including policies, was on the MotorsportUK website as that was the governing body for all rallies. In Formula One carbon reduction was normally handled by technical changes to vehicles. It was not possible to run rally cars at the moment without carbon fuel as the technology did not exist.

Comment – Duns Community Council welcomed the return of the rally; although it was a pity it could not start outside the Jim Clark Museum.

Response – unfortunately, logistics dictated it was impractical to start the rally at that point.

DECISION NOTED:

- (a) **the application by organisers of the Jim Clark Rally to run an event on 30 and 31 May 2020; and**

(b) the comments made by individuals on the proposed route, restrictions and timings for the event detailed above and given to the rally organisers.

5. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT ACT

Copies of the Scottish Borders Council Participation and Asset Transfer Requests Annual Reports 2018/19 had been circulated. The reports summarised each request, a description of the request, and also gave details of its status. The Strategic Community Engagement Officer, Ms Clare Malster, gave an explanation on how requests could be made by an organisation of a public body stating they wished to be involved in reducing inequalities. A total number of 5 participation requests had been received. Of the 5, 3 had been agreed from Eyemouth Community Council and the 2 requests refused were from Selkirk Regeneration Company and Scottish Borders Community Councils' Network. The Scottish Community Development Centre had put together some information on community empowerment which was very useful. The Community Asset Transfer Policy had come into force in 2017 and gave certain types of bodies the ability to approach public bodies for lands or buildings to lease/use/buy. The application would need to show benefits to communities. Seven asset transfer requests had been received and 3 groups had moved to the formal transfer request stage: Men's Shed in Selkirk; the community orchard in Kelso; and one pending for an old primary school in the Borders. All the information was available on the SBC website. Ms Malster advised that she would be happy to discuss the Community Empowerment Act further with anyone and if anyone had any ideas for community empowerment for the next meeting, then again she was happy to chat about these.

6. BERWICKSHIRE LOCALITY PLAN & ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Copies of the Berwickshire Locality Plan and Action Plan had been circulated. The Locality Development Co-ordinator, Ms Pringle, advised that the Plan showed that the Area Partnership was about creating a space where the aspirations and ideas of the community could be heard, and community planning could be strengthened through communities and public bodies working together; the Locality Plan was part of that process. The Plan outlined the priorities of the Berwickshire area with a focus on reducing inequalities to improve the area for those who lived, worked and visited there. The Plan linked to the Scottish Borders Community Plan and set out the priority improvements over the next five years and the commitment to work in partnership and use shared resources. The Plan was structured around 4 themes: Economy, Skills and Learning; Health, Care and Wellbeing; Quality of Life; and Environment and Place. Ms Pringle explained that comments and feedback gathered at previous Area Partnership meetings were incorporated into the Plan and reflected the prioritisation of outcomes and the difference sought by local individuals, groups, organisations and businesses. It was the intention of the Area Partnerships to involve as wide a group of people as possible to ensure the Plan reflected the needs of the community. In developing the Plan further there was an aim to increase participation and create more opportunities for people to attend the Area Partnership meetings, to talk in person to the Communities and Partnership team and also to take part in surveys or contact could be made online. Any suggestions or views would be welcomed either by e-mail: communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk or through the SBC website: www.scotborders.gov.uk/community_councils. A further discussion was then held on the Locality Action Plan which clearly showed each of the priorities, the associated actions, delivery, timeline and progress made, and the following questions were answered.

Questions/Comments

(a) Question – what happens to the Plan now?

Response – the Plan was a reference tool which will help drive change across the public, private and third sector. The Action Plan was now being compiled to take the priorities and assign what activities were happening. This would be delivered across the community planning partners and an explanation was also given on the monitoring process of the plan. If there was no progress with the Action Plan then it would be cascaded up to the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board.

- (b) Question – what about accountability? Who owns the process? There was a gap in the resource being put in for implementation of the Plan.
Response – the Action Plan gave details on who is doing what and the associated timelines which would enable a level of accountability. The Action Plan was a first start, and would be a fluid document which would change on an ongoing basis. The Plan would be on the SBC website and copies would be going out to partners to see what activity was being undertaken and then it would be brought to the Area Partnerships to consider progress.
- (c) Question – what about funding for activity?
Response – the Action Plan does not have a specific budget assigned but aims to influence organisational expenditure at a local level. Councils across Scotland have given a commitment to 1% of their Council budget being allocated to participatory budgeting; the specifics of how this would be done has not been determined but gives scope to influence spend in accordance with the Locality Plan. This was not just a wish list for the Council, but a Plan that included other CP partners, with activities for them to do out of their budgets. It was a great record of what the people in Berwickshire wanted to happen or see in the area. The Plan could be used in a number of different meetings and everything mentioned within it would be the combined responsibility of all partners with one partner taking the lead.
- (d) Comment – it was not known in advance that the Locality Plan needed to be approved at this meeting.
Response – apologies were given if it was not clear from the agenda that approval was being sought. The Plan represented a snapshot in time and would be brought back to the Area Partnership if it needed any substantive changes. The Area Partnership needs to drive that and the Plan acted as the voice of the community so the community needed to say what changes it wanted.
Comment – I felt that the Plan had been very much an officer-led process at the time with little chance to add in more.
Comment – this should be so dynamic that the formal approval process was not as important as getting on and doing something.
- (e) Question – how up to date are the statistics as some dates are 3 years old?
Response – the figures were the most up to date data available at a locality level and were the last published statistics available. If things do change, the information would be updated. It was noted that the Action Plan would continually be changing as things progressed.
- (d) Question – can it be arranged to have a focus on a particular theme for a future review day and to not try to do everything at once?
Response – it was agreed to assess the Plan theme by theme as that would give more focus and to review any progress achieved in the action plan and to follow up if no progress had been made.

The Chair advised that the Locality Plan needed to now be approved and asked if more time was required for further consultation with communities. After a further discussion, the Plan was approved and it was agreed that it would be further reviewed at a single meeting in the Autumn, if possible, on a theme by theme basis.

**DECISION
 AGREED:**

- (a) **to approve the Berwickshire Locality Plan and Action Plan; and**
- (b) **to review the Locality Plan and progress with the Action Plan at a single meeting (if possible) of the Area Partnership in the autumn on a theme by theme basis.**

7. BERWICKSHIRE LOCALITY PLAN – HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

- 7.1 The Chairman welcomed Jenny Wallace and Amanda Christie from Trust Housing Association, to talk about their Extra Care Housing provision in Duns. Ms Christie advised that the Extra Care Development for Duns was a priority in Trust Housing's operational plan for the next year. Whilst the build was progressing well they were working to identify suitable residents and working to ensure there was a well skilled local workforce. There was a selection of information available at the meeting, including newsletters, guidance on support, independent research and case studies along with the statistics on the Trust and performance. Trust Housing was a national organisation established in 1973 and had 3,600 homes and around 600 staff. It was a housing, care and support provider, predominately for older people. Ms Christie advised that within the Borders the Trust had an extra care housing facility in Galashiels and a sheltered development in Chirnside, with the new development in Duns due to be completed in September 2020. It was hoped that the facility in Duns was not just a resource for Duns but a hub for the whole community. There were architects plans at the meeting for the new development in Duns which showed the physical use of the building, parking and garden space. In essence, extra care housing brought together a landlord service, housing service and personal care in the one development. By combining this range of services through a dedicated, locally based trained staff team, benefits were felt by the people supported and there were economies of scale to each service area. The Trust had 10 extra care housing developments across Scotland and feedback from tenants showed they particularly liked the meal service; a lot of the social activities within the development and in the local community; and they liked their own space. Feedback from the Commissioners showed they liked the flexibility and the ability to respond especially with those who had high care needs; and that people could come out of hospital more quickly. The users of the service benefitted from a seamless and more flexible care and support service provided in a holistic and person-centred manner.
- 7.2 Ms Wallace then spoke about the Todlaw project, with the Trust starting work with SBC 2½ years previously as part of the Strategic Housing Plan. The development would have 30 flats with a Hub and be surrounded by 19 amenity cottages. There would be a mix of 1 and 2 bedroom properties. Design guides were used to meet visual and early stage dementia issues. Staff in the Hub would provide services to those in the flats/cottages and meals would be available in the Hub. The development would also be available to the whole community as a complement to other services in the area. The Trust was already working with the local Social Work team as well as other providers so in terms of recruitment the Trust would not take over their work e.g. overnight service. They could also buddy up to react to an emergency situation. Within the development there was a large lounge and dining space which was open to others, with lots of programmes of activities (such as film nights, social events, craft sessions, exercise). The facilities could be used by other community groups, as long as tenants were able to join in. Within the development there were assisted bathrooms so if people from the community who could only use a shower at home, could come in and have a bath. There was also a hairdressing facility. It was a case of trying to make the best use of the physical resources within the development and partner with the other providers in the area. A lot of thought had gone in to the building but also the garden. Once the site was safe, an open day would be held for local people. Staff worked in partnership with other local providers in the delivery of services to the community and shared resources to provide a flexible approach to service delivery, employment and training opportunities, as well as making best use of local resources. In response to a question on how tenants would be chosen, referrals came through SBC and NHS and a panel would assess and prioritise those who required access to the facilities. There would be a mix of tenants from the community; from those who needed little assistance, to those who may have quite complex needs. Although the development was a housing offering, with a Scottish Secure tenancy, it also provided a lot of resource in support and care through social work. The final allocation of a tenancy rested with the Trust as landlord. With regard to inter-generational opportunities, there was good experience elsewhere such as North Lanarkshire where some of the 6th year pupils had come into the facility in their free periods to train residents in social media skills. This had also happened in Galashiels but had then grown into something else and the young people continued to visit residents.

7.3 The Community Capacity Building Worker, Juliana Amaral gave a presentation on the work of the Berwickshire Locality Services (Older Adults). This preventative service supported people to connect with their communities and build better lives. The service encouraged and enabled individuals to build their confidence and increase social connections by establishing and maintaining links within their local communities. This was carried out by: thinking about what mattered to the individual; increased social connections; links to community opportunities; build confidence and resilience; help people manage their health condition; help people to become active members of the community through participation in walking football, a gentle exercise class, Soup Club, Men's Shed, and Happy Friday Group, Chirnside. The Shared Support was a partnership initiative between LAC Older Adults, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, Trust Housing and Berwickshire Wheels. It was emphasised that this service could not function without Berwickshire Wheels. During the presentation, videos were included showing the activities of the group along with the outcomes from individuals, their families and carers. The benefits of the services offered included: improved health and wellbeing; fewer hospital admissions and GP visits; better quality of life; improved confidence and independence; improved community links and social interactions; positive use of community assets and resources; and an increased level of people engaging and volunteering. Ms Amaral advised that they were looking to start another group in Eyemouth in April and would be happy to look at Duns with the Trust LAC team that covered all the Borders.

8. **BERWICKSHIRE COMMUNITY FUND**

Information on the Berwickshire Community Fund had been circulated and was available on the tables at the meeting. Ms Jan Pringle, SBC Locality Development Co-ordinator, gave an explanation of the Scottish Borders Council's Community Fund process. This was a fund available to the community and voluntary groups to help support community activity. Grants of up to £5k for non-constituted groups and £10k for constituted groups were available. In exceptional cases up to £30k was available for constituted groups. Applications submitted to Scottish Borders Council were assessed by the Communities and Partnership team and if they met the fund criteria, would go forward to Area Partnership for a decision to be made by the attendees present. Assessments would be included in agenda papers and those who attended the Area Partnership meetings would be asked to consider the facts and make a decision on whether to support the application. Ms Pringle referred to the Interim Assessment forms, already circulated and summarised below, which gave details of an application for Berwickshire Area Partnership to consider:-

(a) Community Fund Position – Information Sheets

There had been circulated copies of the Interim Community Fund Overview Map 2019-20. The total budget allocation for the interim community opening fund was £172,692, with an outstanding amount available for January 2020 of £119,788. Ms Pringle outlined the details of the allocations which showed the Community Council commitments totalled £13,680; Berwickshire Federation of Village Halls at £13,502 and the local festival grant commitments at £14,060. In response to questions, Ms Pringle confirmed that the grants did not include individual village halls as this was administered by the Federation of Village Halls. The future budget availability was unknown at this time and was subject to budget confirmation and agreement by SBC Elected Members; similarly any underspend in this year's budget was not guaranteed to be carried forward and this would also require a decision by the SBC Elected Members.

(b) Approved Fast Track Application Assessment – Keeping Duns Blooming Marvellous

It was noted that this application was from Keeping Duns Blooming Marvellous with a funding request of £1,500. The group had identified five planting areas around Duns: Langtongate, Willis Wynd, Barn End, Industrial Estate Wild Flowers and a large square by the memorials in the park. It was proposed to improve the spaces with sustainable planting. The funding would enable the purchase of shrubs, perennials and wild flowers. The group worked closely with SBC Neighbourhood Services and the proposed planting would ensure an attractive and complementary scheme. The works would be undertaken by over 40 gardening volunteers and they

had been formally supported by a Heart of Duns and Duns Community Council who had previously contributed their time and funding. This application had been fast-tracked and was for information only as the funding for £1,500 had already been approved.

- (c) **Application Assessment - Chirnside United Football Club**
An application had been received from Chirnside United Football with a funding request of £2,328.65 to support the installation of floodlights at their new training area to the north of their existing pitch. The proposal was to erect three, 8m galvanised street lighting columns and the funding was sought to support the purchase of the lights and the electrical installation works by a select registered installer. In response to questions raised, it was confirmed that the pitch was also used by the Junior Teams and Chirnside Chasers (athletics group). It was noted that the schools used their own pitches throughout the day, although children used the Chirnside football grounds out-with school hours. It was also noted that the application met the criteria and it was agreed to approve the request for the installation of lighting at the football ground and noted that the running costs would be met by the club.

DECISION

AGREED to approve the application from Chirnside United Football Club for a grant of £2,328.65 to support the installation of floodlights at their new training area.

9. OPEN FORUM – QUESTIONS FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

The following questions were received:-

- (a) Question – what was the position about SCDC review of Area Partnerships and the Community Fund following the meeting held in Chirnside?
Response – it was anticipated that the report would be published soon following some further internal consultation with senior officers and elected members. The follow up work required after the Peebles High School fire had impacted on the availability of senior officers.
- (b) Question – what about settled status and the assistance from SBC?
Response – information from the SBC Communications team had been issued through social media for about 6 months. There had been some concern raised that people were not applying but the Council was using all channels it could.
- (c) Question – why have communities not been kept informed on the recent decision made on the £40k budget for CCTV as many communities fund-raised for CCTV in the first place?
Response – the Council report was on the public SBC website and information also was on social media. The maintenance contract was in place to maintain the current cameras but not to replace any cameras or equipment. There is a varied position with regard to CCTV across the Borders. It would cost up to £1m to replace all cameras. The Council was keen to work with other groups to see if other funding could be sourced. Limited information was available of the effectiveness of the cameras with Police Scotland unable to provide details. The matter was strongly debated at the Council meeting.
- (d) Question – what was the ongoing proposal for SBC Elected Members to put more resources into the economy in Berwickshire given the massive investment in the central Borders?
Response – the Jim Clark Museum had received funding. The proposed new community campus at Eyemouth would cost £18m, with further investment in the new Reston Station. Almost £1m was due to be spent on redeveloping the harbour front in Eyemouth. The new South of Scotland Enterprise Agency would also bring in other funding.

- (e) Question – what was the Council doing about the lack of gateway at Lamberton with no stopping point on the A1 for tourists?
Response – some of that tourist development would happen around Reston and Eyemouth and there was the possibility that the South of Scotland Enterprise Agency may pick this up in future.
- (f) Question - why are the names of the Community Council representatives in attendance at these meetings not included in the Minute?
Response – arrangements would be put in place for the sederunt sheet to be circulated at the meetings for those who wished to put their details of their name and/or organisation down and this would be included in future Minutes.
- (g) Question – the give way signs at some entrances were facing the wrong way?
Response – an e-mail had already been sent to Amey with regard to this.

10. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chairman asked for any suggestions/proposals for future agenda items or any suggested venues to be submitted to Ms Pringle for the next meeting.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Berwickshire Area Partnership was scheduled for Thursday 7 May 2020, with the venue confirmed nearer the time of the meeting. The Chairman thanked all those who had attended the meeting for their participation and input.

The meeting concluded at 8.55pm

Community Fund 2019/20, Locality Bid Fund 1 & 2 and Participatory Budgeting

A report was taken to Council on 27 08 20, which covered the outstanding Community Fund applications, the evaluation and review of the Locality Bid Fund and Participatory Budgeting.

You can view the full report here:

<https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=5138&Ver=4>

Here is a summary of the main points of the report:

Community Fund 2019/20 – outstanding applications:

The Community Fund was suspended on 20 March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic and staff were deployed to the Community Assistance Hubs (CAH's).

Outstanding Community Fund applications that were submitted before 31st March 2020 are being progressed as follows:

- Borders wide applications will be considered by the Executive Committee
- The Service Director Customer & Communities will approve or decline the 2019/20 Community Fund application applications, subject to the agreement of at least 50% of the Members in the relevant Ward(s)

Evaluation and review of Locality Bid Fund 1 & 2 and Participatory Budgeting:

Analysis and findings

- There was a high level of dissatisfaction within communities and projects regarding the Localities Bid Fund 1 and 2 processes
- It would be challenging to sustain a participatory budgeting fund of this size and type in future due to high levels of resourcing and support required.

Next steps and further development:

Future participatory budgeting funds should consider both the Scottish Government's Evaluation of Participatory Budgeting (PB) Activity in Scotland 2016-18:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/evaluation-participatory-budgetingactivity-scotland-2016-2018/>

and the recommendations from the SCDC review:

- Staff and other stakeholders need to become more familiar with the PB Charter
- Any future PB process should ensure that minority and rural communities are integrated into the process through communication and out-reach work to equitably include them in PB
- Work continues to develop proposals to embed the 1% CoSLA mainstream participatory budgeting agreement, which needs to include a strategic framework being developed within the Council
- Participatory budgeting at a grass roots level, using a bottom up approach, may also be undertaken within each Area Partnership utilising the Community Fund if desired.

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FIT FOR 2024 – Review of Area Partnerships, the Community Fund and next steps:

Last year, Scottish Borders Council asked Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) to undertake a review and consultation of Area Partnerships arrangements with a range of stakeholders – with a report being presented to Council on 27 08 20. You can see the report at:

<https://scottishborders.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=5138&Ver=4>, which gives full details of the findings and the next steps to be undertaken.

As part of the Council's response to the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, and from the findings of the SCDC report - Area Partnerships and communities can now make recommendations to SBC **by the end of January 2021** about how they would like their Area Partnership and Community Fund to operate in the future

These recommendations will then go out for further public consultation that will take place in Feb 2021 - Berwickshire Area Partnership will need to decide how they wish to make recommendations. At the end of the public consultation, a report will go to Council in March 2021.

During the pandemic, five Community Assistance Hubs (CAH's) were set up and have worked well with communities, Community Councils and Resilient Community Teams. We need to continue to build on the ways that we have been working in partnership which best suit local towns/villages. The findings from the SCDC Report, together with the benefits and experience of the Covid-19 response should be considered as part of the work the Area Partnerships.

Here is a summary of the main points of both reports:

Review Findings – Area Partnerships

- Area Partnerships have yet to realise the level of community engagement and involvement that was envisaged when they were established
- Community Councils and other community groups should be involved in shaping Area Partnerships going forward
- Improved community engagement, support to enable a wider range of people to attend the meetings, agenda setting, meeting structure and ways in which the meetings are facilitated, separate operational and governance are all required
- Each locality should agree and establish a way to consider improvements to the Area Partnerships and develop recommendations to reflect their local circumstances
- This work may include Elected Members, Community Councillors and additional members, this needs to be agreed by each Area Partnership
- The opportunity for those attending to say what they would like to be covered at the next, and future, Area Partnership meetings
- In some areas, there is not enough community capacity building support to sustain local activity

Review Findings – Community Fund:

- Most found the application process, administration of the Community Fund, criteria of the fund and support from officers to be positive.
- Improved transparency of the grant making process, including decision making, along with publicity about which grants are available is needed.
- Village Halls, Community Council and Festival Grants should remain ring-fenced for the time being

Based on these findings and other stakeholder feedback - immediate changes have been made to the Community Fund from 1 September 2020:

- Changes to maximum grant bids

- Multiple applications will now be accepted
- Exceptional projects over £30k can now be submitted
- These new arrangements will be reviewed after one year

Each Area Partnership may also:

- Allocate their Fund to different schemes, priorities and timescales
- Use their Community Fund as a match funding mechanism if required

Proposed actions and next steps for the development of Area Partnerships and the Community Fund:

- The SCDC report to be shared as widely as possible seeking thoughts/comments/ideas
- Each Area Partnership establish a way to review the findings and make recommendations at a local level for further public consultation in February 2021
- A report by the Service Director of Customer and Communities will then take a report to Council in March 2021
- It is envisaged that this model will develop and evolve differently within each locality

Some suggested questions in regards to developing these recommendations:

Berwickshire Area Partnership

- Do you want to form a sub group to make recommendations – this may include Elected Members and Community Councillors or any other stakeholders, but needs to be agreed within each Area Partnership.
- Or, do you want to have a general discussion and make recommendations at the Berwickshire Area Partnership on XXX 2021
- Do you want the Area Partnership to be a Council committee in the future or a community meeting
- What should be the role, remit and purpose of future Area Partnerships meetings
- If the meetings were not a Council committee, what would the governance model be, what will the membership look like, and who would Chair etc.
- When would you want to meet – evenings or otherwise
- How do you want to progress the Berwickshire Locality Plan & Action Plan
- What support do you think you would need to progress the development of Area Partnerships

Berwickshire Community Fund:

- The criteria, assessment and decision making arrangements for the Community Fund – do you want to change the criteria, decision making or consider convening a funding panel to assess applications
- Festival Grants, Community Council and Village Hall grant levels – you may change or increase the funding allocation using the Community Fund in order to do this
- Are there community projects from the Berwickshire Locality Plan & Action Plan that could be funded from the Community Fund
- Do you wish to undertake participatory budgeting at a local level using third parties and a sum from the Community Fund – this could focus on a specific priority for Berwickshire
- Use the Community Fund as match funding to apply for other funding, or to supplement community projects

Berwickshire Funding 2020/21- December 2020

Allocation 2020/21	£	Awarded to date
Community Fund	£26,644.00	£0.00

Date rec	Applications	Amount	Project	Status
11/02/2020	Reston and Auchencrow CC	£10,000.00	Playpark	Assessed
30/09/2020	Swinton and Ladykirk CC	£795.35	Noticeboard	Awarded
30/09/2020	Co'path Community Shop	£15,000.00	Community shop	Assessed
14/10/2020	Duns Playfest	£4,000.00	Play festival in 2021	Assessed
16/10/2020	Abundant Borders	£8,000.00	Outdoor classroom	Assessed
19/10/2020	Coldstream Gateway Association	£1,800.00	Floral display	Assessed
23/10/2020	Coldstream Community News /CGA	£1,500.00	Community News	Assessed
23/10/2020	Duns Senior Citizens Club	£425.00	Christmas lunch delivery	To be assessed
26/10/2020	Ayton Heritage	£2,538.00	Preservation, Old Kirk	Assessed
26/10/2020	Westruther Village Hall	£1,455	Village Christmas lights	To be assessed
02/11/2020	Coldstream Community Trust	£2,383	Get Fit Coldstream	To be assessed
02/11/2020	Eat, Sleep, Ride	£24,267	Taking the Reins project	To be assessed
03/11/2020	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	£21,700	Conserve Your Marine Reserve	To be assessed
04/11/2020	Sea the Change	£25,407	Beach access	To be assessed
17/11/2020	Re-Tweed	£5,503.50	Outreach training	To be assessed
	Total	£124,773.85		
	Budget remaining	-£98,129.85		

Berwickshire summary - 2019/20	Awarded
Community Fund	£80,998.08
VE Day fund	£0.00
Festival Grants	£13,310.00
Community Councils	£18,088.11
Federation of Village Halls	£13,502.00

Berwickshire Community Grant awarded by quarter 2014 - 2021					
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Totals
Sum of 2014/15	£1,500.00	£0.00	£11,440.00	£0.00	£12,940.00
Sum of 2015/16	£17,660.00	£4,821.00	£0.00	£0.00	£22,481.00
Sum of 2016/17	£27,076.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£27,076.00
Sum of 2017/18	£7,958.00	£5,000.00	£3,750.00	£2,240.00	£18,948.00
Sum of 2018/19	£5,000.00	£13,197.00	£5,000.00	£7,390.00	£30,587.00
Sum of 2019/20	£930.00	£8,525.00	£3,411.00	£4,273.65	£17,139.65
Sum of 2020/21	£1,386.00	£2,316.60	£0.00	£0.00	£3,702.60

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Berwickshire Area Partnership: further funding information - December 2020

Berwickshire Community Council commitments	
Abbey St Bathans, Bonkyl and Preston	£540.00
Ayton	£630.00
Burnmouth	£540.00
Chirnside	£630.00
Cockburnspath and Cove	£630.00
Coldingham	£630.00
Coldstream and District	£990.00
Lammermuir	£540.00
Duns	£990.00
Allanton, Whitsome and Edrom	£630.00
Eyemouth	£990.00
Foulden, Mordington and Lamberton	£540.00
Gavinton, Fogo and Polwarth	£630.00
Gordon and Westruther	£630.00
Grantshouse	£540.00
Greenlaw and Hume	£630.00
Leitholm, Eccles and Birgham	£630.00
Hutton and Paxton	£540.00
Reston and Auchencrow	£630.00
St Abbs	£540.00
Swinton and Ladykirk	£630.00
Total of grants	£13,680.00
Hall Hire(estimate for 20/21)	£1,820.00
Insurance	£1,792.76
Data Protection costs	£840.00
Total Commitment	£18,132.76

Berwickshire - other sources of grant funding			
Grant type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Common Good, Coldstream	£1,429.00	£0.00	£1,429.00
SBC Enhancement Grant	£1,207.50	£0.00	£1,207.50
SBC Welfare Grant	£6,037.35	£0.00	£6,037.35
*SBC Small Schemes	£34,700.00	£0.00	£34,700.00

* Local actions organised by SBC Neighbourhood Services

Berwickshire Federation of Village Halls Grant £13,502
For the support of halls in:
Abbey St Bathans
Allanton
Ayton
Birgham
Burnmouth
Chirnside
Cockburnspath
Coldingham
Cranshaws
Eccles
Foulden
Gavinton
Gordon
Grantshouse
Greenlaw
Lamberton
Leitholm
Longformacus
Paxton
Preston
Reston
St Abbs
Westruther
Whitsome
Associate: A Heart for Duns
Associate: Coldstream

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2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Berwickshire

Ref. No.: CF2021-BER-1

Organisation Name: Reston & Auchencrow Community Council

Funding Requested: £10,000

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Community Council		
Annual Accounts Balance	£167.45 (March 2020)		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? Funds received to date for the play park are ring-fenced.			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
Quality of Life	2018/19	£2,000	Noticeboard
Community Council Grant	2019/20	£630	
Community Council Grant	2018/19	£630	
Community Council Grant	2017/18	£630	
Have they applied for Common Good Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project Brief	Reston & Auchencrow CC would like to make significant improvements to the existing play park in the village of Reston. The improvements will allow better access to the play equipment for children or all ages and abilities. Reston & Auchencrow CC are seeking funding to purchase play park equipment.
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	2021 Page 21

Total Expenditure (£)	£72,647	
Community Fund Request (£)	£10,000	
10% organisation contribution	£1,000	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
	£10,500	Reston & Auchencrow CC - agreed
	£10,000	Foundation Scotland - agreed
	£8,000	Donation, through Foundation Scotland - agreed
	£25,000	Viridor - Stage 2 pending Jan 2021
	£10,000	Lottery - agreed
	£10,000	Robertson Trust – unsuccessful
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Berwickshire Action Plan priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in and create community facilities and spaces. • Support local community capacity building, in particular local volunteers (utilising their skills and expertise) • Encourage leisure/cultural facilities to be as accessible as possible (convenient, affordable, time of day) • Work with local communities on regenerating and reimagining their local places (town centres, village halls, play areas etc.) 	

ASSESSMENT	
What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	<p>In 2019 Reston Parent Council carried out a consultation within the Primary School to find out what the children would like to change/improve in the area of Reston to help improve their well-being. The children feedback that the play park was 'old and boring', looked in poor condition and did not have the equipment they wanted to use. They wanted this to be an area of the village that was improved. Working alongside Reston Parent Council, Reston & Auchencrow CC organised an open evening in the village hall to discuss what improvements people would like to see in the village. This also resulted in concerns being raised about the poor state of the play park and the fact that it is not fully accessible to all. Requests were made for the play park to be improved.</p> <p>Reston & Auchencrow organised a further open evening which play equipment suppliers attended providing residents with the opportunity to engage in discussions about how the play park</p>

	<p>could be improved. Over 60 people voted for their favourite play park design that evening and further votes were secured during a period of 1 week when the play park designs were displayed in the village shop.</p> <p>Reston has a population of</p>
<p>What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?</p>	<p>Reston community council wish to support Scotland's strategy for play, <i>Scottish Government, (2013)</i> by helping to make Scotland the best place to grow up through valuing the benefits of play and by supporting play areas designed in partnership with children and young people.</p> <p>The hope is that the play park project will encourage community engagement, improve the mental health of children and adults, promote resilience and encourage physical activity, cognitive development and social development. With an updated, fully accessible play park, Reston & Auchencrow expect to see an increase in the number of families and children who access the park frequently. It will provide a community space for local groups and services to use for example the nursery and Reston Primary School and local residents will feel an increase in pride in their area for what has been achieved.</p> <p>A new play park will also encourage people from other areas to visit opening up the opportunity for them to explore the surrounding countryside walk ways and community garden.</p> <p>A car park is adjacent to the play park and has a suitable surface for wheelchairs and mobility vehicles. The park can be reached easily by children within the village either by walking or cycling and pavements have designated crossing areas.</p>
<p>What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?</p>	<p>The public will chose the equipment to be installed in the park in consultation with play park equipment suppliers.</p> <p>Reston & Auchencrow CC has worked with SBC throughout this process. SBC supports the CC's ambition to improve the play park and a formal agreement is in place. Due to budget constraints, SBC are not able to fund any renovation works at the play park currently or in the foreseeable future.</p>
<p>What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?</p>	<p>Reston & Auchencrow CC have secured £38,500 in funding and have applications pending with others funders. If funding is secured funding from Viridor and the Community Fund, this would provide them with the monies required to complete the project. Reston & Auchencrow held two events prior to Covid-19 where £227 was raised. They plan to continue with public fundraising events once Covid-19 restrictions are eased.</p>
<p>How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?</p>	<p>The new play park will have a 10 year maintenance package agreed with the play equipment supplier, including replacement parts. The park will be regularly inspected by SBC as it is currently and assisted by Reston & Auchencrow CC members. Anyone using the park will be encouraged to report any issues and defects to local council members.</p>
<p>Quotes received for items of expenditure</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	Yes
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SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Number of people involved in helping design and develop the new play park
- Range of equipment provided and the benefits of this equipment
- Improvement in venue accessibility
- Usage of the play park
- What partners were involved and did it lead to new opportunities
- Improved integration in the community

2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: *Berwickshire*

Ref. No.: *CF2021-BER-4*

Organisation Name: *Cockburnspath Community Enterprise*

Funding Requested: *£15,000*

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Community Benefit Society		
Annual Accounts Balance	£9,535.37 (September bank statement) (Penmanshiel monies as mentioned below)		
<p>Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much?</p> <p>Cockburnspath Community Enterprise is a new company and has submitted income and expenditure estimates for the first 12 months of operation.</p> <p>£10,000 is ring-fenced to allow the temporary site of the shop to be put back to original / made good when permanent site obtained.</p>			
<p>Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
<p>Have they recently applied to the Common Good Fund?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project brief	<p>The Cockburnspath community shop project arose following the death of the Village Store's owner. A number of community engagement meetings highlighted both the desire and need for a shop in the village; the previous shop was within the envelop of a private dwelling and is not available to serve as a shop going forward. A volunteer community focused team was established to take the project forward through a Community Benefit Society.</p> <p>The main aims of the Cockburnspath Community Enterprise Limited is to:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase local access to shopping facilities within walking distance of the rural community • Build and maintain social cohesion, and reduce loneliness and isolation • Enable ongoing community resilience • Facilitate reduction in carbon footprint and make the community more environmentally friendly (less travel for shopping, less plastic, more locally produced goods). <p>Planning permission has been granted to site a modular building in the Village Hall car park for three years. Funding to purchase and erect the building has been secured.</p> <p>Long-term, Cockburnspath Community Enterprise Limited has a vision for the Community Shop to not only provide provisions to the village and neighbouring areas, but also to become a hub. A hub with a post office and café facility. In addition, this Community Enterprise is to offer opportunity for the Community Shop to be a 'shop window' for locally sourced artisan products/food items and crafts and artists. This will assist in increasing the profile of local business partners, draw a wider customer bases, have themed days, exhibitions and provide a start and end point for walkers and tourists of the Southern Upland Way.</p> <p>The shop will serve Cockburnspath and the surrounding communities, a population of approximately 1,100. The Grantshouse community will also benefit as they are also without a village shop.</p> <p>A significant amount of funding is already in place and a grant from Berwickshire Community Fund will contribute to the Manager's salary (year one) and the purchase of key grocery stock.</p>	
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	01/01/2021	
Total Expenditure (£)	£141,548	
Community Fund Request (£)	£15,000	
10% organisation contribution	£9,500	
Any Other Contribution?	Community share offer	
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Aikengall Windfarm	£70,000	Secured
Drone Hill Community Fund	£10,000	Secured
Awards for All	£9,944	Secured

Aikengall Windfarm (Be Green)	£2,500	Secured
Kinegar Windfarm	£5,000	Secured
Penmanshiel	£9,950	Secured (as mentioned above - seedfunding)
Community Shares Scotland	£1,492	Secured
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Berwickshire Action Plan priorities	<p>The project meets the following priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest in and create community facilities and spaces • Support local community capacity building, in particular local volunteers (utilising their skills and expertise) • Focus on rural isolation and social inclusion and the impacts on mental health on people living across the locality • Work with local communities on regenerating and reimagining their local places (town centres, village halls, play areas etc.) 	

ASSESSMENT	
<p>What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?</p>	<p>Community engagement meetings to discuss the idea of a community run shop have been attended by over 200 people.</p> <p>The emerging Cockburnspath Community Action Plan identifies the need of a Community Shop as a result of there being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant population of people, including senior citizens, within the village who have no access to cars or the internet. • Increase levels of social isolation due to rurality, Covid-19 and the vulnerable population. • Clear evidence that a village without a shop will see houses potentially losing their value on the housing market. • A more challenging housing market as people may not want to move into the area that does not have a shop. • An increased risk that Cockburnspath Primary School not being viable in the near future without additional families moving into the area or retaining the existing pupil numbers. • A larger ratio of carbon emissions and the impact on climate as residents will have to travel further for provisions. • A local shop on their doorstep, rather than make an unnecessary 16-mile return trip. • Poor public transport infrastructure.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher levels of wellness due to residents being more likely to walk, cycle or park in The Square as the shop is within easy reach for both Cockburnspath and Cove. • Sustainability of existing local artisan businesses that now have a 'shop window'. • Local employment following furlough, redundancy, decline of the hospitality and tourism sectors following Covid-19. • Increased wellness, confidence and sense of purpose as local residents can retrain and gain a skill set in the retail industry. • Retention of tenants / residents in affordable houses which creates a thriving community with employment and business opportunities. • An everyday social meeting point to those within the village who live on their own. • Increase resilience and community spirit.
<p>What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?</p>	<p>The community owned and run shop in Cockburnspath will help to reduce loneliness and social isolation by creating a natural hub in the village. There will be a positive impact on CO₂ emissions by removing the need for people to make the 16 mile return trip to Dunbar for groceries.</p> <p>Local artisan businesses will have an outlet for their products.</p> <p>The professional development of the volunteers will equip them with skills in; customer service, Covid regulations, environmental health, manual handling, stock control, financial management and community participation. Thereby, increase their confidence, purpose and contribution to the community. It is planned that the shop will initially be open 8am – 6pm Monday – Saturday (with early closing one day to be decided) and 10am – 2pm on a Sunday. Staffing will be provided by two part time managers (full time equivalent) and several volunteers from the local community. The number of paid staff will be increased when/if budgets allow, potentially looking at an apprenticeship.</p>
<p>What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?</p>	<p>Over 200 people were engaged with through a number of engagement events to understand the local appetite for a community shop.</p> <p>In September 2020 an information session was held at the village hall car park. 130 people from the local community completed a survey. Of these 90% said they wanted a community shop within walking distance of the village centre, 78% supported the proposal for a village shop and 83% said that they would shop 'the same' or 'more' at the proposed shop than they did the previous shop.</p>
<p>What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure</p>	<p>Funding for the various aspects of the project has been secured from a number of funders.</p>

<p>other sources of funding for the project/activity?</p>	<p>Cockburnspath Community Enterprise Limited will be launching a Share Offer for all residents, partners and interested parties to purchase shares of £10. Those who purchase the shares will be the membership which will be predominantly from the Parish of Dunglass, TD13 postcode. 78% of respondents to the September survey said that they would buy shares in the shop.</p> <p>As a CBS, the share capital (target of £25,000) is the organisation’s unrestricted contribution from the membership which will be injected into the project to support and maintain it. The share offer was be launched in November, and these funds will come in over time – necessitating the funding request to Community Fund to enable the shop to start operating and generating an income.</p>
<p>How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?</p>	<p>The Management Committee have calculated a turnover at 66% of the previous village shop’s turn over. This is to take into account for the diversity of shopping habits following the closure of the village shop, Covid-19 regulations and Lockdown. It is expected that the shop will become sustainable following the first year of trading.</p> <p>Success will be measured through a number of qualitative and quantitative indicators including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Profit making on goods • Achieving the share offer target of 25k • Feedback on social media • Increased local traders using the Community Shop as their ‘shop window’ to promote and sell goods • Recruitment and retention of volunteers • Volunteers securing employment (where appropriate) <p>It may be possible extend current permissions and keep the shop in the Village Hall carpark, if this is not possible the building can easily be dismantled and erected on a new site.</p>
<p>Quotes received for items of expenditure</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application does not currently meet the criteria of the Community Fund as evidence of permission to use the land has not been seen. It is expected that this will be provided prior to the Area Partnership meeting on 3 December.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol.

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Profit level/achievement of sustainability after first year of trading
- Number of volunteers number of volunteer hours worked and during the year
- Feedback from customers (local community and tourists), wider community and local artisan businesses
- Estimated timescales for expanding the services available
- Steps being taken to identify longer term site for the shop.

2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Berwickshire

Ref. No.: CF2021-BER-3

Organisation Name: Duns Playfest

Funding Requested: £4,000

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Constituted		
Annual Accounts Balance	£22,713.55		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? £16,700 was received in grant funding for the 2020 PlayFest festival but permission has been given for it to be carried forward to 2021.			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
Have they recently applied to the Common Good Fund? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project brief	<p>A grant from Berwickshire Community Fund will enable DunsPlayFest to secure companies and individuals from outwith the Borders to perform as well. It will also be used to ensure that performances made available online are presented to a professional standard.</p> <p>DunsPlayFest (1st-8th May 2021) will be a week-long community festival celebrating new dramatic writing. The idea for the festival grew organically from a realisation that Duns Players (which focuses on classics and new writing) had three new plays that they wanted to stage and a week booked at the Volunteer Hall in which to stage them. Other events, like community workshops, began to be included and the week-long festival was born.</p>

	<p>Staged for the first time in 2019 the 2021 festival aims to repeat that success but to be bigger and better.</p> <p>DunsPlayFest is based around twice-daily performances of brand-new drama but also incorporates workshops, readings and community events focused on school-children, old people and people with special needs.</p> <p>There will be over 30 events in all, including comedy, live music, community events, workshops, and activities to inspire and delight all ages. Audience numbers will only be capped by the size of the main venue, the Volunteer Hall Duns, which the largest hall in Berwickshire with space for social distancing. Plans are being put in place to run the festival on-line if there is a total lockdown situation in place. If social distancing is required shows with small casts will be able to go ahead with well-spaced audiences and make use of outdoor venues throughout the town.</p>	
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	01/05/2021	
Total Expenditure (£)	£32,986	
Community Fund Request (£)	£4,000	
10% organisation contribution	£400 + £1,200 from savings	
Any Other Contribution?	£25,740	
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Awards for All	£7,500	Agreed
Blackhill Community Wind Farm	£4,800	Agreed
Lammermuir Community Fund	£2,500	Agreed
Dr David Summers Charitable Trust	£1,900	Agreed
Preston & Abbey Community Trust	£2,040	Agreed
Simpson McCreath Trust	£1,000	Agreed
Marchmont Makers Foundation	£1,000	Agreed
A Heart for Duns	£5,000	Agreed in kind contribution
Community Fund Outcomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information	

	<input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty
Berwickshire Action Plan priorities	The project meets the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and make the most of existing tourism opportunities

ASSESSMENT

What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	<p>The 2019 Festival attracted more than 30 events and around 900 people from in and around the area participated. Local retailers and accommodation providers responded positively to the festival and the increased buzz it brought to the town which the hope that the festival would return bigger and better.</p> <p>Professional companies have heard about the Festival and are keen to be involved.</p> <p>The DunsPlayFest Facebook page has 216 followers.</p>
What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?	<p>The local economy will be boosted by people coming to Duns throughout the week to take participate in the Festival from both sides of the stage curtain.</p> <p>Duns and the surrounding area will benefit because of the interest and excitement it will generate with performers and audiences coming from all over, constant media attention (they were featured regularly in the press during 2019 and featured on ITV's "Borderlife" programme). The sense that Duns is becoming an important destination in the exciting world of Scottish drama highlights that Duns, and wider Berwickshire, are vibrant tourist destination.</p> <p>Both schools in Duns are involved which will give children and young people an insight into live theatre. Their involvement will help their emotional development, their intelligence, their confidence, their professionalism, their team spirit, their spatial awareness, their understanding of the world and of each other</p> <p>There will be a prize for a promising student from Berwickshire High School to encourage them to progress and further develop their theatre skills. The recipient of the prize will be decided in consultation with teachers from Berwickshire High School.</p> <p>Bespoke seating will be available for older people and a sign board will be provided to help those with a visual impairment follow the performances. This equipment will remain in the Volunteer Hall and be available to all groups using the venue.</p>

	Alternative pricing structures are being considered in order to make the events available to all those that wish to attend.
What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?	<p>The grant giving arms of local wind farms are run by local residents, many of whom are community councilors. They have shown their support through the award of grants.</p> <p>The group is in touch regularly with teachers at Berwickshire High School and Duns Primary School all of whom have shown their support.</p> <p>Duns Rotary Club and Duns Probus are supportive of the festival.</p>
What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?	Funding for over 78% of the projected costs is already in place. With a grant from the Berwickshire Community Fund, and contribution from the group, the short fall is £1,646. It is anticipated that this will be met by ticket and food sales.
How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	<p>The views of the public are constantly sought through various social media platforms. Audience members will be invited to complete a questionnaire. Sales of tickets, food & drink and a balanced budget will be clear indicators of success as will the number of people returning to be part of DunsPlayFest 2022.</p> <p>It is expected that DunsPlayFest will always to be looking for the support of community funds to some extent although sponsorship by local retailers is being explored in order to reduce the reliance on grant funding.</p>
Quotes received for items of expenditure	n/a
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	n/a

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the Community Fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol.

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Number of performance tickets sold.
- Number of people participating in readings, workshops and community events.

- Steps taken to reduce reliance on grant funding.
- Evaluation of feedback from performers, audiences and other participants.

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Have they applied for Common Good Funding

Yes No

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Project Brief	<p>Abundant Borders are looking for funding so that they can create an outdoor, sheltered space within a community Garden at Todlaw, Duns.</p> <p>Funding will be used to erect a community classroom in the garden allowing it to be accessible to all.</p> <p>The group aim to purchase a 4m Octagonal Outdoor Building (including on site build), along with paving slabs. Other spend for this project will include landscaping costs.</p>	
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	Start construction in December with the estimated project completion in February/March 2021	
Total Expenditure (£)	£11,700	
Community Fund Request (£)	£8,000	
10% organisation contribution	£800	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Community Fund Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Action Plan priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for lifelong learning • Invest in and create community facilities and spaces 	

ASSESSMENT

What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?

Prior to lockdown Abundant Borders held three consultation events and were part way through community training course. As a result of these discussions, the most important thing identified

	<p>by the community members was the provision and need for an outdoor, sheltered space.</p> <p>The importance of outdoor spaces, community gardens, parks, and allotments, has been magnified throughout Covid and the need for outdoor teaching space has increased.</p> <p>The design of the building being proposed for this project is open-sided, allowing for free air flow, which means that it can be used while indoor meeting restrictions are in place.</p> <p>Currently the community garden is accessed by gravel and grass paths. The garden is open access. From within the housing development, the garden can be accessed through a side gate.</p> <p>During Covid restrictions and to ensure social distancing and hygiene procedures are observed, the group are operating a system where volunteers book in advance to attend supported volunteering sessions. It is intended that, once restrictions are eased, the garden will be fully open so that anyone can gain access at any time.</p> <p>Conditions underfoot will worsen with more use and with winter weather, which makes it difficult for anyone with a walking impairment to negotiate and impossible for anyone in a wheelchair to access the garden.</p>
<p>What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?</p>	<p>The classroom will be used for training courses, workshops and for community events, such as apple-pressing at harvest time. It would also be available to other community groups who would be able to relocate some of their events previously held indoors, to this outdoor space, groups that have shown an interest in using this space include; A Heart for Duns and ParentSpace.</p> <p>The group have linked in with local primary schools and parents. The group have created a learning programme to help primary aged children learn about food and food growing, called Little Robins. The outdoor classroom will be important in allowing young people to learn in an outdoor space. Getting children to learn about where food comes from and how to eat healthily will be beneficial in educating the pupils on positive health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Having an outdoor, sheltered space, will allow Abundant Borders to continue to run workshops and events to tackle isolation and support the community.</p> <p>The project aim to use some of this funding to create permanent pathways from the garden entrance to the new classroom and to a seating area beyond the new building, which will have views</p>

	<p>across the garden and become a peaceful spot for community members to sit and enjoy being outdoors.</p>
<p>What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?</p>	<p>Abundant Borders have worked in partnership with other organisations including local schools. A partnership has also been created with Berwickshire Housing Association (BHA) where the community garden is being developed within the housing development at Todlaw, Duns. BHA own the land and an agreement is in place for this area to be developed by Abundant Borders. A similar agreement is in place in Ayton, where a garden project is also situated on BHA land.</p> <p>Equipment and idea sharing currently takes place with other organisations and local groups including; A Heart for Duns and BAVS, this will ensure that the facility can be widely used</p>
<p>What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?</p>	<p>The group had applied to Dronehill Wind Farm for funding for the building and landscaping earlier this year. The Wind farm felt that the amount applied for (£8,000) was beyond what they were able to fund. They indicated that a smaller bid might be successful and the group may go back to this fund when the building is in place to support plants/landscaping costs.</p> <p>The group have current funding from National Lottery to support the development of the garden, which has allowed them to start work this year and, if funding is continued into 2021/22, will allow the group to buy plants and equipment for the next growing season and support volunteering costs. This fund does not allow purchase of large, capital items, like an outdoor classroom.</p>
<p>How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?</p>	<p>Abundant Borders has a Project Co-Ordinator on site, two days per week. This post is funded by National Lottery Community Fund through to Spring 2022. National Lottery and Robertson Trust also support the role of Chief Officer with responsibility for project delivery, until 2022. Both staff members will support the community garden beyond the delivery of this project.</p> <p>National Lottery Community Fund also supports plants and landscaping within the garden, which will cover ongoing maintenance of the classroom and pathways.</p> <p>There is also support from Berwickshire Housing Association.</p>
<p>Quotes received for items of expenditure</p>	<p>yes Page 40</p>

Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	yes
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SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Number of people who benefitted from the project including volunteers, visitors, participants
- Number of activities delivered
- Improvement in venue accessibility
- More opportunities to bring people together and address social isolation

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2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Berwickshire

Ref. No.: CF2021-BER-7

Organisation Name: Coldstream Gateway Association (CGA)

Funding Requested: £1,800

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	Charity		
Annual Accounts Balance	£7061.70		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? CGA would like to keep some funds in reserve as fundraising opportunities have been limited this year and are likely to be limited for some time yet. In 2019, CGA spent £7,726.48 on their floral display.			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
Community Fund	2019/20	£12,500	Electric vehicle water bowser for watering floral displays
*an additional application for £1,500 has been submitted by CGA to the 2020/21 Community Fund to fund printing costs of the Community Newsletter			
Have they applied for Common Good Funding <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project Brief	CGA are requesting funding to purchase plants, compost and plant feed to create a floral display in Coldstream for Spring/Summer 2021
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	2021

Total Expenditure (£)	£2,000	
Community Fund Request (£)	£1,800	
10% organisation contribution	£200	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Community Fund Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Berwickshire Action Plan priorities		

ASSESSMENT	
What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	CGA believes their floral displays enhance the appearance of the town for locals and visitors. CGA regularly receives compliments and positive feedback on the impact the bright floral display has on the various locations of the town. Approximately 20 volunteers assist with planting and 7 volunteers assist with seasonal maintenance of the displays with additional volunteers covering holidays, illness etc. Townspeople provide feedback on the displays to CGA via the Community News.
What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?	For over 20 years the CGA (Coldstream in Bloom) has been responsible for the town's floral displays. CGA plant 140 hanging baskets and 12 three tier plants, three large wooden troughs, numerous tubs and half tubs plus two large River boats and three small ground areas.
What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?	In previous years CGA have been able to fundraise and collect donations and sponsorship to help cover expenditure. Prior to the pandemic, CGA held three or four coffee mornings per year to fund raise for plants.
What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?	£900 was secured from Fallago Environmental Fund in June. The funding will be used to purchase additional plants as well as repairing/replacing damaged wooden planters and hanging baskets.

How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	Fundraising activities will be resumed once restrictions are eased.
Quotes received for items of expenditure	Yes
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	Yes

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application meets the criteria of the community fund.

Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol

Additional Terms and Conditions:

We would seek the group to particularly report on:

- Feedback from locals and visitors
- Number of volunteers involved
- Photos of floral display
- Sustainability of the project

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2020/2021 Community Fund: Interim Assessment Form

Locality: Berwickshire

Ref. No.: CF2021-BER-10

Organisation Name: Ayton Heritage

Funding Requested: £2,538

ABOUT THE GROUP			
Organisation Structure	SCIO		
Annual Accounts Balance	£1,078		
Are any funds ring-fenced, if so why & how much? AH paid for a bat survey in September costing £703.60 so their current balance is £374.40			
Has the applicant successfully applied for SBC funding within the last three years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
SBC Funds received	Financial Year	Amount (£)	What used for?
Have they recently applied to the Common Good Fund? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

ABOUT THE PROJECT	
Project brief	<p>Ayton Heritage wish to preserve the ruins of the 12th Century St Dionysius in Ayton Kirkyard. It was the Parish Church until 1867 when the current Church was built. The old Church is of historical importance as it was the location for several treaties being signed between Scotland and England during the 14th and 15 Centuries.</p> <p>Ayton Heritage are seeking funding to cover the fees of a conversation architect to provide drawings, the project methodology and estimated costs of preserving the ruin.</p>
Project Start Date: DD/MM/YY	2021
Total Expenditure (£)	£2,820
Community Fund Request (£)	£2,538

10% organisation contribution	£282	
Any Other Contribution?		
Other Funding Sources	Amount (£)	At what stage?
Community Fund Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality local services or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to a better quality environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communities have more pride in their community <input type="checkbox"/> Communities have more access to better quality advice and information <input type="checkbox"/> More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty	
Action Plan priorities	The project meets the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and make the most of existing tourism opportunities • Encourage leisure/cultural activities to be as accessible as possible 	

ASSESSMENT	
What need/demand has been evidenced for this project/activity?	<p>Ayton Local History Society organised a public meeting In June 2019 to determine if there was public support for addressing concerns about the state of the church ruin which included ivy covering the building. Over 30 residents attended and the establishment of Ayton Heritage followed. Their task is to take forward this project.</p> <p>Historic Environment Scotland agreed to an application to include this project in their Adopt a Monument Scheme run by Archaeology Scotland. Ayton Heritage volunteers have removed three tons of ivy in order to allow a conservation architect to assess the structure.</p>
What benefits will be gained from the project/activity and how well does the project/activity meet the outcomes of the scheme?	<p>Ayton Heritage are supported by an Officer from Archaeology Scotland. Volunteers have been involved in surveying techniques and building interpretation under the guidance of Archaeology Scotland. This project will provide opportunities for volunteers to learn new skills associated with conservation, building interpretation and historical research.</p> <p>Once preservation work is complete, there will be building interpretation and historical research carried out allowing local residents, visitors, family historians and any other interested party, the ability to learn about the significance of the Church and village.</p>
What support and involvement of the wider community is there for this project/activity?	<p>The project has developed out of consultation with local residents. Ayton Local History Society paid for Sasine searches to be carried out by the Registers of Scotland to identify ownership but this did not result in any ownership being established.</p>

What efforts have been made by the applicant to secure other sources of funding for the project/activity?	Enquiries have been submitted to the Architecture Heritage Fund, Barcapal Foundation, Robert Barr Charitable Trust and the Hugh Fraser Foundation for future funding. Ayton Heritage have already paid for an ecology assessment to be completed.
How will the impact and success of the project be measured? What happens at the end of the project/activity or when the funding is spent?	When the architect has completed their work, Ayton Heritage will submit grant applications to fund the architect to tender documents for the proposed works plus the full cost of preservation work on the ruin, including the long term care and ongoing maintenance required. If any planning permissions are required, an application will need to be submitted to SBC Planning department.
Quotes received for items of expenditure	Yes
Have appropriate permissions been sought/granted?	SBC has granted consent as far as it can as owners of the churchyard in terms of section 32 of the 1925 Act, to the repairs which Ayton Heritage seek to carry out to

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	
<p>The application meets the criteria of the Community Fund.</p> <p><i>Additional Terms and Conditions:</i></p> <p>Scottish Government coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance must be adhered to with a protocol for safe participation in the programme and use of resources developed, and all participants agreeing to adhere to this protocol.</p> <p><i>We would seek the group to particularly report on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The findings of the architect and next steps</i> 	

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