

Meeting

Date: Thursday, 23 September 2021
Time: 6pm
Location: Via Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

1.	Welcome and Meeting Protocols
2.	Feedback from meeting of 24th June EAP Evaluation
3.	Additional Information document: (Pages 3 - 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community information• Useful links
	Section 1: Service & Partner Updates & Consultations
4.	Place Making Update
5.	Area Partnership Consultation
6.	Explorer Group - John Muir Award
	Section 2: Local Priorities
7.	Oonagh McGarry Community Assistance Hub Lead Update
8.	Andy's Mans Club
	Section 3: Community Empowerment and Community Funding
9.	Funding Table Overview (Pages 9 - 10)
10.	Community Fund Update / Applications <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bird Garden Scotland• St Marys Loch Sailing Club• Newstead Village Community Trust• Yoga Frog

	(Eildon assessment panel recommendation summary to follow).				
11.	Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund update / applications:				
	(a) Yoga Frog (Pages 11 - 16)				
	(b) Langlee Community Centre (Pages 17 - 20)				
	(c) Stow Community Trust (Pages 21 - 26)				
	(d) Miracle Woodlands (Pages 27 - 32)				
12.	Community Ownership Funding (information provided within additional information document)				
	Section 4: Other				
13.	<p>Date of next Eildon Area Partnership: 11 November</p> <p>Are there any items you would like to schedule for future meetings? For example:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>November</td> <td>Winter maintenance/local housing strategy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>January</td> <td>Locality Plans</td> </tr> </table> <p>Please contact your local Elected Member or Communities and Partnership Team with your suggestions - communityengagement@scotborders.gov.uk</p>	November	Winter maintenance/local housing strategy	January	Locality Plans
November	Winter maintenance/local housing strategy				
January	Locality Plans				
14.	Any other Formal Business				
15.	Open Forum				

Please direct any enquiries to Declan Hall Tel: 01835824000
Email: declan.hall@scotborders.gov.uk

Current SBC Consultations

No current consultations

Community Information

Connecting Scotland

Connecting Scotland Round 2 of Phase 3 was launched Monday 30th August. This is a fantastic opportunity to remove barriers related to digital exclusion for unemployed young people and adults (aged 16+), so if you or your colleagues work in these areas, please consider applying for devices - which will be gifted to the individuals you support / work with.

This phase will provide devices, data, training and support to users who are low income, digitally excluded and **seeking employment**. Uptake of Round 1 of the phase was lower than expected across Scotland, including the Borders, so there is still a good number of devices available (300+).

The criteria for this phase is as follows, (individuals **must** meet each of these):-

- They are digitally excluded – they currently do not have access to an appropriate device and/or internet connection at home.
- They are from a low income household – they cannot afford to buy a device or pay for internet access from their household income (e.g. claiming or eligible for Universal Credit).
- They are actively taking steps to improve their employment prospects. This includes people furthest from the labour market who are not job ready but are undertaking activity to address any barriers to employment or training (e.g. confidence building, improving health or wellbeing, ESOL programmes)
- They are currently unemployed (see the [FAQs](#) for more detailed guidance on the eligibility of people in short-term work placements or insecure employment)

Priority will be given to organisations working with people who are likely to have been affected most by the changes to the labour market over the past year, either due to existing inequalities or redundancy. This includes:

- Women
- Young people
- Disabled people
- Minority ethnic people
- Lone parents
- People experiencing other forms of socio-economic disadvantage

Here is a link to the [application guidance](#) and can find out more information at www.connecting.scot. This application round is open until **5pm on Monday 27th September**, with successful organisations receiving their devices in November and December.

Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities

The [Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities](https://www.sclld.org.uk) (SCLD) has launched a new app, 'Human Rights Town', designed to help people with learning disabilities to understand their human rights.

<https://www.sclld.org.uk/welcome-to-human-rights-town/>

Together for our Planet Fund

Now opened to applications for our new small grants programme [Together for Our Planet](#).

This new £2.5million National Lottery-funded programme will support communities across the UK take action on climate change, ahead of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), in Glasgow this November.

As a reminder this programme is offering grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 to support local community projects. It aims to create a legacy of ongoing climate action in hundreds of communities, beyond COP26, supporting the UK to reduce its emissions on its part to Net Zero by 2050.

Although the fund will be open for all, groups that haven't received our funding previously will be a priority and we're also focusing on groups and communities who are starting to take climate action and/or those more likely to be directly impacted by climate change.

The programme is open for applications from today, 1 September, until 5pm on Thursday 18 November.

Find out more about who can apply and the projects they will fund:

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/together-for-our-planet>

As part of our pre-launch activity we offered a webinar to explain more about the programme and talk through eligibility. We're offering a further two webinars in September and anyone interested in attending can sign up here: [7 September](#) and [21 September](#).

The new programme opens as we also launch a new online '[Climate Hub](#)' – a dedicated space to find latest funding news, insights, learnings and stories on climate change and the environment. We will be adding to the Hub regularly, and please do share anything that might be of interest to your networks and audiences.

Thank you for your support and please do contact us if you would like to follow up on any of this.

Community Ownership Fund

You may be aware that the UK Government has launched a new £150 million Community Ownership Fund. This will provide funding over four years to support community groups to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of being lost. From the summer onwards, voluntary and community groups can bid for up to £250,000 (up to £1M for sport projects) at 50% match funding to help them purchase or take over important assets and run them for the benefit of the local community.

The intention is to help ensure key assets within a community are not lost. The UK Government has not published a definite list of eligible assets as they want to hear what matters to communities but the fund could support community ownership proposals including:

- sporting and leisure facilities
- cinemas and theatres
- music venues
- museums
- galleries
- parks
- pubs
- post office buildings
- shops

Applicants will need to be able to demonstrate the value of the asset to local people and the sustainability of the project as well as the risk of losing the amenity without community intervention.

The Fund will run until 2024/25 and there will be at least 8 bidding rounds in total. Key dates are as follows:

- 30th July - online portal opens for submission of applications
- 13 August 2021 – deadline for submitting applications to the first bidding round
- December 2021 – round 2 will open
- May 2022 – round 3 will open

The first round is primarily focused on capital costs with an expectation that development funding will be available from round 2 onwards. The UK Government intends to update the fund's prospectus and guidance notes for round 2 in the autumn based on their learning from round 1.

For more details, please see the [Community Ownership Fund prospectus](#). A copy of the application form is attached.

Locality Plan and Action Plans

[Eildon Locality Plan | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

[Eildon Area Partnership | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

<https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/communityempowerment>

Information Pack on Community Empowerment for Area Partnerships:

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20015/your_council/472/area_partnerships/7

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 – Currently, there are no formal Participation Requests or formal Asset Transfer requests being considered within the Eildon area. Information about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 is available on the Council’s website: [Parts of the Act | Community Empowerment \(Scotland\) Act 2015 | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](#)

	Section 4: Further Support
20.	<p>Useful Links below</p> <p>Debt Advice:</p> <p>Citizens Advice Bureau</p> <p>Salvation Army</p> <p>NHS Money Worries App – download from Google Play or the App Store</p> <p>Business support:</p> <p>www.scotborders.gov.uk/covid19business</p> <p>www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot</p> <p>General Funding:</p> <p>https://fundingscotland.com/</p> <p>https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/</p> <p>SBC Community Fund</p>

[SBC Enhancement & Welfare Trust](#)

[Sustainable Development Fund](#)

Heating & energy:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/affordablewarmth

Covid-19:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/coronavirus

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/community-testing>

Health & Wellbeing:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/coronavirus/>

NHS Borders Wellbeing Service:

<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/wellbeing-service/>

NHS Borders Wellbeing Point:

www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/wellbeingpoint

Community Empowerment:

https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/info/20062/strategies_plans_and_policies/357/community_empowerment_scotland_act_2015

Scottish Community Council Newsletter:

<http://www.communitycouncils.scot/>

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09 September 2021

Community Fund 2021/2022		£
Opening balance as of 01/04/2021 (£276k split per head of population)	£	85,273.00
Plus 50% of available Local Festival Grant budget	£	14,200.00
Total available	£	99,473.00
Less:		
Community Fund & Community Fund Fast Track applications awarded since 01/04/2021	£	53,889.79
Community Fund & Community Fund Fast Track applications that are assessed and await decision	£	36,166.20
Sub-total	£	90,055.99
Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful	£	9,417.01

Build Back a Better Borders		£
Opening balance as of 01/06/2021 (£500k split 80%/20% per head of population and S.I.M.D.)	£	153,633.00
Total available	£	153,633.00
Less:		
Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications awarded since 01/06/2021	£	12,989.33
Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications that are assessed and await decision	£	41,721.86
Sub-total	£	54,711.19
Funds remaining if assessed applications are successful	£	98,921.81

Community Fund & Community Fund Fast Track applications still to be assessed	£	-
Potential Overall Position	£	9,417.01

Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund applications still to be assessed	£	-
Potential Overall Position	£	98,921.81

Summary of all applications						
No.	Date	Fund	Organisation Name	Amount	Project	Status
1	30/03/21	Community Fund	Oxton War Memorial Hall Committee	£ 30,000.00	Build new village hub	Awarded
2	19/04/21	Community Fund	Melrose Football Club	£ 1,500.00	Football kit upgrade	Awarded
3	29/04/21	Community Fund	Beyond Earlston	£ 12,460.00	BE Active' staff costs	Awarded
4	29/04/21	Community Fund	Selkirk Playpark	£ 571.25	Seesaw replacement	Awarded
5	31/05/21	Community Fund	Melrose Rugby Football Club	£ 4,000.00	Consultant Fees	Awarded
6	03/06/21	Community Fund	Galashiels Academy Pupil Council	£ 4,458.54	Videography equipment	Awarded
7	12/07/21	Community Fund	Newstead Village Community Trust	£ 900.00	Land valuation - village green	Awarded
8	27/07/21	Community Fund	Selkirk Regeneration	£ 5,220.00	Book - "100 Years of Fishy Skulduggery"	Assessed
9	28/07/21	Community Fund	Bird Gardens Scotland	£ 3,564.00	10 x picnic tables	Assessed
10	27/08/21	Community Fund	St Mary's Loch Sailing Club	£ 15,000.00	Boat and trailer	Assessed
11	04/09/21	Community Fund	Newstead Village Community Trust	£ 12,382.20	Professional consultation support	Assessed
12	11/06/21	BBBB Fund	Melrose Scout Group	£ 10,921.13	Equipment & membership increase	Awarded
13	24/06/21	BBBB Fund	One Step Borders	£ 585.00	Staff costs - Volunteer Coordinator	Awarded
14	24/06/21	BBBB Fund	Currie Memorial Hall	£ 1,483.20	Reinstate events (purchase equipment)	Awarded
15	27/07/21	BBBB Fund	Selkirk Baptist Church	£ 7,297.96	Community garden	Assessed
16	09/08/21	BBBB Fund	Yoga Frog	£ 2,196.90	Wellbeing classes	Assessed
17	09/08/21	BBBB Fund	Langlee Community Centre	£ 2,227.00	Hall lets	Assessed
18	25/08/21	BBBB Fund	Miracle Woodlands	£ 15,000.00	Miracle at Mellerstain	Assessed
19	30/08/21	BBBB Fund	Stow Community Trust	£ 15,000.00	Cycle Hub Coordinator salary & training	Assessed
Total				£144,767.18		

Other sources of grant funding - Eildon			
Grant Type	Available	Awarded	Remaining
Local Festival Grants	£ 14,200.00	£ -	£ 14,200.00
Annual Support Grants (Community Councils)	£ 10,525.00	£ 2,985.00	£ 7,540.00
SBC Small Schemes	£ 48,200.00	£ 30,884.00	£ 17,316.00
Common Good (Galashiels, Lauder, Selkirk, & WHT)	£ 36,300.00	£ 3,500.00	£ 32,800.00
SBC Enhancement Grant	£ 2,795.09	£ 885.25	£ 1,909.84
SBC Welfare Grant	£ 8,831.82	£ -	£ 8,831.82
Totals	£ 120,851.91	£ 38,254.25	£ 82,597.66

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Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details:

Organisation name	Yoga Frog				
Organisation structure	Limited Company				
Application reference	BBBB-EIL-05				
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	September 21	Project end date			Jan 22

2. Organisation's finances:

End of year balance	£2,000
Current bank balance	£3,000
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£3,000 This money is allocated to other expenditures that are forthcoming such as equipment, travel and venue hire for upcoming retreats that are planned. Money is also kept for reserve purposes and any unexpected spend.

Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

Yoga Frog are looking to run 12 Circle Gathering sessions that will be free to those that attend. These sessions will take place at the Yoga Mill in Galashiels

A circle gathering is a space for self-reflection and the aim of these sessions is to allow individuals to find peace and be free of judgement.

Yoga Frog would like to offer Circle Gatherings to members of the public, for anyone over the age of 18. Circles look to build a community through sharing, storytelling, singing, dancing, drumming, yoga and various practices that support each individual in their life and in their recovery process. There are currently no other circle gatherings in the Eildon area. Therefore all participants will be new.

Circles are one of the oldest ways that humans have gathered (300,000+ years ago). In a circle we reclaim our way of being together, remembering an ancient way of connecting, coming together and being in community. Circles create space for people to connect and for them to be part of a community.

Yoga Frog are seeking funding to cover tutor costs as well as room hire and equipment. This would allow sessions to be free for 12 weeks.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

Circle Gatherings are for men and women from 18 years old and above. Circle gatherings are intended to reduce isolation and help people focus on their own wellbeing.

The group will look to advertise the free sessions via social media channels and also via word of mouth. The group currently have over 1,000 followers on social media currently and have regular yoga and circle gathering sessions, which are currently held virtually but it is the intention to meet in person when restrictions allow.

The group are looking to expand the reach and awareness of these activities and reach out to those that would not normally attend. The group aim to do this via Facebook advertising, posters in key locations throughout Eildon, talking with groups and word of mouth.

The group would like a variety of people to attend, some who have been to circles before and definitely others who have no circle gathering experience.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

In offering a space where people can come together in circle on a regular basis the group aim to create an opportunity for deeper connection, a remedy for isolation and loneliness.

Circles are a place where people can come together, where they have an opportunity to speak, to be seen and heard without judgment. The various activities and tools that Yoga Frog offer will also help them to work through personal struggles, bringing clarity to what is happening in their lives increasing the chance of recovery from the time of isolation required during the pandemic.

An evaluation would be conducted after session 9 with the intention to understand demand and also challenges around attendance.

In offering free sessions this would be an opportunity for those individuals who would not normally attend sessions to access and try.

Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£2,441.00
10% organisation contribution	£244.10
Request to BBBB	£2,196.90

Item of expenditure	Cost
Room Hire	£300
Teachers and Guest Tutors	£1,740
Instruments	£401

	£
	£

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
	£	
	£	
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
		£

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	The application meets the criteria of the BBBB fund
Comments	<p>The application scores medium/low.</p> <p>The application would allow individuals to access a new activity. This would be the first Circle Gathering to take place in Eildon and circle gatherings have shown to be positive to individuals wellbeing.</p> <p>In offering free sessions it would make this activity accessible for all and remove a barrier to participation.</p> <p>While the sessions will be advertised the application would have benefited from targeting key groups or individuals to attend these sessions.</p>
Additional terms and conditions required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance • equipment is available for use by other groups • All staff costs must meet the National Living Wage <p>Recommendations to evaluate impact: If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of free sessions provided • Number of attendees at these sessions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progression routes available after free sessions end
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Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund - Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details:

Organisation name	Langlee Community Centre				
Organisation structure	Constituted Group				
Application reference	BBBB-EIL-06				
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & Culture	Environment	Community Capacity	Community resilience
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date		Project end date			

2. Organisation’s finances:

End of year balance	£34,458.39
Current bank balance	£35,676.73
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£25,078.40 The funds that are available ensure the running of the building, The management committee are responsible for the up keep and running costs of the building. Therefore funds are required to maintain sustainability for any future needs of the building, equipment or housekeeping of the centre. Although no funds are specifically earmarked spend.
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	£10,598.33

Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an

identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

The Langlee management committee would like to offer all their existing user groups free room and hall lets to encourage groups back to using the centre.

The management committee would like to offer free lets to 10 affiliated groups to the value of £610.50 per week and 12 regular groups to the value of £503 per week over 2 month period.

BBBB funding would cover the cost of affiliated groups for 2 months. The management committee would cover the remaining costs from their reserves.

The covering of Let costs will enable groups to return to the Langlee centre with no financial burden and uncertainty of whether they can continue if their numbers are lower than pre covid. Funding would be used to support regular users who were at the heart of the centre and the community pre covid.

There is only one group that have indicated that they are nervous about returning to group provision. The management committee plan to meet up with any group that have fears or concerns and offer solutions or to alleviate any concerns around the return of safe group work activity.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

A variety of groups use the Langlee centre. These groups consists of young people, elderly people, fitness groups for all ages, youth clubs, social clubs and sports clubs.

Groups that use the centre include;
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Over 60s club
Langlee Choir
Sewing Bees
Badminton Club

Pilates

Langlee management committee would help support the groups to return to the centre and would facilitate this as much as possible.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High

Medium

Low

Comment:

The Langlee committee feel that providing free lets for a 4 month period would provide a positive impact on the community and the groups involved. It would aim to reduce some of the extra pressures in getting group activity re-started post pandemic. While the offer will be to all existing group users it will aim to support those groups that are struggling with finances and may be unable to cover let costs. It will also help to allow group activity to build up and allow groups to function even with low attendance at the beginning.

Numbers that can attend indoor group activity may be restricted and may reduce capacity of any group work. Allowing free access will allow groups to run without worrying about the number of people attending.

It will look to bring the community back together so people can be social and begin to enjoy life again.

Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£4,454
10% organisation contribution	£
Request to BBBB	£2,227

Item of expenditure	Cost
4 months regular group hall hire	£2,012
4 months of affiliated group hall hire	£2,442
	£
	£
	£

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
	£	
	£	
	£	

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
		£

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	The application meets the criteria of the BBBB fund
Comments	<p>This application will support and encourage groups to return to face to face activity. It will take away the financial burden of returning to group activity.</p> <p>However, It is unclear as to how many groups will take up this offer and it hasn't been demonstrated if there is a need to provide free lets.</p> <p>It would have been beneficial to know the number of affiliated and core groups that are keen to take up this offer.</p>
Additional terms and conditions required	<p>The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance</p> <p>If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of free lets provided to groups • Number of group activities that have taken place over a 4 month period

2021/2022 BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND

Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details

Organisation name	Stow Community Trust					
Organisation structure	Community Trust					
Application reference	BBBB-EIL-08					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & culture	Environment	Community capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	Jan22			Project end date	June 22	

2. Organisation's Finances

End of year balance	£10,689
Current bank balance	£126,360
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	£
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	<p>£126,360</p> <p>Station House £93,906 (funding from Toddleburn and Longpark Community Funds)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £19,213, Railway Heritage Trust • £ 59,300, BVCCF • £12993, Blueprint Borders Railway Fund • £2400 Pump Track • £10,023 (Toddleburn and Longpark Community Funds) Cycle Hub • £6315 (Toddleburn and Longpark Community Funds and Como) Development worker • £16,188 Toddleburn and Longpark Community Funds and SBC)

3. Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comment:

Stow Community Trust (SCT) aim to open a Cycle Hub in the Station House to develop activities focused on environmental sustainability, cycling and walking.

This application is seeking part funding to employ a manager to set up and develop the Stow Cycle Hub based at the Station House. Match funding is being sought from Smarter Choices Smarter Places (SCSP) fund for the post. The role of the manager will be to set up the cycle hub to provide a range of services and support activities to support cycling and walking for everyday journeys and for leisure.

The salary will be offered on a full time basis (35 hours per week) at £24,000. The post holder will be required to work flexibly which will ordinarily include both weekend and evening work.

Travel expenses will be 45p per mile for car use, however the post holder will be required to use sustainable transport where available (cycling, walking , bus and trains). So consideration will be given to purchasing train and/or bus passes.

The Cycle Hub and the role of the co-ordinator will address the following areas:
Develop and encourage Active Travel; a survey of local people on their travel behaviours was carried out in Oct 2020. Key findings included the dependency on using cars for short local journeys. However 70% of respondents said that active travel for everyday journeys is important to them and an area that they would like to consider using.

As a result of these findings Stow Community Trust (STC) established a community e-bike project providing free ebike trials of up to 4 weeks to members of the community prioritising applicants who want to use ebikes for commuting, people who will benefit from the use of an ebike to help them manage long term health conditions, and those who don't have access to a car and for whom public transport isnt accessible and people seeking employment. The hub co-ordinator will encourage local residents to access these bikes and further develop the offer.

STC have also mapped local cycle routing routes connecting Stow with neighbouring villages and towns. The routes are available on their website and they will shortly be publishing an information leaflet. The cycle hub will support the delivery of the ebike project and make the bikes more accessible for everyday travel as well as establishing a bike rental service for visitors to the area. utilising the identified cycle routes.

The Cycle Hub will provide a bike repair and refurbishment service focusing on reducing waste, recycling parts and bringing old bikes back into use. It will be a source of affordable bikes for Stow and neighbouring communities. It will provide development opportunities for cyclists and volunteers providing training opportunities in the repair and maintenance of bikes. The Cycle Hub co-ordinator will work with Stow Primary School to ensure that all children have access to a bike and learn the basic skills in its maintenance and care as well as supporting bikeability training for all ages.

The role of the Cycle Hub co-ordinator will be to increase community connectivity, creating opportunities for positive social interaction between people. The new role will act

as a link between communities and help develop the mapping of local cycle routes, working with partners in Galashiels, lauder, Fountainhall and Oxtun. These relationships will help to us with opportunities for shared learning but are also critical to the development of a vibrant economy in the wider neighbourhood.

The Cycle Hub will provide volunteering and training opportunities across all ages, including opportunities for intergenerational activities.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to benefit from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comment:

The Cycle Hub project and the new post will look to engage with a number of individuals and organisations within the local community. The main target of the post will be to engage with local residents especially those who are less confident in their cycling abilities. The ebike project is predominantly used by middle aged and older people (predominantly women) who have not cycled for some time and in most cases since they were children. The ebike enables them to build up their confidence in their cycling ability as well as their fitness level. The Hub co-ordinator will be able to encourage more individuals to access ebikes and to help them feel supported to do this.

Children and young people Children will be beneficiaries of this project, as the co-ordinator will work with the school to support bikeability training, provide a repair for service for childrens bikes as well as make refurbished affordable bikes available for children.

As commuters begin to return to the workplace the co-ordinator will look to provide them with an alternative to the daily drive to the local train station. Thus reducing traffic going through the village at peak times as well as encouraging the health benefits of active travel.

The post holder will also look to develop activities that bring people together for local events and also encourage economic activity in the community as it encourages people to use the local shop, cafe and other local businesses. The co-ordinator will work with local business and other organisations to aim to make Stow an attractive place for cyclists and walkers to visit by providing information on cycling and walking and organising activities such as walking festivals and cycling events thus increasing revenue locally and making local businesses more sustainable.

Expected impact of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic

High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
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Comment:

The overall aim of the project is to to increase awareness of cycling for everyday journeys with the motivation to reduce the carbon footprint on travel. It also looks to Strengthen community resilience and cohesion by providing opportunities for volunteering/skills development and shared activities. The project aims to support local businesses by promoting cycling and walking in the area and organising events to attract visitors to the

Galawater. It also aims to have positive health benefits as it will encourage more people to be more active.

Within the first year of the project the co-ordinator of the cycle hub will aim to;

1. Recruit and train a team of 10 volunteers in bike maintenance and repairs skills so that they can support the delivery of the bike repair service. identify 4 volunteers who can undertake their velo tech bike skills qualification.
2. Establish a bike repair and refurbishment service in the cycle hub that will offer affordable bike repairs and access to refurbished bikes to the local community.
3. Expand and develop the ebike project by expanding the fleet to bikes to meet the full range of needs identified, to include provision for people with disabilities, pilot a members e-bike share scheme for people who cannot afford to purchase an ebike but require long term access to one, establish an ebike rental scheme for visitors to the area to generate income for the project.
4. Recruit and train 4 local volunteers to undertake training/qualifications to provide led walks and /or cycle rides.
5. Co-ordinate the running of regular skills development sessions and cycling and walking groups for the local community and other support activities targeted at people who are new to cycling and less confident bike riders
6. In partnership with local businesses organise two separate large scale events; a walking festival and a cycling festival that will attract visitors to the Galawater Valley
7. Work with Scottish Borders Council and other local stakeholders to develop a plan for the improvement of cycling infrastructure around Stow and between Stow and neighbouring villages to include off road tracks and paths.

4. Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£31,500
10% organisation contribution	£1,500
Request to BBBB	£15,000

Item of expenditure	Cost
Cycle Hub Co-ordinator Salary	£24,000
Employer costs (pension costs £532.80, Employers Nat Ins costs £209)	£2,624.80
Travel Expenses and training	£1,200
Volunteers Training budget	£2,300
payroll costs	£200

Match/other funding sought:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
Smarter Choices, Smarter Places Open Fund – paths for all	£15,000	Pending
	£	
	£	

Date	Project Title	Amount
		£
		£
		£
		£
		£

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	
Comments	<p>the application meets the criteria of the BBBB fund</p> <p>This application has scored highly. The application is a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic</p> <p>This project aims to receive match funding which would allow the Bike Hub co-ordinator to be in post for 1 year.</p> <p>The application will encourage active travel and will support individuals to use their bike. The role will also support volunteers, allowing them to learn new skills.</p> <p>The application also looks to develop community connections.</p>
Additional terms and conditions required	<p>The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance</p> <p>All staff costs must meet the National Living Wage</p> <p>Recommendations to evaluate impact: If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals that have accessed bike activities run by the cycle hub co-ordinator • Number of volunteers engaged with supporting this work

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2021/2022 BUILD BACK A BETTER BORDERS RECOVERY FUND

Assessment Form

For the purpose of assessment, projects have been ranked high, medium or low to reflect how strongly the application meets the criteria of the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund.

High – a strong demonstration of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Medium – provides acceptable examples of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

Low – lacks detail of how the project will assist recovery from the pandemic

1. Applicant Details

Organisation name	Miracle Woodlands Ltd					
Organisation structure	Not-for-profit private company limited by guarantee					
Application reference	BBBB-EIL					
Theme of application	Sport	Arts & culture	Environment	Community capacity	Community resilience	Intergenerational activity
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project start date	18/11/2021			Project end date	19/12/2021	

2. Organisation's Finances

End of year balance	n/a new organisation
Current bank balance	£0
Total cash/Unrestricted reserves available & purpose	n/a new organisation
Total restricted /committed funds & purpose	n/a new organisation

3. Project:

Outline of what the group plan to do to help people recover from the pandemic. Projects will be ranked higher if the application strongly demonstrates that they are meeting an identified need in the community. (e.g. area of deprivation, protected characteristics, tackling wellbeing and isolation, tackling climate change)

High **Medium** **Low**

Comment:
 Miracle Woodlands is a brand new organisation established to raise awareness of the importance of our native woodlands through immersive, educational creative experiences.

The inaugural event, Miracle at Mellerstain, will use light, sound and storytelling to highlight the importance of trees in a sustainable planet through a richly immersive production with vital environmental messages at its heart. An illuminated woodland walk

aims to use each leg of the visitor journey as a chapter, making up a rich, informative and highly engaging masterpiece for the senses.

Running from 18 November to 19 December 2021, the event in the grounds of Mellerstain House in the Borders, will have a particular focus on the importance of woodlands in combating climate change and the ecological emergency we face. By educating people on the importance of woodlands in our ecosystem, it is hoped generate positive change, while simultaneously raising funds for woodland protection projects across southern Scotland.

Working with local partners, including Borders Forest Trust (BFT) and the South of Scotland Destination Alliance (SSDA), Miracle Woodlands will engage the local community through creative educational and volunteering opportunities. This outdoor experience brings opportunities for participants and the event industry in the Scottish Borders to engage in an exciting, new seasonal outdoor activity following the global pandemic.

The event will be fun but with a serious message with opportunities to explore key environmental concerns including:

- The importance of trees in cleansing the air we breathe. How, without trees, the world would be a very different place...and one without humans. Facts and figures will show the stark changes over recent centuries and decades.
- Looking at deforestation and how individuals can help combat it. Innovative projections will be used to have all the trees shown in situ, growing at an accelerated timeline then disappearing to show a barren land when no action is taken.

The presentation of the core message will be on many levels, ensuring it is absorbed by all. The forest do the talking using intelligent lighting, projections and audio triggers. The experience will be multi-sensory and immersive. Each element of the story will be visual, helping to reinforce the message, create impact and remain in the mind long after the event. While the main woodland walk will be a ticketed event, the application to the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund is to contribute to costs of the freely accessible elements of the experience, namely the workshops and Christmas market.

Miracle Woodlands will run workshops and events for schools in partnership with the Borders Forest Trust with wellbeing and mindfulness experiences in the woodland, also being explored.

There will be opportunities for schools to participate with the aim of engaging with up to 50 children and young people per day (Wednesday-Friday). Head teachers that have been engaged so far are supportive of this as an extracurricular activity. Transport will be provided for those participating. Groups outwith the school structure will also be engaged with, giving disadvantaged young people and adults the opportunity to learn and experience the trail.

The event will also feature an outdoor Christmas Market with an ecological/natural heritage theme to tie in with the main event. Local artisans and traders will be invited rent a stall and taking the opportunity to reach a large number of potential customers in the run up to Christmas.

Miracle Woodlands are engaged with SBC's Event's Team.

A grant from the Build Back a Better Borders Recovery Fund will contribute to the costs of providing the Christmas Market and workshops, and transport, for schools which will be available free of charge.

Evidence of individuals, groups or communities likely to <u>benefit</u> from the new initiative and how they have been affected by the pandemic:		
High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comment:</p> <p>School pupils who have been unable to take part in out-of-school field trips and experiences will, restrictions permitting, be able to attend educational workshops at Mellerstain as part of school excursions, and go on the illuminated trail, free of charge.</p> <p>The projected number of visitors is conservatively estimated to be over 15,000 based on similar experiences in Scotland including Enchanted Forest and Dalkeith Country Park. Therefore the event will not only serve to deliver a key environmental message to a large number of people in the Borders and beyond but will deliver additional benefits for the area including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attracting new local and national visitors • Increasing brand awareness of the event and the Scottish Borders • Increasing economic impact for the local community through local business involvement • Increasing economic impact for the local community through extension of visitor number and overnight stays 		

Expected <u>impact</u> of the new initiative and how will it help those most in need recover from the pandemic		
High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Medium <input type="checkbox"/>	Low <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Comment:</p> <p>A Christmas Market will be a key feature at the event, giving local artisans and traders the opportunity to benefit from access to customers in the run up to Christmas - benefitting from relatively high footfall at a crucial time in the retail calendar. Linking in with the theme of the event will also give them the chance to raise their profile among an interested group of potential customers - both at the event itself and in future.</p> <p>The local community will have the opportunity to experience creative arts. Initially these will be reached through the network of partner organisations. Over time, the aim is to include other specialist agencies and community groups in the Borders as partners.</p> <p>Miracle at Mellerstain will provide the region with a key creative event in the winter calendar for the Scottish Borders, bringing new audiences to the region with potential increased spend, profile and the economic benefit brought by the production team itself. Partners South of Scotland Destination Alliance are promoting Miracle Woodlands as their flagship winter event for 2021, to attract visitors to the region towards the end of the year.</p> <p>The event is expected create around 40 temporary jobs and volunteering opportunities (working with Borders Forest Trust and Volunteer Centre Borders). As an annual event, it is envisaged that we are likely to work with a core team each year, while also providing new opportunities for those living locally in the run up to Christmas.</p> <p>The specialist schools programme will engage young people and provide them with opportunities to access the arts. Participatory workshops will enable participants to delve into some of the rich detail of what will be learned on the walk. Each child visiting the</p>		

event will be given a tree seed to plant in a compost pot, which can then be planted at home.

Any surplus from the event will be invested into the programme for 2022.

4. Project Expenditure:

Total Project Cost	£280,892
BBBB funded costs	16,410
10% organisation contribution	£1,491
Request to BBBB	£14,919

Items of expenditure (BBBB funded element)	Cost
Market Stalls	£8,610
Transport	£4,500
PA equipment/furniture hire	£800
Staffing (part costs)	£2,500

Match/other funding sought for wider project:

Funder	Funding Requested	Status
Creative Scotland	£15,000.00	Pending
Visit Scotland (EventScotland funding)	£30,000.00	Pending
Private sector sponsorship	£95,000.00	Pending
Other costs will be met through pitch hire (traders), ticket sales and bar sales (estimated £215,000).		

Grants received from Scottish Borders Council or any other funder within the last three years

Date	Project Title	Amount
		£
		£
		£
		£
		£

SBC OFFICER ASSESSMENT	The application does not currently meet the criteria of the Fund as not all have been received. It is expected that these will be in place by the meeting on 23 September.
Comments	The application is rated high as it will assist economic recovery from the pandemic.
Additional terms and conditions required	<p>The applicant must follow Scottish Government Covid-19 guidance when delivering the project.</p> <p>The rate of pay for staff must meet the National Living Wage.</p> <p>Appropriate insurances and risk assessments must be in place.</p>

	Market stalls will be available to community groups to use for events.
Recommendations to evaluate impact:	<p>If successful, we recommend the applicant include in their funding evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of schools and pupils engaged with • Feedback from pupils and teachers • Number of traders taking part in the Christmas Market • Number of members of the public attending the Christmas Market • Feedback from traders and members of the public attending the Christmas Market

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