

To: The Villages Local Partnership

On: 17 November 2022

Report by:
Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Council

TITLE:
The Villages Local Partnership Budget Monitoring and Feedback Report

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Villages Local Partnership provides funding to community groups to undertake projects. This funding is allocated from the General Grant Fund and, through a Participating Budgeting exercise known as Celebrating Renfrewshire, the Youth Challenge Fund.
- 1.2 A table setting out the funds allocated by The Villages Local Partnership in 2022/23 and current budget position is attached as an appendix to this report.
- 1.3 The Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund for The Villages Local Partnership for 2022/23 is £23,609.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the budget monitoring and feedback report be noted.

Appendix 1

The Villages Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23

General Grant Fund	£50,441 (net of Members expenses)
Carry Forward to 2022/23	£4,131 (funds returned)
Total Funding Awards	£53,441
Available	£1,131

Grant Ref	Organisation	Awarded £	Paid £	Still To Be Paid £
FR1034	Friends of Howwood Park	£1,720	£1,720	£0
FR1036	Kilbarchan Improvement Projects	£2,000	£2,000	£0
FR1044	Lochwinnoch Choral Society	£2,070	£2,070	£0
FR1047	Lochwinnoch Arts Festival	£2,879	£2,879	£0
FR1050	Houston & Killellan Kirk Men's Shed	£2,500	£2,500	£0
FR1052	Lochwinnoch S.W.I.	£300	£300	£0
FR1053	The Kilbarchan Singers	£3,010	£3,010	£0
FR1060	1 st Bridge of Weir Scout Group	£5,279	£5,279	£0
FR1062	The Renfrewshire Toy Bank	£1,428	£1,428	£0
FR1108	Lochwinnoch Toddlers Group	£2,701	£0	£2,701
FR1116	Renfrewshire Model Railway Club	£2,654	£2,654	£0
FR1120	Houston Community Council	£2,900	£2,900	£0
FR1122	Elderslie Community Council	£1,545	£1,545	£0
FR1127	Elderslie Community Council	£200	£200	£0
FR1128	Paisley Sea Cadets/Brediland Hall	£200	£200	£0
FR1136	Elderslie Community Council	£3,000	£3,000	£0
FR1139	Howwood Community Council	£5,235	£5,235	£0
FR1141	Lamont Farm Project	£500	£500	£0
FR1145	Local Energy Action Plan	£10,000	£10,000	£0
FR1152	Brookfield S.W.I.	£400	£400	£0
FR1156	Kilbarchan Community Council	£2,000	£2,000	£0
FR1175	Improving with age	£920	£920	£0

Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund £39,650.20
Total Awards £39,650.20

Grant Ref	Organisation	Awarded £	Paid £	Still To Be Paid £
	Friends of Howwood Park	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	1 st Bridge of Weir Scout Group	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	1 st Lochwinnoch Boys Brigade	£2,340	£0	£2,340
	Lochwinnoch Youth Club	£2,439.20	£0	£2,439.20
	Who Cares Scotland	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	Renfrewshire Carers Centre	£1,715	£0	£1,715
	Solid Rock Cheer and Gym	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	Lamont Farm Project	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	PACE Theatre Company	£3,000	£0	£3,000
	Blue Triangle Housing Association	£2,906.00	£0	£2,906.00
	Bungalow Enterprises CIC	£2,550.00	£0	£2,550.00
	I was Gonnae	£2,200.00	£0	£2,200.00
	Loud n Proud	£1,500.00	£0	£1,500.00
	Pachedu	£3,000.00	£0	£3,000.00
	Renfrew Town Sea Scouts	£3,000.00	£0	£3,000.00

Feedback From 2021/22 Awards

Feedback received from community groups awarded funding from The Villages Local Partnership in 2021/22 is as follows:

Various projects - Elderslie Community Council

We are still in the process of getting the village signs. The summer Fayre money has been carried over to next year, the railway refresh is still a work in progress and we are still in discussion with Council officers on the benches.

FR1061 – Lochwinnoch Arts Festival

Project – Lochwinnoch Arts Festival

Amount Received - £5900.08

LP Areas – Villages

We wanted the money to deliver a range of art within our rural community. We were very keen to help people have some escape using art and entertainment from the ravages of the pandemic on peoples lives. We were able to deliver a range of events for different ages groups and families with the funds. We aimed to maintain culture and art within our community when it was very difficult to attend events during the pandemic.

We used the funds to deliver five local film events for families and adults in a safe manner following all the corvid legislation. In addition, one of the film events we were able to integrate an event to raise £525 for our local RNLI branch, this was a 'Whisky Galore' film, music and whisky tasting event. We also delivered two concerts which were very well supported. Furthermore, we have delivered three outdoor art events one for the primary school and two for the local community in partnership with Castle Semple Water Sports C enter and Creative Paisley. Lastly we ran for the second time a winter windows decorating event which saw many families and individual take part.

We had all the children participate in the outdoor event and the teachers approx 250pupils/teachers. Outdoor art at Castle Semple 250 at films 240 and concerts 180

We were able to enhance the ability of many in our community to still be engaged in the arts in many forms during the pandemic. We were able to provide a chance for people to still meet up safely to enjoy art events.

Evidence Received

Photographs and media advertising about the events

How was the grant spent?

Film events and delivery £3100

Musical events £3200

Outdoor events £ 900

Costs

Total for all the art activities and events £9708

FR1067 – The Kilbarchan Singers

Project – Royal Conservatoire Students

Awarded - £2276.83

LP Area(s): Villages

What did you want the money to do?

We wished to provide honoraria for 2 music students, 1 bass and 1 tenor for a term September 2021 until May 2022. We also wished to offer 25 tickets per concert to charities within the local areas e.g. St Vincent's Hospice, Accord Hospice, Sheltered Housing Paisley, local care homes for the elderly. In addition, we wanted to purchase some new music which would challenge both the students and the choir members.

What did you spend it on?

We provided honoraria for 3 music students in total, all basses. One student, however, was only able to stay with us until Christmas, and this then enabled us to offer honoraria to another student, hence 3 students and not 2 have been involved with us. Due to Covid restrictions we did not have a full concert at Christmas time, but a very informal one purely for immediate family etc. This meant that we were not able to offer tickets to charities as we had hoped. We did engage with a student organist for this concert and were able to pay him utilising the grant. We are having a concert at the end of May and have already spoken with Accord Hospice and are providing tickets for them. We are hoping that representatives from Adams House will also be able to attend this concert, and we will be providing tickets for them (or another charity) to allow them to do so.

How many people benefitted from/access your project?

As our summer concert is still to take place it is difficult to quantify exactly how many people have benefited from the project. However, it is anticipated that in total a minimum of 200 people have or will have benefited from the project. This includes choir members, students/scholars, audience and charities.

How did your project benefit people in the community?

Members of the choir benefit greatly from the inclusion of music scholars in our rehearsals and our concerts. Their experience, ability and talent enables choir members to tackle music that, without their assistance, may not be possible. It is difficult to encourage men to join choirs and, those who do, sometimes need additional support. This is sometimes our experience and the men who sing alongside the students gain both in confidence and in musical ability. The scholars gain in experience and learn to sing alongside others who may not have the same musical ability as them but still have the same enthusiasm. The scholars learn to blend their voices with the rest of the choir and this is an important aspect of choral singing. The Choir celebrates 40 years this year and has been representing the village and community throughout the UK and abroad over these years. This project, and those gone before, has enabled us to do so. The Choir has become an integral part of village life.

How can you evidence the impact of your project?

As previously stated to date our only "concert" this past year has been a very low key event purely for family. As there were Covid restrictions in place it meant it was not appropriate for us to publicise the event. Our programme, however, did include, as always, the recognition of the support received from Renfrewshire Council. A copy of this will be sent as evidence. As we hadn't sung in public for some two years we were, naturally, concerned as to whether we had managed to get back to the standard that we had achieved before. The response from those who attended this "concert" was tremendous and, while it was all anecdotal, it gave us all a tremendous

boost to know that our standards hadn't dropped in any way. While our programme has not been finalised for the concert due to take place on 22nd May our posters have been created. A copy of this will be sent as evidence. Once again, our programme will acknowledge the very valuable support that we have received from the Council.

How has the grant been spent?

Honoraria for 3 music scholars

Payment for 1 student organist

Purchase of new music

Project costs

£3,090 - Musical Director Fees

£1,160 - Rehearsal Accommodation

£1,890 – Music Scholars

£180 – Student Accompanist

£250 - tickets for charities. This may be more should the charities be able to utilise more tickets.

£254.49 - Music purchased during the year.

Total £6,824.49

Additional costs of c£1,400 have been/are being spent in order for the choir to function and in relation to our May concert and our 40th Anniversary.

Total Spend = £6824.49

FR1186 - Lamont Farm

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	Lamont Farm Project
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	Lamont Farm Project
2.2	Amount Received	Approximately £12k
2.3	What priorities did you tell us your project would meet? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tackling isolation & loneliness <input type="checkbox"/> Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets <input type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride <input type="checkbox"/> Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities 	

2.4	What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain). On core running costs, spent full amount
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Section 3 – Impact

3.1	How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants. If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area) Can't give specifics from each area but thousands of people benefitted
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FR1175 – Lochwinnoch Choral Society

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	Lochwinnoch Choral Society
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	Singing in the Community (A development plan)
2.2	Amount Received	£1,140
2.3	What priorities did you tell us your project would meet? <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tackling isolation & loneliness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities </div>	
2.4	What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain). Because of the restraints on gatherings due to the COVID restrictions in 2021 we were unable to run the planned workshops. We did, however, engage a local singing teacher to develop plans to engage younger people in choral singing. A lot of work was done to ensure that parents were well informed about the various	

	arrangements and security of their children. The local Primary School was used to engage the young people and workshops were based in the school to provide familiarity. School staff were also consulted so that the work would dovetail into the curriculum. Preparations took a little longer than expected but the project began in the spring of 2022. Although allocated to the development of the Junior Choir, we were not able to spend any of the grant by the 31 st of March. £256 was spent on these workshops and so £884 remained in our account.
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Section 3 – Impact

3.1	<p>How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants. If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)</p> <p>The Junior Choir has 25 young people with a waiting list of others hoping to join. The primary focus of the grant-funded work has been the development of singing in the area. COVID curtailed our adult development somewhat but the response from the young people has exceeded our expectations. The children who are in the choir are enthusiastic and they have all made fantastic progress developing their skills as singers and performers and their confidence growing every week. As well as that we've been working on their skills in listening and reacting to different creative stimuli.</p> <p>The feedback from the parents has been really positive and many have stated how much their children enjoy being part of the group and look forward to it every week. The juniors will be performing alongside the adult choir at a Christmas this year.</p>
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FR1052 -Paisley and District Battalion Boys Brigade

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	Paisley and District Battalion
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	Battalion Administration and Events
2.2	Amount Received	£3,000
2.3	<p>What priorities did you tell us your project would meet?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tackling isolation & loneliness <input type="checkbox"/> Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets 	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride <input type="checkbox"/> Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities
2.4	<p>What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain).</p> <p>Our Battalion provides a necessary conduit between the Boys' Brigade at country level and the various companies we have in the Council area. There are administration costs associated with running this and maintaining a local HQ building and shop to support boys and young people in the 22 local companies. These costs also allowed us to do a limited recruitment drive as well as subsidising ALL companies from our funds in the past year, a move which has allowed us to keep the majority of the companies afloat financially and properly funded to allow them to offer the boys the guidance, training, support and experience which they need to progress through the organisation. In addition, we have been able to cover the costs of a small number of events. We were able to spend/allocate all the funds kindly awarded to us.</p>

Section 3 – Impact

3.1	<p>How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants. If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)</p> <p>Indirectly, over 750 boys and young people have benefitted from the funding received, either by training, receipt of a Queen's Badge, or by way of subsidy to allow their company to continue to support them through their Boys' Brigade adventure. Attached is our review of 2021-22 which showcases some of the things we did in the past year, some of which would have been impossible without your support.</p>
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FR1084 - Rainbow Turtle

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	Rainbow Turtle
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	
2.2	Amount Received	
2.3	<p>What priorities did you tell us your project would meet?</p> <p>X Tackling isolation & loneliness</p>	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities
2.4	<p>What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain).</p> <p>Most money went on the part-time Educational Officer's salary The remainder was spent on conferences, meetings and equipment for the Educational Officer</p> <p>The money was fully spent</p>

Section 3 – Impact

3.1	<p>How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants. If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)</p> <p>We estimate we have reached over 1000 people in Renfrewshire in the past year. This includes schools across Renfrewshire, meetings, competitions, street stalls, stalls at the University and the podcast among others.</p> <p>Our previous Education officer resigned last year and we appointed a new Officer during 21/22. She has been learning the role and has been very active. This was done in the face of the pandemic and this has temporarily altered the nature of the role</p> <p>The role of the Education Officer used to involve a lot of work with schools across Renfrewshire and that has been severely limited in 21/22 due to Covid. However despite the restrictions, many connections have been made and many re-established.</p> <p>During COP26 we ran a well-attended meeting about Fair Trade and the Climate Crisis. We had 3 speakers including a coffee grower from Uganda. Over 50 people attended. https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/2021/11/04/climate-change-fair-trade-behind-the-scenes/ https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/news/page/2/</p> <p>We also represented Renfrewshire Fair Trade at two COP26 events as well promoting COP26 in the shop</p>
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	<p>https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/2021/11/04/climate-change-fair-trade-behind-the-scenes/</p> <p>We ran several interviews on our podcast https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/our-podcasts/</p> <p>We involved schools in a very popular 'Design a T-shirt' competition which reached over half of Renfrewshire schools. This was part of fair trade Fortnight and we also ran a food tasting stall outside the shop in Gauze St https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/category/fair-trade-fortnight/</p> <p>We have held stalls and educational events at the University. These have gone down well and increased our reach into the student population.</p> <p>Work within the charity and linked to the Rainbow Turtle shop involved the volunteers and getting them out the house and linking with other volunteers, old and young, and members of the public.</p> <p>Martin Rhodes, Chief Exec of Scottish fair Trade Forum, gave a great talk at our very well attended AGM https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/news/page/2/</p> <p>We have linked with the Gatehouse coffee roasters in Paisley to promote a premium Fair Trade coffee. This has been very successful and helped promote local business as well Fair trade.</p> <p>We promoted Black history month and its importance with fair trade in the modern world. This was reflected in our shop window as well as reaching out to local groups. https://www.rainbowturtle.org.uk/2021/10/11/black-history-month/</p> <p>We have worked with CREATE and other local third sector organisations to share our aims.</p>
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FR1078 - Renfrewshire Toybank

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	The Renfrewshire Toy Bank
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	The Renfrewshire Toy Bank
2.2	Amount Received	£7,887
2.3	What priorities did you tell us your project would meet?	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> X Tackling isolation & loneliness X Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets <input type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride X Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities
2.4	<p>What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain).</p> <p>Spent full amount – split between storage costs for a year, gift cards for teenagers, Easter eggs and Halloween costumes. This was what we expected to spend the funding on however our storage costs have now significantly risen.</p>

Section 3 – Impact

3.1	<p>How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many your reached in each Local Partnership area)</p> <p>Almost 2,700 children received Christmas gifts, over 750 Halloween costumes were given out, 3,800 easter eggs and over 1000 birthday gifts – a total of 8,250 gifts out in a year to children in Renfrewshire.</p> <p>Providing parents and guardians with new toys and gifts helps to reduce stigma as there are no links to the toy bank as all gifts are of a high quality and quantity, the same as children's peers. This also helps reduce to risk of families getting into debt at Christmas, knowing that their children will get to enjoy the magic of Christmas.</p> <p>With the rising cost of living providing Halloween costumes has been a vital service this year and feedback from groups and parents highlights this. With school Halloween discos, the toy bank can help reduce financial pressure from families while tackling stigma by providing new high-quality costumes in a range of accessible locations throughout Renfrewshire. The same applies to Easter. Birthday gifts are always given out, as much as I have said above that 1000 children have had gifts we know this number is higher. Organisations that work with have "birthday boxes" with toys and gifts suitable for children that they work with. This model came about due to covid. This means gifts are already with organisations and we provide top ups when needed. When a top up is needed, have more accurate figures.</p>
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	<p>I will forward some databases onto you with the photographic evidence, however please note that these will have some data removed due to data protection and GDPR. If you need any further information please do not hesitate to get in touch.</p> <p>Some examples more to be seen on databases –</p> <p>Johnstone Social work referrals (Xmas) – 280 Johnstone Health visitors(x-mas) – 20 Linwood Families firs(x-mas) – 22</p> <p>The STAR Project (x-mas) 45 Pals of the Privies (x-mas) 18 Northcroft health visitors (x-mas) -26 Paisley social work north (x-mas) – 150</p>
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FR 1155 - Shopmobility Paisley and District

Section 1

1.1	Organisation Name	Shopmobility Paisley and District
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Section 2

2.1	Project Name	Advancing Social Enterprising in Renfrewshire
2.2	Amount Received	£8,223.74
2.3	<p>What priorities did you tell us your project would meet?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tackling isolation & loneliness <input type="checkbox"/> Health & wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & parks <input type="checkbox"/> Roads & transport <input type="checkbox"/> Moving around & connectivity <input type="checkbox"/> Community & road safety <input type="checkbox"/> Community facilities & public assets <input type="checkbox"/> Community identity & civic pride <input type="checkbox"/> Young people and/or intergenerational work <input type="checkbox"/> Renfrew town centre & play facilities 	
2.4	<p>What did you spend the money on and was it fully spent? (was this different to what you originally intended? If so, please explain).</p> <p>We purchased a company van, logo'd the van with our company branding. We have spent almost £10k on the van to date. We had unexpected repair and maintenance costs, fitting out the back of the van breakdown and pick up costs as well as insurance increases. However; we are very grateful for this money which has enabled us to further develop our social enterprise and ultimately enhance service to members.</p>	

Section 3 – Impact

3.1	<p data-bbox="284 232 1458 376">How many people in your community benefited from your project and how? (What outcomes did you achieve? Please describe the impact your project had on its participants. If you have received funding from more than one Local Partnership, please tell us how many you reached in each Local Partnership area)</p> <p data-bbox="284 416 1458 869">Hundreds of people have benefitted. The outcome is that we are now able to pick up and deliver mobility equipment locally as well as enhancing our repairs and maintenance service following on and off-site repairs. This can save an individual trying to deal with mentally getting out of their house to navigate public transportation to Shopmobility as we can now deliver to them if that's what they need. We also pick up food from RAMH pantry and deliver to our members and we pay the £1 for a lifetime membership with RAMH – all they do is pay the £2.50 for their shopping. We also deliver and pick up shopping to those in the RAH, pick up prescriptions. We know 73% of our ordinary members are still suffering from social isolation and loneliness (post pandemic), and, live in poverty – they tell us this. Following surveys, the impact is very positive indeed and we deliver a service which our membership tell us they need and receive great benefit from.</p>
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