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**To: Joint Committee**

**On: 21 June 2019**

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**Report By: Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, Park Coordinator**

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**Heading: Grant Awards: 'Semple Stories' Project**

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## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report seeks to inform members of the Joint Committee of the award of grants by National Lottery Heritage Fund and Greater Renfrewshire & Inverclyde LEADER to the 'Semple Stories' Project, an oral history and interpretation project for the Lochwinnoch area.
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## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That members of the Joint Committee:
- (i) Note that grant funding has been awarded to Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park to deliver the 'Semple Stories' project. Funding has been awarded by National Lottery Heritage Fund (up to £19,700) and Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LEADER (£18,621.35), and:
  - (ii) Note that the 'Semple Stories' Project will be delivered in accordance with the grant funding.
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## **3.0 Background:**

- 3.1 The Park Strategy 2016-2021 states that one of the aims of the Park is to "conserve and enhance the natural beauty, biodiversity and cultural heritage of Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park". The 'Semple Stories' project will identify, record and promote the area's heritage to enhance the Park's visitor offer.

- 3.2 The project will involve volunteers in the creation of interpretation material focussed on Castle Semple Country Park and Muirshiel Country Park. This will include interpretive boards, posts with audio recordings and website development. The project will improve the visitor experience and encourage repeat visits. The project will develop interpretive trails to encourage interest in local walks and will involve schools, youth groups and Additional Support Needs groups to create an exhibition through photographs of 'Then' and 'Now'.
  - 3.3 A temporary Project Officer will be recruited by Renfrewshire Council and based within the Park team. The Project Officer will be responsible for delivering the project's objectives and ensuring compliance with the funder's approved purposes.
  - 3.4 The Project Office will liaise with the Garnock Connections Landscape Initiative to allow information sharing and identify potential opportunities for volunteers to receive training.
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#### **4.0 Conclusion**

- 4.1 This project will make a valuable contribution to the Park aims, increase digital content, volunteer involvement and encourage repeat visits to Clyde Muirshiel Visitor Centres.
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#### **Implications of the Report**

1. **Financial** – The approved grant awards are a maximum of £19,700 from National Lottery Heritage Fund and £18,621.35 from Greater Renfrewshire and Inverclyde LEADER. The project will be monitored to ensure compliance with the funders' terms and conditions.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – A temporary Project Officer will be recruited by Renfrewshire Council. The post is for 10 months.
3. **Legal** – none
4. **Property/Assets** – none
5. **Information Technology** – none
6. **Equality & Human Rights** -
  - (a) The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have

been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website

- 7. **Health & Safety** – none
- 8. **Procurement** – none
- 9. **Risk** – none
- 10. **Privacy Impact** – none
- 11. **Cosla Policy Position** – none

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**Author:** Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, Park Coordinator  
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