
CLYDE MUIRSHIEL PARK AUTHORITY



Report to: Joint Committee
On: 28 November 2014

Report
By
Regional Park Manager

SUBJECT: Development of the new Mk5 Wheelie Boat Project

1.0 Purpose of Report:

- 1.1 To advise members of the Joint Committee of the further development of services within the park for mainstream and assisted needs groups of all ages delivered by the Activities Team.
- 1.2 To inform members that this service will be the provision of an Mk5 wheelie boat funded by the Rotary Club of Gryffe Valley and the Wheelyboat Trust.
- 1.3 To advise members that purpose of the project is to continue working with our friends and partners to expand capacity for our services for clients with additional support needs.

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 That the Park Authority supports the continued development of services within the park to local clients and those from further afield.
- 2.2 That the Park Authority recognises the Park's continued efforts to increase capacity and income from partnership working to expand capacity and excellent service to clients.

Members wishing further information regarding this report should contact Mr David Gatherer, Regional Park Manager, Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority, 01505 614791.

3.0 Background:

The Wheelyboat Trust, Gryffe Valley Rotary Club and Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park have joined forces to provide a wheelchair accessible wheelie boat to Castle Semple Centre, a watersports and outdoor activity centre on Castle Semple Loch. Gryffe Valley Rotary Club has helped to fund facilities and activities for disabled people on Castle Semple Loch for a number of years.

The Wheelyboat Trust is a registered charity dedicated to providing disabled people of all ages with independent access to waterborne activities (e.g. nature watching, pleasure boating and angling) in wheelchair accessible wheelie boats.

Its principal role is to help and encourage venues that are open to the public acquire wheelie boats for the benefit of their disabled visitors and to help groups and organisations acquire wheelie boats for their own use. 161 wheelie boats have been supplied all over the UK and as far as the Trust knows there is no other organisation doing this kind of work anywhere in Europe.

Eighteen different Special Educational Needs schools and disabled groups use the Centre, including Corseford, Clippens, Kersland and Mary Russell schools and Paisley's Disability Resource Centre. All are unequivocal in the benefits to disabled adults and children of being out on the water and how much a wheelchair accessible powered boat will greatly increase the opportunity for them to fully use and enjoy the Centre's facilities.

3.1 Measures of success will include:

- Increased capacity to provide boating activities for people of all abilities to include coaching sessions
- Another boat to provide support at events that showcase disability sport

4.0 Conclusion:

- 4.1 Within the Park ethos of continually looking to develop services and in the light of reduced resources partnership working is key to the future success of developing new services.
- 4.2 This new service will be one of the ways the park will continue to expand capacity and be able to offer an improved service to our clients.
- 4.3 Income generation will be enhanced by using the new boat to provide more trips for disabled clients along with providing a great platform for coaching courses in powerboat driving for people of all abilities.

Contribution to the National Outcomes of Report: Mk 5 Wheelie Boat Project.
 Completed by: D. Gatherer, Regional Park Manager...Date: 28 November 2014

1. We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe	
2. We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people	This project may help participants develop communication skills.
3. We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation	
4. Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens	This project will help make the participants and helpers gain confidence.
5. Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed	
6. We live longer, healthier lives	
7. We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society	This project will help access to the water that would otherwise be impossible. It will also allow wheelchair bound participants with appropriate qualifications to drive the boat.
8. We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk	
9. We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger	
10. We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need	This project will allow improved access to many more groups.
11. We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others	
12. We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations	This project will enable participants to further enjoy and understand the natural environment.
13. We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity	This project will enable disadvantaged groups to access the water.
14. We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production	
15. Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs	The project directly delivers on this outcome as local people's needs will be accommodated.