

**To: Villages Local Partnership**

**On: 21 September 2023**

**Report by:**

Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Council

**TITLE:**

## **Application For Local Partnership Funding To The Villages Local Partnership 2023/24**

### **1. Summary**

- 1.1 The Villages Local Partnership made awards on 25 May 2023 totalling £41,572. From the opening balance of £51,572, this leaves a remaining balance of £10,000 available to be awarded.
- 1.2 Two applications were deferred from the meeting on 25 May and one application that was initially referred to the Villages Investment fund also remain to be considered. These applications are presented as separate papers on this agenda.
- 1.3 One new application for funding from The Villages Local Partnership has been received, from Kilbarchan Smile, since the May 2023 meeting. The value of this application is £7,275. The application is set out at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.
- 1.4 One application referred at the meeting on 25 May to the Villages Investment Fund and two applications deferred at the same meeting are also to be considered at this meeting. These applications are presented as separate papers on this agenda.
- 1.5 The maximum award for 2023/24 was capped at the May 2023 meeting at £5,000.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that members of Villages Local Partnership consider the application for Local Partnership grant funding, as set out below in Appendix 1 and 2.

### 3. **Background**

- 3.1 Applicants for funding in 2032/24 have been provided with guidance, as well as a description of the Local Priorities identified by Villages Local Partnership.
- 3.2 Local Partnership members are asked to consider the applications for funding summarised at Appendix 1 and 2 of this report, and to assess these against the Local Priorities agreed by Villages.
- 3.3 An initial assessment has been carried out by officers to support Local Partnership members in their decision-making. Where applications have made clear reference to the Local Priorities identified by the Local Partnership, this is identified in the first table at Appendix 1. Applications that make a partial or no reference to Villages Local Priorities are summarised in the second table – for example, the project may tackle social isolation (and therefore meet the Local Priority around social isolation) but not deliver this directly in the Local Partnership area or make reference to how many people from the area would be engaged in the project.
- 3.4 The priorities of Villages Local Partnership are:

#### **Connectivity and transport**

The Local Partnership want to see villages which are well-connected to each other when people can connect with each other too. Transport is a clear focus in this area, including both public transport and green routes.

#### **Environment and Parks**

The Local Partnership want well-maintained villages, with high quality public parks and a focus on street scene, including fly tipping, dog fouling and litter.

#### **Access to services, facilities, and assets**

The Local Partnership want to improve access to what's going on in the community, including community activities, and making the most of their community buildings and facilities.

#### **Village identity and character**

The Local Partnership want to maintain the identity and character of the villages in the area. Key to this is developing and sustaining local community groups, and the delivery of local events.

## APPENDIX 1 – GRANT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY PRIORITY THEME

Villages Local Partnership grant application forms – amount remaining available £10,000.

### APPLICATIONS WITH DIRECT REFERENCE TO THE VILLAGES LOCAL PRIORITIES WHERE PROJECT IS LOCATED IN OR SPECIFIC TO VILLAGES

<b>Ref No.</b>	<b>Name of project</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Name of organisation</b>	<b>Contribution to Villages priorities</b>
FR1164	Heritage Garden	£7,275	Kilbarchan Smile	Environment and Parks

## Application for Villages

## Local Partnership Support 2023/24

<b>Reference:</b> FR1164	<b>Organisation Name:</b> Kilbarchan Smile
<b>Project Name:</b> Heritage Garden	<b>Amount applied for:</b> £7,275
<p><b>Purpose of the project</b></p> <p>To create a 'Heritage Garden' for community members and visitors with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a place to sit, enjoy the outside and socialise near facilities such as shops, café and car park, and village halls</li> <li>• improved street scene/environment, creating a focal point in the centre of the village, which it is currently lacking, that promotes the villages weaving heritage</li> <li>• improved accessibility for older people and those with disabilities to the park area</li> <li>• educational resources (plants/history) for school pupils, nursery, children's group, that reflects the aims of the 'Curriculum for Excellence' and outdoor learning</li> </ul> <p>The location is the park area adjacent Ewing Street and Well Road, Kilbarchan PA10 2JA</p>	
<p><b>What will the project do?</b></p> <p>This project was proposed by Kilbarchan Smile volunteers and members of the community as a way of enhancing the village environment and its links to our heritage and to improve an area of the village that is currently laid to lawn, a few shrubs and an old, dilapidated bench, and is not very attractive, inaccessible, and is used by limited members of the community. The community volunteers wish to make better use of the space due to its central position, helping to create a village centre, adjacent to a shops, scout and guide hall, car park and bus stop to facilitate travel and a facility for residents, with small gardens.</p> <p>In consultation with community members, several facilities have been identified that will meet the needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• replacement of seating in local materials, working with Deans Kilbarchan Quarry</li> <li>• paths that make all areas of the garden safe and accessible to people</li> <li>• flower beds for planting heritage plants used for dying material, culinary and medicinal purposes that link to the villages weaving heritage</li> <li>• an interpretation panel that will provide education opportunities regarding weaving heritage.</li> </ul> <p>We will work in partnership with; Community Council, National Trust, local historians, Paisley Museum, the Whithorn Trust, keep Scotland Beautiful, local businesses, and community members.</p>	

The project will take place between 1 October 2023 and 31 March 2024.

**Villages Local Priorities:**

- Connectivity & transport**
- Environment & parks**
- Access to services, facilities, and assets**
- Village identity and character**
- Partial fit with priorities**
- Does not fit with priorities**

**Anticipated Outcomes**

Beneficiaries of the project include community members , school and youth groups, visitors, and local businesses. Intended outcomes are:

- Improve health and wellbeing with better seating and accessibility to outside space, enhancing the environment, and creating further volunteer opportunities for gardening.
- Improve knowledge about, plants, gardening, and village history
- contribute to the creation of a heritage trail (identified via ‘You decide’ project)
- increased sense of pride in our village
- Promoting the village as a great place to live, work and visit which will benefits local businesses i.e. shops, café etc.

**Breakdown of costs**

<b>Item of spend</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Source of other funding</b>	<b>Timescale for funding</b>
Path designed to enable wheelchair accessibility to seating, planting, and stone pillar	£1,800	£1,800		
Labour and wood to create seating made from donated quarry stone	£2,000	£2,000		
Solar Uplighters	£500	£500		
Solar security lighting to illuminate information board and path at night	£100	£100		

Plants, shrubs, and trees	£400	£400		
Information Board	£1,400	£1,400		
Willow wigwams to support climbing plants	£75	£75		
Stone pillar with inscription	£1,000	£1,000		

**About the organisation:**

The aim of Kilbarchan Smile is to make Kilbarchan a better place to live, work and visit. Specific objectives that will help achieve these aims are in line with those the Scottish Government have pledged to support the people of Scotland including Wealthier and Fairer, Smarter, Healthier, Safer and Stronger, and Greener.

**Grant funding award history:**

	Grant Name	Amount	Used for
<b>2022/23</b>	Voluntary and Community Grant Application	£1000	Seating, planting, and information board at Mary Barbour Cairn New Street.
<b>2021/22</b>			
<b>2020/21</b>			