



# Funding News

## SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES NI FUNDING NEWS SHEET

Welcome to Supporting Communities NI’s second edition of our Funding News Sheet. Through this News Sheet we aim to share with you the funding opportunities associations have availed of and the impact that these have made to their communities. Importantly, we also want to report on the impact made by SCNI Staff in helping to support and bring these projects to fruition.

### BALLYKEEL COMMUNITY TOGETHER PROJECT

#### The Need

In November 2012 Ballykeel Together Development Association carried out a full audit and consultation within the estate. The Ballykeel Community Together Project was identified from the results of the community survey. The Project has been tailored to meet the needs of the local community.

#### The Project

The aim of the Ballykeel Community Together Project was to:

- bring people together from all communities and backgrounds throughout the area
- to tackle social isolation
- provide activities for all of the community
- to raise the profile of the Community Group
- encourage engagement from the local community

Through funding secured from Awards for All, the Community Association were able to deliver the Ballykeel Together Project. The initiative involved the provision of:

- youth and community programmes
- new and unique activities for the



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local community

- diversionary activities such as Go-Karting, Horse Riding, Fun Days and trips
- the project also included a community Fun Day and Art Classes, these events were aimed to bring the local community together to celebrate the work of the Association.

### The Impact/Outcome

The Ballykeel Community Together Project vastly increased community activity and skills within the local area including:

- a series of events that would not otherwise have been available
- diversionary activities for the youth. These provided the young people from the area with activities, opportunities and experiences which they may not otherwise have been able to access
- Community Fun Day, Halloween and Christmas activities and Family Day trip
- activities for the older members which all geared to building community relationships and reduce isolation
- the community based art classes

The Ballykeel Together Project has increased community engagement, provided opportunities for volunteering and seen new members come on board on the committee.

*“The project was well conceived and Awards for All were able to fund the whole project which made it easier for the group to manage. It helped to bring the local community together, especially the younger people within the estate who were able to avail of opportunities they would otherwise not have been able to access.” Chairperson, Roy Heron*

### SCNI Input

Supporting Communities NI assisted the group with the Community Audit and Action Plan which identified the need for the Ballykeel Together project. The Funding Services enabled the group to:

- identify a suitable funding opportunity
- provide the Association with support in terms of the guidelines
- help develop a community proposal
- offer support with the application process including advising on quotations/ costings for their project
- once funding was received, support continued in terms of planning projects
- guidance on both monitoring and evaluation procedures

**All elements of our funding support aided the group on this journey.**

## CARNLOUGH LUNCHEON CLUB—THEIR JOURNEY

### The Need

Carnlough Community Association (CCA) have been hosting a regular Luncheon Club and bowling sessions since March 2008.

In March 2011 the Association secured funding through the Big Lottery Healthy Minds NI Programme to extend the current programme they had been delivering. The success of the 2011 programme was



overwhelming and the group were determined to continue to build upon this success within our community.

The Five Year Village Action Plan, completed in July 2011, highlighted the following:

- the need for enhanced programmes for older people within the village
- the need to break down barriers between youth and older people.

### The Project

The Association applied to the Big Lottery Reaching Out - Connecting Older People funding and secured £74,000 for a three year programme. The aim of the project was to promote social inclusion for older people living within the rural village of Carnlough and surrounding areas, by providing a dedicated health and well being programme.

### The Impact/Outcome

The number of older people attending the Luncheon Club has a dramatically increased, with over 60 people now regularly attending.

This project compliments the work of many of the statutory, voluntary, and community based agencies, and also feeds into the Health Reform Programme in terms of providing services for and in the local community.

The project has helped address the following issues currently affecting older people in and around the Carnlough area:-

- reducing Social Isolation
- promoting Social Inclusion and Active Community Participation
- addressing Mental Health and Wellbeing Issues
- providing information on help available from various agencies including Council, PSNI, Housing Executive and Public Health Agency

## CARNLOUGH CONTINUED

- Building links between the young and older generations within our community
- Increasing the opportunity for more people to become involved in a wider range of activities

### SCNI Input

Supporting Communities NI provided the group with the following funding support:



**Budgeting and recording advise**

**Project Planning**

**Project Management & Evaluation Procedure**

**SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES NI FUNDING SUPPORT**

**Funding Assessment Process**

**One to one support with the application process**



*“The Carnlough Luncheon Club is an excellent project which has had a significant impact on the older people of Carnlough and the surrounding area. Demand for places has grown to exceed all expectations and it is excellent to see some local people in a rural area attending community events for the first time.”*

*Chairperson—Patricia McConnell*

# CULLYBACKEY

## The Need

Ballymena Council commissioned a Village Plan/Feasibility Study in the Cullybackey area in 2012.

## The Project

The Association secured £25,000 from the Rural Development Programme and £8,000 was provided in match funding from Ballymena Council. The projects completed were as follows:

### 1) Provision of Street Furniture for the Village

Street seating, refuse bins and ironwork signage were all part of this unique and exciting redevelopment project.



### 2) Provision of Flower Containers

Floral displays were sited throughout the village which provided visual improvements and encouraged active citizenship. A part of this initiative involved several groups throughout the village 'adopting' a flower container which has encouraged interactive play and learning.

### 3) Provision of Visitor Information points throughout the Village

The provision of tourist/local information points within the village was seen as a vital project with the heritage/knowledge of the area being preserved for future generations. In total 5 information points were installed at various sites of historical interest throughout the village.



### 4) Provision of a Community Garden

The Riverpath runs from Cullybackey along the river Maine to Galgorm Manor and is used by walkers, runners and tourists alike. The entrance at the Cullybackey side of the path was developed into a unique community garden area complete with path entrance feature, landscaping, information point, street furniture and the restoration of an old stonework wall.

## The Impact/Outcome

The initiative provided the Cullybackey area with the following:

- improved the aesthetics of the village and community life overall
- street furniture has created an incentive for the growth of business

## CULLYBACKEY CONTINUED

- an increase in active life within the village
- a reduction in vandalism and graffiti within the village
- a more attractive and pleasant atmosphere for visitors and residents



The flower containers for the centre of the village has proved to be very successful. The location of the visitor information points being a vital project with which visitors to the village have been provided with an easy read guide.

The community garden has provided the residents and visitors with a relaxing, welcoming area to visit and learn.

### SCNI Input

Supporting Communities NI's funding service were able to provide a range of support to the group with this project of which included:

- support in terms of planning the project
- assistance with the application process
- Training and progressing the tendering process
- continuous general advice and support.

“As a support organisation we were able to provide the association with support in terms of good practise adopted by other Communities who have completed a similar project, this support was valuable when venturing into such a large scale and new initiative.” - Roisin Hamilton, SCNI Funding Officer

*“We were extremely appreciative of the support we received from SCNI – we could never have completed the application process without their expertise and assistance. They went above and beyond to ensure the project was completed and successful and from which the entire village now benefits.” -*

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