

ARIA Fund LAG (A-LAG) MEETING

3rd September 2024 09:30 – 16:00

4th September 2023 09:30 – 15:30

South Ayrshire Council County Buildings, Troon Room

Attendees

LAG Members					
Non- Public Sector	3rd Sept	4th Sept	Public Sector	28th Sept	4th Sept
Kevin Brown (KB)	X	X	Eddie Bulik (EB)	X	X
Barbara Conner (BC)		X	Melissa McCulloch (MMc)	X	X
Chris Campbell (CC)	X	X	Colin McKee (CM)		X
Jim Watson (JW)	X	X	Rosemary Ramsay		
Alistair (Ally) Henry	X	X			
Claire Donaldson (CD)					
Mhairi Dawson (MD)					
LAG Advisors					
			Emma Bernard (EB)		
			Sarah Smillie (SS)		
Lead Partner Representative(s)					
			Jamie Tait (JT)		
Total No. LAG Members	11				
Minimum Quorum (50%)	6				

LAG Staff	Attended – Both Days
Jennifer Macdonald (JM)	X

Apologies

All not present, on both days, had given apologies.

Acronyms

- CAM ARIA Community Asset Maintenance Fund
- CLLD Community Led Local Development
- CLT Community Led Tourism
- CWB Community Wealth Building
- EOI Expression of Interest
- MoU Memorandum of Understanding
- SAC South Ayrshire Council
- SG Scottish Government

Introduction	Actions
<p>Welcome</p> <p>JW welcomed everyone to the meeting. Passing to JM for an update on the CLLD Network and budgetary changes. JM explained that tranche two funding had been caught up in the SG spending freeze, therefore allocations were to be based on the tranche one allocation, with a potential reserves list being drawn from revenue projects. JM also explained that it is likely that the</p>	<p>JM to explore other ICT systems for LAG application</p>

collaboration fund will be removed for the 24/25 year, which would result in a postponing of the potential project collaboration with SCOTO and other LAGS, focusing on CLT. The new budget was discussed by the LAG, with particular focus on proposed CLT projects being reviewed before agreed upon. Removing A&A, CAM Fund budget and CLT budget the final figures for allocation were: £136,300.76 revenue and £229,591.66 capital. Apologies were also offered from JM due to the challenges various members had faced accessing the Microsoft Teams set up, despite ICT support from SAC.

assessment in 25/26.

Quora

Day 1 – 3rd September 2024

The meeting began with 6 LAG Members so was quorate with at least 50% of the 11 standing Members. This comprised 4 non-public sector and 2 public sector, fulfilling the minimum 51%: 49% non-public: public requirement. 29 projects were covered on day 1.

Day 2 - 4th September 2024

The meeting had 8 LAG Members present, so was quorate with at least 50% of the 11 standing Members. This comprised 5 non-public sector and 3 public sector, so fulfilled the minimum 51%: 49% non-public. 11 projects were covered on day 2.

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the 15th May 2024 LAG meeting were approved.

Register of Interests/Conflicts of Interest

JM reported the Register of Interest review for 24/25 had been completed and all conflicts were noted before individual projects were discussed. With any affected members leaving the room for discussion and votes.

Future application guidance changes

During the welcome discussion JW highlighted the need for further details from trading organisations, namely a one page business plan with cashflow projections. The need for this was highlighted multiple times during the allocations discussions and was agreed by all LAG to be included in the 2025/20026 application process.

JM to include business plan request within application guidance for 25/26

Project Assessments

Funding to allocate:					
Capital:		£229,591.66 (1.6:1)			
Revenue:		£136,300.76 (3.4:1)			
	No. Applications	Total Project Costs	Total Grant requests	Capital Grant requests	Revenue Grant requests
Reviewed	59	£1,479,649.71	£1,162,546.67	£453,819.07	£708,727.60
LAG decision	40	£1,074,632.90	£847,423.98	£379,029.15	£468,394.97

JM ran through the background of the application process, providing an overview of the scoring process. 40 projects of the 59 received had been passed on to the LAG for assessment, and as this was a high number they had been broken in to 3 groups for online pre-assessment, as below.

- Group 1, 4 LAG Members, 13 projects.
- Group 2, 3 LAG Members, 13 projects.
- Group 3, 4 LAG Members, 14 project.

While allocated to specific members, multiple members scored all three groups to assist with technical issues some members had had with Microsoft Teams access. Due to these challenges faced, it was agreed to run through projects as they were grouped rather than prioritising those with high ranking and / 100% approval or rejection.

Group 1

Conflicts of Interest

Go Girvan – CC

<u>Project</u>	<u>Ranking Ave</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>% Approval/ Rejection</u>
Carrick Resilience	3.43	1	Approve	100%
Arran Haulage Services	3.40	2	Approve	60%
DART	3.27	3	Approve	80%
Fenwick Primary Parent Council	3.23	4	Approve	60%
KA Leisure	3.13	5	<u>Reject</u>	67%
John Craig (Rashillhouse Contracts)	3.07	6	Tie	50%
Ochiltree Hub	3.04	7	Approve	100%
Fossilfield Training Centre	3.00	8	Approve	60%
Langside Alpacas	2.93	9	Reject	67%
Go Girvan - CLT	2.87	10	Approve	67%
The Carrick Centre	3.01	11	Reject	60%
A. Paton & Son	2.67	12	Reject	67%
Wild Arran Ltd	2.47	13	Reject	67%

1. A. Paton & Son - Affordable Housing Development

To prepare the planning application for the construction of 12 bungalows for affordable rent to residents of Dailly/Girvan.

Total Eligible Costs	£27,648
Grant Request & %	£24,883 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£27,648
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Farm

Ranking: 2.67 – 12th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 67% rejection

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Not clear from documentation that the proposed properties (which will be assets of A Paton & Sons Ltd.) will be protected as affordable rental properties and not sold at market value, should the applicant choose to do so at any stage.
- No evidence / agreement if this is a partnership project with SAC or that there is evidence of support from Scot Gov Rural Housing Team.
- Applicant owner of multiple business which confused application process.

LAG discussion covered:

- Organisation already appointed to complete work, which is against eligibility criteria.
- No clear indication of community involvement.
- Lack of clarity within the application.

Decision:
Unanimously rejected

2. Arran Haulage Services – Rolling Road Break Tester

JM to get answers to LAG questions.

To install a Rolling Road break test on Arran to test vehicles and trailers in line with new regulations (April 2025).	
Total Eligible Costs	£48,795
Grant Request & %	£43,915.50 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£48,795
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 3.40 – 2nd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 60% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Incorporated in 1988, so no certification available but all CH information is up to date. .

LAG discussion covered:

- Question of if this will be a chargeable service to other businesses and therefore what will the return be? Will there be a limit to what they charge locals?
- How many vehicles will use this and how many will be part of the Arran Haulage fleet?
- Will this create more jobs?
- Costs are high – why have the gone with that particular provider when there are cheaper options – not enough of a rational.
- Comfortable business with adequate reserves- could contribute more than 10%
- This application could be improved with cashflow projections.

Decision:

Approval for 50% of lowest quote value, awarded £22,997.50.

JM to get answers to following questions:

- How many vehicles will use the tester?
- How many of those vehicles are owned by Arran Haulage?
- Will this lead to future job creation?
- How much will be charged to other organisations?

3. Carrick Resilience – Argo Replacement

JM to ask for clarity over sharing use with other regions and maintenance plan for vehicle.

To replace specialist off road Argocat.	
Total Eligible Costs	£41,754
Grant Request & %	£36,754 88%
Grant request - Capital	£41,754
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Charity

Ranking 3.43 – 1st

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

<p>Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded in 202/24 <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current equipment is not fit for purpose. • Machine not used often, could it be shared with other regions? • Could not be electric due to terrain and distance vehicle will travel. • Do they have a maintenance plan? • Keen to find out how often it will be use, could it be taken to community events to help raise awareness? <p>Decision: Project approved unanimously, awarded £36,754.00.</p>	
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<p>4. Darvel Area Regeneration Team (DART) – Loudoun Valley Festival</p> <p>The Loudoun Valley Festival 2025, a direct result of the 2023 Press Pause Initiative supported by ARIA, aims to establish the Irvine Valley as a tourist destination exploiting scenery and a range of events, including music performances.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£28,432</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£25,432 89%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£28,432</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>EA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant Type</td> <td>Charity</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ranking: 3.27 – 3rd % Approval of Scoring Group: 80% approve Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant has stated if application unsuccessful, then they still intend to deliver a programme of events, have set-up a steering group to do so. • Some quotes missing on VFM spreadsheet. • Some project dates in application are out with scope of funding. <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question of if this kind of equipment is already available in the region, SAC LAG members felt not. • Not enough quotes for multiple items, despite pricing being available. • Will the festival offer satellite events, to more rural areas? • Need clarification over storage and insurance of equipment. <p>Decision: Suggestion made to approve the four pieces of equipment, which were appropriately costed for in application: Sound equipment, portable staging, freestanding backdrop screen and projector.</p> <p>Unanimous approval of four equipment items. Rejection of all other costs, awarded £17,929.85.</p>	Total Eligible Costs	£28,432	Grant Request & %	£25,432 89%	Grant request - Capital	£0	Grant Request – Revenue	£28,432	LA Area	EA	Applicant Type	Charity	<p>JM to seek clarification around satellite events, insurance and storage of equipment.</p>
Total Eligible Costs	£28,432												
Grant Request & %	£25,432 89%												
Grant request - Capital	£0												
Grant Request – Revenue	£28,432												
LA Area	EA												
Applicant Type	Charity												

<p>5. Fenwick Primary Parent Council – After School Staff</p> <p>The projects focus is getting mums back to work or further education by providing low-cost afterschool childcare.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£5,679</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£5,111.10 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£5,679</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>EA</td> </tr> </table>	Total Eligible Costs	£5,679	Grant Request & %	£5,111.10 90%	Grant request - Capital	£0	Grant Request – Revenue	£5,679	LA Area	EA	<p>JM to suggest they sign up for EB funding alerts.</p>
Total Eligible Costs	£5,679										
Grant Request & %	£5,111.10 90%										
Grant request - Capital	£0										
Grant Request – Revenue	£5,679										
LA Area	EA										

Applicant Type	Community Group
<p>Ranking: 3.23 – 4th % Approval of Scoring Group: 60% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application was low in quality, will the group struggle with the claims process? Good quality video Group could do with further support – development officer type role. Will play leader be able to take on admin. Like that the project is to support mums back to work <p>Decision: Approved and awarded £5,111.10.</p>	

<p>6. Fossilfield Training Centre – Infrastructure Improvement</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">To support the current development phase for improving our Centre's infrastructure – specifically data management.</p>	
Total Eligible Costs	£10,648.41
Grant Request & %	£9,583.57 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£10,648.41
LA Area	EA
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation
<p>Ranking: 3.00– 8th % Approval of Scoring Group: 60% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previously funded by ARIA (video fund), issues with data management were highlighted at this point. <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No clear benefit. Would the feasibility study element not be doubling up what the staff were contracted to do? May need referred for extra support through EAC – although reported to already be known to council. Large number of items, which appear contradictory (paper plus digital copies of records). Some items requested extremely expensive in comparison to other brands. <p>Decision: Rejected</p>	

<p>7. Go Girvan – Go Girvan Community Led Tourism</p> <p>Due to a conflict of interest CC was not present during the discussion or voting on this project.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Go Girvan is intending to organise and host a Christmas Market in early December 2024.</p>	
Total Eligible Costs	£5,828.74
Grant Request & %	£5,245.87 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0

Grant Request – Revenue	£5,828.74															
LA Area	SE															
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation															
<p>Ranking: 2.87 – 10th % Approval of Scoring Group: 67% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very expensive for a four hour event, could it not run for the whole weekend? Provided Girvan place plan as supporting evidence however this was out of date from 2022. Application mentions that the project would be of benefit to shop traders but there is no evidence of interaction / consultation. Not a lot of community benefit highlighted within application. Staff costs excessive for a four hour event <p>Decision: Rejected unanimously.</p>																
<p>8. John Craig (Rashillhouse Contracts) – Upgrade of Existing Haul Road</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Development of a new manufacturing facility for specialist electrical services.</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£48,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£43,200 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£48,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>EA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant Type</td> <td>Business</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ranking: 3.07 – 6th % Approval of Scoring Group: 50% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern that if application applied under prior approval as an “agricultural building” but LAG know it is for non-agricultural activities that this would be inappropriate. Even if prior approval was appropriate – this may then count as agricultural activity which would make the project ineligible. Business does not have high enough profits to justify such a large investment. Needs to scale activities before being investment ready – application would have benefited from cashflow projections. <p>Decision: Rejected</p>		Development of a new manufacturing facility for specialist electrical services.		Total Eligible Costs	£48,000	Grant Request & %	£43,200 90%	Grant request - Capital	£48,000	Grant Request – Revenue	£0	LA Area	EA	Applicant Type	Business	<p>JM to update guidance notes to include that prior notification must also be in place pre application deadline (in line with full planning applications)</p>
Development of a new manufacturing facility for specialist electrical services.																
Total Eligible Costs	£48,000															
Grant Request & %	£43,200 90%															
Grant request - Capital	£48,000															
Grant Request – Revenue	£0															
LA Area	EA															
Applicant Type	Business															
<p>9. KA Leisure – Refurbishment of Brodick Tennis Courts</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">To resurface tennis courts in Brodick, Arran.</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£146,787</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£26,787 18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£146,787</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>NA</td> </tr> </table>		To resurface tennis courts in Brodick, Arran.		Total Eligible Costs	£146,787	Grant Request & %	£26,787 18%	Grant request - Capital	£146,787	Grant Request – Revenue	£0	LA Area	NA	<p>JM to update guidance notes to highlight employee figures are irrespective of regional branches.</p>		
To resurface tennis courts in Brodick, Arran.																
Total Eligible Costs	£146,787															
Grant Request & %	£26,787 18%															
Grant request - Capital	£146,787															
Grant Request – Revenue	£0															
LA Area	NA															

Applicant Type	Third Sector organisation																						
<p>Ranking: 3.13 – 5th % Approval of Scoring Group: 67% rejected Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two additional ‘match’ funding sources: Lawn Tennis Assoc. £100,000 KA Leisure own funds £20,000 Question around employee numbers. <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too many employees in total, irrespective of if Arran only has three. Expensive quote. Community consultation does not show a lot of support. Would have benefited from cashflow projection and business plan. <p>Decision: Rejected due to staff numbers making the organisation ineligible for fund.</p>																							
<p>10. Langside Alpacas – Electric Transport for taking alpacas to the community.</p>																							
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="81 770 1265 808">Funding to support purchase of electric transit van for transporting alpacas.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 808 673 860">Total Eligible Costs</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 808 1265 860">£26,384</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 860 673 913">Grant Request & %</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 860 1265 913">£21,384 81%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 913 673 967">Grant request - Capital</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 913 1265 967">£26,384</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 967 673 1021">Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 967 1265 1021">£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 1021 673 1075">LA Area</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1021 1265 1075">NA</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="81 1075 673 1128">Applicant Type</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1075 1265 1128">Sole Trader</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Funding to support purchase of electric transit van for transporting alpacas.			Total Eligible Costs	£26,384		Grant Request & %	£21,384 81%		Grant request - Capital	£26,384		Grant Request – Revenue	£0		LA Area	NA		Applicant Type	Sole Trader	
Funding to support purchase of electric transit van for transporting alpacas.																							
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Grant request - Capital	£26,384																						
Grant Request – Revenue	£0																						
LA Area	NA																						
Applicant Type	Sole Trader																						
<p>Ranking: 2.93 – 9th % Approval of Scoring Group: 67% rejection Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applied in 2023/2024, more detailed than previous application. Still questions over financial viability of the business. <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business does not appear to be financially viable enough to be eligible for such a large investment. <p>Decision: Project rejected unanimously.</p>																							
<p>11. Ochiltree Community Hub – Extension and expansion of youth team.</p>																							
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="65 1644 1275 1682">To widen the scope of Youth Employment Scheme.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1682 673 1736">Total Eligible Costs</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1682 1275 1736">£10,454</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1736 673 1792">Grant Request & %</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1736 1275 1792">£9,408.60 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1792 673 1845">Grant request - Capital</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1792 1275 1845">£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1845 673 1899">Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1845 1275 1899">£10,454</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1899 673 1953">LA Area</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1899 1275 1953">EA</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="65 1953 673 2007">Applicant Type</td> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="673 1953 1275 2007">Third Sector</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			To widen the scope of Youth Employment Scheme.			Total Eligible Costs	£10,454		Grant Request & %	£9,408.60 90%		Grant request - Capital	£0		Grant Request – Revenue	£10,454		LA Area	EA		Applicant Type	Third Sector	
To widen the scope of Youth Employment Scheme.																							
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Grant Request & %	£9,408.60 90%																						
Grant request - Capital	£0																						
Grant Request – Revenue	£10,454																						
LA Area	EA																						
Applicant Type	Third Sector																						
		<p>JM to enquire about the progress of previous ten programme entrants. As well as if the new figures quoted (16) include last year’s participants or are all new for 2024/2025.</p>																					

Ranking: 3.04 – 7th
% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval
Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previously ARIA funded.

LAG discussion covered:

- Good model of responsible citizenship that could be rolled out to other areas.
- Is the project sustainable long term, will projects of this nature always be grant reliant.
- Will there be a saturation point for the programme?
- Could we have further details of the longer-term outcomes for participants. May not be possible due to staff capacity.

Decision:
 Approved and awarded £9,408.60.

12. The Carrick Centre – The Carrick Centre’s journey to net zero

The Carrick Centre is working towards net zero carbon, applying for funding to upgrade the lighting in the community building.	
Total Eligible Costs	£35,083
Grant Request & %	£31,574 90%
Grant request - Capital	£35,083
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation

Ranking: 3.01 – 11th
% Approval of Scoring Group: 60% rejected
Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Issues with accounts on OSCAR
- Only two quotes (which are not comparable provided)

LAG discussion covered:

- Concern about lack of quotes
- Should have been set up for staged installation.

Decision:
 This project was “shelved” during day one to be returned to, after all projects had been assessed. On day two a suggestion to part approve funding, to allow for a staged approach was made. The staged approach part funding was approved 5:3, for £23,457.10.

13. Wild Arran Ltd – Drumadoon Wild Spa

To develop a wild Natural Spa using Drumadoon's own spring water, streams and pools.	
Total Eligible Costs	£34,124.67
Grant Request & %	£30,712.20 90%
Grant request - Capital	£33,275.50
Grant Request – Revenue	£849.17
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 2.47 – 13th
% Approval of Scoring Group: 67% rejected

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previously funded by ARIA

LAG discussion covered:

- Local support limited and not specific to this project.
- Needs business plan and cashflow info.
- Weak financial position. Would need a loan to cover purchases. Business running at a loss.
- No need/ demand. No statements of support
- Interesting idea but too ahead of its time and not a fully considered business case.

Decision:
Rejected unanimously.

CONCLUDES GROUP 1 PROJECT ASSESSMENTS

Group 2
Conflicts of Interest
N/A

<u>Project</u>	<u>Ranking Ave</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>% Approval/ Rejection</u>
Kilmaurs Community Association	3.88	1	Approve	100%
Heather Lodge CIC	3.83	2	Approve	100%
Friends of Dundonald Castle	3.75	3	Approve	100%
Dunlop Bowling Club	3.70	4	Approve	100%
Girvan Football Club	3.63	5	Approve	100%
Visit Arran	3.58	6	Approve	75%
Isle of Cumbrae Distillers Ltd	3.58	6	Approve	100%
Newmilns Snow and Sports Complex	3.50	7	Approve	100%
Knockentiber Together	3.50	7	Approve	100%
Messrs D & A Currie	3.50	7	Approve	100%
North Ayrshire Table Tennis Club	3.38	8	Approve	100%
Diocese of Galloway (Church of St Sophia)	3.00	9	Reject	50%
Kay Starr TV	2.63	10	Reject	75%

14. Diocese of Galloway Church of St Sophia's -St Sophia Investigative Repairs

To start carrying out repairs arising from the recent quinquennial survey	
Total Eligible Costs	£42,733.20
Grant Request & %	£38,459.88 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£42,733.20
LA Area	EA
Applicant Type	Charity

Ranking: 3.00 – 9th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 50% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previous CAM applicant

LAG discussion covered:

- Should a project this specialist not be funded by HES – QS LAG member able to explain this work needs done before the building would be eligible for HES funding.

- Galston does not have as much going on as other villages in the region but does have a lot of historical buildings. It is important to maintain these both for community use and for historic protection.
- Very specialist application, challenging for some members to assess.

Decision:

After delaying the decision until day two of meetings, the project was approved in its entirety at £38,459.88.

15. Dunlop Bowling Club- Power Up Dunlop Bowling Club

Seeking investment to install solar photovoltaic (PV) panels at the club

Total Eligible Costs	£23,994
Grant Request & %	£21,594 90%
Grant request - Capital	£23,994
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	EA
Applicant Type	Community Group

Ranking: 3.51 – 2nd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100%

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- No local support or needs evidence provided.

LAG discussion covered:

- Reduced local support.
- Would there be an issue due to the slope / condition of the roof – unlikely given technical scope of building to produce quotes.

Decision:

Approved for £21,594.00.

16. Friends of Dundonald Castle – Stage two of expansion

To fund the preparation & submission of Planning Application for expansion plus staff to support project delivery

Total Eligible Costs	£8,586
Grant Request & %	£7,727.40 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£8,586
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation

Ranking: 3.75 – 3rd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- ARIA funded first phase of this project in 2023/24.

- Some cost quote evidence missing.

LAG discussion covered:

- Well run organisation, bringing in over 23,000 visitors per year.
- Continuation of work previously funded. Looking towards future expansion.

Decision:

Project approved unanimously for the total of £7,727.40.

17. Girvan Football Club– Green Improvements

The project is to purchase an electric robot grass mower.	
Total Eligible Costs	£36,738.20
Grant Request & %	£31,738,20 86%
Grant request - Capital	£36,738.20
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Community Group

Ranking: 3.63 – 5th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Local support

LAG discussion covered:

- Creative application.
- One of the few clubs with SFA licence in the area.
- Large amount of ARIA Capital funding on one project. Expensive for a grass cutter

Decision:

The decision was made to postpone decision making on this application, due to price, until all other capital projects had been assessed. On day two the decision was made to reject the project due to a lack of available capital funds.

18. Heather Lodge CIC – Disability Access 2024

Improvement to physical access for disabled and elderly people who use Heather Lodge	
Total Eligible Costs	£18,134
Grant Request & %	£16,320 90%
Grant request - Capital	£18,134
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Social Enterprise

Ranking: 3.83 – 2nd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

JM to schedule regular updates with project to ensure they remain on schedule – irrespective of weather and ferry issues.

<p>Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well supported, with clear evidence of need <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will improve quality of life. Important to support disabled access to buildings providing care. Solid, simple-to-deliver project. Only concern would be weather / ferry delays effecting timescale but given that it is a variety of smaller pieces of work this seems unlikely. <p>Decision: Unanimously approved at £16,320.</p>	
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<p>19. Isle of Cumbrae Distillers Ltd– Green Expansion</p>	
<p>Purchase of an electric van to increase deliveries.</p>	
Total Eligible Costs	£21,445
Grant Request & %	£19,301 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£21,445
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Business
<p>Ranking: 3.58 – Joint 6th % Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing strong local support evidence <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited application, focused only on business case for the purchase. Despite significant reduction in sales this year. Would have benefited from a business plan. Could they not lease a van, if so vital to expansion. Does the expansion really even need a vehicle? Not clear from application. No local support <p>Decision: Unanimously rejected.</p>	

<p>20. Kay Star – Kay Star Studios</p>	
<p>To create a media, marketing and mentoring hub</p>	
Total Eligible Costs	£26,000
Grant Request & %	£23,400 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£26,000

LA Area	NA															
Applicant Type	Business															
<p>Ranking: 2.63 – 10th % Approval of Scoring Group: 75% Rejection Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New business idea • Previous ARIA funded project (video fund) <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of clarity in application. • Lack of outcomes <p>Decision: Unanimously rejected.</p>																
<p>21. Kilmaurs Community Association – Safe and Sound</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Installation of soundproofing, CCTV and new door access</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£19,459.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£17,513.34 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£19,459.27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>NA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant Type</td> <td>Third sector organisation</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ranking: 3.88 – 1st % Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approved Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address complications. • Previous ARIA applicant <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong application • Well supported locally <p>Decision: Project approved unanimously at £17,513.42, with the condition that there must be evidence of increased lease length or a letter of comfort from EAC within two weeks.</p>		Installation of soundproofing, CCTV and new door access		Total Eligible Costs	£19,459.27	Grant Request & %	£17,513.34 90%	Grant request - Capital	£19,459.27	Grant Request – Revenue	£0	LA Area	NA	Applicant Type	Third sector organisation	<p>JM to discuss with group getting an extension to their lease to 28.02.30, as a minimum or a letter of comfort from EAC to show this will be available in due course.</p>
Installation of soundproofing, CCTV and new door access																
Total Eligible Costs	£19,459.27															
Grant Request & %	£17,513.34 90%															
Grant request - Capital	£19,459.27															
Grant Request – Revenue	£0															
LA Area	NA															
Applicant Type	Third sector organisation															
<p>22. Knockentiber Together– Quality of Life Enhancements/Community Engagement Activities</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">To facilitate the continuation of a range of Community Engagement activities.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Eligible Costs</td> <td>£6,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td>£6,210 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td>£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td>£6,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td>EA</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		To facilitate the continuation of a range of Community Engagement activities.		Total Eligible Costs	£6,900	Grant Request & %	£6,210 90%	Grant request - Capital	£0	Grant Request – Revenue	£6,900	LA Area	EA	<p>Discussion around mapping application regions developed from this discussion. JM to work in late autumn, early winter on database for mapping exercise.</p>		
To facilitate the continuation of a range of Community Engagement activities.																
Total Eligible Costs	£6,900															
Grant Request & %	£6,210 90%															
Grant request - Capital	£0															
Grant Request – Revenue	£6,900															
LA Area	EA															

Applicant Type	Community Group
<p>Ranking: 3.5 – Joint 7th % Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unsuccessful bid to Mental health and wellbeing fund this year. • Missing supporting needs evidence. <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isn't a sustainable project, doesn't really develop the community – more takes people out of the community. • Could potentially open up to similar groups applying for these unsuitable projects, within the wider areas. • Perhaps more appropriate for awards for all <p>Decision: Project rejected unanimously.</p>	

23. Messrs D & A Currie– Development of Area Outside Bellevue Barn & Play Area

To improve accessibility & purchase of a tractor climbing frame to enhance outside play area	
Total Eligible Costs	£9,714.16
Grant Request & %	£8,742.74 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£9,714.16
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 3.5 – Joint 7th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Local support in place after failed application in 2023/2024

LAG decision covered:

- Good value for money with in-kind contributions by applicant for labour costs.
- Expansion on local support from 23/24 application although need and demand still not very strong.

Decision:

Approved and awarded £8,742.74.

24. Newmilns Snow & Sports Complex– Rebrand stage 2

Stage two of rebranding.	
Total Eligible Costs	£26,029.91
Grant Request & %	£23,426.91 90%
Grant request - Capital	£20,343.24
Grant Request – Revenue	£5,686.67

LA Area	EA														
Applicant Type	Third Sector														
<p>Ranking: 3.50 – Joint 7th % Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous applicant 2023/2024 <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor value for money • Phase two of previous ARIA funding. • What are the projections for improvement to income. • Replacement of physical signage not urgent. <p>Decision: The digital element of the application was felt to provide better value for money that replacement of physical signage. Application reduced to these elements at £10,693.50 and then approved by unanimous vote.</p>															
<p>25. North Ayrshire Table Tennis Club– Increase participation in table tennis in West Kilbride</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Stage two of expansion of the club, space and staff.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Total Eligible Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,361,84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request & %</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£8,411.84 90%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant request - Capital</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Request – Revenue</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,361.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LA Area</td> <td style="text-align: center;">NA</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Applicant Type</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Community Group</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ranking: 3.38 – 8th % Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval Points Raised at Technical Check:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous applicant in 2023/2024 – very similar application <p>LAG discussion covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very similar application to last year • Great video • Looks like the funding will cover all the running costs and not just the additional project costs. Not sustainable. • No innovation. • Is additional equipment really required for this. Could it nit be run with what they have already been funded for, with volunteers. <p>Decision: Project rejected.</p>		Stage two of expansion of the club, space and staff.		Total Eligible Costs	£9,361,84	Grant Request & %	£8,411.84 90%	Grant request - Capital	£0	Grant Request – Revenue	£9,361.84	LA Area	NA	Applicant Type	Community Group
Stage two of expansion of the club, space and staff.															
Total Eligible Costs	£9,361,84														
Grant Request & %	£8,411.84 90%														
Grant request - Capital	£0														
Grant Request – Revenue	£9,361.84														
LA Area	NA														
Applicant Type	Community Group														
<p>26. Visit Arran – Business Resilience & Sustainability Adviser</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Applying for funding for the Business Sustainability and Resilience Adviser role</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Total Eligible Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,319.36</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Applying for funding for the Business Sustainability and Resilience Adviser role		Total Eligible Costs	£9,319.36										
Applying for funding for the Business Sustainability and Resilience Adviser role															
Total Eligible Costs	£9,319.36														

Grant Request & %	£8,387.43 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£9,319.36
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 3.58 – Joint 6th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 75% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Received ARIA funding previously for same project?

LAG discussion covered:

- Not enough evidence of outcomes from previous year funding to support continuation.
- No measurement of outcomes
- Recognition of Arran’s struggles with ferries but unsure if this will be of benefit to businesses.
- Should have provided previous case studies etc.
- Not a new project but a continuation.

Decision:

Unanimous rejection

CONCLUDES GROUP 2 PROJECT ASSESSMENTS

At this point there was approximately 40 minutes of the first day left. It was felt to be a sensible use of time to focus on the projects within group three which were rejected at pre-assessment.

Group 3

Conflicts of Interest

CC- Girvan Community Gardens and Biosphere Bikes

<u>Project</u>	<u>Ranking Ave</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>% Approval/ Rejection</u>
Little Peru Ltd	3.79	1	Approve	100%
Crag Community Arts	3.58	2	Approve	100%
Arran Timber Ltd	3.46	3	Approve	75%
Girvan Attractions	3.42	4	Tie	50%
Dunlop Table Tennis Club	3.38	5	Approve	75%
Auchinleck Community Development Initiative	3.29	6	Approve	67%
Biosphere Bikes	3.25	7	Approve	100%
Isle of Arran Heritage Museum	3.21	8	Approve	<u>100%</u>
Girvan Community Garden	3.17	9	Approve	100%
North Arran Community Benefit Society	3.17	9	Approve	<u>100%</u>
McCandlish Hall (Straiton Cub)	3.08	10	Tie	<u>50%</u>
The Arran Pioneer Project & Duthchas Arainn	2.88	11	Reject	100%
Vics in the Community	2.75	12	Reject	75%
SASSEN	2.67	13	Reject	75%

27. SASSEN – Development of Rural Networking

Further develop support for rural social enterprises.

Total Eligible Costs	£6,501
Grant Request & %	£5,851 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£6,501
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Charity

Ranking: 2.67 – 13th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 75% reject

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previously funded by ARIA

LAG discussion covered:

- Poor application re visible outputs.
- No letters of support from members and limited evidence of support in general
- No evidence of how costs were calculated for some aspects of project.
- Procurement work supersedes rural development work. Post will not solely focus on rural areas.

Decision:

Unanimously rejected.

28. Vics in the Community – Vics on the Go

Purchase of a minibus

Total Eligible Costs	£23,994
Grant Request & %	£16,494 69%
Grant request - Capital	£23,994
Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation

Ranking: 2.75 – 12th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 75% rejection

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Organisation based in Ayr but for project is rural outreach.
- No supporting needs/demand/support evidence documents.

LAG discussion covered:

- Not a strong application. Minimal evidence of need.
- Insurance cost for van not included.
- Organisation not based rurally. Need/Demand not specific to rural needs. Not enough detail of what activities will the rural people be transported to? Just football or other activities.
- No demonstration of local support, and weak evidence of need/demand

Decision:

Project rejected unanimously.

29. The Arran Pioneer Project CIC & Duthchas Arainn CBS – Feasibility Study

Feasibility study of establishing woodland crofting on the Isle of Arran.

Total Eligible Costs	£55,507.10
Grant Request & %	£49,956.39 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£55,507.10
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Third Sector Organisation

Ranking: 2.88 – 11th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% rejection

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Partnership project - an MOU has been drafted and signed between both parties.

LAG discussion covered:

- Some LAG members couldn't see woodland crofting being 'a thing', where others felt the project was "ahead of its time".
- Poor value for money.
- Wages too high.
- No projected startup accounts.

Decision:

Application rejected unanimously.

MEETING CLOSED FOR DAY

MEETING RESUMES - 29th September 2023

Group 3 Applications continued.

30. Arran Timber Ltd - Eco Welfare Unit & Trailer

A trailer and an eco-welfare unit to support new timber business on Arran.

Total Eligible Costs	£14,845
Grant Request & %	£13,360 90%
Grant request - Capital	£9,850
Grant Request – Revenue	£4,995
LA Area	NA/EA/SA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 3.46 – 3rd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 75% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- New business March 2024
- Local Support

LAG discussion covered:

- Question over if these facilities are mandatory for employees or not. Concluded not for self-employed forestry workers.
- Would have benefited from business plan.

Decision:
Approved at £13,360.00 with the condition that the equipment remains the property of ARIA for the first five years of use, due to the business being a new start.

As CC was not available for the first hour of the meeting the two projects he had conflict of interest with where discussed early on.

JM to request drawings of toilet plans.

31. Biosphere Bikes – Disabled Toilet Facilities & Project Officer Costs

Disabled toilet facility and Project Officer salary costs.	
Total Eligible Costs	£24,855.20
Grant Request & %	£22,320.20 90%
Grant request - Capital	£17,317.20
Grant Request – Revenue	£7,538
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.25 2nd
% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval
Points Raised at Technical Check:

- N/A

LAG discussion covered:

- Almost like two separate applications
- Discussion over toilet design and costs. No drawings were provided but building warrant is in place.

Decision:
Project approved and awarded £22,369.20.

32. Girvan Community Garden– Power for the People

Purchase of power bank to make the group 100% independent with renewable electricity.	
Total Eligible Costs	£5,794
Grant Request & %	£5,214.60 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£5,794
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.17 – Joint 9th
% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval
Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Received ARIA funding in 2023/24.

LAG discussion covered:

- Discussion if diesel would be more cost effective but ultimately rejected as not environmentally friendly.
- Question of if the equipment is to be borrowed by other group would GCG charge.

Decision:

Project approved and awarded £5214.60.

33. Auchinleck Community Development Initiative – The Knowe Community Garden Enhancement

Expansion of gardens into unused space.

Total Eligible Costs	£25,006.17
Grant Request & %	£22,500 90%
Grant request - Capital	£11,700
Grant Request – Revenue	£13,306.17
LA Area	EA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.29 – 6th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 67% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- No letter of support from EAC but is in line with lease activities.

LA discussion covered:

- Concern there could be some duplication of existing staff costs.
- Not a great deal of evidence of partnership working. Not a lot of local support evidence.
- Evidence that outdoor gym equipment is poorly used in other areas. Not good value for money
- No maintenance considerations within application.

Decision:

Project unanimously rejected.

34. Crag Community Arts – Strandline

Support for arts festival and workshops running up to the event.

Total Eligible Costs	£23,362
Grant Request & %	£21,025 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£23,362
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

JM to highlight to group that ARIA would not be able to provide ongoing support annually. That unless the project innovates significantly this would be the last year of funding and the group will have to find alternative sources of funding.

Ranking: 3.58 – 2nd

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previous ARIA applicant
- Would further funding lead to grant reliance.

LAG discussion covered:

- Clarity from 23/24 application. Strong evaluation of the previous festival provided which strengthened this year's application.
- Important source of Winter tourism for the region.
- Can not continue to fund year in and year out – group must work toward long term sustainability of the event.

Decision:

Project approved and awarded £21,025.

JM to suggest a video evaluation of the event (and preceding workshops) to be provided this year.

35. Dunlop Table Tennis Club – East Ayrshire Table Tennis

To create additional opportunities & enhance the reach of table tennis within East Ayrshire.

Total Eligible Costs	£12,628.54
Grant Request & %	£11,365.54 90%
Grant request - Capital	£5,228.54
Grant Request – Revenue	£7,400
LA Area	EA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.38 – 5th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 75% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- NA.

LAG discussion covered:

- Question of if staff activities should be covered by Active schools. Thirty hours per week seen as very high.
- No letters of support from local schools
- Local opinion of club is high.

Decision:

Vote was taken on the two separate components of the application: revenue (for staff costs) rejected. Capital (for tables, rackets and other equipment) was approved at £4,705.69, revenue costs were rejected.

36. Girvan Attractions – Girvan & South Carrick Fireworks Display

To hold the Girvan & South Carrick Community Fireworks display as a free event open to all. We use community events as the driving tool to reduce isolation, deprivation and to increase community cohesion in the area, while helping to boost economic growth.

Total Eligible Costs	£10,293.47
Grant Request & %	£5,293.47 51%
Grant request - Capital	£10,293.47

Grant Request – Revenue	£0
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.42 – 4th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 50% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Still needs events licence, would have to be condition, is successful.

LAG discussion covered:

- No mention of income from amusement rides to offset costs.
- Annual one-off event, which does not engage local community beyond the actual event. Limited impact.
- Larger, professionally organised events are preferred to at home fireworks displays. Much safer.
- Event does bring people into Girvan.
- This would be the same event every year and could present an issue with lots of regions looking for firework funding, year in and year out.

Decision:

Initially the decision on this project was delayed, while information about other sources of funding was clarified. Once clarity was provided an online vote was held on the 5th of September and based on the lack of lasting impact of the project and therefor value for money, was rejected 5:3.

37. Isle of Arran Heritage Museum – Arran Museum- Project 50

To fund a part time administrator and construction works to preserve outdoor sections of the museum.	
Total Eligible Costs	£22,501.41
Grant Request & %	£20,251.26 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£22,501.41
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking/% Approval of Scoring Group: 3.21 – 8th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Evidence of need could be stronger.

LAG Discussion covered:

- Question of if all tools are necessary. Some items quite expensive.
- Perhaps would have been more cost effective to get a contractor in- but appreciate social benefit for volunteers.
- Letter of support, highlighting archival demand.
- Continuation of staff on limited hours discussed but agreed as acceptable.
- Discussion over which tools are necessary in comparisons to others.

Decision:

JM to update value for money form and confirm with group.

After careful consideration of all items the project was approved at 80% of value of agreed upon tools (detailed in the value for money form) and 100% of staff and archival costs, creating grant total of £14,065.51.

38. Little Peru Ltd – Little Peru On Tour

To purchase an electric MPV van.

Total Eligible Costs	£27,291.86
Grant Request & %	£24,562.67 90%
Grant request - Capital	£25,455
Grant Request – Revenue	£1,836.86
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Business

Ranking: 3.79 1st

%Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Previously supported applicant

LAG discussion covered:

- Considered a very strong idea but concern that there was not enough evidence of need.
- Previously funded project of glamping pods has only just opened, not enough evidence of capacity.
- Could have done with additional networking/ consultation evidence.
- Would they be able to evidence that they were promoting attractions within the ARIA region only. Would need some kind of log book to achieve this.

Decision:

Project rejected but JM will feedback to applicant that with additional consultation/networking work, the panel would be keen to see a future application, containing additional evidence of need/ local support.

JM to feed back about additional evidence needed for a future application.

39. McCandlish Hall (Straiton Club) – Upgrade of McCandlish Hall

To improve the facilities and install audio and visual equipment and replace the dated seating.

Total Eligible Costs	£37,783.97
Grant Request & %	£34,005.57 90%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£37,783.97
LA Area	SA
Applicant Type	Third Sector

Ranking: 3.08 – 10th

% Approval of Scoring Group: 50% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- N/A

LAG discussion covered:

- Question of if this equipment would be necessary for a “jam” session. The only part of the application that has evidence of need.
- Could the equipment not be borrowed from other organisations? Is it value for money.
- There was no evidence that visual equipment was needed. Quote does not appear to be able to be split.

Decision:
After discussion it was agreed that there was need for the chairs but not substantial evidence of need for audiovisual equipment. Furniture element of project approved at an amount of £7,961.37. Audiovisual element rejected.

40. North Arran Community Benefit Society - Building improvements

Staffing and building refurbishment costs.	
Total Eligible Costs	£56,236.42
Grant Request & %	£50,000 89%
Grant request - Capital	£0
Grant Request – Revenue	£56,236.42
LA Area	NA
Applicant Type	Community Group

Ranking: 3.17 – joint 9th
% Approval of Scoring Group: 100% approval

Points Raised at Technical Check:

- Supporting evidence relates to community buy back rather than this project.
- Some quotes missing but with explanations.

LAG discussion covered:

- Isn’t adequate evidence of need for staff costs. After refurbishment perhaps but not during the five months of ARIA funding.
- More detail of individual costs would be preferable, however evidence of applicants attempt to provide this included in application.
- £50k on one project, given this years limited funding, not seen as good value for money
- Some refurbishment costs high- even when considering island location.
- Would be beneficial to see initial purchase survey to give fuller understanding of overall refurbishment costs.

Decision:
Project approved for capital refurbishment costs but not revenue element of staff costs, at a total of £30,968.62.

JM to ask applicant to continue seeking a third quote for bathroom refurbishments, suggest application to CAM fund and to request initial purchase survey.

Recap - Conclusions

Discussion about Remaining Funds
At the end of the project assessments all previously “shelved” projects were reevaluated, with consideration given to the running total of revenue and capital budget. Details of these further discussion are included within each project section of the notes.

Date of Next Meeting
CAM Fund LAG Assessment
 2nd October 2024

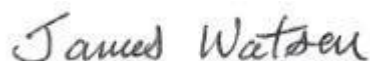
Actions

General:

- JM to explore other ICT systems for LAG application assessment in 25/26
- JM to include business plan request within application guidance for 25/26
- JM to update guidance notes to include that prior notification must also be in place pre application deadline (in line with full planning application guidance)
- JM to update guidance notes to highlight employee figures are irrespective of regional branches.
- JM to work in late autumn, early winter on database for mapping exercise with CC.

For Applicants:

- JM to get answers to LAG questions, from Arran Haulage.
- JM to ask for clarity over sharing use with other regions and maintenance plan for vehicle, from Carrick Resilience.
- JM to seek clarification around satellite events, insurance, and storage of equipment, from DART.
- JM to suggest Fenwick Parent Council sign up for EB funding alerts.
- JM to enquire about the progress of previous ten programme entrants at Ochiltree Hub. As well as if the new figures quoted (16) include last year's participants or are all new for 2024/2025.
- JM to schedule regular updates with Heather Lodge to ensure they remain on schedule – irrespective of weather and ferry issues.
- JM to discuss with Kilmaurs community association, getting an extension to their lease to 28.02.30 as a minimum or a letter of comfort from EAC to show this will be available in due course.
- JM to request drawings of toilet plans from Biosphere Bikes.
- JM to highlight to Crag Community Arts that ARIA would not be able to provide ongoing support annually. That unless the project innovates significantly this would be the last year of funding and the group will have to find alternative sources of funding.
- JM to suggest a video evaluation of the event (and preceding workshops) to be provided this year by Crag Community Arts.
- JM to update value for money form and confirm with Isle of Arran Heritage Museum.
- JM to feed back about additional evidence needed for a future application from Little Peru.
- JM to ask North Ayrshire Community Benefit Society to continue seeking a third quote for bathroom refurbishments, suggest application to CAM fund and to request initial purchase survey.



Jim Watson

ARIA LAG Chair

28th October 2024