ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

OBAN, LORN AND THE ISLES AREA COMMITTEE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S UNIT

12th June 2024

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES FUND 2024/25

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to decide on the allocation of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund (SCF) for Oban, Lorn and the Isles.
- 1.2 The total Supporting Communities Fund available by the Council for allocation in Oban, Lorn and the Isles in 2024/25 is £32,117.50.
- 1.3 It is recommended that 15 applicants are awarded funding.
- 1.4 Applicants awarded funds from the Council's Supporting Communities Fund have 18 months in which to spend the funds.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The report details recommendations for the award of the Council's Supporting Communities Fund (SCF). The Supporting Communities Fund available from the council in Oban, Lorn and the Isles for 2024/25 is £29,500
- 2.2 The total available for allocation is £32,117.50 due to the return of unspent funds from previous applicants.
- 2.3 Organisations applying to the fund were able to request up to £2,500. The SCF is popular and this year has attracted 33 applications from the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area, requesting a total of over £70,000.
- 2.4 Applications have been scored by the Council's Community Development Team against criteria set out in the guidance (https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/my-communities-and-partnerships/supporting-communities-fund) Also the SCF Scoring Matrix can be found here Supporting Communities Fund-Scoring Matrix (argyll-bute.gov.uk). A summary of applications is appended to this report.15 are recommended to be funded.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 Members are asked to agree that the 15 applications, marked as 'Award' and 'Partial Award' within Appendix 1 are awarded funding from the Supporting Communities Fund totalling £32,117.50. Detailed information about these projects is contained within Appendix 2.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The SCF is assessed through a robust process which involves financial checks and Community Development Team contact with the applicant to verify any information where required. All applicants need to provide satisfactory essential information on governance and finance to be eligible. Scoring is based on a set of criteria outlined in the guidance and available on the council's website. Applications to the fund must be for projects that come under one or more of these categories:
 - Fairer Communities tackling poverty by sharing opportunities.
 - Resilient Communities community capacity building/rebuilding and repairing from a pandemic
 - Greener, Cleaner Communities environmental action to support addressing climate change
 - Creative Communities creativity for health and wellbeing
- 4.2 Of the 35 applications received (requesting a total of £70,136.19), 2 were withdrawn or ineligible and of the 33 remaining applications, 27 are either new applicants or have not applied within the last two years.
- 4.3 Of the eligible applications to the SCF, 15 are recommended to be awarded funding from the available funds. 9 of these are for island-based projects. The applications recommended for funding are labelled as 'Award' or 'Partial Award' in the recommendation column in Appendix 1.
- 4.4 The projects recommended will deliver a range of activities from sporting activities to self-management programmes, and they aim to support vulnerable communities in many ways including community transport, lunch clubs and environmental action. The detail of the projects is in Appendix 2.
- 4.5 Unsuccessful applications are marked as 'No award' in Appendix 1. These applicants will be offered support from the Community Development Team and provided with information on alternative sources of funding.
- 4.6 This year the total of £32,117.50 available for allocation is comprised of:
 - £29,500 from the Council's Supporting Communities Fund.
 - Return of unspent funds from projects from the financial periods 2022/23 due to underspend and loss of capacity to deliver.
- 4.7 Successful projects funded have to complete a report at the end to evidence the impact of the spending of the money. The results of this are brought to Area Committee in March 2026 if not before depending on project duration.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Supporting Communities Fund application and assessment process has been completed as set out within its guidance (Supporting Communities Fund | Argyll and Bute Council (argyll-bute.gov.uk).
- 5.2 The recommendations made fully allocate the funding available for financial year 2024/25.
- 5.3 The 15 projects being put forward for an award will help communities to deliver priority activities in their area in 2024/25 2025/26.
- 5.4 All applicants to the fund are supported throughout the process and beyond by the Community Development Team.
- 5.5 Given that fund is oversubscribed, the team is considering potential changes to the fund for the future and recommendations will come to members to decide.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy: n/a
- 6.2 Financial: Recommendations in the report are limited to the budget allocation available in 2024/25 for the Supporting Communities Fund in Oban, Lorn and the Isles.
- 6.3 Legal: Applications are initially assessed to ensure that groups are constituted with managed accounts.
- 6.4 HR: n/a
- 6.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: The Supporting Communities Fund supports community groups in tackling poverty, reducing inequality and building a fairer and more inclusive Scotland.
 - 6.5.1 Equalities protected characteristics: Applicants are given the options of receiving the application in large print and other languages.
 - 6.5.2 Socio-economic Duty: None known
 - 6.5.3 Islands: 15 of the applicant projects are island based from 4 islands. 9 of these are being recommended funding from 2 islands.
- 6.6 Climate Change: One of the four criteria within the process is specific to mitigating climate change.
- 6.7 Risk: risk to the public pound is managed through the assessment and scoring, and through end of project monitoring process.

6.8 Customer Service: None

6.9 The Rights of the Child (UNCRC): None

Pippa Milne

Chief Executive

Mark Irvine

Policy Lead Councillor

12th June 2024

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1- Assessment Score and Recommendations

Appendix 2 – Project Summary Sheet

Appendix 1 – Assessment Score and Recommendations

Applicant	Recommendatio n	Assessment Score	Value of Project	Amount Requested	Recommended Award 2024/25	Cumulative Total
Bendoran Watersports CIC	Award	7.5	£ 3,200.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
Taynuilt Primary School and ELC Parent Council	Award	7.4	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 5,000.00
Lorn and Oban Healthy Options	Award	7.3	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 7,500.00
Home-Start Lorn	Award	7.2	£ 3,000.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 10,000.00
Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT)	Award	7.2	£84,926.24	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£12,500.00
Tiree Community Development Trust 1	Award	7.2	£37,151.30	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£15,000.00
Dervaig Community Hall	Award	7.1	£ 3,870.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£17,500.00
Tiree Community Development Trust 2	Award	7.1	£ 5,413.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 20,000.00
The Victory Hall, Benderloch	Award	7.1	£ 3,120.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 22,500.00
Appin Skiff Coastal Rowing Club	Award	7	£ 2,122.00	£ 2,122.00	£ 2,122.00	£ 24,622.00
Tiree Makery CIC	Award	6.8	£ 2,499.00	£ 2,499.00	£ 2,499.00	£ 27,121.00
Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT) 2	Award	6.8	£32,881.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 29,621.00
Live Music Now	Award	6.7	£ 2,457.60	£ 614.40	£ 614.40	£ 30,235.40
Pennyghael Community Hall	Partial award	6.7	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 941.05	£ 31,176.45
An Iodhlann – Tiree's Historical Centre	Partial award	6.7	£ 5,537.40	£ 2,500.00	£ 941.05	£ 32,117.50
Hynish Trust (was the Hebridean Trust)	No award	6.7	£ 3,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00	
Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT) 3	No award	6.6	£ 3,542.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00	
Luing Community Council	No award	6.6	£ 1,800.00	£ 1,800.00	£ 0.00	
Argyll FM	No award	6.5	£ 4,500.00	£ 666.66	£ 0.00	
Lismore Historical Society	No award	6.2	£20,000.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00	
Developing Potential SCIO	No award	6	£ 4,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00	

Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning	No award	5.9	£ 1,400.00	£ 1,400.00	£ 0.00
Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau	No award	5.8	£18,756.00	£ 2,300.00	£ 0.00
Còisir Ghàidhlig Thaigh an Uillt	No award	5.7	£ 700.00	£ 700.00	£ 0.00
37th Argyll (Ardchattan) Scout Group.	No award	5.6	£ 3,920.00	£ 1,960.00	£ 0.00
Oban FM Community Radio	No award	5.4	£ 7,300.00	£ 2,400.00	£ 0.00
Tobermory High School Parent Council	No award	5.4	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00
Argyll Wellbeing Hub	No award	5.3	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00
Argyll Talking Newspapers	No award	5.2	£ 666.67	£ 666.67	£ 0.00
Craignure Village Hall and Community Centre	No award	4.7	£ 3,200.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00
Oban Pipe Band	No award	4.6	£ 20,150.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 0.00
Comunn Gàidhealach An Òbain (Oban Mod Academy)	No award	4.5	£ 13,000.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 0.00
Appin Hall	No award	3.8	£ 1,007.46	£ 1,007.46	£ 0.00
TOTAL			£307,119.67	£70,136.19	£ 32,117.50

Appendix 2 – Project Summary Sheet

Applications Received (in order of scoring by Community Development Officer)

For submission to Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee for final decision (maximum value £2,500).

Ref:	1	
Applicant: Bendoran Watersports CIC		
Recommended Award: £2,500	Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.5	
Project Summary:		
Developing a new community sailing club by delivery of some taster sessions and some classes to the local community, with the aim of letting community members learn new skills and build relationships in the community thus improving their mental and physical health.		
Recommendation:	Award	
Conditions:	No conditions	

Def	2	
Ref:	2	
Applicant: Taynuilt Primary School and E	LC Parent Council	
Recommended Award: £2,500	Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.4	
Project Summary:		
The costs of running cycle training for Taynuilt and Barcaldine Primary Schools' "After		
School Kids On Wheels" project in order to support more children to gain the health and		
wellbeing benefits of cycling, particularly respiratory endurance. It will also keep them		
safe and support a transition to active travel. The project would take place in the		
2024/2025 school year.		
Recommendation:	Award	
Conditions:	No conditions	

Ref:	3	
Applicant: Lorn and Oban Healthy Options		
Recommended Award: £2,500	Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.3	
Project Summary:		
To remove barriers to attendance to their self-management programmes for people living with long-term health conditions. They have offered evidence showing that attendees face between 3 and 6 barriers to attending these valuable courses, ranging from travel costs, lack of sports clothing to poor confidence. They work with exercise and health professionals to deliver these programmes and support people to be the healthiest they can be.		
Recommendation:	Award	
Conditions:	No conditions	

Ref: 4

Applicant: Home-Start Lorn

Recommended Award: £2,500 Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.2

Project Summary:

The main contribution towards a summer programme of activities for families in the area to help them with social isolation, give children learning opportunities, help them meet their developmental milestones and get them outdoors thus promoting positive wellbeing. The activities will run during the months of July and August and last year were attended by 511 people from 206 families.

Recommendation: Award
Conditions: No conditions

Ref: 5
Applicant: Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT)
Recommended Award: £2,500 Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.2
Project Summary:
A contribution towards Ulva Ferry Community Transport scheme, which serves one of the

A contribution towards Ulva Ferry Community Transport scheme, which serves one of the most rural, remote areas in Argyll. It will help address isolation and support the fragile and isolated community delivering over 1,000 passenger journeys a year. It operates an electric mini-bus and a people carrier in the north end of the island and services communities and groups, particularly Mull Musical Minds.

Recommendation:AwardConditions:No conditions

Ref:	6		
Applicant: Tiree Community Development Trust 1			
Recommended Award: £2,500 Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.2			
Project Summary:			
A contribution towards two poverty mitigation measures is requested, with a pilot collaboration with Argyll and Bute Citizen's advice and a Home Energy Efficiency project aiming to target greatest need and improve the sustainability of the island and its homes.			
Recommendation:			
Conditions:	No conditions		

Ref:	7
Applicant: Dervaig Village Hall	
Recommended Award: £2,500	Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.1
Project Summary:	

Dervaig Lunch Club supports up to 39 older persons with a healthy lunch and good company to the improvement of their wellbeing. Community transport is offered. There are 4 treat trips which support local businesses and are very much looked forward to by regulars and volunteers alike. Lunch Club is seeking funding for ingredients, special events and from 2025 for the hire and heating expense of the hall.

Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref: 8

Applicant: Tiree Community Development Trust 2

Recommended Award: £2,500 Assessment Score (out of 10): 7.2

Project Summary:

Match funding towards a year's running costs of a new Environmental Action Group to be managed by Tiree Development Trust. The work of the group will include the restoration and management of the natural environment, including safeguarding of the machair which is now under threat due to erosion, coastal flooding and extreme weather events. The project will aim to tell the story of how crofting helps steward the machair and aims to highlight best practices already taking place within the crofting community.

Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref:

Applicant: The Victory Hall, Benderloch
Recommended Award: £2,500

Project Summary:

The hire of a consultant to carry out community engagement to determine the community's needs for the hall in the future and help to plan to attract more diverse users.

Recommendation:

Award

Ref:	10
Applicant: Appin Skiff Coastal Rowing	Club
Recommended Award: £2,122	Assessment Score (out of 10): 7
Project Summary:	

No conditions

Conditions:

To increase accessibility and diversity of Skiff rowing within the local community of Port Appin by the provision of reduced membership fees and financially supported events. Involvement in the club has shown to improve fitness, mental wellbeing and decrease loneliness as well as re-establishing a connection to the sea and learning essential maritime skills

Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref: 11
Applicant: Tiree Makery CIC
Recommended Award: £2,499 Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.8
Project Summary:

A small contribution towards this newly-formed artist-led CIC who will offer creative workshops to the community, particularly the oldest residents, with the aim of improving community and individual wellbeing. The CIC also aims to contribute to increasing economic resilience, heritage awareness and generate a creative future for Tiree allowing the resident artists to remain on the island.

Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref:	12
Applicant: Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT) 2	
Recommended Award: £2,500	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.8
Project Summary:	
MICT is seeking match funding towards new biodiversity restoration work in Ardura	
Community Forest specifically to fund the post of Ardura Biodiversity Officer, for 6	
months to lead that work. The improvements will lead to a healthy and flourishing	
ecosystem for the benefit of the natural world, the people of Mull and its visitors.	
Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Corrainorio.	110 00110110110
Ref:	13
Applicant: Live Music Now	
Recommended Award: £614.40	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.7
Project Summary:	
8x Musician's fees, lunch and travel to de performance to 7 care homes and 2x 45m school in order to bring music to a wider a wellbeing. Two of these care homes would	ninute performances to one primary audience, and improve health and
Recommendation:	Award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref:	14
Applicant: Pennyghael Community Hall	
Recommended Award: £ 941.05	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.7
Project Summary:	
Seedcorn funding towards a volunteer coordinator is requested, who will set up and run a weekly café in the hall. This will bring the community together, support the other community ideas and activities and raise funds to sustain the hall in the winter months.	
Recommendation:	Partial award
Conditions:	No conditions

	,
Ref:	15
Applicant: An Iodhlann – Tiree's Historical Centre	
Recommended Award: £ 941.05	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.7
Project Summary:	
Community based sessions in Tiree's Historical Centre involving the whole community, but particularly the older generation, to explore the extensive Gaelic archive, led by a guest expert educator, musician, and Gaelic speaker.	
Recommendation:	Partial award
Conditions:	No conditions

Ref:	16
Applicant: Hynish Trust (was the Hebric	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.7
Project Summary:	7 toocooment ocoro (out or 10): 0:7
The group aims to co-design a new and refre	shed Skerryyore Exhibition with the young
people of Tiree to provide an exciting educati	
music, art, history and creativity. Hynish has	
is a way to engage young people with their he	
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	17
Applicant: Mull and Iona Community Tr	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.6
Project Summary:	and the Constitution of the Constitution
Towards a summer of ranger activities for	
sessions for 6 Mull primary schools, outdo	
holidays including den-building and wildlif	
to track the health of Mull's rivers, involving	
and feeding the findings into national data	
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	18
Applicant: Luing Community Council	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.6
Project Summary:	
This application seeks funding to deliver a	an expert survey and report to inform and
devise solutions to address local land-base	sed flooding so that the community can
take appropriate mitigating action. This ai	ms to identify practical ways the island
community can address and adapt to the	effects of climate change.
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	19
Applicant: Argyll FM	13
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.5
Project Summary:	Assessment Score (out or 10). 0.3
Equipment, installation, commissioning a	nd data connection costs, plus
recruitment and training costs for voluntee	
ı recruitirent anu tranını CUSIS IUI VUIUNLE	
pilot project to future proof the service, im	prove reception, accessibility and
pilot project to future proof the service, im reliability. Hoping to involve young people	prove reception, accessibility and in the project.
pilot project to future proof the service, im	prove reception, accessibility and

Ref:	20
Applicant: Lismore Historical Society	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6.2
Project Summary:	
Professional services from National Museum finds and permit the analysis and conservatio ancient church of Lismore. This will contribut prestigious site of the Early Christian period a acquisition of this site as a potential multi-pur	n of these artefacts found in and around the e to the increase of knowledge of this is well as adding to the case for community pose site and interpretation centre.
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	

Ref:	21
Applicant: Developing Potential SCIO	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 6
Project Summary:	
Gaelic language classes for members of this group, as requested by them, in order to improve their cognition, mental acuity and health and wellbeing. 48 weeks of classes for up to 50 learners are requested.	
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	

Ref:	22
Applicant: Hebridean Pursuits Outdoor Learning	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.9
Project Summary:	
Full cost of 2 days of coasteering session Leisure's hugely popular Summer Sensat (ages 10-12) making the transition to Oba encourage new friendships and team wor our stunning landscape. Activities are off into Oban and Tiree High Schools and su	ions programme which is for P6/7 pupils an High School. These sessions k as well as a healthy fitness activity in ered free across the 21 schools feeding
includes footwear which has been identified as a barrier to participation.	
	1 5 1

Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	

Ref:	23
Applicant: Argyll & Bute Citizens Advice Bureau	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.8
Project Summary:	
To fund a Laptop, stationary, telephone, in per month for 16 months, to support the latto tackle poverty and increase community the remoter areas of Oban, Lorn and the	aunch of a Volunteer recruitment project capacity building on the islands and in
Recommendation:	No award

Conditions:	
Ref:	24
Applicant: Còisir Ghàidhlig Thaigh an U	lillt
Recommended Award:	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.6
Project Summary:	
The full cost of three professional musical	workshops for the Taynuilt Gaelic Choir
in order to enthuse the choir members an	
language potential. Argyllshire Gaelic and	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
choir. Choral singing improves stamina, b	reath and wellbeing.
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	25
Applicant: 37th Argyll (Ardchattan) Scout Group.	
Recommended Award:	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.6
Project Summary:	
Funding for struggling families towards, a	a 2-night residential trip for the Cub Pack

wide range of outdoor adventure activities and stay in bunk accommodation. This aims to build a range of skills, including planning, teamwork and confidence building for both the young people, the young leaders and the adult volunteers involved.

Recommendation:

No award

Conditions:

(age 8 -10) at the Lochgoilhead Scout Outdoor Centre. Cubs would take part in a

Ref:

Applicant: Oban FM Community Radio

Recommended Award: 0

Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.4

Project Summary:

Live broadcasting of the 2024 National Mòd in Oban. The radio station will be opened to the public for the entirety of the week so volunteers can pool their talents, whether as broadcasters, journalists or technicians and get more people involved in the Mòd week. It also allows the housebound and the distant to listen to all the competitions and support their communities.

Recommendation: No award
Conditions:

Ref: 27
Applicant: Tobermory High School Parent Council

Recommended Award: 0 Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.4
Project Summary:

New and improved sporting equipment for the lunchtime and evening sports clubs which have membership of 80% of the older school. The younger children have requested a willow dome, a mud kitchen and gardening equipment. The aim is to improve the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the Learning Community

at Tobermory High School particularly in	light of the huge impact that the Covid-19
pandemic has had on scholars and the lo	ss of fund-raising opportunity for the
parent council itself.	
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	28
Applicant: Argyll Wellbeing Hub	20
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.3
Project Summary:	Assessment Score (out or 10). 5.5
The provision of counselling support and CB	T to parsons with a montal health diagnosis
This need has been identified by the group d	
well as a successful pilot last year, where the	
changing and life-saving.	ornacines chewed mac that it scale so me
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	
Ref:	29
Applicant: Argyll Talking Newspapers	
Recommended Award:	Assessment Score (out of 10): 5.2
Project Summary:	
A project to upgrade the receiving and lis	
impaired persons stay in touch with their	communities A contribution is requested
	confindings. A continuation is requested
towards the outreach to install and explai	n the new technology to users. The
	n the new technology to users. The
towards the outreach to install and explai upgrade is to Alexa and they are being as Recommendation:	n the new technology to users. The
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towards the outreach to install and explai upgrade is to Alexa and they are being as Recommendation: Conditions: Ref: Applicant: Craignure Village Hall and C Recommended Award: 0 Project Summary: Improving the appearance, safety, and ar Craignure hall to improve it for the benefir removal of abandoned boats and trailers	n the new technology to users. The ssisted by the RNIB. No award 30 ommunity Centre Assessment Score (out of 10): 4.7 menity of the shoreside environment of tof families, residents and visitors, by the
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Ref:	32
Applicant: Comunn Gàidhealach An Òbain (Oban Mod Academy)	
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 4.5
Project Summary:	
Towards the fees for tutors to support children and young people to participate in	
the Mòd, both in spoken and sung Gaelic. This will boost their confidence and	
enjoyment of the event and give them a grounding in their culture and heritage.	
Recommendation:	No award
Conditions:	

Ref:	33	
Applicant: Appin Hall		
Recommended Award: 0	Assessment Score (out of 10): 3.8	
Project Summary:		
While the hall is fundraising for essential repairs to the roof, a year's wifi costs are requested. Wifi is essential both to the functioning of the hall and to the benefit of the residents and includes training, worship, health and sustainability.		
Recommendation:	No award	
Conditions:		