B

COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND

2026-2027

The closing date for applications is 29th October 2026.
Please note late applications will not be accepted.

Please refer to the associated guidance when completing this application form.

All projects must be completed by 30th June 2027.

This is an application form for the Coastal Communities Fund managed by South Ayrshire Council. Please complete all parts of the form. If you require any clarification or additional information, then please contact grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Amount of grant requested

TYPE OF GRANT	AMOUNT	PURPOSE	SELECT ONE
*Development grant	Up to £15,000	The Development Grant will assist groups to plan & develop small scale projects that will link into one of the priorities of the Coastal Communities Grant Fund. Projects will essentially make communities a more attractive place to live & work.	☒

Section 1: Organisation Details

Organisation Name	**Believe Ayrshire C.I.C**
Organisation Address	**40 Monument rd Ayr** **37 George Street, Ayr, KA8 0AH**
Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated association etc. or private sector)	**CIC** **SC777008**

If a charity or Limited Company, please include your number	
Does your group/organisation have a bank account?	Yes ☒ No ☐ In progress ☐

Section 2: Contact details

Contacts	Lead Contact
Name	Marna Ferguson
Position in Organisation	Founder / Manager

Section 3: Project Details

a. Project Title

Creating a Comfortable and Welcoming Community Space at Wallacetown Hub

b. About your project, what are you seeking funding for?

What risks have you considered, and what steps will you take to keep the project sustainable over the long term?

We are seeking funding to purchase new chairs for the Wallacetown Hub to improve the comfort, accessibility and functionality of the community space.

The Hub hosts a wide range of community activities and support services, including two weekly suicide bereavement support groups delivered by Believe - Suicide Bereavement Support. These groups provide a vital safe space for local people affected by bereavement and mental health challenges. The current seating is no longer fit for purpose due to age, wear and limited flexibility for different group formats.

The provision of new, durable and comfortable chairs will improve the experience of everyone using the Hub, creating a more welcoming environment that encourages participation, reduces barriers to attendance and supports the long-term sustainability of existing services. The new furniture will also allow the Hub to adapt the space more effectively for group work, training sessions, workshops and community events.

Risks and Sustainability

The main risk associated with the project is increased wear and tear resulting from higher levels of use. This will be mitigated through the purchase of robust, commercial-grade chairs suitable for high-frequency community activity.
Ownership of the chairs will remain with Believe. They will be used to support Believe's regular groups and activities at the Wallacetown Hub, and, when not required, will be made available for use by other groups and organisations operating from the Hub. This shared-use approach will ensure the funding delivers maximum community benefit and supports a broad range of services, activities, and events. The ongoing demand for space within the Hub provides confidence that the furniture will remain well-used and valuable for many years beyond the project period.

c. What community will this project be delivered to and what communities will benefit?

The project will benefit residents of Wallacetown and the wider Ayr North locality. The Wallacetown Hub is a community-based venue that supports people of all ages and backgrounds, including individuals experiencing social isolation, mental health challenges, financial hardship and bereavement.

Direct beneficiaries include participants attending Believe's suicide bereavement support groups, local residents accessing community services, partner organisations delivering activities from the Hub and community members attending events, workshops and support sessions.

By creating a more comfortable and welcoming environment, the project will increase accessibility, improve user experience and help sustain important community-based support within one of South Ayrshire's priority neighbourhoods.

d. Can your project demonstrate that your project/organisation needs have been identified through consultation?
Yes ☒ No ☐
If yes, please include details of the consultation and a summary of the results.

The need for improved seating has been identified through ongoing engagement with Hub users, partner organisations and facilitators delivering activities within the space.

Feedback from participants attending Believe's twice-weekly suicide bereavement support sessions highlighted the importance of a comfortable, welcoming environment for sensitive discussions and peer support. Community groups and partner organisations

have also identified the need for more suitable and consistent seating arrangements to accommodate growing attendance and varied activities. The consultation demonstrated that improving the physical environment of the Hub would support increased participation, improve user comfort and contribute to the long-term viability of services delivered from the venue.

e. Which of the following Council plan priorities most aligns with your proposed project:

Priority 1 – Spaces & Places ☒
Priority 2 – Live, Work, learn ☐
Priority 3 – Civic & Community Pride ☐

If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please detail which priority it will be achieving. See here for local plans.

The project supports local ambitions to strengthen community facilities, improve access to support services and create inclusive spaces where residents can access help, build connections and participate in community life. By improving the environment within the Wallacetown Hub, the project contributes to a stronger and more resilient community infrastructure.

f. Please select the relevant priority (you can select more than one priority, if applicable):

- Deliver improvements to public places that will increase the number of visitors ☒
- make coastal communities more attractive places to live and work ☐
- demonstrate a strong link to local strategies and local place plans ☐

Estimated start date:	**As soon as funding is released**
Estimated completion date: **(must be by 30th June 2027)**	

g. **If your project relates to a property or land, please confirm whether you own, or lease the property or land**

own ☒ lease ☐

If lease, an indication that the owner is supportive or aware that plans will be required. Please detail how you will provide evidence of support, ie long term lease.

If lease, then a copy of the lease needs to be provided.

h. Please tick/populate as appropriate:

Is the property a listed building? Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes:

☐ I acknowledge that works to a listed building may require Listed Building Consent and that it is my responsibility to ensure all necessary permissions are obtained prior to commencing works.

i. Are you aware of the appropriate consents required for this project? Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you have:

- Statutory consents for your project in place ☐
- Planning, including listed building and conservation area consents ☐
- Building Warrants ☐
- Evidence of Pre application discussion ☐ Please include your reference number _____
- Not applicable ☒

Copies of any of the above need to be provided.

Section 4: Project Costs

How much funding are you requesting from the Coastal Communities Fund?

£

Are you applying for Revenue or Capital costs, or both?

Revenue ☐ £

Capital ☒ £

Please provide a full break down of costs for your project for your application to be considered.

If applying for both revenue and capital, then please detail costs separately.

Item/Activity	Cost
Stackable Chairs (cushioned) x15	**£375**
Total	**£375**

For development grant:
***3 quotes need to be provided for proposed works/items over £1000, quotes need to be dated within last 6 months – <u>if relevant quotes are not provided when submitting application, it will not be considered.</u>**

Section 5: Checklist

Please confirm you have the following documents:

Constitution/Memorandum & Articles ☐
Audited or independently verified accounts ☐
Last 3 months bank statements ☐

Section 6: Declaration & Conditions

I, on behalf of, (organisation name):

- Certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application is true and accurate and will adhere to the following terms and conditions;
- Understand that making this application does not entitle the organisation to funding as a right;
- Will not commence or commit any expenditure before receiving approval of the funding;
- Confirm that the quotations are bona fide competitive quotes;
- Will provide the External Funding officer with digital colour photos of the work, both before and after the work has been completed. I understand that these images will be kept on record and used for future publicity;
- Understand that this funding award does not cover retrospective work;
- Understand that to make any misleading statement in relation to this application could make the application invalid, or may mean the organisation has to repay the funding;
- Understand that this application is subject to appropriate checks and meets appropriate conditions such as planning, procurement guidelines, and other statutory consents; and

- I have read the associated guidance before completing and submitting this application form.
- Understands that if I do not provide satisfactory evidence of spend then the council may request, I repay the grant

Failure to return or complete and return any evaluations requested then I may not receive any future funding from South Ayrshire Council. I may be asked to repay the funds if I cannot provide evidence that they were used for the purpose intended.

Name of Person Completing Application: Marna Ferguson _____

On behalf of: (Organisation name) : Believe Ayrshire _____

Date: _____20/6/27_____

Completed applications only should be saved as a PDF document and uploaded to

Your Area Your Voice Your Choice

Supporting documents should be e-mailed to grants@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

These include:

- Constitution
- Last 3 months bank statements
- Independently verified accounts
- Quotes (where required)