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	**Ayr Gaiety Partnership**
Organisation Address	**Gaiety Theatre, Carrick Street, Ayr KA7 1NU**
Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated association etc. or private sector)	**SCIO**
If a charity or Limited Company, please include your number	**SC041464**

Does your group/organisation have a bank account?	Yes ☒ No ☐ In progress ☐

Section 2: Contact details

Contacts	Lead Contact
Name	Sally Rennie
Position in Organisation	Executive Director

Section 3: Project Details

a. Project Title

Beyond the Stage – Connecting our Theatre and the Community

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 seek support to install a high-quality video screen outside the theatre to present clear, accessible and up-to-date information about performances, participation opportunities, community events, youth activity, access information and heritage interpretation. The board will supplement static printed displays, allowing the theatre to communicate more dynamically with audiences and passers-by while reducing recurring print costs and waste.

We have considered the risks of weather damage and vandalism to the external high-quality video screen, technical failure, ongoing running costs, outdated information, and delays in obtaining any necessary permissions or completing installation.

To manage these risks, we will select equipment suitable for an exposed coastal location, with secure installation, appropriate warranty cover and access to technical support. We will confirm any required permissions before works begin and agree a delivery timetable that allows completion by 30 June 2027. Supplier quotations will be assessed for whole-life costs, including electricity, software licences, maintenance and potential repairs, rather than purchase price alone.

To sustain the project beyond the grant period, we will identify provision within the theatre's operating budget for ongoing costs and future replacement. More than one team member will be trained to update the video screen, with clear responsibility for checking that information remains accurate, accessible and relevant. Alternative communication channels will remain available during any downtime.

We will use energy-efficient equipment, appropriate brightness settings and scheduled operating hours to limit energy use and unnecessary light. The video screen will reduce reliance on disposable printed displays, although we will retain printed information where needed for accessibility. Regular reviews of running costs, reliability and community feedback will help us assess whether the video screen continues to deliver useful information and lasting community benefit.

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

The theatre is a prominent cultural venue and community gathering place, but our current external signage limits our ability to promote the full range of activity taking place inside the building. Printed posters can become out of date quickly, are difficult to change at short notice, and do not always communicate the breadth of our artistic, educational and community work.

A screen would allow us to share timely information on performances, workshops, youth opportunities, accessible performances, volunteering, community partnerships and heritage activity. It would also improve wayfinding and create a more welcoming first point of contact for visitors, including people who may not yet consider the theatre to be a place for them.

The theatre contributes to the cultural life and artistic heritage of Ayrshire. By improving how we present our programme and interpret the building's role in the town, the video screen will help more people discover, value and participate in local cultural heritage.

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.

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.

This application would make the Gaiety's performances, community activities and heritage more visible, supporting the wider ambition to attract people into the town centre as it provides a more welcoming and informative street environment.

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:	**January/February 2027**
Estimated completion date: (must be by 30th June 2027)	**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:

x 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
Installation of outdoor screen	**£14,400**
Total	**£14,400**

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: Sally Rennie

On behalf of: (Organisation name) : Ayr Gaiety Partnership

Date: 29th October 2026_____

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)