

COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND

2024/2025

The closing date for applications is 11th September 2025.

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 31st March 2026.

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
*Small grant	Up to £1000	To support small grass roots groups and organisations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
*Development grant	Up to £4,950	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.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section 1: Organisation Details

Organisation Name	The South Parish Church Community Purchase Group
Organisation Address	28 Louisa Drive, Girvan, Ayrshire, KA26 9AH
Type of organisation (voluntary organisation, charity, CIC, Ltd. by guarantee, SCIO, unincorporated association etc. or private sector)	Non-incorporated community organisation (SCIO applied for under 'The South')

If a charity or Limited Company please include your number	
Does your group/organisation have a bank account?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In progress <input type="checkbox"/>

Section 2: Contact details

Contacts	Lead Contact
Name	Alan Jeans
Position in Organisation	Chairman

Section 3: Project Details

Project Title

The South

About your project/what are you seeking funding for?

<p>We seek funding for initial development costs for The South, including community consultation costs and early concept meetings with consultants.</p> <p>We are currently looking into purchasing the South Parish Church in Girvan to be used as a multi-purpose community venue for performances etc. of up to 450 people, and as a function space for up to 180 people. No such venue has existed in Girvan since the Beach Pavillion was demolished 15 years ago and as such, there is an identifiable need in the community.</p> <p>We also aim to convert the church hall into a modern bunkhouse for walkers, cyclists, and for people attending functions or events at the venue. Recent Surveys by GoGirvan have highlighted the need for accommodation, and it will also increase the financial viability of the project. In addition, we are exploring the option of incorporating a commercial kitchen into the complex which could be used both by the venue and other community groups in partnership.</p> <p>We have successfully delivered the first in a series of public engagement exercises to better understand the needs and wants of the community, and to ascertain their support for the project. Our next steps are to engage consultants to help us develop the project to RIBA 0-2, including options appraisal, feasibility study and concept designs. We are looking for funding to help us do both these things.</p>

What community will this project be delivered in and what communities will benefit?

Beneficiaries of the project will include residents of the KA26 area, specifically Girvan, who will arguably benefit from us bringing a currently empty building back into use for the community. This project will benefit the whole of the community of Girvan, as it will allow us to bring significant performers in music, dance, theatre and comedy to Girvan, and it will also allow the people of Girvan to hold large functions like weddings etc, without having to travel a distance, and hiring buses to take their guests there and back.

In addition, the project will create new employment opportunities under a social enterprise model in the hospitality sector, and has the potential to increase tourism in the town, benefiting local businesses. Any surplus profits will be used to further benefit the community. Lastly, this project will benefit the population of the wider South Carrick area, and even the people of South Ayrshire.

Please provide information you have about the need and support for the project, eg community consultation

We held our first community engagement event on 3rd September and we had over 300 people through the door. As well as a number of information boards about the project, and a short film about our vision, we got a lot of feedback, suggestions and ideas by using a brainstorming board, graphic suggestion sheets, an anonymised survey and simply by talking to the public. We also asked them to register as supporters of the project, which a significant number did, although we are still processing all the feedback and supporter material.

We are continuing this by having the survey forms and supporter registration available online, and by attending further 3rd sector events in the near future. We have also been running an extensive social media campaign to inform the community about our plans for the buildings, and to get further feedback from them.

Early results from the first community consultation indicate this project is very well-supported by the local community, with the majority of comments praising the initiative of the group and calling the project 'much-needed' and 'transformative'. Minor issues of concern were raised which we seek to address through our options appraisal and feasibility study, and we will continue to engage with the community on these.

The project also ties in with the wider regeneration efforts in the town, including Girvan's Story Heritage Project, the Bandstand refurbishment and the train station kiosk redevelopment.

Lastly, this project aligns with priorities identified in the Thriving Places Plan (2021) and the Create Streets Community Consultation survey (2022), both of which identified the communities desire for an events space, for better opportunities for increasing tourism, and for finding uses for empty buildings in the town.

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 ☐

Please select the grant you are applying for and the relevant priority (you can select more than one priority, if applicable)

For small grant only:

- To assist with barriers to sustain the group ☒
- To develop new projects/ideas ☒

For development grant only:

- 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 ☐

If linking into a place plan or a community action plan, please details which priority it will be achieving:

At this early stage, our project best aligns with the following priorities from the 2021 Thriving Places Plan:

1. Access to jobs: develop projects that could be delivered in Girvan through the UK Community Renewal fund [not in operation].
2. Sport & recreation: The community in Girvan should have access to good quality natural spaces and a range of opportunities for play and recreation.

We anticipate achieving further priorities outlined in the place plan as the project develops and we are able to ascertain the main objectives and limits of the project.

Estimated start date:	01.10.25
Estimated completion date:	15.03.25

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.

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

Item/Activity	Cost
Community Consultation events, including printing materials, promotion, and catering	£250
Match funding towards consultant fees for RIBA 0-2	£750
Total	£1000

For development grant only:

Individual item costs over £1000, 3 quotes need to be provided – if relevant quotes are not provided when submitting application, it will not be considered.

Section 5: Checklist

Please confirm you have the following documents:

Constitution/Memorandum & Articles ☒

Audited or independently verified accounts ☐ - we have been operational for less than one financial year so have not yet received accounts.

Last 3 months bank statements ☐ - we opened our bank account in August 2025 and cannot provide three months' worth of statements.

Section 6: Declaration & Conditions

I, on behalf of The South Parish Church Community Purchase Group,

- 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: Alan Jeans _____

On behalf of: (Organisation name) : The South Parish Church Community Purchase Group

Date: 9/9/2025 _____

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

[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)