

The aim of the scheme

This Community Fund has been set up as a joint initiative between the Grantown Initiative and The Cairn Distillery (through Gordon & MacPhail) to demonstrate our commitment to supporting green, local projects which benefit the local community. The purpose of the fund is to help enable community groups, organisations and clubs to carry out events, improvements and activities in the local area. The fund will particularly look to support green projects.

Money available

Each year, for three years from 2022, the GI allocates an amount of money to the fund which is a percentage of the funds remaining from a sponsorship agreement in place with Gordon & MacPhail. **£2,687.20** is available for 2023. Ideally, this fund will support 3 or 4 projects each year with a likely value of less than £1,000 per application.

The amount available each year will vary depending on donations received and the amount of funds spent on the GI's events which include but are not limited to Hogmanay, Torchlight Parade, Grantown Does Christmas, Xmas lights and Thunder In The Glens.

Applications

Consideration will be given to any type of event, project or sponsorship which benefits the Grantown-on-Spey community. Permission to proceed will be granted for ideas which successfully fulfill the aim of the scheme and which have a green focus. Applications will be invited by **5pm on Friday, 15th September** and we ask that you attach all relevant quotes or permissions to avoid any delay in processing.

Eligibility

The scheme is open to community groups, clubs and charities who operate within Grantown-on-Spey. Applicants are required to be an associate member of the Grantown Initiative. To join the Grantown Initiative, click [HERE](#). Lifetime membership costs £1.

How to apply

Complete this form and email it with the supporting documents listed in the Application Checklist to community@grantowninitiative.org.uk with the title **"2023 Community Fund–Your Group's Name"**.

Timeline

Applications to be submitted by	5pm on Friday, 15th September 2023
Decisions announced	Friday, 29th September 2023
Project to be completed by	31 st August 2024

Projects Funded in 2022

Five projects were funded in 2022 as follows::

- YMCA – upgrades to the youth club room
- Grantown Museum – education and conservation project
- Strathspey Camanachd – purchasing reusable branded water bottles for the team
- Grantown Re-Engage – funding afternoon teas for elderly residents
- Friends of Grantown Primary – refurbishment of the primary school’s allotment for pupils

It is estimated that 400-500 residents benefited directly from these projects from within a wide range of groups and initiatives: elderly residents, young people, sports, health & wellbeing, heritage, education, growing spaces and green initiatives.

The total spent was £2,103.80.

Grantown Initiative & The Cairn

Community Fund Guidelines

1. Funding Guidelines

Funding from the Community Fund is available to organisations, clubs, charities and groups with an official address within Grantown-on-Spey and which benefit the local community. Applicants are required to be an Associate Member of the Grantown Initiative. If you are not a member, you can join by completing [THIS FORM](#) and paying the £1 fee for lifetime membership by credit/debit card from the secure payment link sent to you by the Grantown Initiative (info@grantownonline.com).

2. What projects are eligible to apply to the fund?

To apply for funding, you must be able to demonstrate community benefit and priority will be given to those projects which demonstrate green credentials.

The fund welcomes applications from organisations that make a difference across a range of areas:

- **Children and young people** – projects focused on improving access to facilities, activities and services for younger members of the community
- **Community buildings and amenity sites** – projects, which maintain and develop buildings and amenity sites being used and run by the community, especially projects that help ensure their sustainability for the future
- **Community transport and communication initiatives** – schemes that promote mobility of people and information in the community
- **Conservation, wildlife and animal sanctuary projects** – in particular those which improve the use of and access to communal land as defined by access legislation and other land as agreed with the Landowner
- **Culture and Heritage** – projects that celebrate, protect and promote culture, history and heritage
- **Education and skills development** – group and community-based programmes, particularly for those who have had no previous access to training opportunities
- **The elderly** – projects focused on improving access to facilities, activities and services for more senior citizens in the community
- **Energy efficiency and environmental sustainability** – projects to minimize energy loss, promote the use of green energy or sustain the natural and built environment
- **Health** - projects focused on improving access to facilities, activities and services that aim to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, including through sports
- **Regeneration** – community projects that help to reduce crime levels, increase employment, housing or improve the physical environment
- **Self-help groups** – community groups that deliver services to specific sectors of the community that are in need
- **Vulnerable people** – projects focused on improving access to facilities, activities and services for people with disabilities, the homeless and those who are disadvantaged
- Any other project your group feels will bring benefit to the community in the area

3. What will not be funded?

The aim of the fund is to ensure that there is a real benefit to the community it serves, so the following will not be funded:

- Projects outside the town boundaries
- Fundraising for national or regional charities unless the funds are going directly to a group or project operating in the area of benefit
- Any project the financing of which is the legal responsibility of any third party, unless explicitly agreed in writing prior to submitting your application

- Sponsorship
- Projects or activities promoting political or religious objectives
- Deficit or retrospective funding ie activities that have already taken place
- Any purpose that adversely affects or works against the interests of the Grantown Initiative or The Cairn or any of its subsidiary or related companies
- Any purpose that adversely affects or works, whether directly or indirectly, against any form of renewable energy development
- Projects or activities which support an individual or individuals who are not acting on behalf of a group or organisation with the capacity to benefit the wider community
- Projects and activities likely to cause divisiveness or community disharmony
- Applications for projects made by individuals or agencies where commission or other payment is made to that individual or agency
- Applications for projects made by individuals or agencies for redistribution to other separate individuals or agencies
- Applications to support “commercial gain”

4. What information do you need to provide?

It will help your cause if you can demonstrate any or all of the following:

Need: Demonstrate a clear need for the project and what support you have from the local community. It will help if you can provide evidence of research or consultation with those who will directly benefit – tell us about it!

Community Use: Show the true extent of the proposed project or funding in terms of duration and numbers of beneficiaries and display how funding will affect this.

Community Involvement: The fund would like to support projects where the community is already helping itself and where there is enthusiastic input from committed and resourceful people.

Value: You need to demonstrate value for money as well as careful and realistic budgeting; show sensible costings and provide estimates from more than one source (where applicable). It will help if projects already include revenue from other sources (are already part-funded or match funded).

Legacy: We need to know if your project has a legacy or if it requires on-going maintenance. If that is the case, tell us about how you plan to sustain this.

5. How long is funding for?

Our grants are for one year and should be spent within 12 months of receipt. Applicants can apply for funding in consecutive years but should not assume that these will be successful as applications from groups that have not previously received funding may be given higher priority.

Funds not used within 12 months of award may be recalled back into the fund and redistributed, through an audit of receipts.

6. The application process

- Applications should be emailed to community@grantowninitiative.org.uk with the title “2023 Community Fund–Your Group’s Name”
- Applications will be considered by the Grantown Initiative Directors.
- The Directors will assess applications against the Fund criteria and make and record their recommendations to grant or refuse project applications.
- The acceptance or rejection of the Board decisions will be recorded in the minutes.
- If necessary and agreed by the Grantown Initiative, conditions of funding may be put in place. These must be agreed and signed by the applicant. This will be recorded in the minutes of the Grantown Initiative Board Meeting.

7. What happens once a decision has been made?

You will be notified on the decision of your application by email which will be sent from community@grantowninitiative.org.uk. If successful, the offer letter will include any conditions imposed by the Grantown Initiative. A copy of the letter must be signed and returned before payment can be made. You should not commit any money before you have received your offer letter and conditions. You should not use an award for any other purpose than that applied for. Should you need to request a change of use for any award made, you must submit your request in writing before committing or redirecting any funds. Decisions made by the Grantown Initiative will be final and no negotiations or appeals will be entered into with the applicant.

8. What are my responsibilities?

- Successful applicants must provide a written report including copy invoices to the Grantown Initiative upon completion of the project or within twelve months, whichever is sooner.
- Photographs of your project should be provided. The Grantown Initiative and The Cairn will be permitted to use such photographs to demonstrate projects assisted by the funds.
- It is important that projects are completed within the required timescale and that this is demonstrated using the criteria presented in your application. If this is not done, it may jeopardise future funding availability for your own and other organisations.
- Any press references with regards to the project should refer to the funding source by stating either 'made possible by the Grantown Initiative & The Cairn Community Fund' or 'part funded by the Grantown Initiative & The Cairn Community Fund'.

9. Payments

Funds will be released by the Grantown Initiative and issued to the awarded party at the project start. If funding is in excess of £500 two payment will be made at project start and end.