

ARRAN COMMUNITY LAND INITIATIVE

Animateur support (February 2014)



WHAT

Development of amenity, training and visitor facilities in Whiting Bay.

HOW HIE HELPED

Animateur support: £4000

- To engage a support worker to carry out community consultation and engagement work.

Officer support:

- To help the group with the process of recruiting an animateur and guide towards making a strong application to the Scottish Land Fund.

OUTCOME

- Enhanced confidence and effectiveness of the group in engaging with their community.
- A successful Scottish Land Fund Application.



BACKGROUND

Arran Community Land Initiative (ACLI) formed in 2013 with the aim of bringing nearly 33ha of disused farmland into community ownership for the benefit of the community, providing training, visitor and amenity facilities. They were awarded Lottery funding to carry out feasibility work and other technical tasks such as a traffic impact assessment.

In addition, they were keen to carry out a wide community consultation exercise to ensure that the whole community were involved and had an opportunity to express views on the proposed acquisition and contribute to the plans for the land. A HIE grant supported the costs of the animateur position which enabled ACLI to contract a part-time, self-employed community worker.

PROJECT DETAILS

The role of the animateur was to enhance communication between the group and the local community through organising open meetings, issuing a questionnaire and holding meetings with specific interest groups. These activities helped to raise awareness of the opportunity to purchase the land, gauge the level of support and gather further ideas on use of the land.

It was important that this work tied in with the feasibility and technical work being carried out by other consultants, to ensure that the community's views fed into the process and that they were kept up to date with progress on the project's development.

The animateur also had a role therefore in maintaining regular contact with the team of consultants.

HIE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROJECT

We worked with the group to develop the animateur's role; helped in ensuring it was properly advertised and correct processes were followed for recruitment and appointment. HIE funded the costs of the animateur and continued to support the group throughout the development of the project and towards their Scottish Land Fund application. We are continuing to provide support post acquisition to ensure the outcomes of their SLF application are achieved.

OUTCOMES

HIE support helped to:

- Ensure that ACLI were able to consult widely and generate strong support for their plans, in a joint process with the feasibility work.
- Develop their own capacity and confidence in community engagement by working alongside and managing a skilled worker.
- Generate additional ideas for the land from community suggestions.
- Help demonstrate community engagement and support in their funding applications.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact

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Contact

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