Welcome to the second newsletter from North Carrick Community Benefit Company. There was a very positive response to the first issue and the company is committed to being as transparent as possible so that everyone has the opportunity to see what is happening with its funds. In addition, it is keen to continue working with other funders to maximise income for local projects. In the 12 months from the end of March, 2017 to the beginning of March, 2018 more than £200,000 was distributed at events where those attending decided which projects would be successful.

Over £200,000 awarded by public vote to local groups in a year
During the Christmas and New Year period, North Carrick Community Benefit Company handed out more funds to local groups.

Minishant WI was awarded £800 to assist with the cost of fees for speakers and demonstrators. Funding would also help towards the cost of lets, an outing to New Lanark and transport. Carrick Academy received £2,993.48 to buy sports equipment.

Mark Fletcher said at the presentation, “NCCBC was pleased to support this long-established institution in Minishant. The WI has engaged with ladies of all ages for many decades and this funding will help them to carry out some new and varied ideas and activities that will attract new members to make the long-term sustainability of this great institution a reality.

“Carrick Academy has been promoting after-school sports activity which has long-lasting benefit both physically and mentally. Unfortunately, the equipment available was found wanting and this grant will enable the school to offer more modern and varied equipment to enhance the opportunities for all the youth of the academy for the extra-curricular events.”

Carrick Academy and Minishant WI were given a nice Christmas present – it was just what they had wanted!

Mark Fletcher with members of the WI
A number of primary schools in North Carrick got together to access funding of over £20,000 from North Carrick Community Benefit Company.

They combined to put forward a project which will promote physical activity, outdoor learning and collaborative working in the Carrick Cluster.

A spokesperson for the group said, “As a cluster we intend to work together to promote children's attendance and achievement at Active School events and competitions and cluster sporting events and after-school opportunities. We intend to send children living in our most deprived areas on an outdoor learning programme in order to develop resilience, self-esteem and self-confidence.

“This programme will be developed in conjunction with the outdoor learning instructors at Dolphin House and will take place in Dolphin House and at Culzean. A third strand to our project is to promote outdoor learning, environmental awareness and sustainability by providing opportunities for every child from nursery to Primary 7 to develop skills in the outdoors.

“The programme will be developed by ACE in consultation with class teachers. The groups will be formed by children from all the schools involved thereby promoting transition activities by developing relationships with pupils from different cluster schools. It is to be hoped that further educational projects will be developed once relationships have been built.

“Following feedback from our Active School Co-ordinator on poor attendance from Carrick cluster schools at organised sporting events and competitions, there was a consultation at the cluster Head Teachers’ meeting in June on how to tackle the barriers that children in our cluster schools face.

“Rural deprivation can prevent our children travelling to events outwith their village or town, travel costs are an issue. The location of our schools can pose challenges in accessing events in North Ayr and beyond.

“The lack of sporting and leisure facilities in our villages and towns can mean deprivation of opportunity for our children. Their experiences can be limited and many must rely on parents and friends having transport and finance available to access different sporting opportunities.

“By working as a cluster we will address the barrier faced by many small schools of lack of capacity. Often staff are not available to accompany children to sporting events and there are too few children in smaller schools to make up a team for certain events. We will send cluster teams to these sporting events.

“By working more closely as a cluster, it will enhance transition to Carrick by providing earlier opportunities for pupils to work with their peers in other schools.

“Our project is designed to enhance cluster working and transition, providing different outdoor learning opportunities for our children to work together to develop a greater awareness of environmental issues and sustainability so that they can bring this knowledge back to their own community and work together to value, care for and improve their own local environment.

“In addition to the proposed work carried out by ACE, we hope to transport children to the different communities within their cluster to broaden their awareness of different local environments. Many of our children have limited experience of different environments due to poverty, lack of public transport and deprivation of opportunity.”

Mark Fletcher, chair of NCCBC, said, “The NCCBC had offered the schools an opportunity to apply for funding for a joint cluster project and the cluster were happy to respond.

“The schools that got involved from across North Carrick jointly applied to run a series of outdoor activities to promote health, adventure and inclusion by having the schools come together at different activities. We were happy to support this project, particularly as it gives every child in the primary cluster the same opportunities.”
Santa now has a new sleigh which should last over 10 years and generate over £50,000 for the local community

Thanks to funding from North Carrick Community Benefit Company, South Ayrshire’s Health and Social Care Partnership, the Scottish Government and Big Lottery Fund – Scotland, Carrick Round Table has a new sleigh. It was unveiled on December 1, 2017 by Alex Kelly and joined the parade from Carrick Academy to the Town Hall for Maybole’s Christmas Lights switch on where the Tablers were thanked for building their magnificent sleigh.

The event, which took place at The Carrick Centre on January 27, 2018, was a great success with over 120 votes in two hours - and some very happy young people walked away with their projects fully or part-funded with the £6,000 that the Youth Forum distributed on the day! They are looking forward to seeing how the projects progress in the coming months!

Award winners were:

1st Crosshill Guides and Senior Section - £1,000 so that the Guides can go on two sessions of adventurous activities such as water sports or bush craft. The grant will pay for the activities and Community Transport to and from them. The senior girls will help with organising a camp for the company and the girls have identified they would benefit from a field shelter to provide cover for activities which the grant would pay for.

North Carrick Community Sports Hub - £1,000 to create two new sports clubs in the area; a volleyball and football club. The grant will be used to purchase equipment for the clubs, hall rental for the first 8 weeks and flyers to promote the new activities. It is hoped that local volunteers can be identified to assist at the clubs and they would be assisted to access the relevant coaching qualifications.

Dunure Youth Club - £1,000 to run a trip for the young people to go to the activity centre at Loch Ken where they have a chance to experience new activities on both land and in the water. The funding will go towards the cost of the activities and transport.

Maybole Memorial Park Bowling Club - £870 to encourage young people to play lawn bowls. The club has generated interest in bowling from an active schools programme and would now like to provide coaching and support for younger members. To do this the group require to purchase appropriate equipment such as junior bowls and target mats that their young people can use.

Carrick Children’s Theatre and Voices (CCTV) - £1,000 to put on a summer production to showcase their abilities and to put on a number of productions in local care home and sheltered housing units. To do this affectively, the group would like to purchase sound equipment such as lapel mics that would allow the audience to hear the children’s performances.

The Carrick Centre training kitchen - £940 to assist young people with additional support needs to learn to cook, shop and store food. The grant will support the project allowing them to purchase both fresh and dry food stuffs for the attendees. This will allow the training kitchen to run for the next year and allow attendees to develop crucial life skills.

Gardenrose Gets Active received part-funding to offer the children who attend the school opportunities to experience different types of sporting opportunities such as tennis, basketball and taekwondo. The grant would pay for sports coaches to deliver 30 hours sports coaching in each type of the six sports the children identify and transport to competitions the children take part in.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about the MANC Youth Forum, they can be contacted on manc.youthforum@gmail.com

Maybole and North Carrick’s new Youth Forum hosted the first local Participatory Budgeting Event exclusively for Youth-oriented Projects
The oldest known version of the classic Cinderella story dates back to around 7 BC.

It was given a more modern touch by young people from North Carrick in The Carrick Centre’s recent ‘Panto Project’

This was an eight-week initiative that was initially conceived by a local young person. Staff from the Centre worked with young people to put together a funding application that would cover the costs of a drama worker, stage set, costumes and the hire of stage lighting.

After successfully securing funding at a participatory budgeting event organised by Maybole and North Carrick Locality Planning Group, the project started last October.

Thirty-three pupils from Gardenrose, Cairn and St Cuthbert’s Primary Schools worked with Centre staff to create a truly magical pantomime performance. The weekly workshops allowed pupils to develop their confidence and offered a channel for creative expression within a local centre connected directly to their community.

The project also adhered to the Curriculum for Excellence framework whilst offering a participative and engaging approach to learning. Through the local Community Learning and Development team, all the young people who took part continue to work towards achieving their 2 star Dynamic Youth Award and four pupils from Carrick Academy, who helped support the weekly workshops, will receive a Saltire Award.

The young people involved put on three fantastic shows in one day just before Christmas and 600 people of all ages were able to see the shows, with each being a total sell out!

Two free tickets were given to each participating young person and a free ticket to every primary school pupil in Maybole. Free tickets were also given to the local Foodbank and nursing home and the Centre’s Carrick CAN group assisted with the transportation of all 30 nursing home residents. The other tickets were sold for only £1 making it a truly accessible and inclusive community event that showcased local talent.
Participatory Budgeting (PB) gives local people the chance to decide about issues that matter to them and their community and 20 groups in North Carrick left the event celebrating after landing fresh funding to help support their work. More than 240 people turned out to vote for who should get funding.

Mark Fletcher commented, “As chair of the steering group, it was great to see so many people coming out to vote and share in the participatory experience.

“For us a market stall event was a different approach to the previous events we have held and the success for us, apart from groups receiving their funding, was the networking opportunities that groups and voters had.

“The opportunity to talk to each other about things going on in the area and make new contacts was immeasurable. Feedback has been good and I would just like to say a huge thank you to the volunteers that make these things possible and a huge thanks to South Ayrshire Council for all their help before and during the event, great team work.”

Councillor Douglas Campbell, Leader of South Ayrshire Council, commented, “With clear backing from the public, the successful grants will help to deliver local projects across North Carrick by groups that know their community well.

“This latest Decision Day is a great example of organisations coming together, discussing their needs and working as partners to try and secure the best possible results through local decision making.

“I’d like to thank everyone involved, both behind the scenes and those who voted on the day, for helping to make the event such a resounding success.”

Unsuccessful applicants who did not receive any funding have been offered support and advice from South Ayrshire Council’s external Funding Officer, Andy Lee - Andy.Lee@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

The Locality Planning Group has identified several key priorities, which include addressing social isolation; communication; transport and access to facilities, activities and services; making a dementia friendly society, and opportunities for youth.

Crosshill Village Club, to help subsidise outings, theatre trips, guest speakers and running expenses.
The Carrick Centre, to encourage the education of drama to 30 P7 school pupils from Maybole. Working alongside professional actors and the centre’s youth work team, young people will take part in a 10-week programme to develop a free Christmas pantomime that they will perform to their peers, parents and the local community in December.

Maybole Memorial Park Bowling Club, to purchase an indoor bowling carpet and accessories so that club members and families can come together during the winter months to play bowls and maintain contact.

Maybole Youth Club, to host a celebration event that will include celebrating the achievements of young people from North Carrick (Dunure Youth Club, Kirkmichael Youth Club, Maybole Youth Club and Carrick Centre Youth Club). To run workshops and present certificates to young people who have gained an award over the past year.

Martins Fields, to establish an allotment where children and young people can grow a range of plants, for their own use and for sale, during the school week as part of their education. They will also be able to develop their skills in fencing, animal care, the environment and cooking.

Carrick Senior Citizens Lunch Club, to bring together a group of interested local people to look at providing information on the type of support required to help the growing number of people who have dementia-related illnesses or other difficult life-changing domestic issues which cause hardship and isolation through being housebound or having reduced mobility.

1st Crosshill Guides and Senior Section, to run a series of outdoor activities over the course of a year which will give the girls a chance to try things they wouldn’t otherwise have the chance to do.

Minishant Youth Club, to fund the start-up costs of providing a youth club. A grant award would fund the first year hall hire, games and crafts, tuck shop, insurances and PVG disclosure for volunteers.

The Maybole and North Carrick Children’s Gift Aid, to raise funds from the community to ensure that the children of North Carrick are not left without the things that most people take for granted.

Carrick Canoe Club, to help fund two junior kayaks and two intermediate kayaks, with associated equipment - paddles, buoyancy aids, helmets, spraydecks, cagoules and wetsuits.

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Maybole and North Carrick Villages Access/Communication Group, to provide free basic dementia awareness training to local businesses, schools and groups in North Carrick who wish to participate.

Maybole OAP’s Association, to part fund social outings for members to various events. These events give the members something to look forward to and help ease the loneliness and isolation felt by many who are not as mobile and don’t get out much.

Fisherton Church, to build a peace garden and a sensory garden in the grounds of Fisherton Church which everyone in the community will have access to.

Carrick Coastal Rowing Club, to build a ‘wet room’ as part of the group’s health & safety audit. This will provide cover and a warm shower within the boat house for possible hypothermia victims.

Carrick and Maybole Walking Football Group, to help reduce the cost of the weekly walking football sessions, including transport costs to competitions, and to purchase equipment to enhance the quality of experience.

Straiton Bowling Club, to replace the mats as they are over 50 years old. The club is in danger of closing if the mats are not replaced.

South Ayrshire Escape from Homelessness (SeAscape), to source white goods in good condition and transport to clients, many of whom are socially isolated and have no family or friends, who have secured a tenancy but have no funds or furniture to make a fit for purpose home.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran Cognitive Stimulation Therapy Group, to start a group in Maybole to allow individuals with dementia to access beneficial and valuable therapy.

Maybole Recovery Group, this funding would help to keep the doors open in Maybole for people who are seeking recovery from addiction. Funding would cover the general running costs, team building sessions, and allow the group to purchase a calor gas heater for the winter months.

Gardenrose Early Years Centre at the Carrick Centre, to create an area within the playroom which is dedicated to sensory play. This would positively contribute to the experiences for children who attend the centre and will enhance their development.
At the beginning of February, pupils, staff, parents and members of the local community came together to celebrate the official opening of the new ‘Community Kitchen’ in Minishant Primary School.

The evening was a celebration of a project that started a year ago and was the first opportunity for the community to see inside the new facility, housed in the heart of the village.

The motivation for the project came from the pupils themselves, as there was a large space in the school which had formerly been used as the school kitchen.

This space had become known to pupils and staff as “The Dumping Ground”. The space wasn’t safe for pupils to use and they didn’t want a dumping ground in their school, so they took advantage of the opportunity to apply for the PAR North Carrick Decision Day in March 2017 to win a share of £80,000 to develop a community kitchen.

Pupils and staff thought a community kitchen would offer a shared space that everyone could access. They knew this space could become something special and just needed some help to get their plans underway!

On the day, five pupils had to present the idea to 145 people! There were 10 groups who were all looking for some of the £80,000 that was available. The pupils gave an outstanding presentation which won them enough votes to secure funding for £20,000 to get started on their project.

Pupils make regular use of the new kitchen during their food technology lessons and parents even had a go during ‘Back to School Week’ in November, 2017. The school has been well supported by Lyndsay Guidi from ‘Home Cook School’ in Maybole, who taught all pupils and staff how to make the delicious haggis towers that were enjoyed by all at the opening.

The evening itself was a roaring success; full of poems, songs and dances. A real Scottish celebration! The audience were given an extra treat from Maybole Pipe Band who were also successful in securing funding at the Decision Day.

Following their outstanding performance, pupils served up the haggis supper that they had helped to prepare. This was a true representation of community spirit and in the words of Mrs McKellar, Head Teacher, the pupils of Minishant Primary School are “small but mighty!”
THUMBS UP FOR NORTH CARRICK FUNDING

The North Carrick Participate, Activate, Regenerate (PAR2) scheme allocated £100,000 shared between 18 projects during a public voting event in Maybole on March 3, 2018.

Sixteen of the successful projects received the full amount that they had applied for and two were given reduced funding taking account of the limited amount of money available. The limits on the funding also meant that four projects which received the lowest number of votes could not be funded.

Sports projects were well represented with repairs to the roof at Ladywell Stadium in Maybole, a North Carrick Football Development programme, Bowling for youngsters, and a project to build and operate a coastal rowing skiff receiving a total of almost £22,000. A total of £52,400 was allocated to Health and Wellbeing projects including a sensory garden, outdoor classroom and healthy eating initiatives in primary schools across North Carrick, first aid training for community activists, a drop in service for people recovering from drug and alcohol misuse, a project to help cancer sufferers get to their appointments and access other services, and a project to provide yoga and mindfulness training. Two youth projects shared around £12,400, two projects to improve community halls received a total £7,200 and the remaining £6,000 went to a project offering free community transport.

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Straiton Primary School - CARING FOR OURSELVES AND OUR COMMUNITY – To buy cookery and catering equipment and training to enhance pupils’ cooking skills alongside parents, providing opportunities for the local community to become involved including a “launch lunch” for vulnerable and socially isolated members of the local community. This will promote the continuation of healthy lifestyle education for all, including mental and social wellbeing. (£2,941)

KVR Kirkmichael Village Renaissance - McCOSH HALL BLACKOUT & AUDIO-VISUAL PROJECT – To create blackout panels for the windows in the McCosh Hall and buy audio-visual equipment to increase the range of activities in the Hall, including Ayr Gaiety outreach and also film nights for the elderly and young people. (£2,491)

Maybole Juniors Football Club - REGENERATION OF LADYWELL STADIUM – To install a new roof for the covered area that currently has a large hole in it. This is not fit for purpose for local fans and is an embarrassment when other clubs visit. (£2,539)
Maybole and North Carrick Youth Forum - CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE and RECRUITING YOUNG PEOPLE TO FORUM –
This is a new group starting up to allow young people to have a voice and to take an active role in influencing decisions on issues important to them in their community. The Youth Forum, working with North Carrick Youth clubs, wants to promote this group and encourage other young people to join. (£2,398)

St Cuthbert’s Primary School - HEALTH AND WELLBEING –
The school has identified this as an area for improvement following its successful Education Scotland report. They will use the money to cover costs of swimming and tennis lessons and for Online Safety and Rights Respecting Schools Workshops and a selection of games for children to interact with seniors. (£4,999)

McCandlish Hall Straiton Club - REFURBISHMENT OF LADIES TOILET – To refurbish and update the run down ladies toilets that were installed some 35 years ago. The money will pay for new toilets and sinks, new cubicles, plastering and painting, and improved lighting and flooring. (£4,800)

South Ayrshire Council – Community Learning & Development - FIRST AID TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS –
To provide 30 community activists in Maybole and North Carrick with the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised Emergency First Aid at Work qualification. It will build the capacity of community groups to provide safe activities and a safe environment for their members. (£2,196)

Kirkmichael Primary School - CARING FOR OURSELVES AND OUR COMMUNITY – To buy cookery and catering equipment and training to enhance the cooking skills of pupils alongside parents, providing opportunities for the local community to become involved including a “launch lunch” for vulnerable and socially isolated members of the local community. This will promote the continuation of healthy lifestyle education for all, including mental and social wellbeing. (£2,944)

Maybole Memorial Park Bowling Club - BOWLING EQUIPMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – The club has been successful in attracting increased membership across all ages. This project is to buy a storage unit and three sets of four of the smaller sized bowls that 8 to 12 year olds need to properly try out and play the sport. (£899)

North Ayrshire Council – Community Learning & Development - FIRST AID TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS –
To provide 30 community activists in Maybole and North Carrick with the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised Emergency First Aid at Work qualification. It will build the capacity of community groups to provide safe activities and a safe environment for their members. (£2,196)

UNSUCCESSFUL ...
Kirkmichael Garden Club and TKS Martial Arts and Fitness Charitable Trust

PART FUNDED...
Crosshill Primary School Parent Council - ‘FOOD FOR THOUGHT’ - PHASE 2 – To involve families and the ‘Over 60s’ group in cooking sessions, supported by Home Cook School, Maybole; purchase cookery and catering equipment and raised beds so as to grow and harvest their own fruit and vegetables to cook with. (£3,526) Awarded £791.93.
Afternoon Session projects £5,000 - £10,000

The successful projects are well spread across the area with four of the funded projects benefiting mainly Maybole residents, seven successful projects focussed on individual villages in North Carrick, and seven designed to benefit all of North Carrick.

Almost £49,000 of the available funding went to projects in the villages; just under £33,000 to projects covering North Carrick and the remaining £18,000 to projects targeted on Maybole.

Commenting on these figures, David Kiltie, Chair of the Maybole and North Carrick Locality Planning Group, said, “We’ve held this kind of participatory budgeting event several times now.

“Each time we hear criticisms that the voting will favour Maybole projects since Maybole has the largest population. The actual results of the voting consistently refute the criticism.

“Once again, the results in PAR2 have shown that the votes will always go to the best projects even when over half of the people present and voting may be from Maybole.”

*Ayshire Cancer Support - Improving the Cancer Journey* £10,000. Total project cost £20,978. This is a new project which looks to improve the cancer journey from diagnosis to recovery or death. It will be for North Carrick residents and support people diagnosed with cancer along with their families to ensure they receive access to patient transport for life-saving treatment and which addresses poor transportation links and low incomes of North Carrick residents. This includes transport, counselling, complimentary therapy services to relieve the symptoms of cancer such as anxiety, neuropathy symptoms, and depression, and to support good mental health and reduce isolation.

*Carrick Centre - Health & Well Being Across the Ages* £8,962.67. To reach across the ages providing a service to three or more groups currently operating within The Carrick Centre. They are Early Years, The Carrick Tots, Carrick Sensory, and Senior Citizens Lunch Club.
Ayr United Football Academy - North Carrick Football Development £9,359.18. To provide local children with access to free physical activity opportunities and create a sense of community in North Carrick. 6-week block of football coaching for all primary schools in Maybole & North Carrick; 1-week long football summer camp; Term-time after-school football centre at Carrick Academy.

Ayr Gaiety Partnership - ACTout! Maybole £9,964.
To increase confidence, wellbeing, resilience and social skills among young people in North Carrick by delivering fun, energetic, creative weekly youth theatre sessions led by a skilled drama worker. ACTout! Maybole will be a free to access group to ensure complete inclusivity and accessibility to all young people including those from income deprived families and communities.

Maidens PS Parent Council - Outdoor Learning and Classroom £9,642 as part of a total £12,792 project. This will provide an outdoor classroom and outdoor learning resources would provide a dynamic and exciting space for all the children to use for nature, craft, music, fitness as well as the more traditional lessons such as reading and numeracy.

Dunure Community Council - Kayaking and Coastal Rowing Initiative £9,082. Opportunities for Children and Young People, Health & Well-being, Training & Qualifications. The project will buy a kit and materials to build a skiff along with associated trailer, launch trolley, safety equipment and first aid training for at least two volunteers.

Recovery Ayr - Maybole Recovery Project £10,000.
To set up a new peer recovery project on a Saturday in Maybole. The group will offer peer support (promoting abstinence) and activities, alongside training and volunteering opportunities. While the project will be based in Maybole it will be open to anyone affected by alcohol or drug misuse living in North Carrick. The involvement of a paid peer-worker will provide additional capacity to outreach to the more rural areas in the North Carrick area. The project will expand on the current weekly service and support individuals affected by alcohol or drug misuse, their families and friends, and the wider community.

SACT - Connecting North Carrick/Making Memories £10,000. Awarded £6,070.
A shuttle bus service taking elderly and/or disabled residents from the North Carrick Villages to Maybole to weekly Lunch Clubs at the Speakers and the monthly Lunch Club in the Carrick Centre and for passengers to also access other services and facilities in the town e.g. doctor, dentist, shopping etc. Project would also work with local Community Councils to identify families with disabled/terminally ill members to enable these families to go on special trips free of charge. The majority of the beneficiaries will be elderly and/or disabled people from all over North Carrick. ‘Making Memories’ beneficiaries may be of any age suffering from a terminal condition

PART FUNDED ...

UNSUCCESSFUL ...
Lodge St John Maybole No. 11 and Cairn PS
Funding for PAR2 came from South Ayrshire Council through Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Group and the Scottish Government’s Community Choices fund. The scheme was implemented by North Carrick Community Benefit Company working with the Maybole and North Carrick Locality Planning Group.

In addition to providing funding, PAR2 was intended to help to build up residents’ awareness of local issues and encourage people to get involved in improving things. Sessions to raise awareness and provide advice to potential applicants were held in North Carrick villages during November, 2017. A PAR2 co-ordinator was available throughout the process to help applicants meet the fund’s criteria.

PAR2 also provided training in presentation skills and Mark Fetcher, Chair of North Carrick Community Benefit Company, explained, “The public votes for all of the projects that were looking for more than £5,000 from the fund were cast after the audience heard 5-minute presentations from each applicant.

“We knew from previous funding schemes that lots of people find giving this kind of presentation daunting. So we hired an expert to give some insights to planning and delivering good presentations.

“We offered two sessions, one in the evening and the other in the morning. Unfortunately, only two people were interested in attending the evening session and that had to be cancelled. But everyone who attended the morning session really enjoyed it and found it useful. We might run more sessions like this in future.”

The successful PAR2 projects will be implemented over the coming months and the organisers and funders will evaluate the process and the impact of the projects so as to guide decisions on future funding schemes.
There was entertainment during the morning session to keep younger members of the audience busy while their parents visited the stalls and cast their votes.

Marvellous Mascots Skye and Marshall from Paw Patrol had great fun meeting everyone and it wasn’t just the young ones who were desperate to be photographed with them!

Uncle Billy was popular as well with his Balloon Modelling, Plate Spinning, Juggling and more.

Raffle winners won a meal for four and a family ticket for the cinema.
Maybole 500 - using heritage to relaunch the ANCIENT CAPITAL OF CARRICK
North Carrick
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Maybole 500 was a series of events that celebrated Maybole, the ancient capital of Carrick, becoming a Burgh of Barony in 1516. Maybole Community Council, the lead body, is grateful for financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Ayrshire LEADER, North Carrick Community Benefit Company, Ayrshire Youth Arts Network and South Ayrshire Council.

Local organisations involved in this project included all four local schools, Maybole Historical Society, Maybole Community Association, Maybole Town Twinning Association, Royal British Legion Scotland (Maybole Branch), The Carrick Centre, Local Freemason Lodges etc.

Events included a "mixed" Burns Supper, a torchlight parade and fireworks display, medieval jousting, weaving, a pageant, concerts, exhibitions, a mapping exercise of the town’s history, burial of a time capsule and events organised by young people.

With an award of £5,000 from NCCBC, the community council was able to attract over £100,000 from the other funders as well as "in kind" help.

As part of Maybole 500 celebrations, Gardenrose Primary and Early Years Centre hosted a Street Party lunch

Teachers from a bygone era contrast with more modern teachers!

As well as the old-fashioned street party they arranged for some local people, who are very knowledgeable about Maybole, to go in and run workshops. These included the History of Maybole, Beekeeping, a Spinning demonstration, a Milking demonstration with Bella the cow, Experiences of an Evacuee and a Tasting session which included traditional foods and herbs.

Many of the pupils and members of staff were dressed up in clothes from by-gone days which really added that extra special touch to the event and a few parents joined them as well.

Louse Morrison, Acting head teacher, said, “It was a fantastic event which showed fantastic community spirit.”
Chic Martindale, recently appointed Community Engagement Officer for North and South Carrick, writes a piece about his job.

LESS CONTROL ... MORE INFLUENCE

This powerful phrase was first shared with me during a period of academic study in the early 2000s. I believe that these words are more relevant today than ever before and they capture the philosophy which underpins all I do in my working life. Since joining the Community Engagement Team with the Health and Social Care Partnership in January, 2018, I have been involved in a number of meetings, events, discussions and initiatives in and around North Carrick.

In previous working roles, I often heard the words from individuals saying ‘there is nothing happening in my area’ but this could not be said about North Carrick. Across all communities in the locale, there are many groups, agencies and organisations that provide services and opportunity for people of all ages and abilities.

My role is primarily to work with the Locality Planning Group to help and support the delivery of key priorities for North Carrick in terms of Health and Social Care provision.

In essence, the drive within Health and Social Care is to shape and deliver ‘local services for local people’ and the Locality Planning Group is pivotal for making things happen. I work closely with the group and the wider community to look for ways in which we can continue to grow and develop our work across North Carrick. In the coming months, I look forward to serving in the community and will work as hard as I can to influence and effect positive change for all.

You can contact Chic by email: Chic.Martindale@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or 01292 559447.
Gardenrose Primary School has launched its Breakfast Club

Children who are entitled to a free school meal are able to attend the Breakfast Club free of charge and all other children pay £1 a day.

Louise Morrison, Acting Head Teacher, said, “It has been extremely successful so far with a regular group of children attending daily.

“Parents/Carers who are leaving early for work have been sending their children to have their breakfast at school.

“The children enjoy a healthy breakfast with choices including toast, cereal, fruit, yoghurt as well as fruit juice and milk.

“The Breakfast Club is run by our School Assistants, Margaret Green and Julie Hastings who provide a friendly, welcoming breakfast and some activities to do once they are finished between 8am and 9am.”

She added, “We were delighted to be awarded a grant of £3,000 from North Carrick Community Benefit Company which has supported the cost of getting set-up, including equipment costs and helping to subsidise the cost of the food.

“Breakfast clubs are generally considered to enhance both academic performance and behaviour, as well as providing a healthy start to the day.

“The Breakfast Club at Gardenrose is a great success and we hope that it will be sustainable as it is currently benefitting around 13 children each day, many of whom access this service free of charge.”
If you want to make use of the service, get in touch with us directly on 01292 270864 or info@sacommunitytransport.org or you can get in touch with Tracey Middleton, the Community Link Practitioner at the Health Centre on 07967 584415.

SACT would like to acknowledge the support of the North Carrick Community Benefit Company, Scottish Government Community Choices fund and South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership for the opportunity to be able to start this exciting new service.

Do you find it impossible because you can’t access public transport?

SACT’s (SOUTH AYRSHEIRE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT’s) mission is to combat social isolation by connecting people with the places and facilities they need.

Would you like to attend the NEW TUESDAY LUNCH CLUBS which are going to be held from May 1st in the Speakers Club in Maybole or the Lunch Club in the Carrick Centre on the last Friday of the month?

Thanks to a generous award from the PAR 2 Project, SACT is delighted to be able to offer free, wheelchair accessible transport for the residents of the North Carrick villages to both these events. The free transport will last for around six months. After that, we may have to charge a small fare to ensure the service can continue.

If you want to make use of the service, get in touch with us directly on 01292 270864 or info@sacommunitytransport.org or you can get in touch with Tracey Middleton, the Community Link Practitioner at the Health Centre on 07967 584415.

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**WHAT’S ON IN NORTH CARRICK…**

**Crosshill…**
Saturday, June 2: Crosshill gala day. The parade leaves the community centre at 12.45 and the gala opens in the primary school at 1pm.

Friday, April 27 at 7.30pm: Concert in Crosshill Community Centre. Entertainment will be provided by Maybole Concert Party with a tea being served afterwards.

**Maybole…**
Tuesdays starting in May: Lunch club at the Speakers for seniors every Tuesday combined with transport from the outlying villages.

Friday, April 6: The Maybole Senior Citizens Lunch Club takes place at 12 noon in the Carrick Centre. Lunch is soup, sandwiches and cake, plus chance to natter with other attendees. Cost £3.

Saturday, June 9: Maybole Gala. The parade leaves Carrick Academy at 1pm. As always there will be stalls, funfair, archery, pony rides, birds of prey and a petting station (rabbits and guinea pigs etc).

**Minishant…**
Saturday, April 21: Psychic night at Minishant Primary School with Sally Buxton and friends. Bring your own bottle (alcohol/soft drinks), snack supplied. Raffle on the night. Tickets, sold on a first come first served basis, are £8 and available from the school office.

**MOF’s…**
Thursday, April 26: Annual General Meeting in The Speakers, Maybole. At 11am there will be a display/exhibition of a selection of the groups work throughout the past session till 12 noon approx. This will be followed by a light finger buffet. The AGM will start at 12.45pm prompt. Please let them know if you will be able to go along anytime by emailing: a.walker796@yahoo.co.uk

Monday, April 30: Benidorm trip starts.

Thursday, May 24: Bus trip to Stirling.

Thursday, June 7: ‘A Different Sort of Journey’. As a young girl Jess Smith lived with her family in a Bedford bus. A promise she made her father to write about Scottish travellers resulted in six books and travelling the world sharing her story. This talk will start at 1.30pm.

Monday, September 3: Karaoke at 1.30pm hosted by Mark Fletcher. Fancy your chances to top the charts?

Thursday, September 13: Bus trip to Gretna.

Monday, September 17: ‘Flip and Stitch quilting’ and ‘Fabric Marbling’. Demo starts at 11.00am.

Thursday, December 13: Panto ‘Beauty and the Beast’ in Kings Theatre, Glasgow at 1pm.

Monday, December 17: Christmas lunch at Wildings.

Further events may be added to this list at a later date. All events will be held at The Speakers unless stated otherwise. For more info please check the Events page on the MOF’s website www.mayboleover50s.org

20 … North Carrick Community News
Children’s Gift Aid

Following the successful funding bid in September, followed by an appeal to the wider public throughout November and December, Children’s Gift Aid are pleased to announce that they distributed Christmas gifts through Stepping Stones for Families, Children 1st and Children and Families. Just over 400 gifts were given out ranging from babies to teenagers.

A spokesperson said, “We also added some basic household essentials for the bathroom and a wee bit of pampering for the parents who get forgotten so easily. Yes, Christmas is about the children, but it’s also about the families as a whole. We have a great head start this year and will be purchasing gifts with the balance of the money when the sales are on so it stretches further.

“We can take donations at any time, so please keep us in mind when you’re shopping. Thanks to everyone that voted for us and to all the people that take the time to make the PB events happen. As well as receiving the money, the experience of the event and the networking potential is invaluable.”

Advertising Opportunities

This newsletter has been created for the local community and we want our readers to use this as a way of keeping up to date with what is going on in and around your area. Should you wish to advertise within the next edition please contact Shona McMahon at Evolution Designs Ltd: evolutiondesigns@sky.com or call 07753 111 038.

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We print 4,500 magazines and distribute these throughout North Carrick which means your advert will be seen by a vast audience.

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Building the future – Restoring the past

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North Carrick Community News... 21
North Carrick Community Action Plans

During February and March, 2018 the five Community Councils of North Carrick (Crosshill, Kirkmichael and Straiton; Dunure; Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry; Maybole; and Minishant), with the support of Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC), began their ambitious project to develop new Community Action Plans for North Carrick by inviting responses to a community survey.

The objective of the survey was to identify likes, dislikes and community priorities for all communities in North Carrick and 432 people who live and work in North Carrick completed the survey. Ultimately, each community council area will get a new action plan. In addition, there will be an action plan which encompasses the whole of North Carrick.

What next?
The survey was just the start of a wider process of community dialogue. The findings of the survey will form the basis of action planning events in each community. You can find out about these events, and how to take part throughout the towns and villages on local notice boards, libraries, local shops and also facebook (Maybole Community Council). We anticipate these events will happen during Spring and early Summer 2018. For more information please email Communityactionplans@gmail.com or speak to your local community councillor.

You can read a summary for each community here: http://www.scdc.org.uk/NorthCarrickSUMMARY/ and a full report here: http://www.scdc.org.uk/NorthCarrickFULLREPORT/

You told us the priorities you would like to see addressed and improved across North Carrick:

“Seriously, I know it’s South Ayrshire Council’s remit, but the pot holes in the roads are just ridiculous. Maybe we could put together a pressure group or something? I had a visitor from England at the weekend, who said he didn’t want to come back here again because of the terrible pot holes which had burst one of his tyres!”

“Speeding is a problem […] especially with the lorries at night and early evening”

“Make Maybole High Street safe for pedestrians. Perhaps create a pedestrian precinct where small businesses could thrive and a greater community spirit could be encouraged.”

“Communities to get together to plan an integrated public transport system.”

You told us what you disliked about your community:

“Traffic speed - no one seems to monitor speed cameras and the lorries do not slow down.”

“Potholes never properly fixed - a disgrace”

“Bus transport only every hour”

You told us what you really liked about your community:

“Everyone acknowledges each other in passing; Good community spirit and social attitude”

“Beauty of the area; Pleasant rural setting”

“Lots of groups and organisations to join”

North Carrick Priorities Top 10

North Carrick Dislikes Top 10

North Carrick Likes Top 10
First Aid Training for Community Groups

Following a successful bid at the recent PAR 2 event, the local Community Learning and Development Services have secured funding to offer free First Aid training to community groups in Maybole and the North Carrick villages.

There will be two opportunities to undertake the training which will run from 9.30am to 4.45pm on:
• Sunday, May 20, 2018
• Saturday, September 8, 2018

The full-day course will be delivered by St Andrews First Aid Training and will take place in the Carnegie building, 1 High Street, Maybole - above the library. There is a lift available for anyone who may have problems using the stairs.

To be eligible to attend the training, you must be a member of an active community group in Maybole or any of the North Carrick Villages. Successful participants will gain key skills which will equip them to confidently administer emergency first aid and they will be awarded the nationally recognised “Emergency First Aid at Work” certificate which is valid for three years.

There are 15 places available on each course and applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis – but in order for this training to have a greatest impact we will initially award up to two places per organisation and if there are places left following the closing date we can then allocate further places to groups if required.

If you would like to apply to attend this training and would like further information please contact: Alison Wales (Community Learning & Development Officer) at 01655 882105 or Alison.Wales@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

Maybole and North Carrick Youth Forum

Maybole and North Carrick Youth Forum is a newly formed group for young people over the whole of North Carrick aged 14-25 to come together and work on issues that are important to them, and to have a voice in the communities they are living in.

The Youth Forum has already hosted a participatory budgeting event that was very successful and saw six local groups receive funding for their projects. The Youth Forum then went on to bid for money at the recent Par2 event and was successful. The group is now starting to plan two exciting events this year to encourage new members to join, and celebrate young people’s achievements.

If you are interested in music, arts, events management, marketing or budgeting, the youth forum has volunteer on-the-job learning positions available. If you want to gain some experience in any of these fields and be part of something special, then get in touch with the forum by phone (01655 882105) or (manc.youthforum@gmail.com) or on facebook – Maybole and North Carrick Youth Forum. Join them to create events and make a difference for young people by young people.
Carrick Sensory, Ayrshire’s only community-based sensory resource, is celebrating nearly a year of delivering unique sensory play experiences to children with additional support needs.

Set up in May, 2017 with money from the PAR North Carrick Fund, from its base at the Carrick Centre in Maybole, Carrick Sensory’s staff of two plus a small band of dedicated volunteers has provided 27 Sensory Family Cafe sessions on a Monday evening and 30 Sensory Play sessions on Monday mornings to local schools and families.

Twenty-four children with additional support needs have attended and feedback has been glowing. “This is the best hour in his week,” commented one teacher. “There is lots of play that is at the level he enjoys with people who understand his needs. It’s nice to see him enjoying himself so much.” (Parent of 8 year old).

Every Monday morning through term time the project transforms the Carrick Centre’s Crossraguel room into a fantastic sensory space with sounds and projected images, bubble lamp, play equipment and a messy play area with sensory activities based on a different theme each week.

Andrea Hutchison, manager of The Carrick Centre, applied to the PAR funding initiative when she noticed that some children and their families found it hard to be in The Carrick Centre or take part in activities because of sensory issues they have or additional support needs. The Carrick Centre sponsored the project, offering both support from services such as the café, soft play area and a calm safe space as well as the staff and volunteers that have really taken this project to their hearts.

“Doors have been opened and obstacles removed, we take a pride in what we have achieved to date and are extremely grateful for the opportunity,” said Andrea. “The project has also allowed us to employ a Modern Apprentice, Ellie Bannister. On leaving Carrick Academy, she joined Carrick Sensory and has become an extremely valuable member of the team; nurturing and supporting the children, developing weekly themes and achieving her SVQ Playwork Level2.

“A springboard has been provided into other opportunities at the centre, some youngsters now attend the youth group, some of the parents have started to volunteer with the centre and other families now feel comfortable using the facilities of the centre.

“Our slogan is ‘Passionate about Inclusion’, “ says Carrie McKnight, project manager, “and we feel really passionate about what we do. Every Monday we see the difference this project makes to the children and families who come along. We are very grateful for all the support that our volunteers and community have shown to help make the project a success”.

Carrick Sensory runs on Monday mornings with two Sensory Play Sessions in the morning 9.45-10.45 and 11-12 (booking essential, parents/carers are responsible for their children during the sessions). The Family Sensory Café currently takes place monthly on a Sunday from 2.30-4pm to enable the whole family to come out and socialise together and with others with children with additional support needs.

For further details see their facebook page Carrick Sensory, website www.carrickcentre.co.uk/carrick-sensory.html email: carricksensory@carrickcentre.co.uk or phone on 01655 883222
Recently, Maybole and North Carrick Locality Planning Group (LPG) hosted an event in Kirkoswald Church Hall, aimed at raising awareness of the community-based services delivered across North Carrick.

In total, nine groups took part in the event including Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA), Community First Responders, Circles Network Advocacy Service, Social Work Team, Maybole Over Fifties (MOFs) Group, Champions for Change South Ayrshire, South Ayrshire Community Transport, Community Links Practitioners and North Carrick Community Benefit Company.

The evening started off with representatives from each group giving a short overview of the work that their particular organisation is involved in locally.

Members of the public were then encouraged to visit each stall to find out more information about the service that they provide in North Carrick.

The event gave people the opportunity to develop connections to support networks and to create space for powerful conversations about how they could work together to make North Carrick accessible for all.

Those in attendance spoke positively of the event and enjoyed sharing their stories with the public and networking with other groups/organisations.

The Maybole and North Carrick LPG is keen to continue to grow and develop its work locally and has committed to hosting another two North Carrick Cares event in the coming months. The next event will take place in Straiton in May.

For more information about the Maybole and North Carrick LPG, contact Chic Martindale (Community Engagement Officer for North and South Carrick) on Chic.Martindale@south-ayrshire.gov.uk or 01292 559447.
Youth work projects organised by South Ayrshire Council’s Community Learning and Development Service

Fourty young people from Maybole and the North Carrick villages got together to enjoy and celebrate their achievements through participating in a range of youth work projects organised by South Ayrshire Council’s Community Learning and Development Service.

The event was made possible through Maybole Youth Club being voted by the public to receive funding at the September, 2017 Participatory Funding event organised by the Maybole and North Carrick Villages Locality Planning Group.

The Celebration was held in the Carrick Centre, Maybole on Saturday, November 11 as part of the national “Youth Work Week” campaign and the young people participated in fun, educational workshops on Cooking Skills, Bush Craft, Screen Printing and Team Challenges.

After lunch South Ayrshire Councillor, William Grant, Portfolio Holder for Lifelong Learning, presented the young people with Dynamic Youth Awards and Saltire Awards for volunteering and for achievements at Dunure Youth Club, Kirkmichael Youth Club, Maybole Youth Club, the Youth Theatre project with the local Primary Schools and at Personal Development Groups at Carrick Academy.

All the youngsters said that they had great fun and really enjoyed the event. One participant in the Screen Printing workshop said, “It was different and something I’d never tried before”. Other comments included, “I like being free to create and be expressive” and “I learned how to make a camp fire – didn’t think it would work, but it did.”

Plans are now in place to make this an annual event.
One was to support St Cuthbert’s Primary for £3,000 towards their project costing £5,580 for a residential trip to Inverclyde as well as outdoor learning courses at the Adventure Centre for Education in Girvan.

St Cuthbert’s was the final school to apply for a share of £30,000 which the NCCBC had set aside for the schools in North Carrick for 2017/18.

Two cheques were also presented to Straiton Village Co-operative to allow the group to purchase not only the village store but also the house next door. The largest annual bill faced by the co-operative was the rent for the shop but they no longer have that burden as they can now take ownership of the shop.

The NCCBC board is delighted to be able to share in the success of Straiton Village Co-operative which received a generous grant from the Scottish Land Fund leaving a balance of £32,500 which the benefit Company was happy to award. The house will undergo a refurbishment with a further grant from the NCCBC for £20,000 and then be available for rent which will, after relevant rental expenses, help to support the shop.

Mark Fletcher, chair of NCCBC, said, “This combined is the largest grant that the NCCBC has given to an organisation at £52,500 but it actually equates to around 17% contribution to the whole project.

“The NCCBC always encourages match funding and at this level, the co-operative should be applauded. This project was of particular importance to the village of Straiton and the NCCBC were happy to be a co-funder in this strategic project and wish the co-operative every success in what is now a secured and sustainable future for the store.”
Rainbow Services (UK) Ltd. are seeking to Recruit Support Workers for South Ayrshire area – Alloway, Ayr, Prestwick, Maybole, Girvan, Mossblown and surrounding areas.

Job Purpose:
- To help plan service users care plans and implement the provision of good quality care.
- To assist staff members to support service users to live as independently as possible in their own home, regardless of age or disability and to achieve their optimum level of mental and physical function. The emphasis should be on what can be done rather than what cannot be done.
- To ensure service users retain as much of their dignity and individuality as possible as well as being involved in the general activities of the service.

Contact 01292 294180 for further details.