

CLYDEBANK HOUSING ASSOCIATION LIMITED

FROM: Centre81 Co-ordinator **DATE:** 22/04/2020
TO: Management Committee **REF:** \AM\C81
SUBJECT: CENTRE81 UPDATE – April 2020

This report is to provide the Management Committee with an update of Centre81, including events, funding, current and potential projects.

In line with current government lockdown guidance, Centre81 is currently closed to the public. At the moment, we have one caretaker on duty from 8am until 4pm each day.

The Trussell Trust, in collaboration with Cafe81 is using the centre as a base for their Foodbank. Each day a volunteer collects food parcels and delivers them to families across the Clydebank area including to our tenants.

1 Upcoming Events

All planned events postponed due to Covid-19.

2 Events held in March

ISARO Community Initiative (formerly ISARO Social Integration Network) held their annual International Women's Day Event on Saturday 7th March, 1-5pm. The event was a great success with over 140 people attending.

3 Projects

Appendix I provides a detailed breakdown of ongoing and proposed projects.

4 Community Pot

We currently have c. £4.7k in our Community Pot, which can be used to fund community activities throughout the year. Recently, we donated £250 to the Centre81 Steering group from the Pot to help with their current activities.

4 Centre81 Steering Group

The Centre81 Steering group has continued to engage with the local community as much as is safe and appropriate given the current situation. Being mindful of the success of the School holiday activities and more recently holiday hunger programmes, they felt that continuing some of these provisions would be important.

With the school closures providing similar challenges to local families, even more so with issues around reduced household income, increased energy costs, and restricted access to food, the Steering Group wanted to make an effort to support the local families they work with. The importance of activities and keeping busy for children's mental health, self-worth, and physical health being considered alongside existing 'holiday hunger' issues, they decided to redistribute their funding and activities to support local young people off site, rather than within Centre81 (currently not open to the public).

Before community hubs were set up by council last week, the Steering Group provided free lunches to be taken away in the week or so prior, with support from Cafe81 and safety guidance from CHA.

They made up over 100 activity packs to young people in the local area. These contained a range of arts and crafts materials, with activities and colouring sheets. They also delivered Easter eggs to all young people involved, and additionally another 250 to local organisations such as Golden Friendships.

During the school 'holidays' they provided lunches to the council community hubs. They are also looking into ways where they can provide remote activities - be that with materials and guidance, or running some sessions and activity plans by setting up a YouTube channel to engage with their users. They have been working with WDC and Cafe81 closely in this, and the partnership working has been something they will be very keen to build upon when lockdown measures are reduced.

The Centre81 Steering Group has also tried to support the Foodbank running from Centre81 during the COVID-19 crisis, and they would like to thank CHA for their £250 donation towards this. This has involved the Chairman volunteering with the foodbank and carrying out deliveries to vulnerable members of the community each day.

Given the specific funding they had successfully applied for, they will be looking for ways to plan for this to be able to continue services to support young people and the community around Centre81 in as positive and safe a manner as possible in the coming months.

6 New Contacts/business

N/A

Projects & Funding

Fund	Project	Update
Climate Challenge Fund (CCF3)	<p>Growing Skills, Growing Spaces</p> <p>The aim of this project is to develop a holistic approach to carbon management within Clydebank; ensuring residents are able to address carbon emissions across all aspects of their lives. This project will aim to increase the skills of local people across a range of different areas including bike maintenance, cooking, gardening and upcycling, awareness of carbon literacy, their carbon footprint and ways to minimise it.</p>	<p>Our final report was submitted to CCF on 14th April.</p> <p>Appendix II gives a brief summary of the outcomes achieved.</p>
Sustrans	<p>Access Ramp from Centre to Canal Path</p> <p>Update from SK</p>	<p>Unfortunately, due to Coronavirus, there is a lot of uncertainty surrounding this project, a summary of current position is detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preferred contractor has extended their tender expiration date to 31 May 2020. • We are currently awaiting information from match funders to ascertain whether funding promised for 2019/20 will be carried over to 2020/21. • Sustrans (our main funder for this project) has requested that an adjustment form be completed on the Sustrans Portal to ensure the continuation of our existing Sustrans projects into 2020/2021. <p>The back-stop date for completion of the lease with Scottish Waterways has been extended to 30 June 2020.</p>
Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund (ICF)	<p>Empowering Clydebank</p> <p>This project will aim to deliver the following: Digital awareness, College classes, CSCS courses, Language Café,</p>	<p>We submitted our monitoring report (October 2019 to March 2020) to the Scottish Government on 24th April.</p> <p>We have received 6 months advance funding (up to 30.09.20)</p>

	<p>Health and Safety/ Food Hygiene, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) courses, Family group parenting classes and early learning, Youth club, Older residents' lunch club, Keep Fit classes, Sport, recreation and arts activities for autistic young people, ISARO ethnic minority support and integration activities.</p>	<p>Course proposals have been sent to West College Scotland, in the hope that we can start our courses in August.</p> <p>The project is currently on hold, however we will endeavour to catch up with the project once things return to normal.</p>
<p>Climate Challenge Fund (CCF4)</p>	<p>Growing Change for Good This proposed project, Growing Change for Good, will focus on continuing with past CCF funded projects, such as the developing residents gardening and growing skills, encouraging/supporting home growers, delivering low carbon cooking sessions integrated with Carbon Literacy information and supporting and encouraging residents to use bikes rather than cars or public transport. The project also aims to support the set-up of a constituted Environmental Group to help with the long-term sustainability of the project.</p>	<p>As previously reported, we were successful in securing funding for our new project.</p> <p>We have received 25% of one year's funding.</p> <p>However, all classes and activities are on hold due to lockdown. The Project Officer is maintaining each of the growing spaces, the Community garden at Centre81, raised beds/allotment area and Radnor Park to ensure we have a harvest over the coming months.</p> <p>The Project Officer is also looking at ways to engage with people whilst still on lockdown, for instance providing a Growing Pack (compost, seeds etc.) so that people can grow their own produce in pots, windowsills or gardens. We are trying to source materials at the moment.</p>

Below is a summary of the outcomes and activities we have delivered with our **Growing Skills, Growing Spaces** project.

Outcome 1

Construction of 72m² of new community growing space. The raised beds were constructed using reused scaffolding boards, helping to contribute to overall waste reduction and we had a local organisation and volunteers to construct the raised beds.

Several certified college horticulture courses were delivered at Centre81, which three of our garden volunteers attended. Through offering these courses we also gained new volunteers and participants for the raised bed area and community garden space.

Weekly environmental workshops over two years. The workshops focused on three main areas: making low carbon food choices, growing fresh food and composting.

Engaged with two local primary schools and nurseries, providing four-week growing courses, in which we delivered basic gardening sessions focusing on growing fresh food, composting and encouraging the children to taste their own freshly grown fruit, veg and herbs.

Outcome 2

The project delivered four-week cookery blocks over two years, focusing on the use of seasonal local produce, food waste discussions and advice on freezing and managing portion size. We decided to introduce participants to the community garden to pick fresh fruit and vegetables (when possible)

We delivered 79 bike maintenance workshops and five swapshops at various events held in the Centre. Although there was a lot of interest in the cycling and the bike donation scheme, we found it more challenging to get people to engage with the bike maintenance workshops and want to learn how to fix a bike. We decided to change it and deliver a drop in style, where we focused on teaching people the basics, such as taking on and off a wheel, changing inner tubing, fixing a puncture and putting a replacement chain link on. Focusing on these skills made the most sense, as these are the most likely repairs that will occur whilst out on a cycle.

We also carried out these learning sessions as part of our cycle rides to ensure we were not only giving people confidence on their bikes, but also providing them with the skills in fixing minor issues with their bikes. All of this was done

with a focus on increasing carbon literacy, ensuring participants knew why this work was important and its benefits.

We continued to liaise with Tesco Fareshare, who mainly donate fruit, veg and bakery items. These items are made available for the local community to collect.

We also connected with Morrisons and Aldi to receive donations throughout the project. Working with all three companies resulted in the amount of food going to landfill being reduced by 1769.44kg, whilst helping to address food poverty within the local community.

Outcome 3

This outcome proved to be the most challenging and unfortunately the outcome did fall short of target and overall public engagement. We aimed to conduct 200 home visits but found that public engagement was lower than our expectations. We delivered energy saving advice workshops at events and ran a weekly drop-in clinic. We also worked in partnership with the Housing Management staff as a way of connecting with new tenants and tenants experiencing financial difficulties, to provide energy workshops and energy advice.

Outcome 4

This outcome developed further than expected and exceeded the carbon target. Delivering bike maintenance workshops/swapshops over the two years to increase availability of low carbon transport option in the community.

We provided residents with refurbished bikes and, over two years, donated over 116 bikes. We sought out the local council dumps to donate any old/unwanted bikes. We brought 2976kg of bikes back into circulation and helped to reduce carbon emissions. We gave out travel diaries for participants to record their day-to-day travel a week before they received a donated bike and then tracked another week after receiving the bike. This allowed us to track and see evidence of behaviour change in terms of participants using a carbon neutral travel method.

We ran cycle events every second Saturday and were attracting, on average, six people per cycle. The project officer saw an opportunity and decided to try a ladies only night once a week. Through this we engaged with people that had not been on a bike for upwards of 20 years. We helped encourage and increase confidence for the women and seen, on average, 10 women each week come along to our ladies only nights.

We were contacted by DACA (Dumbarton Area Council on Alcohol) to run a cycle programme with them as part of their health and wellbeing outcome. We

ran two cycle sessions a month with them engaging with their clients and building their confidence and skills on a bike.

Through the cycle groups and bike maintenance sessions we have reached over 200 people and each of these were made aware of the energy saving and health benefits of cycling and using cycling or walking as an alternative to driving or using buses.

Outcome 5

There was no carbon target for this outcome, however we reached our target of improving the overall health and wellbeing of residents by delivering:

- Community cycle events over two years
- Refurbished bikes for residents
- Cooking blocks focussing on making use of seasonal and local produce
- Four-week growing sessions at local schools
- Weekly environmental workshops focusing on growing fresh foods and composting
- Energy saving workshops to help reduce energy consumption

Outcome 6

Although there was no carbon target for this outcome, our goal was to develop knowledge and confidence of residents regarding climate literacy. We did this by delivering the following activities:

- Deliver bike maintenance workshops over two years
- Deliver energy saving workshops to help reduce energy consumption
- Deliver 16x 4-week cookery class blocks over two years; cookery classes will focus on making use of seasonal and local produce and provide advice on reducing food waste and purchasing (e.g. freezing and managing portion sizes)
- Deliver 90 'environmental workshops' over two years at Radnor Park/ Whitecrook. Workshops will focus on three main areas: making low carbon food choices, growing fresh food, and composting delivering information in a hands-on practical way
- Carry out 4-week growing sessions at local schools over two years

120 people had an increase of the fundamental understanding that where we buy from and how it is packaged has a direct impact on the climate and choosing to source local produce and trying to eat more 'in season' meals can help reduce their carbon output.