## The Community Events Fund (CEF) 2023/24 – Overview and Funding Recommendations

The Fund aims to provide support for grassroots and community events to take place, to support individual and community wellbeing. The maximum grant is £2000 and the minimum grant is £500.

**Overview and the Scoring Criteria**

55 applications have been made to the Fund, two of which were ineligible.

23 applications were made to the CEF from organisations that have not previously applied to this programme, the majority of these organisations have not sought events strategy funding before.

The recommendations, if agreed by the Events Partnership will benefit 19 communities across Dumfries and Galloway (Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Annan, Moffat, Stranraer, the Mull of Galloway and Newton Stewart all have more than one festival or event recommended for grant support).

All applications have been scored using the criteria for the Fund for 23/24. The highest score that can be secured is 12. The criteria is laid out below;

* How well the project fits with the aims and scope of the Fund (up to two marks)
* The financial viability of the project (up to 1 mark)
* The experience of festivals and events management of the applicant - or comparable / transferable skills if the organisation is planning an event for the first time (up to 2 marks)
* Evidence that the event is a Public Goods Event (up to 1 mark)
* Evidence of community support for the event (up to 2 marks)
* The contribution the project makes to promoting community wellbeing in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and during the midst of the cost of living crisis (up to 1 mark)
* Evidence of robust risk management (up to 1mark)
* Evidence of marketing planning (up to 1 mark)
* Evidence of value for money for public funding (up to 1 mark)

Due to the high number of applications, the conditions of the Fund will be strictly adhered to – this has affected the scoring for a number of the projects that have applied for funding. The Conditions of the Community Events Fund 2023/24 does include the following, which was fully communicated;

* Online events or events planned to have a significant online programme are ineligible to apply.
* Your application cannot include ‘in-kind’ contributions as part of the 60% or more contribution your organisation allocates from its own funds for the festival or event.
* The Fund will not support regular or recurring programming in year-round venues. This includes productions in theatres and arts centres; live music in venues, pubs and clubs, unless part of a wider festival; comedy gigs in venues, clubs and pubs, unless part of a wider festival; regularly scheduled markets and fairs.
* Events which have a principal focus as fundraising events are not eligible to apply.
* Events which are not open to all members of the community to attend are not eligible to apply.
* Funding requests to support regularly scheduled sporting fixtures are not eligible to apply.

The Table below sets out the scoring for each application, and the funding recommendation provided by the Dumfries & Galloway Events Partnership. The Table is set out with the recommendations for projects to receive the maximum grant outlined first, the projects are then arranged by descending score and their proposed respective grant recommendations. A thumbnail overview of each event is provided.

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| **CEF Reference** | **Applicant Organisation** | **Festival / Event** | **Date/s** | **Overview** | **Score** | **Grant**  **Recommendation** |
| **Full Award** | **Full Award** | **Full Award** | **Full Award** | **Full Award** | **Full Award** | **Full Award** |
| CEF002 | Annan ROM | Riding of Marches 2023 | 19 June to 1 July | Traditional Common Riding and community celebrations – a de facto Gala fortnight.  Excellent application, absolute demonstration of community support, a Public Goods Event and high value for money | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CE004 | Moffat Gala Committee | Moffat Gala Week | 8-16 July | A traditional gala week with many volunteers and a high percentage of the budget raised through fundraising. The Gala enjoys very high levels of community support and is popular with visitors. The application, whilst not being extensive, sets out reasons for support fully in tune with the CEF aims, and there is a great programme of activities listed for 2023. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF006 | Annan History Town | Summer Festival | 8 July to 20 August | Excellent application promoting civic pride and knowledge of local history through a series of summer events. The History Town has made very good progress in the last 18-24 months. A public goods festival, that will be well promoted and marketed to local people. | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CEF010 | Driftwood Cinema | Wigtown Shindy | 26 August | The Wigtown Shindy was established to help the community come together during a break from COVID-19 lockdowns. It was a huge success and demonstrates that community as well as literary events can work and be fully supported in Wigtown. The 2023 Shindy is a day of music and entertainment and a community fete. A Public Goods Event. | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CEF011 | Moffat Promotions Group | Picnic in the Park | 13 August | This is another community event dedicated to bringing people together after COVID-19 and stimulated by the Community Events Fund introduction in 2021. The day long event includes live music and a showcase for local community organisations and sports clubs to recruit members.  Excellent local support and organisation, a Public Goods Event, and free to view | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CEF015 | Annan Harbour A.G | Harbour Festival | 9 September | Another free to view community festival previously supported by the CEF. The application is detailed – there will be a vibrant programme of events at the harbour – on the water and on the quayside, on 9 September. An important and emerging resource for Annan and a very good fit with the Fund. | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CEF018 | Stranraer Music Town | Parkfest |  | Previously a charity event, Parkfest is now an excellent (park) festival. It showcases local bands and creates free access to lots of entertainment (with a marquee for the bands, ticket £20). The budget identifies a spread of grant funding and ticketed income. The application is comprehensive and meets all the requirements for a full score. | 12 | Full award, £2000 |
| CEF026 | Kbt Development Trust | Barhill Woodland Festival | 9 & 10 September | Highly successful woodland festival introduced to promote community wellbeing as a result of the pandemic. High numbers of local people attend and it has encouraged many people to enjoy local walks and crafts. All the local events organisations contribute support. Value for money as part-funded by Galloway Glens also, a public goods event, well managed and supported. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF028 | Kbt Jazz Festival | Kbt Jazz Festival | 8-11 June | A significant Festival that will probably seek Major Events Funding in future years. Huge public and community support with a high percentage of visitors attending the paid concerts (the Jazz is traditional rather than the less popular modern forms). Very good value for our recommended grant support. Well managed and promoted, it is a not for profit event with many Public Goods properties. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF030 | Mull of Galloway Trust | Maritime and Folk Festival | 1 & 2 July | The Trust has previously secured CEF grant support and this Festival combines free events and ticketed concerts. It celebrates the 10 year anniversary of the community buy-out of the Lighthouse and grounds, so it can be described as a Public Goods Event. A comprehensive application and good visitor numbers projected. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF036 | Dumfries Slow Fashion CIC | Redress - Festival of Slow Fashion | TBC for October 2023 | A fascinating Festival being planned by a Dumfries CIC to raise awareness of the harmful effects of the fashion industry, and the benefits of recycling / upcycling fashion. Very high numbers of volunteers and demonstration of success of similar events in the past two years. There are three full days of activities. The Festival fits well with the aim of the Fund and the Council’s Declaration of the Climate Emergency. Provides value for money as a percentage of the total budget. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF037 | Kbt Summer Festivities | Kbt Food Festival | 21 & 22 October | An excellent Food Festival that has many free to view elements and is highly popular with the public. It is well organised and promoted and can help the local economy as well as promote community wellbeing. Has good growth potential if the KSF decide to put it at the heart of their events portfolio. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CEF042 | Galloway Pageant | Galloway Pageant | 29 July | The application seeks funding to help re-establish the Galloway Pageant – Newton Stewart’s Gala Day. A lot of hard work and community consultation has gone into bringing together a group of local people to try and get the first Pageant since 2016 off the ground. The project is very worthwhile, it is a public goods event with community support. The CEF is supporting Gala Days in 23/24 and it is sensible to fund this project at the full amount. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| CE046 | Creetown Country Ceilidh Festival Group | Creetown Country Ceilidh Festival | 28-30 April | This is a three day live music festival that has taken place twice before – it has echoes of the popular Creetown Country Music Weekend which ran successfully for about a decade at the start of the century.  The application is completely compelling in its narrative of the community and business benefits of the Festival, and its importance to Creetown. There are high numbers of beneficiaries, it is a public goods event and the CEF grant request is under 10% of the total budget. The full grant award is recommended. | 12 | Full Award, 2000 |
| CEF050 | Keir Penpont Tynron DT | Summer of Cycling Celebration | 29 & 30 July | A weekend of community cycling events previously supported by the CEF. It is popular and attracts a very high percentage of the local population. In 2023 it can help promote cycling for leisure to local people and visitors linked to the August World Paracycling Championships.  It will therefore be well marketed and is a public goods event, that also promotes Kirkpatrick Macmillan, the ingenuous 19th century blacksmith who invented an early version of the bicycle. | 12 | Full Award, £2000 |
| **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** | **£1000 to £1999** |
| CE005 | The Whithorn Trust | Festival of Archaeology | 29 & 30 May | The Whithorn Trust can reach local people and visitors with their smaller scale festivals and themed weekends. This viking and archaeology festival meets all of the criteria of the Fund – free or low cost admission to activities, good local partnerships and promotion, volunteer engagement and it is a public goods event | 12 | £1800 – the grant requested |
| CE007 | Portpatrick Community Development Trust | Rockin the Port | Sundays in June, July and August | Part community festival, part seaside day out entertainment, Rockin the Port isn’t a perfect fit with the CEF, but it has very good community support, is a public goods event, is popular and well managed. Many of the given attendances will be the same people, so it may not reach as many people / unique visitors as the applicant has identified (they are not being misleading on purpose) | 10 | Partial Award, £1000 |
| CEF023 | Lochmaben's Children's Gala | Children's Gala | 16-24 June | A positive, uplifting Gala Week dedicated to local children. There is clear evidence of local support, active fundraising and thus value for money and the Gala is a Public Goods Event, the main events are free of charge.  There are some disparities in the budgets presented and the evidence of funding contributions to the Children’s Gala from local businesses and community groups (which is entirely positive) leads to the recommendation for a 50% grant of the amount requested. | 11 | £1000 - 50% of the request |
| CE031 | Association of Wigtown Booksellers | Wigtown and Bladnoch Spring Festival | 28-30 April | The application is from the Booksellers Association of Wigtown, not the Festival Company – they are completely different organisations (though it is possible to detect that as the Festival Co. have decided not to run a Festival in Spring 2023 this application and project is seeking to fill that gap, and attract book-buyers to Wigtown).  The application states that the Spring Festival has run before, but it has been many years since that was the case, and there is no up to date detail of community research for the three day Festival, though there is good evidence of consultation and collaboration.  A three day programme of community and arts activities is planned, including lantern making and torchlight procession (why at this time of year?). The application is detailed and meets many of the criteria of the Fund – the only issue for the Panel is, ‘is this an event that can be funded when the Wigtown Shindy has operated well for the past two years and is recommended for the maximum grant for 23/24? | 10 | Provide a grant of £1000 – 50% of the request.  Condition of Grant – the grant will only be released once confirmation of the Festival going ahead is reported to the Council. |
| CE033 | Dumfries & District Flower Club | Christmas Tree festival 2023 | 7-10 December | The event is described as follows in the application;  The church will have approximately70/80 real Christmas trees (sourced locally as always) each decorated by a specific local organisation or group as previously. There will be a one way route round the church and hall to enjoy the trees - some of which will be very beautiful, others of which will be very thought provoking and all will be lit and mesmerising. There will be no charge for children and the adult charge will be kept to a minimum and include free refreshments in the church hall. There will be a short time period each evening when the church lights are switched off and people can enjoy the lit trees and a quiet period, Social interaction will be encouraged throughout the event.  This is a thought provoking project and the application is detailed, upbeat and positive and shows a love of the event / initiative.  With 70 to 80 community groups participating in the initiative it should secure good word of mouth support, the most important driver of an event’s success. With proper marketing it could become a Dumfries tradition to visit the Christmas trees at the Church (St John’s on Newall Terrace) during their exhibition, especially if a local restaurant or café such as the Usual Place worked in partnership to promote the four day event.  The application seeks £2000 for the £3000 project, which is above the CEF intervention rate. If the Panel are assured that the project meets the aims of the CEF then a £1000 grant is recommended. | 10 | A grant of £1000, 50% of the applicant’s request |
| CEF038 | Newton St. Walking Festival | Newton St. Walking Festival | 12-18 May | A highly respected, very well managed walking festival that covers walks in a wide radius from Newton Stewart. The application is detailed and informative. There is excellent evidence of partnership working and community support.  It attracts approximately 100-150 visitors into the region. The numbers of local people who participate is quite modest, which is why the application scores lower than the optimum 12, and as a result the grant recommended is £1000 rather than the £2000 requested. | 10 | £1000 - 50% award |
| CE040 | Jazz Weekend in North West Castle | Jazz Weekend in North West Castle | 13-15 October | This Jazz Festival is held at numerous venues around Stranraer and the Rhins, and is a philanthropic undertaking by a lady from Ayr (there is likely to be a high degree of personal subsidy). The Jazz is traditional and incudes a show at a Stranraer nursing home.  The application is detailed and informative. A £1000 grant is recommended, rather than the £1500 request, due to the pressure on the Fund in 2023/24 and the lack of evidence of strong community support for the Festival, or any signs that it will grow in future years. | 10 | £1000 Award |
| CE044 | Galloway Motorcycle Club | Moffat Classic Car Rally | 24 & 25 June | The Galloway Motorcycle Club is to take over the Moffat Classic Car Rally, a very popular two day rally that attracts many 100s of entries and several hundred spectators to the event.  Previously run for charity, the Motorcycle Club believe it can be self-funding through a more commercial approach. The decision will benefit Moffat town centre, as the Rally generates many visitors.  There is a good mixture of funding in the £9,800 budget, including £3000 in spectator entry fees for the Sunday showcase of the classic car vehicles (and motorcycles) and a contribution of £2500 from the Motorcycle Club itself). There are some inconsistencies in the application and budget but there are elements that are public goods, there is excellent planning and thought behind the project and this is a renowned and popular event that is worth re-establishing for the area. A partial grant of £1000 is recommended, as the event has many good opportunities to generate revenues. | 10 | £1000, 50% of the grant request |
| CE047 | Absolute Classics | Summer Festival | 27-30 July | Absolute Classics put on classical music concerts and festivals across Dumfries and Galloway and undertake a lot of educational work and tutoring. The application is for a Summer Festival at the Crichton, with ticket sales accounting for more than 80% of the total budget.  It is a close call as to whether a classical music festival meets the criteria of the Fund. The application makes excellent points about the value of music to wellbeing and there is a commitment to keep ticket prices low. This is the first time this Festival will run since 2014, so to all extents and purposes it is a new venture, and there is no evidence of recent market demand. A partial grant award of £1000 is recommended. | 9 | £1000, 50% of the grant request |
| £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 | £500 - £999 |
| CE012 | Dumfries Saints Rugby Club | Community Day | TBC (as dependent on 23/24 fixture list) | The Rugby Club are applying to have a Community Day, with free admittance and entertainment at one of their National League fixtures in season 23/24. The application is not a good fit with the Fund and the Club should perhaps be taking forward this initiative to promote the Club, but there are positive project elements and it certainly promotes wellbeing and sport. The application is not clear whether the target audience is the whole community or younger rugby club members. This is one of the reasons for the modest score and the recommendation for the minimum award. | 9 | £500 (the applicant sought £850). |
| CE014 | Beattock Bash Committee | Beattock Bash 2023 | 5 August | The applicant is seeking funding for the 2nd Beattock Bash, a day of music and crafts in the village. There is minimal detail in the application and the event is held between the village hall and village pub (the Stables). As the applicant is seeking £2000 for a £3000 project they are above the CEF intervention rate of 40%. Care has been taken to highlight the public goods elements of the Bash!! | 9 | £500 – Minimal Award |
| CE022 | Colvend & Southwick Community Council | Colvend Family Gala & Sports Da | May 27 | A new Gala Day and Sports Day that was established as a direct result of the introduction of the CEF in 2021. Numbers increased in 2022 and the Community Council wish to plan the Gala and Sports Day again in 2023.  The application is concise and clearly appreciative of the Fund’s purpose and aims. There are good partnerships in place to strengthen the Gala Day and links with businesses and other events e.g. Spring Fling. The project achieves the maximum score as it meets all of the criteria of the Fund; however it has requested 50% of all event costs and our intervention rate is 40%, so the grant recommended is £800 rather than £1000 | 12 | £800 |
| CE024 | Heathhall Community Centre | Coronation Event | 6 May | Heathhall Community Centre wish to plan a Coronation event and had success arranging a similar event for the Queens Jubilee. There is good evidence of partnership working to make the most of this community day, and the application is very well tailored to the aims of the Fund. The costs are high for the numbers forecast to attend – the application seeks £2000 for a celebration that 200 people may go to, and there is some doubt that the day will go ahead if other funding is not secured.  A partial grant is recommended, with a condition of grant that the funding is provided only once it is confirmed that the Coronation Celebration will take place | 9 | £500 grant |
| CE0227 | Balmaclellan Village Hall Trust | Coronation Tea and Annual Village BBQ | 6 May | This application is to hold a Coronation Tea in the village on the same day as the annual evening BBQ. The application is concise and gives an excellent overview of the day’s activities. However a £1000 grant is sought for a total project of £1250 – an 80% funding request, way above the CEF intervention rate.  It is clear this is an important community event that a high percentage of residents attend, and a partial grant is recommended in line with our intervention rate of 40%, and the funding should be directed to the after Coronation Tea rather than the evening BBQ. | 10 | £500 Award, the maximum 40% of project costs, with the funding for the Coronation Tea. |
| CEF029 | Mull of Galloway Trust | Easter Fair | 9 April | This is a similar comprehensive, tailored application as the Trust’s for the Maritime and Folk Festival. This project is an Easter Fair. Very high visitor numbers are projected for the total budget of £1500 - £600 is the grant request. The project has the same virtues and benefits as the Maritime and Folk Festival, and scores the full allocation of marks. | 12 | Full Award, £600 |
| CE034 | Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club | Harbour Festival (Isle of Whithorn) | 22 & 23 July (provisional) | The event is a harbour festival, organised by the local Rowing Club. Coastal Rowing has become very popular and there is very good evidence that this festival has both a community festival and sports development purpose. There is good local support and the project costs are modest – the applicant has requested more than 75% of the total costs (which are very low at £740). A £500 award is recommended. | 11 | £500 |
| CE039 | Local Initiatives in New Galloway | The Town Hall Grand Reopening: Local Inclusion Month | May 2023 | This is a comprehensive and cogent application from LING, who have previously secured CEF funding in prior Rounds of the Fund.  The application is clearly for public goods events – to promote the asset transfer and re-opening of the Town Hall after its asset transfer to the community. The May events are detailed in the application and include ceilidhs, silent discos, a magician and activities for older and younger people.  There is excellent evidence of sustainable funding sources for the month of events and for the town hall committee in general, and that the programme will be well marketed and accessible to all. The application scores the full allocation of marks, and the grant request of £800 is recommended. | 12 | £800 – the grant requested |
| CE048 | Kirkmichael Community Council in conjunction with Kirkmichael Hall Community | Kirkmichael Gala Day | 6 May | This is a new Gala / community fun day that was established as a result of the introduction of the Community Events Fund. The first Gala/fun day was a great success and brought together several communities around the Parkgate area.  The application is concise and meets all of the criteria of the Fund. The full grant request is recommended. | 12 | £780 |
| **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** | **NIL AWARD** |
| CEF001 | Birchvale Players | King Charles Coronation Event | 6 May 2 | A poor quality application seeking 100% funding for 50-100 people to celebrate the Coronation. There is little evidence of community demand, prior planning and no value for money | 6 | NIL Award |
| CE003 | Stranraer Community Events Group | Awarding Wigtownshire | 10 June | Very worthwhile business and community awards ceremony for Wigtownshire. But the application is a poor fit with this Fund and clearly the Awards have an obvious element of ‘by invitation only’. There is no rationale for public funding as most / all of the event budget is covered by sponsorships and ticket sales. It is not a public good event nor contributes significantly to community wellbeing. | 6 | NIL Award |
| CE008 | Annan History Town | Autumn Programme | Various | This application is almost a replica of the Summer Festival application and seeks funding for similar events, including a variety show, throughout an Autumn season. The numbers who will benefit are not as great and the overall theme is not such a good fit for the CEF, which does not support ‘a ‘season’ or a programme of entertainment over a long period. which is why it does not score comparably, and a NIL AWARD is recommended | 8 | NIL Award |
| CE009 | Stranraer Development Trust | Outdoor Cinema Project | 30 June – 2 July | The applicant – that plans and delivers Stranraer Oyster Festival, is seeking funding for a pilot outdoor cinema weekend. The application is clearly for a public goods event – free outdoor cinema, but it is not a perfect fit with the CEF, and Stranraer does have a cinema (at the Ryan Centre). The lack of a festival / cinema theme name and venue suggests that the proposal is at an early stage of planning and research. Due to the pressure on the Fund, and that no-one will miss out if there is no grant award for this project, a NIL Award is recommended. | 8 | Nil Award |
| CE012 | Dumfries Guild CIC | 7 Markets | Various | CEF grant support has been provided for the previous two years. However the Criteria does not support regularly scheduled markets in this Round of the Fund. The series of markets are self sufficient and due to the pressure on the Fund, and the minimal additionality that a CEF award would secure, a NIL Award is recommended. | 5 | NIL Award |
| CE009 | Stranraer Development Trust | Outdoor Cinema Project | 30 June – 2 July | The applicant – that plans and delivers Stranraer Oyster Festival, is seeking funding for a pilot outdoor cinema weekend. The application is clearly for a public goods event – free outdoor cinema, but it is not a perfect fit with the CEF, and Stranraer does have a cinema (at the Ryan Centre). The lack of a festival / cinema theme name and venue suggests that the proposal is at an early stage of planning and research. Due to the pressure on the Fund, and that no-one will miss out on previously delivered activities if there is no grant award for this project, a NIL Award is recommended. | 8 | Nil Award |
| CE016 | Dumfries and District Music Festival Association | Dumfries Music and Speech Festival 23 | March 23 | The application was not scored as the event dates fall outwith the scope of the Fund. | Not scored | NIL Award |
| CE017 | Wigtown Common Riding | Wigtown ROM and Ball | TBC | The application seeks funding for the ROM, and the main beneficiaries are the 40-50 riders and those who attend the Ball. This is not as strong a fit as the Annan ROM which is a much loved community celebration and part of more than 300 years of local heritage. The application seeks £2000 funding for a project costing no more than £2500. It does not form one of the main events of the Wigtown literary or community events programme. | 7 | NIL award |
| CE019 | Annan Harbour Action Group | Winter Solstice Walk | TBC | A Winter Solstice Walk for up to 150 people organised by the Trust. The walk includes fire elements and may be part of a larger Christmas Fair – details are very sketchy. The budget is made up mainly of ‘in-kind’ contributions which is not permissible and the number of beneficiaries will be low. This is not a good fit with the CEF and a NIL Award is recommended. | 7 | NIL Award |
| CE020 | Way of the Wild | Wellbeing Wednesdays | 8 days in October and November 23 | This is a very worthwhile project to promote wellbeing in the rural Machars of Dumfries and Galloway. A series of eight walks and events are planned by an individual who is a sole trader. The project has the aims of the CEF but the numbers are too low and it is a season of walks and workshops for ten people at a time rather than a community festival or event. The project is seeking 80% funding which is outwith the CEF criteria and intervention rate. | 6 | NIL Award  The project may be of interest to the NHS/ DGC Health and Wellbeing Team |
| CE021 | Allanton Peace Sanctuary | Seasonal Gatherings | Various | A series of non-religious but spiritual gatherings with peace as the dominant theme. Whilst previously securing CEF support this is not a good fit with the Fund and the 22/23 numbers were low. The main beneficiaries are part of the Allanton network, and the likelihood is that few outside of these networks attend the gatherings. It is not a public good event and due to the pressure on the CEF 23/24 a NIL award is recommended | 6 | NIL Award |
| CE023 | Gretna and Rigg CC | Christmas Fun Night | TBC | The application seeks funding for a Christmas Fun Night to build community spirit in Gretna, planned and managed by the new Community Council committee. The project is not a good fit with the Fund.  The application seeks all of the costs of the event, which is an aspiration rather than a project that is being actively planned. There are some good elements to the application and project but many gaps, and due to the pressure on this Fund a NIL Award is recommended – there are many other projects that demonstrate better value for money | 6 | NIL Award |
| CE032 | Newton Stewart Initiative | Summer Events @ Newton Stewart | Various and tbc | This is an application for a general programme of summer community events in Newton Stewart – the events aren’t set out or detailed in any way. The application lacks detail throughout and there are inconsistencies in the numbers projected and who attended three, unspecified events in 2022. The application should be a good fit with the CEF aims but there is no good case made for funding. There is evidence that some match funding for the £11,000 project has been secured, though total visitor numbers predicted are only 300.  Due to the pressure on the CEF budget a NIL Award is recommended. | 7 | NIL Award |
| CE036 | Dumfries and District Flower Club | Cups Competition - A Floral Affair | 23 & 24 June | This application is for a biennual Flower Show. The application does not have the public goods properties that the Flower Club’s other application to this round of the CEF has, and it is detectable that the main beneficiaries are Flower Club members, and the members of other similar clubs. There is little rationale for public intervention or funding as the total project costs are less than £800 – we are being asked for a £500 award which is above the CEF intervention rate of 40%. A NIL Award is recommended. | 6 | NIL Award |
| CE041 | Upper Eskdale Development Group | Monthly Traditional Music Sessions | Monthly dates | This is an excellent application that unfortunately doesn’t fit well with the criteria or scope of the Fund – regularly scheduled and programmed sessions are not eligible to apply for funding.  There is great detail in the application and it is clear that putting on these music sessions is beneficial to the residents of the area, and its visitors – and it can attract visitors for the music, as well as to nearby Samye Lyng.  The number of beneficiaries are modest and the parameters of the Fund lead to a NI Award recommendation | 8 | NIL Award |
| CE042 | Moffat Farmers Market | Moffat Farmers Market Festival of Food and Drink | TBC | This application has a strong economic slant, and has the aspiration of developing a Food and Drink Festival linked to one of the monthly dates of the farmers market. The application and idea is aspirational – to increase through an enhanced food and drink offer the monthly markets.  The application is not a good fit with the CEF criteria and there is limited evidence of planning for the Festival of Food and Drink. The applicant is seeking 50% of project costs when the CEF intervention rate is 40%. Whilst the aspiration is of value, the project proposals are best taken forward by the region’s food and drink sector and DGC Economic Development Service rather than through a CEF Award. | 7 | Nil Award |
| CE043 | The Loch Ken Trust | Outdoor Water Awareness Safety Training for All | Various | This application has been made without any consideration of the CEF purpose or criteria. It is for 12 people to undertake water safety training on Loch Ken (perhaps to help with future events management, which may be the link to DGC Events Strategy funding). The applicant seeks £200 for a £500 training course. It is not eligible for funding and a NIL Award is recommended. | 3 | NIL Award |
| CE049 | Dumfries Music Collective | Dumfries Music Conference | 19-21 October | This is an excellent concise application for a vibrant aspect of regional culture - -the annual Dumfries Music Conference, for young people interested in music and possible careers in the industry.  Despite this, it is a poor fit with the CEF, which does not support conferences or regularly scheduled programmes. There are also digital elements to the event that are not supported. The outcomes however from the Conference are aligned with the CEF, to promote individual and community wellbeing. If there was less pressure on the Fund, there would be a strong case for grant support. | Not scored | NIL Award |
| CE051 | Westsound Cash for Kids | Walk Your Rainbow | August 2023 | The application is for a Charity fundraising event at the Crichton in August 2023. The CEF explicitly does not support charity events, and the applicant organisation is likely to have the marketing and broadcasting resources to take forward the planning for the event – a fun day, without CEF support. | 8 | NIL Award |
| CE052 | New Luce Memorial Hall | Coronation Day Event | 6 May 2023 – though the applicant hasn’t stated this | The New Luce Village Hall has previously secured CEF grant support for a community event to bring people back together again after the COVID-19 pandemic. This application would support a similar event and be likely to generate a similar positive community response but there is no evidence of planning or thought around the event – the applicant hasn’t stated the day of the Coronation and is seeking 85% costs – way above our 40% threshold. There is no detail of the format of the celebrations. With regret a NIL Award is recommended. | 7 | NIL Award |
| CEF053 | Upland CIC | Upland Made | November 2023 | Upland Made is a high quality craft fair that is managed by the same organisation that plans and delivers Spring Fling each year. The Council has supported Upland CIC to research and introduce Upland Made.  The application is comprehensive and is linked to the development of the regional economy as much as community wellbeing.  The application is not a perfect fit with the Fund however – it is for a Christmas Fair, which must be able to grow sustainably with minimal public funding, to avoid unfair competition. A 50% award is therefore recommended and the Fund’s criteria will be updated for 2024/25 to make Christmas Fairs ineligible for grant support. | 11 | Nil Award. Signature Events not eligible to also access Community Events Fund. |
| CE054 | Galloway Hillbillies Bike Club | Galloway Hillbillies Cyclocross | 21 January 2024 | This is a cogent, detailed application that seeks funding for a nationally significant Cyclocross event at Kirroughtree in January 2024. Up to 250 people will benefit.  There are many virtues to the event, but it does not fit well with the CEF criteria – it is a regularly scheduled sports event, and a very niche sport that is not easy for beginners to take up.  The Council is committed to supporting cycling in the region and support will be provided to the Galloway Hillbillies to help them access other grants and events networking opportunities. A Nil Award is recommended. | Not scored | Nil Award |