

# Laich Area CSU Update June 2011

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## **Changes in the Community Support Unit that affect the Laich Area**

As a result of Moray Council savings for 2011-12 the Community Support Unit team has been reduced by 50%. Inevitably this means changes to the range and level of support that the team can offer. The team's management have had to restructure the unit and so

there have been a number of staff changes in terms of areas and remit. It is only now, following the necessary change management process that these changes can be put in place and publicised.

During this process Fiona Rolt took early retirement and Michelle Gillibrand took voluntary redundancy. This has left a gap in the Laich area but now Denise Gormley who has been working in Elgin and Issie Campbell who is in Forres will both cover the Laich area along with Forres.

The CSU remains committed to supporting existing and new community groups develop their capacity however by necessity this will have to be more focused and potentially time constrained. The emphasis of our work will be on the areas that community groups have previously identified as priorities for support such as;

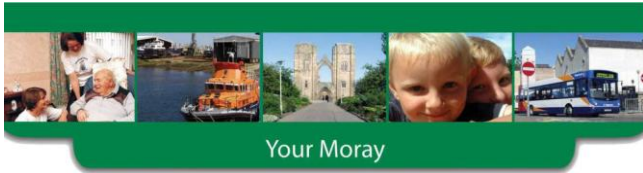
- Funding,
- Increasing membership,
- Marketing,
- Governance,
- Policies and procedures
- Identifying training opportunities.
- Supporting groups to develop and utilise local networking opportunities.

CSU will also be looking to support groups that are interested in taking advantage of the community asset transfer opportunities or that perhaps are looking to become development trusts.

For further information or to discuss your groups support needs please contact Denise or Issie as detailed on [page 6](#).






## Getting the Most from your CSU Handbooks



In February 2011 the Moray Council Community Support Unit launched their handbooks. These are a series of five handbooks on themes consistently identified by community groups as areas where they felt in need of information, help or advice. These are the:

- [Marketing Guide](#)
- [Increasing your membership Guide](#)
- [Funding Guide](#)
- [Moray Halls Handbook](#)

To access an electronic copy of these guides press ctrl and then click on the title of the guide you are interested in above. If you do not have internet access but would like a hard copy of any of these handbooks this can be arranged by contacting:

 Alison McLaughlin  
Admin Assistant  
Community Support Unit  
NEON  
Bezack Street,  
New Elgin, IV30 6DP  
 : 01343 559978  
 [alison.mclaughlin@moray.gov.uk](mailto:alison.mclaughlin@moray.gov.uk)

Denise and Issie will be happy to help your group get the most from these guides. They can support you to make use of this information to suit your particular needs.

Training/information events on the above themes and handbooks are being planned over the next year and community groups will be invited to attend these. As soon as we have dates we will be letting you know where and how to apply for a place.

## Sharing Experience

Established groups tend to have a wealth of knowledge and experience built up. During the CSU needs assessment exercise in 2009 a number of groups identified areas they felt they had some expertise in and that they would be willing to share,

Would you like to see an event that groups could attend to share experience and good practise and/or individual sessions with a group that can offer the specific learning you or your group need?

Please contact Denise or Issie and let us know what you would like.

## Moray Council Asset Transfer Strategy


As you may be aware, Moray Council have recently approved a strategy for community groups to enter into discussions with them on the possible transfer of Council owned assets to community ownership.

Interest by the community was demonstrated by those attending the recent Community Asset Transfer seminars organised by the Unit. The Development Trust Associations who delivered the programme at the seminars emphasised the need for local authorities to ensure adequate support is offered to communities who decide that they would wish to develop their potential and sustainability by owning local assets.


An Asset Transfer working party consisting of different departments has been set up within the Council to ensure that support is in place. A key element of that support will be on the ground at a local level. The Council has identified a key role by Community Support Unit staff, along with others, to ensure commitments have the required support locally.

Any notes of interest should be addressed in the first instance to:

**John Ferguson** (Community Planning & Development Manager)

 Council Office,  
High Street,  
Elgin,  
Moray, IV30 1BX

 [john.ferguson@moray.gov.uk](mailto:john.ferguson@moray.gov.uk)

 : 01343 563404.

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## Community Group Request for Fundraising Suggestions

Burghead Community Hall committee has recently been refurbishing the hall including decorating, kitchen upgrade and toilets. Unfortunately despite energetic and successful local fundraising there remains a shortfall in funding to meet this of around £5000.

The hall committee would really like to hear from any groups in Laich with suggestions for how they might raise the rest of this money. Don't worry if it seems likely Burghead have tried this, any suggestions are welcome. Please contact Jennifer Christison

☎: 01343 830099 or  
✉: thechristisons@talktalk.net

All suggestions will be gratefully received 😊

Would you be interested in an event where you could meet with members of other local groups to find out what they do and to share what you are doing about local fundraising?

This could explore how groups use this in their project funding. Perhaps we could even look at how groups could do joint events.

Could an event like this explore developing a calendar of community group fundraising events?

If this sounds like something you would be interested in please contact Denise or Issie to register interest or to offer suggestions of what you would find useful.

## Forthcoming Events

**Badenoch & Strathspey Community Transport Company, Highlands - Thursday 21st July**



Would you benefit from visiting a community transport project that is working towards similar goals to your own project, initiative or enterprise? Would you like to

share ideas and experiences with a group of like minded people?

The Scottish National Rural Network has announced details of the fifth and final event in their current series of project visits taking place around rural Scotland. The theme is community transport and will be hosted by winners of the 2010 [Scottish Countryside Alliance](#) Best Rural Enterprise Award, [Badenoch & Strathspey Community Transport Company \(BSCTC\)](#), based in Aviemore.

Places are limited for this visit, so anyone interested in attending is invited to **submit an application** of interest to the Rural Network by the **19th June deadline**. You can find out more, including a handy project host summary, by visiting [Community Transport Project Visit page](#) on the [Scotland: National Rural Network website](#). Find out more and apply for this visit [here](#) or telephone **01463 251727**.

## Dates for your Diary



**Burghead and Cummington Community Council** meets at the Harbour masters Office Burghead on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month at 7.30 pm

**To contact** ✉ [chris@tukes.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:chris@tukes.eclipse.co.uk)  
Or ☎: 01343 835537

**Lossiemouth Community Council** meets at Seaview Suite at Lossiemouth Town Hall every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 7.30pm.

**To Contact** ✉ [themightyfive@hotmail.com](mailto:themightyfive@hotmail.com)  
Or ☎: 01343 814659

If your group meets regularly and you would like to publicise these meetings in one of our newsletters please let Denise or Issie know and we can feature you in a future issue or we can arrange to have it posted on the Your Moray website.



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## Funding opportunities

### Green Energy Trust

This funding for the installation of renewable technologies is available through the Green Energy Trust and provides grants of up to 25,000 (though most projects receive around £10,000) for up to half the cost of the chosen renewable technology. Grant requests must be to support the capital and installation costs of a renewable energy project.

The Trust meets twice a year to consider applications – usually during the first week of April and October. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible and at a minimum of 7 weeks before.

Contact details:

 The Secretary,  
Scottish Power Green Energy Trust, Energy Services,  
3rd Floor Main Building,  
Cathcart Business Park,  
Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE  
☎ : 0141 568 3492  
✉ : [greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com](mailto:greenenergytrust@scottishpower.com)  
🌐 <http://www.scottishpowergreentrust.co.uk/content/default.asp?page=s1>

### Idlewild Trust

The Idlewild Trust supports registered charities concerned with the encouragement of excellence in the performing and fine arts and the preservation for the benefit of the public of buildings and items of historical interest or national importance. Occasionally it also supports projects that conserve the natural environment.

The total funding available each year is approximately £120,000 and registered charities can apply for grants

of up to £5,000. Applications are considered twice a year. The next deadline for applications is 23rd September 2011.

 The Idlewild Trust,  
1a Taylors Yard, 67  
Alderbrook Road,  
London, SW12 8AD.  
☎ : 020 8772 3155  
✉ : [info@idlewildtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@idlewildtrust.org.uk)  
🌐 <http://www.idlewildtrust.org.uk/>

### Architectural Heritage Fund

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF) promotes the conservation and regeneration of historic buildings in the UK. Funding is available to regenerate historic buildings to create community and education facilities, workspace and homes.

To be eligible to apply for funding through the AHF, organisations need to be a registered charity and the building(s) must be listed, scheduled as an ancient monument or in a Conservation Area (if in a Conservation Area, it must be of acknowledged historic or architectural importance). The project must also involve a change of ownership and/or a change of use.

Previously funded projects include:

Turning run down historic buildings into community theatres, resource centres, community learning centres, workspaces, places to live and community meeting places, etc. The next closing date for applications is the 10th August 2011.

Contact details:

 The Architectural Heritage Fund  
Alhambra House  
27-31 Charing Cross Road  
London WC2H 0AU  
☎ : 020 7925 0199  
Fax: 020 7930 0295  
✉ : [ahf@ahfund.org.uk](mailto:ahf@ahfund.org.uk)  
🌐 <http://www.ahfund.org.uk/index.html>

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## Useful websites

### [Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator](#)

This is the website of OSCR which any group registered as a charity will be aware of. The site has very useful information to download including advice on your OSCR annual returns, becoming a charity and up to date information on regulations and news.

It also has a searchable database that allows you to search for charities. This can be useful if you are looking to see what other charities are active in your area. It may be you are able to help each other in some way.

There is also information on the new type of charity in Scotland the Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Charities that are currently companies limited by guarantee may be able to change over to become a SCIO if appropriate but not until at next year.

Contacting OSCR:

☎: 01382 220446

Fax: 01382 220314.

✉: Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

2nd Floor

Quadrant House

9 Riverside Drive

Dundee

DD1 4NY

✉: [info@oscr.org.uk](mailto:info@oscr.org.uk).

🌐 <http://www.oscr.org>

### [Disclosure Scotland](#)

This site has information for individuals and employers on the new Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme that came into force in February 2011. If you would like to work through the e-learning modules on the PVG Scheme that Disclosure Scotland has developed, they can be found [here](#).

Contacting Disclosure Scotland:

✉ **Disclosure Scotland**

PO Box 250

Glasgow, G51 1YU

☎: 0870 609 6006

Fax: 0870 609 699

✉: [info@disclosurescotland.co.uk](mailto:info@disclosurescotland.co.uk)

### [Development Trust Association Scotland \(DTAS\)](#)

DTAS is the national body for development trusts in Scotland. You can find information on becoming a development trust along with news of existing Trusts. There is a section on how DTAS can help support communities with Community Asset Transfer which could be very valuable for groups considering this option in Moray

Contacting DTAS

✉ **DTA Scotland (North Office)**

Fairways House

Fairways Business Park

Inverness

IV2 6AA

✉: [rory@dtascot.org](mailto:rory@dtascot.org)

☎: 07825250950

🌐 <http://www.dtascot.org.uk/>

### [Volunteer Development Scotland](#)

This is a great site and has some really useful information and resources. There are templates you can download for free to allow you to make up your own policies/documents on almost any topic you can think of e.g. recruitment, health and safety, code of conduct, lone working, etc.

The financial value of volunteer hour's guide and calculation spreadsheet found [here](#) is one of the excellent resources available on this site. This can be used to show funders the financial value of volunteers when this is being for match funding.

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Contacting VDS:

 Volunteer Development Scotland

Jubilee House

Forthside Way

Stirling

FK8 1QZ

☎ : 01786 479593

Fax: 01786 849767

✉ : [vds@vds.org.uk](mailto:vds@vds.org.uk)

🌐 <http://www.vds.org.uk/>

### [Your Moray](#)

This is Moray's Community Planning Partnership website. This will tell you how community planning works in Moray. It also has information about community groups and the community planning partners.

There are sections that relate to the communities of Moray e.g. Forres and Laich for instance. This can be used to publicise community group meetings, documents or events. If you have an event, document or meeting that you would like publicised let Denise or Issie know and we can arrange to have this uploaded to the site.

Let's use this space to develop group networking and to show what a vibrant community sector we have in Laich.

### **Future Newsletters**

If you have anything you think would be useful to include in a future newsletter please feel free to contact Denise or Issie.

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We would like these newsletters to be useful to you and your groups. In order to check what has worked and what didn't we would like to send a few of you a short survey to find out if and how you have used this newsletter. If you definitely do not want a survey please send an email with NO SURVEY in the title and we will ensure you are not one of the groups selected. Please don't feel you have to wait for a survey we would like to

know what you think of this so letters, emails or calls would be very welcome with your comments 😊

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If you prefer not to receive newsletters like this in the future please email Issie or Denise with STOP NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

## CSU Contact Details for Laich

### **Denise Gormley**



Community Support Officer (Engagement)  
NEON

Bezack Street,  
New Elgin, IV30 6DP

☎ : 01343 559978 / Mobile 07779999228

✉ [denise.gormley@moray.gov.uk](mailto:denise.gormley@moray.gov.uk)

### **Issie Campbell**



Community Support Worker (Engagement)  
Forres House Community Centre

High Street  
Forres, IV36 1BU

☎ : 01309 672838 / Mobile: 07800670690

✉ [issie.campbell@moray.gov.uk](mailto:issie.campbell@moray.gov.uk)

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