

Aspiring Places Project Proposal Template

- You can work with your group or organisation using this Word Template.
- Nominate one person to create an account on Argyll and Bute Voices for your group or organisation.
- Once the template is complete, the account holder can type the information into Aspiring Places.

[Create your Project Proposal on Aspiring Places here.](#)

[Find full guidance about what to include in your Project Proposal here.](#)

Project Title

Choose a short, powerful, and eye-catching title. Include the project location if possible.

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| Upgrade and Refurbishment of Skipness Community Village Hall |
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Project Summary (Maximum 200 characters)

Provide a one-liner about your project's aim and who it will help.

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| To upgrade and refurbish our hall making it watertight, environmentally and aesthetically friendly. A hall to continue serving the community from 2 yrs to 93 yrs for the next 70 years. |
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Proposal Text (Maximum 6,000 characters)

1. What do you want to do?

To Upgrade and Refurbish Skipness Village Community Hall. To protect our existing community hall from further deterioration due to water ingress caused by the nature of the building materials, natural stone and sandstone. Lead the skews, remove chimney, pick and point both gable ends and around the sandstone window surrounds, replace the windows to double glazed and ventilated, improved door and door surrounds, improved heating system and ventilation to the roof to help alleviate internal condensation. Improved hand drying facilities. Removal and replace water damage to the walls in the toilet hallway and balcony area. Redecorate and refurbish our main hall, toilets and kitchen.

We have an Architects proposals and detailed designs with a Quantity surveyors projected cost of the project.

We have planning and building control permissions in place.

We have raised 10% community contribution to the project, no small feat for a community of some 138 individuals. We have match funding and additional funding.

We still require £128,000 in order to produce tender documents to obtain quotes for the work in order to start the building work of our project.

2. Why is your project needed?

The hall, is an old church built around 1880-90, It is built of natural stone with sandstone skews and window surrounds. Water ingress has caused dampness into the building affecting the walls making them unsightly and causing damage to the internal plaster board in the ceiling. Additional issues with the single glazed window frames and rotting wood around the glass. Lack of ventilation has caused additional internal dampness. The heating is old and fairly inefficient. All these major issues when addressed should help in the preservation of the hall and its continued use by the community for years to come.

The building has been in the hands of the community and community run since 1955.

Skipness is recognised as one of the most geographically challenged communities in Scotland (in the most deprived 5%). The geographic access

domain captures the issues of financial cost, time, and inconvenience of having to travel to access basic services. Ref Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation

Skipness Village Community Hall acts as the principal hub for the local community. Indeed, it is the only facility in the community. It provides a venue for social gatherings, community meals, weddings and funerals.

Most importantly it provides a venue for a doctor's surgery once a week. And as a vaccination centre for the community. Most recently 23rd May 2025, Covid booster vaccination.

The hall is used as a

- polling station for local and national elections.
- as a base for emergency services, police, coastguard for incidents occurring locally.
- provides a place of safety for stranded tourists due to ferry cancellations and inclement weather events where accommodation could not be found.

The management committee organise, traditional Ceilidh dances, recreational and keep fit activities such as Qigong and Tai chi, salsa classes, badminton, indoor bowls and various games and quiz nights.

The hall is available private hire and is used by groups from outside the area scouts, guides, pony club and schools.

The whole community, from the youngest to the oldest 2 years to 93 years benefit from having a venue for cultural and physical activities and use of the doctor's surgery.

Without the hall the community will be further isolated and deprived, contrary to Scottish Government view of Rural areas in the 20-minute neighbourhood concept, a method of supporting local living.

3. What positive changes will your project bring about?

With the completion of this project

Health.

We maintain a small dedicated room used once a week as a doctor's surgery. Our general practitioner, travels from the main Carradale surgery some 16 miles away on a single-track road, to consult with patients locally and dispense repeat prescriptions. This avoids the need for the community to make

numerous journeys to see the doctor and collect medication. We hold regular exercise classes and are a venue for activities such as badminton dancing. And also, social gathering which helps guard against social isolation amongst the community and attendant mental health issues.

Advancement of community and citizenship.

The hall is used as a polling station allowing the community to have a locally based place to fulfil their democratic right to vote. The hall is also used by our local community councillor to meet with the community. Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust hold meeting here to take soundings and opinions from the community, as to how they might improve local facilities.

The community hall is also used as a base for emergency services, police, coastguard for incidents occurring locally. With the community rallying round to help support these services with help in search operations and providing sustenance for those taking part.

The community hall is also opened to assist travellers who have been stranded due to cancelled ferry services with no local provision of accommodation.

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4. How long will your project run for?

If funding can be secured by September 2025

The project will start on: __01/_02_/__2026__

The project will run for : approx. 4 months