

**BANFF AND BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE COASTAL
COMMUNITIES FUND**

(Grants between £1,000 and £25,000)

Application for Assistance

Name of organisation:	Crovie Preservation Society (CPS)
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Contact name:	James Penman
Position in organisation:	Secretary

Address (including postcode):	
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Telephone number:	
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	croviecps@outlook.com
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Applicants are encouraged to discuss their project with the Banff and Buchan Area Manager prior to submitting the application form. Tel: 01467 537131

Tell us about your group's aims and purposes (include details of your membership and evidence that the organisation has the right level of resources, skills, and capacity to deliver the project):

The CPS is a Society that was set up in 1963 to preserve and restore Crovie after it was destroyed in the 1953 storm. Its objectives are to

**“Preserve the architectural character of the village” and
“To protect, maintain and improve the environment of Crovie”.**

We currently have a membership of 98 people, most from the UK but some from as far away as Canada.

Our skills are numerous but we plan to employ a contractor more suited to do the work. We have already obtained quotes and are ready to proceed with the work.

Tell us what would you like to do and describe the need and support for the project? Include an explanation of how your project will be sustained in the future and also how any risks will be managed (e.g. shortfalls in funding).

You must include the site or location of your project.

The CPS own a car park which is used by thousands of tourists every year when they come to visit the village. This car park is in urgent need of repair as the current surface is now severely deteriorated and extremely muddy and slippery in wet weather. Also, the perimeter fence which provides a safety barrier to stop people from falling over the cliff, is rotting and needing replaced, Erosion protection also needs to be installed to maintain the integrity of the car park.

Visitors are inspired to visit Crovie all year round, due to the promotional work of Visit Scotland that exists around the world. The dramatic sight of a single line of 19th Century cottages located on a narrow strip of land between the North Sea and the Cliffs is a very unusual one and can be seen nowhere else in the UK. It is also reputed to be the best kept Heritage village and is registered as a Conservation Area.

The village is located in an isolated rural coastal position with no public transport which means visitors must park their vehicles in one of two small car parks on the approach road to the village: either in the car park at the top of the hill which is owned by Aberdeenshire Council and provides 11 car parking spaces or the car park in question, lower down the hill, nearer to the village, which covers an area of 350 sq. metres and can accommodate 15 vehicles.

This car park is more popular than the Council one as it is nearer to the village and has been extremely well used. Despite some maintenance work over the years by the cottage owners, the surface has deteriorated badly due to the high usage, requiring much needed reinstatement and improvement.

There is no vehicular access through the village which has just a narrow path for access so there is no other option but to park their cars.

The two car parks combined only offer 26 car parking spaces, and without those facilities visitors would not be able to visit Crovie unless they parked in the adjacent village of Gardenstown which would then involve a walk of approximately 1.7 miles along roads, most of which have no walkway. There is no parking on the access road to Crovie as it is a single-track road.

The village sits directly on the Coastal Path which is well-used by both local people and visitors from further afield and is advertised in many hiking literature. Walkers are often particularly interested in the bird and sea-life which is evident when using the Coastal Path, and its unspoiled nature encourages visitors to return multiple times.

A BPL community minibus also uses the car park as a turning point for residents requiring transport in the absence of a local bus service.

In terms of risks, the Crovie Preservation Society is in a position to provide 10% of the total costs as required by the Coastal Communities Fund. We have not applied for any other funds for this project. We enquired as to whether we would qualify for the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund but that is not the case, unfortunately.

Please explain how your project has to tangible link to the coast and/or the sea and how it will deliver positive benefits including leverage of investment, economic growth, regeneration and rural or community development:

Crovie is the single reason most visitors drive to this out-of-the-way area of North Aberdeenshire and as there are no commercial facilities or public transport, they must drive to visit this heritage site.

The nature of the village is historically significant and demonstrates the way people lived and made a living from the sea for many years. (Pictures and documents recording this can be seen in the Heritage Centre on the Harbour in Gardenstown or online by simply searching for "Crovie").

The reinstatement and improvement of the car park will mean tourists and visitors can park safely and securely and not block the access road to the village. It will also accommodate increases in tourism by ensuring car parking is available as, without parking, visitors would just pass it.

Crovie remains the only village of this kind in the UK and is a very striking image, reminding visitors about the cultural history of our area and how people lived and made a living from the sea for many years.

What is the total project cost? (The cost of everything related to your project, even the items or activities you aren't asking us to fund)

£16,000

Please tell us the costs of each item or activity you would like us to fund:

Item/Activity	Total Cost	Amount Requested from Coastal Communities Grant
The following is a quote from the Contractor		
Resurface with Hard Core, Provide New Timber Car Parking Logs, Remove rotten timber fencing and replace like for like with new timbers	£11,333	£10,200
Stabilisation of Erosion	£3,900	£3,510
Total	£15,232.80	£13,709.52

Total funds raised to date and the amounts raised (including grants, your own fundraising activities and donations):

Source	Amount	Date confirmed
We have raised the 10% of funds necessary to complete this project, mainly from visitors' donations.	£1,523.28	8/3/24
Total	1523.28	

Other funding applied for (give details of the amount(s) and source(s) as appropriate – in particular Aberdeenshire Council sources):

Source	Amount	Date confirmed
None		
Total		

Will your project be completed by 31st March 2025?	Yes/No YES
If you answered no, can your project be delivered in phases and if so please explain how this can be done?	
Aberdeenshire Council Priorities	
Tick the Council Priorities your project helps to deliver? (you must tick at least one)	
A strong, sustainable, diverse and successful economy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have the best possible transport and digital links across our communities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide the best life chances for all our children and young people by raising levels of attainment and achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work with parents and carers to support children through every stage of their development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Encourage active lifestyles and promote well-being with a focus on obesity & mental health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Have the right mix of housing across all of Aberdeenshire	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support the delivery of the Health & Social Care Strategic Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work to reduce poverty and inequalities within our communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deliver responsible, long-term financial planning	<input type="checkbox"/>

Have the right people, in the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protect our special environment, including tackling climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Give details of how your project meets the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 ensuring that it will be inclusive and not discriminate against any members of your community:

There are no restrictions or fees to the use of the car park and it is available to any and all tourists and visitors to use when visiting the area.

Applicant Declaration:
I certify that the information contained in this application is correct, and that I am authorised to make the application on behalf of the above group. I understand that decisions made by the Banff and Buchan Area Committee are final.

Name (Please print)	J. Penman
Signature	
Date	14 th March 2024

Checklist – please attach the following items:

- Constitution or Memorandum & Articles of Association
- Your most recent verified accounts
- Three most recent bank statements
- Quotes/specifications

The application should be emailed to – banffandbuchanamo@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Please note that successful applicants will require to provide a short report on the project by no later than 31st March 2025.