JUSTTRANSITION
PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING FUND

Year 2



Driving Change
Moray Food Plus

Almost every day after school, children come to The Bosie, a family centre in Elgin run by Moray Food Plus.
It's a relaxed, safe and fun environment where kids can try new foods, experiment with cooking, and enjoy themselves.
Getting to the Bosie for children who require transport can now be done thanks to a new electric vehicle.
For Moray Food Plus, it translates to a real cost saving; critical for a charity that has seen year on year increases for demand, but who are also so much more than a food bank.
This vehicle will help them continue their programs that nuture children, families and community.



On the Road with Greener Transport
Event Scotland First Aid

Hundreds of public events up and down the length of Moray require the back-up and support of first aid ambulance services.
This support is hugely important for local communities and organisations to plan new gatherings and continue with existing events.

Event Scotland First Aid has purchased a new low emission ambulance so that they can provide their service across Moray and the Highlands, supporting the likes of the Dufftown, Forres and Tomintoul Highland Games, and events such as Speyfest and Portsoy Boat Festival.

Elgin and District Mens 'Shed Keeping the Heat min!









The Elgin & District Men's Shed received funding to replace windows at their shed premises, with double glazed units. The old windows were single glazed, past their best and allowed a serious loss of heat.

For the first time in many years there are now opening windows in the unit. The old windows were painted over so couldn't be opened and those in the workshop had been boarded over too. That meant no natural light in the shed and as soon as someone entered, the lights had to be on. So, apart from getting fresh air in they'll also be further reducing their electricity bill.

These windows with their security screens make the building a much-improved HQ for EDMS and members are very thankful to have the opportunity to continue to make the building (and their activities), more eco-friendly by being more energy efficient.



One Step Closer towards a Zero-emissions Heating System

Upgrading a heating system might not sound all that exciting, but it is a project that has given the Elgin Youth Development Group (EYDG) multiple opportunities to talk to young people and customers about climate change and what they are doing to reduce the environmental impact of their building.

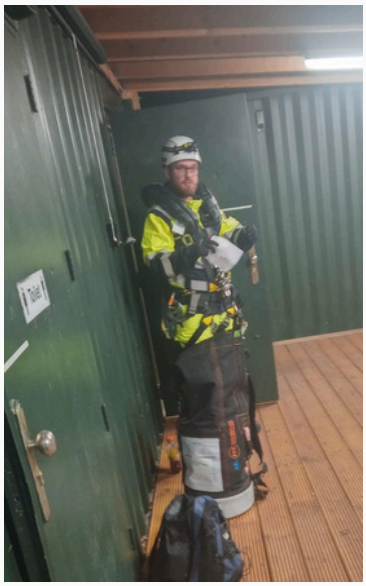
The Group embarked on a range of improvements to the fabric of building with the overall aim being to improve thermal efficiency.

A portion of revenue funding from the Just Transition PB Fund was also used to repair and replace an inverter on their existing solar panels.

1st Elgin and 1st Lossiemouth Scouts Groups Future Proofing: Sustainability & Solar Panels



These two scouting groups - 1st Lossiemouth Scouts Group and 1st Elgin Scouts - have now installed solar panels on their respective Hall and Hut.



By making the move to solar, both groups are saving considerably on running costs, but are also teaching their groups the benefits of renewable energy and how it will make their groups able to keep going well into the future.

The 1st Lossie Group is 88 years old. For them, this funding is ‘future proofing’ their group, and plans are underway for more improvements to the Hall.



The Solar panels also kicked off 1st Elgin's Cubs work on Environmental Conservation Activity Badges, and finished their learning about renewable energy, with a special visit to the Hut by a wind farm technician.



Buckie Thistle Football Club New Floodlights

Buckie Thistle Football Club has installed a new LED floodlight system, that will save on operating costs, improve energy efficiency and improve the brightness and appearance of the pitch for both players and fans.

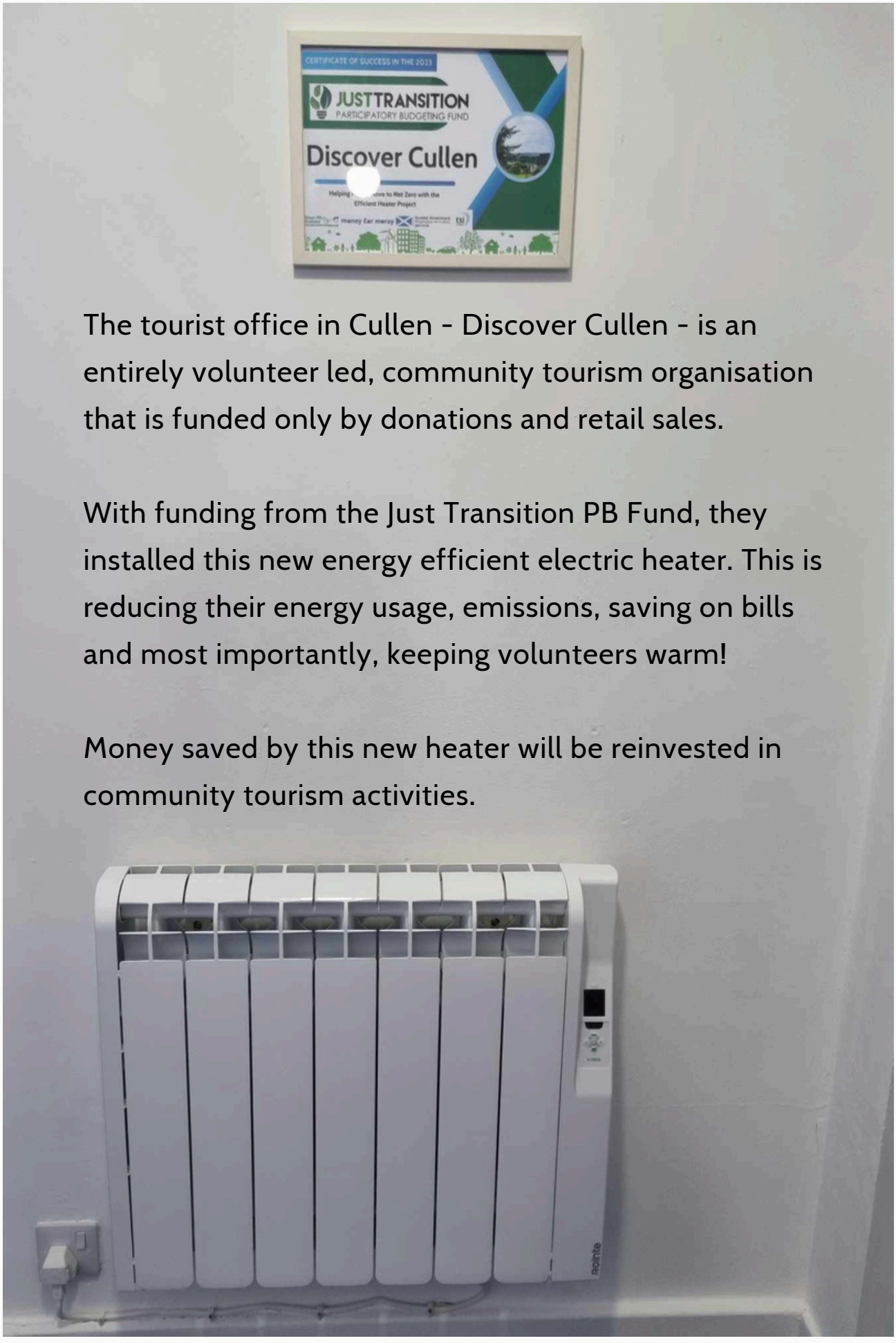
While the floodlights are an infrastructure investment, they are also an investment in the local community too. The Club is a real beacon in Buckie; the lights make them shine brighter, as they strive towards a target of a net zero carbon footprint.



Mower - *Sir Cut the Grass*

This new robotic mower wasted no time in getting put to good use. It's already making a big difference to how people are using the garden and grounds at St John's Forres Church, making it easier for people to use the pathways and grassed areas.

Inspired by the PB voting process, children at the Sunday School decided to have their own vote to decide on the mowers official name - ***Sir Cut the Grass***.



The tourist office in Cullen - Discover Cullen - is an entirely volunteer led, community tourism organisation that is funded only by donations and retail sales.

With funding from the Just Transition PB Fund, they installed this new energy efficient electric heater. This is reducing their energy usage, emissions, saving on bills and most importantly, keeping volunteers warm!

Money saved by this new heater will be reinvested in community tourism activities.

Hopeman Community MiniBus - Beeline Transport

This new smaller and greener vehicle, purchased with funds form the Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund, is already making a real and practical difference to people living in the costal communities of Burghead, Cummingston, Hopeman, Roseisle and Duffus.
Part of the Hopeman Community Minibus transport service now known as Beeline, the vehicle and volunteer drivers are helping get residents attend medical appointments, go shopping and crucially, keep connected to community life.



Bookings? Call 07485 561 007
Volunteer? Email
beelinecommunitytransport@gmail.com

Beeline
Community Transport

Forres Friends of Woods and Fields
Powering up a Community Garden Social Hub



Friends of Forres Woods and Fields is a community based environmental charity looking after 27 acres of fields and woodlands on the edge of the town of Forres.

The aim of this project was to build a social hub for the community garden consisting of three facilities: a potting shed, a composting toilet and a tool shed. Local and recycled materials were used as much as possible and local tradespeople carried out the works, therefore supporting the local economy and minimising the carbon footprint of the project.

These facilities are now providing a welcoming and dry space for the whole community to gather, exchange, learn and grow. The Social Hub project allows a dedicated space for environmental activities such as classes on gardening and conservation, as well as providing a base for garden volunteers.



The project is creating more opportunities for Forres Friends of Woods and Fields to collaborate with other community groups, outdoor learning groups and local primary and secondary schools. Previously, the charity was unable to host these groups or events since they did not meet basic needs requirements such as toilet and inclement weather facilities.



The new buildings allowed volunteers to learn new woodworking skills as interior elements of the interior
of the potting shed e.g./ shelving and storage will be designed and made by volunteers using expertise from members of the group.
The Forres Friends of Woods and Fields Social Hub is an example of a sustainable, community-led project that epitomises the principles of a Just Transition towards more local and resilient food systems and environmental management.





Finechty Mens' Shed - A New Workshop

Funding for an additional, extra secure shed in Finechty is already being put to very good use, as the workshop has become a place to plan and execute a growing number of community projects.
From helping people repair electrical garden equipment, to building outdoor garden dominoes for the local children's nursery, to creating garden planters and installing a new beach bench... the list of how the shed and the shedders are creating and connecting community is an example of how men's sheds are helping communities themselves become more sustainable.

Morayvia:
A Museum's Journey to Sustainability









Support from the Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund has allowed Morayvia, an aviation museum, to be in the strongest position it ever has been to plan for its future.

By investing and installing solar panels which cover almost the entirety of the main building's roof, the museum has virtually eliminated its electricity bills, (which were a considerable portion of their ongoing running costs) and are now generating income from the Grid.
This has been transformational for Morayvia.

Money that was otherwise going out the door in energy costs, is now being re-invested in other projects that can help the museum sustain its building and collections in the longer term.

Mark Mair, Chair of Morayvia says this financial breathing room has allowed the museum to think about its future and not be constrained by 'short-term firefighting'. They are not dreaming of what they can do in the future. They are beginning to realise it. For example, initial cost saving allowed Morayvia to replace all of its lighting to low cost led. Plans are underway to install high-quality electric doors, which will maximise energy efficiency and provide better access to the museum.

Realising the income from the solar panels has given them the confidence to think about just about everything in sustainable terms. They have plans to turn a conservation area into a self sufficient unit, running completely off grid. They are also presently investigating options to secure their own water supply.

The funding has had a knock on effect that supports everything they do - giving them more time to plan, to think about how they want to conserve and protect their collections, and to make better decisions on fabric refits of the building.

This investment has allowed the museum to undertake what is, in essence, preventative conservation, measures can be put in place before there are problems, making Morayvia and its collections more sustainable for the future.



For many smaller museums and heritage attractions in UK, ongoing running costs are a major concern -- these fixed costs are a growing burden for many; never allowing museums to get ahead in what they want to do.
With increased cost of living pressures, many museums are financially squeezed to the point of closure. This funding has given Morayvia the ability to be strategic in its priorities and growth.

Morayvia has a well established track record of working with the local community.
Its healthier financial position by being able to reallocate resources away from core running costs, means they can achieve other things. For example, they have been able to keep admission costs at the same level and are able to continue to provide many free opportunities for local groups and schools to access the museum and collections, as well as provide ongoing community outreach.

In a time when visitors are cost conscious, Morayvia numbers are up by 400 already since opening this spring of 2024. This growing of audiences will also help to sustain the museum.



PROJECTS AWARDED

Buckie Thistle Football Club	£26,750
Cullen Community Allotments Association	£12,211
Cullen Sea school	£18,900
Cullen Voluntary Tourist Initiative	£420
Elgin and District Men's Shed	£5878.06
Elgin Youth Development Group	£7411.27
Event First Aid Service	£33,000
Findochty Town Hall	£16,240
Finechty Mens Shed	£20,000
1st Elgin Scout Group	£16,777.96
1st Lossiemouth Scout Group	£18,000
Forest Friends of Woods and Fields	£23,000
Hopeman Community Minibus	£50,000
Lhanbryde Community Challenge	£35,658.29
Moray Food Plus	£32,022.40
Moray School Bank	£48,247
Morayvia	£50,000
Outfit Moray	£40,000
St John's Church, Forres	£2609
The Green Hall, Kirkmichael	£9563.70
Youth Participatory Budgeting Projects	£33,000
	£499,688.68