Friends of the Plantation

This project was supported by the CSGN Community Projects Fund 2013-14. The Fund is focused on projects undertaken for the benefit of, and/or involving children and young people under 16 years of age and is intended to support small-scale, community led projects that deliver green network improvements on the ground; increase community use of the green network and/or increase community involvement in the maintenance and enhancement of the green network locally.

Friends of the Plantation, North Ayrshire was awarded £2,995 to work with local school children, Duke of Edinburgh Award participants and the community to plant several large trees in Holm Plantation, which links Ardrossan and Saltcoats.

Pupils from the Ardrossan & St. Matthews Academies learned about the different species of trees about to be planted and helped with digging the holes, planting the 26 mature trees and back filling with compost etc. they were assisted by North Ayrshire Council's Streetscene team and members of Friends of the Plantation.

Through the CSGN support programme Youth Scotland had discussions with Friends of the Plantation. As a result of a meeting on site with two group members and North Ayrshire Council’s Environmental Liaison officer, Youth Scotland agreed to fund the delivery of Dynamic Youth Awards accreditation for involvement of young people and to help develop the groups youth work approach.

The group was also signposted to other grant opportunities that would support increased involvement of young people and a youth work approach, and the accreditation of the achievements of young people that were already engaged with the Plantation project.