

# **WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **WIND FARM TRUST**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2016**

As stated in previous reports the money received from Tangy 1 for projects within such a tightly defined area continues to be problematical due to lack of applications from this small part of the Community. However, if we can justify that residents of Tangy/Kilkenzie may benefit from applications we continue to utilize some of these funds towards the costs of larger projects within the area. Clearly the same can be said for the allocation of funds received from the other wind farms.

Since the last AGM report to the umbrella trust we have continued to support many of the regular applications such as the upgrading and purchase of new tables, chairs, crockery etc for Tayinloan Hall, external painting of Whitehouse Hall, Kayaking courses for Clachan Youth club, Largieside ploughing match and of course the schools within area to assist pupils with funding transport for trips, Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme to give just a few examples.

Major funding requests this year has seen the Trust support the 3 village halls (Clachan, Tayinloan and Whitehouse) plus one church hall Glenbarr with the installation of solar panels on each of these buildings. £4000 per application was given with a view to helping their drive for energy efficiency and sustainability of the halls. The fifth hall that of A'Clie was also helped with the same amount (£4000) to assist with the installation of energy efficiency measures including that of a new energy efficient boiler.

Following the severe flooding in Clachan part of a bridge and unadopted road was damaged by the flow of water resulting in difficulty with access to the Church. Due to the repairs to this bridge and road not being the responsibility of the Council the Village Committee applied to the Trust for funds for the repairs. £5700 was given to pay for these repairs resulting in access for both funeral hearses and on foot now being restored.

Another large grant of £2700 was given to the Island View Respite Association for the purchase of electric and push type wheelchairs for users of the service, which is an innovative relatively new charity set up by a local person who has purchased a house for the use disabled and injured servicemen/women and their families as a respite/holiday home. Reports are that this service is now being used quite extensively and those who use it are very appreciative of being able to get out and about more easily with the use of these wheelchairs.

Following on from the concerns we raised last year regarding the possibility that funds allocated were not always used to the purposes given, we have now implemented a condition that copies of receipts are forwarded to the trust. This allows us to ensure that to the best of

our ability funds are not being used for purposes other than they were granted. This system is in the main working well with very few reminder letters having to be sent out.

We continue to keep 10% of funds in reserve but of course with low interest rates this reserve fund is not growing at the same rate as it was several years ago.

Margaret Pratt

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