

WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL WINDFARM TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT FOR UMBRELLA TRUST AGM 2020

Since the AGM of the Umbrella Trust there has been two further allocation of funds meetings held in October 2019 and April 2020, respectively.

We continue to support local community groups, and halls with their activities and events plus fund the public toilets at the Gigha ferry terminal in Tayinloan for the benefit of those visiting the area. However, the costs involved with the running and maintenance of these toilets is minimal this year due to the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic due to them having to be closed for a large part of the year.

LEGACY PROJECTS -as reported at the last AGM the Community Action plan identified a need for a playpark in the West Kintyre Community Council area and Tayinloan playing fields was identified as the most suitable area for this project. Following the local communities working together to fund raise this project is now complete with help from the wind farm trust. In total the Wind farm trust has given £16000 towards the project, with the other 2 community benefit trusts we are part of also giving the same between them. The total cost of the project was £57000 with the remainder of the funds being raised by community fund raising efforts. This project has not only fulfilled an action identified in the Community Action plan for the area but has brought the community together working towards one goal. A really significant outcome of this project has been the way our young people were involved in the decision making process and fundraising activities and their pride in having achieved their goal of having a playpark with equipment for all ages to use .In February this year I had the honour of being asked to officially open the playpark on behalf of the West Kintyre Windfarm Trust.

REPORT ON THE EXTRA CURRICULAR EDUCATIONAL PROJECT REPORTED AS BEING FUNDED AT THE LAST AGM.

As reported at last year's AGM the Trust agreed to fund an extra curricula project for the pupils at Rhunahaorine Primary School. This project aimed to help the young people of the area learn about and research the history of Old Largie Castle, (the ruins of which are on the hillside above the school), the historical families linked to the castle, research their own family trees and to find out about the current Maxwell-MacDonald family by a visit to Pollock House to which they are currently connected. The young people worked with the Kilmartin Museum educational team, a professional field archaeologist, a professional wildlife and landscape photographer, a professional textile artist, and professional music teacher and storyteller. Their activities included field work studies of the site, worked with old maps of the area, and visited other sites in the area to compare sites. From this the young people designed their own maps and guidance leaflets of the castle and undertook tours of the site with the public plus designed their own medieval costumes for these tours. The culmination of the project was the display of their work and findings in the Campbeltown Museum which was advertised in local newspapers with the opening ceremony speech and ribbon cutting being undertaken by one of the trustees of the Windfarm Trust. This project

has helped young people to develop many skills such as research, design, group working and communication skills to take forward into their future lives

This years educational project will take the form of all three primary schools working together to learn how to make individual animated films using computer software with the help of professional animators and storytellers and will culminate in a mini film festival to be held in Campbeltown cinema later on in the year.

COVID-19 SUPPORT – with the advent of Covid-19 and the subsequent “lockdown” as with everyone else we were faced with how we could support our community during this difficult time. Given the geography of our the area we cover having 7 separate villages spread over a 50 kilometre length plus the demographic makeup of the community the Community Council made the decision that rather than re-invent the wheel it would be better if we negotiated with services already operational in the area to expand their services and offer increased funding support for these services. The reasoning behind this decision was it would not only be a cost effective and speedy option but all were services and personnel already trusted and known in the area with volunteers and personal who had already been PGV’d and knew the area well. All the local services were in agreement with this plan with the result being that Shopper-Aide received £5750 for adaptations to their vehicles to enable more shopping deliveries to be placed in the vehicles, plus the development of a telephone buddy service for those who were either isolated from family or “shielding”, and the development of weekly zoom meetings and quizzes for those able to take part. The shopping and prescription deliveries have during this time increased from approximately 25 per week to up to 95 per week with 25 telephone buddy chats per week and weekly zoom and virtual tea parties for those wishing to get together this way. As well as Shopper-Aide support we donated £1000 to the Kintyre foodbank for the purchase of new freezers to cope with increased demand and £200 towards fuel costs for shopping deliveries to Whitehouse residents by the Friends of Tarbert group.

Unfortunately although the April round of funding saw an increase in funding applications many were withdrawn following the “lockdown” for Covid-19 due to events and work planned for funding no longer being able to take place, this included the planned legacy project of the development of toilets and shower facilities at Westport Beach. However, relevant community members of the development group have been identified and agreed to take part in the project development group once we are able to meet up and set in motion such things as planning applications, architect designs community consultation . It is hoped to begin work on this project soon.

Finally, apologies for not presenting the accounts as having been audited, this is because the auditor was in the “shielded” group and was unable to undertake this task in time for this AGM. This is now in hand and the signed copies of the accounts will be forwarded as soon as possible,

Margaret Pratt

WKCCWFT

August 2020