

East Kintyre Windfarm Trust Annual Report 2021

Throughout the reporting period 2020/21, East Kintyre Community Council (EKCC) consisted of 4 elected members and 4 co-opted member. These members, along with 3 independent trustees, make up East Kintyre Windfarm Trust.

During the financial year ending 31 March 2021, EKWFT received £98,260 in grant payments from Argyll & Bute Council in relation to Beinn an Tuirc 1 & 2 and Deucheran Windfarms. This is significantly more than the previous year simply because 2 payments from Beinn an Tuirc 2 Windfarm were received in the same financial year. This will balance itself out as no payment is likely to be made from this windfarm in the current financial year. In addition, EKWFT received £3006 from SSE in relation to Tangy 2 Windfarm.

A total of 17 applications for grant funding were received during the year with 14 being approved, 1 refused, 1 withdrawn and one cancelled. This is considerably lower than in previous years and is undoubtedly explained by the pandemic with many clubs and groups unable to meet. All grants agreed were funded in full or in line with the receipts/invoices submitted. The grants paid during the year totalled £29,972, which is still very similar to the previous year and explained by 2 much larger projects (Seneval Composting and the Hub/Shop project). By the end of the financial year, the Trust had contingent liabilities of £33,763 due in the main to an outstanding grant of £25,000 to be used towards the refurbishment of the Community Shop and Post Office.

Of the reduced number of applications, most were related in some way to the pandemic with clubs and groups that were struggling during the lockdown looking for financial support. Grants were made to the likes of the Kintyre Food Band and Shopper-Aide who found a much greater demand for their services during this period. Clubs and trusts like Campbelltown Community Business (Campbelltown Cinema) and Carradale Golf Club struggled badly while closed and some limited, but valuable, support was provided. Both Carradale and Peninver Village Halls were closed, with no income but regular overheads. Covering or assisting with their insurance premiums was a practical way for the trust to help. Throughout the pandemic, the Temporary Community Shop, sited in a portakabin at the Village Hall, was of immense value to the community when it was most in need. The Trust funded the purchase of stones to resurface the car park as increased vehicle use by customers created bare patches and large potholes.

With lockdown easing in Summer 2020, Kintyre became a popular tourist destination and the same is expected to happen in 2021. In response to this, EKWFT made 2 grants to the Kintyre Way in order that they could carry out essential maintenance to the East Kintyre section of this popular walking route and replace worn signs and direction posts.

As grant funding has increased, trustees have sought to support larger projects which are more likely to deliver long term benefits to the community, in line with the East Kintyre Local Development Plan <http://eastkintyre.org/ldp.php>

A development fund, to help finance such community projects, was established in 2016 and currently has a balance of £62,108. During the year, trustees agreed a grant of £25,000 towards the purchase and refurbishment of a Community Shop and Post Office, which was assisted by a grant from the Scottish Land Fund. This was the largest grant ever made by EKWFT and is significant in that it helped the Carradale Community Trust

achieve the number one priority in the Local Development Plan of once again having a permanent shop in Carradale.

Each year, 10% of all community benefit funds received are transferred into a retention fund (2 bank term deposit accounts) for use by future generations. At 31 March 2021 it had a balance of £62,137.

Wherever possible, trustees look for evidence of match funding from applicants, although a degree of flexibility is often necessary as it becomes increasingly difficult for them to obtain such funding.

NOTE - This report should be read in conjunction with the attached audited accounts.

Alasdair Bennett
Secretary & Treasurer
East Kintyre Windfarm Trust