

East Kintyre Windfarm Trust Annual Report 2022

Throughout the reporting period 2021/22 , 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 2022, EKWFT received £28,069 in grant payments from Argyll & Bute Council in relation to Beinn an Tuirc 1 and Deucheran Windfarms. This is less than normal and explained by 2 Beinn an Tuirc 2 payments being received in the previous financial year. This balances itself out with an average of about £65,000 being received each year.

A total of 12 applications for grant funding were received during the year with 11 being approved and 1 refused. This is less than half the pre-pandemic level and undoubtedly due to clubs and groups unable to meet.

All grants agreed were funded in full or in line with the receipts/invoices submitted. Grants paid during the year totalled £46,765, which is an increase on the previous year and explained by a significant grant of £25,000, approved in the previous financial year, to help towards the provision of a community shop. This is one of the most significant projects that the Trust has helped fund to provide a facility that is very much at the centre of community life in Carradale. During the pandemic in particular, the shop provided a real lifeline for the community, saving people a 30 mile return journey to Campbeltown.

There continued to be some applications from groups feeling the pressure from the pandemic. Grants were made to Shopper-Aide to help with an increased number of deliveries to the elderly in East Kintyre and to both Carradale and Peninver Village Halls to assist with revenue costs. Reduced use of these halls created cash flow issues and the fund assisted by paying insurance and other costs.

As lockdown eased in the Summer months, there was an increased influx of tourists looking to enjoy the area and its facilities. In anticipation of this, groups sought funding to help with a number of projects. Grants were made available to Carradale Community Trust to help refurbish their local tearoom and put together exhibitions in the Heritage Centre. Saddell Abbey Trust were awarded funds to improve the grounds of the abbey, which is a significant tourist attraction. As in most years, the Kintyre Way were given a grant to help towards the maintenance of the East Kintyre Sections of this popular walk.

EKWFT will continue to support larger projects such as the Community Shop, 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>. To assist in this regard, a development fund was established in 2016 and currently has a balance of £62,119.

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 2022 it had a balance of £72,959.

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