

Clachan Flats (Cairndow) Windfarm Trust

Report to: Bute & Cowal Area Committee

Report from: Morven Short, Secretary/Treasurer

Date: 18th January 2010

The initial meeting of the Trust was held on 7th January 2009 to explain the background to the formation of the Trust and how it will operate.

Draft Constitution and draft Standing Orders were issued to the nominated representatives on the Trust, to be considered and agreed at a formal inaugural meeting. This meeting was held on 3rd March 2009. Office Bearers were appointed: Ernie McPherson, Cairndow community representative as Chair and Morven Short, Cairndow Community Council representative as Secretary/Treasurer. Other Board members were confirmed as Glyn Toplis, Cairndow Community Council representative; Councillor Bruce Marshall, Argyll & Bute Council representative and Martin Mathers, Community Relations Manager, ScottishPower Renewables representative.

The Constitution and Standing Orders were approved at the 3rd March meeting.

At a meeting of the Trust on 21st April 2009 it was agreed to open a bank account with the Royal Bank of Scotland. With completion of the formation of the Trust, arrangements were put in place to have the funds transferred from Argyll & Bute Council and on 8th June 2009 a deposit of £15,000.64 was made.

An event to launch the Trust was held in Cairndow Village Hall on June 6th 2009.

A meeting, to consider the first two grant applications received, was held on 17th August 2009. Cairndow Community Childcare was awarded a grant of £3,500 for revenue costs to cover a funding shortfall for their 2009/10 financial year and this was paid out on 25th August 2009.

An application from Cairndow Bowling Club for up to £1850 was approved in principle but payment was deferred pending back-up information and quotations being submitted. On submission of the required information, a grant of £1588.58 was paid on 8th October 2009.

An application from Strachur Primary School for funding assistance to cover transport costs so that pupils could attend two environmental events, one at Hunters Quay and one at Ardentenny was approved by way of electronic mailing among the Trust members, due to time constraints. On the basis of the detailed information provided by the Head Teacher, it was agreed unanimously that the projects would benefit the children from Cairndow that attend the school, as such extra-curricular activities are limited for the village's children due to geographic location. £500 was paid to the school on 15th September 2009.

Total grant payout for 2009 therefore amounts to £5,588.58, leaving a bank balance at 30th December 2009, including £2.56 interest received, of £9,414.62.

A further payment in to the Trust funds, amounting to £7000.64, via Argyll & Bute Council, was made in January 2010.