

## **Welcome to AGM 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

Good evening I would like to welcome you and thank you for joining us for the 6<sup>th</sup> AGM of Tighnabruaich District Development Trust and the first AGM by Zoom in these trying times. Mind you by the response it would appear that members would rather attend from their own homes than joining us in person at Kames Hall. May be the way ahead! This year there are a couple of items on the Agenda that will require your vote, David Mitchell will advise us of the voting procedure before each vote and will also collate the votes as our independent adjudicator.

## **Chairman's Report 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

I would like take this opportunity to thank my fellow directors and project leaders for their hard work during the year. Particular thanks to Tony Bryce for managing to get all the documentation out to you all, updating all our membership records and collecting emails. Alastair Barge for updating the Community Plan, Graeme Hogg for his financial acumen and keeping us right in all the legislation that is required these days and David Mitchell for making this AGM happen thanks to Zoom.

Due to the pandemic it has been a difficult year but we have still managed to put our funds to good use.

The flow of income to the charity from its investment in Srondoire Wind Farmers Ltd through its subsidiary company Tighnabruaich District Community Renewables Limited has enabled the Trust to support more community projects and develop projects in its own right during the year.

Since the beginning of the last financial year on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019, grants ranging from £135 to £10000 have been awarded to community groups including:

Kyles Athletic Shinty Club Equipment for Grounds Maintenance      £7000.00

Kames Hall Heating Upgrade, Floor refurbishment and Stage

Improvements      £3573.00

Friends of Glenan Wood Start up Grants amounting to	£3387.00
Dunoon School Parent Partnership Study Grant	£2000.00
Five West Rent for the Heritage Centre	£2280.00
Kilfinan Community Council Defibrillator at Kilfinan	£750.00
Kilfinan Community Council Defibrillator Cabinets and Batteries	
For the equipment located at Kames Hall, Irvine's Shop and the Pier.	£1740.00
THE Maxie Richards Foundation at Kames Court Kitchen Upgrade	£10,000.00
£5000 has already been allocated with the balance to follow.	
Tighnabruaich Parent Council, I Pads for the School	£2720.00

There is also in the pipeline a residue of £475.80 to Glenan Forest, £5000 for the upgrade of the path next spring from the TV mast down to the Boatyard and the next £2000 to Dunoon School Parent Partnership, a Grant to ensure the pupils get supervised after-school tuition no longer provided by the Council.

We have also met the costs of the Heritage Centre including rent, insurance, heat and light and the initial costs of putting the various displays together. To date this has cost some £8000.

I am sure you will all agree these funds have all been put to very good use.

The Heritage Centre has been closed due to the pandemic but prior to that the number of comments in the visitor's book would endorse that it had proved to be an exciting and valuable new asset to the village. Sincere thanks are due to Michael Fuminger who put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to make the centre happen in such a short space of time. Our best wishes go to Michael and Sally in their new home in Cornwall. Thanks are also due to Roberta Wallace who has stepped up into the role of co-ordinator.

Due to the pandemic it was decided not to reinstall the jetty to avoid social contact but it is our intention to replace it in the spring after undergoing an

overhaul which will involve bringing the two sections currently moored round Rhubahn point to the beach for scraping off of weed etc. Our thanks to Ronnie Irvine and Stuart Jack for undertaking this intricate operation.

Regrettably the Bowling Green project had to be aborted, whilst we had secured funds of £50000 from local donations and pledges the two major grant funders that we had expected to make up the balance declined due to the project not having a significant enough social impact. This is a problem with all small rural communities as they don't have sufficient population to warrant their funding. Also Sports Scotland who has previously had grant allocation of £10million had this reduced to £2million in the last year. Hopefully this project could be resurrected when funding sources permit.

Before I finish I would like to stress that with the income being generated, the Trust would welcome applications for any worthwhile project that would benefit the community. The application forms and criteria for access to these funds is clearly detailed on the website [www.tddt.org.uk](http://www.tddt.org.uk)

Lastly I am pleased to report that the trust is going from strength to strength and will continue to contribute to many worthwhile projects in the future.

Many thanks I will now pass on to Graeme to explain the financial position.