

Welcome to AGM 5th December 2023

Good evening I would like to welcome you to Kames Church Hall and thank you for joining us for the 9th AGM of Tighnabruaich District Development Trust.

Chairman's Report 5th December 2023

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 our secretary for managing all the documentation and Janie Boyd for taking over the secretarial duties when Tony was unavailable. Graeme Hogg the treasurer for his financial acumen and keeping us right in all the legislation that is required these days.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved over the last 6 years in the trust and particularly pleased that 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 continue to develop projects in its own right during the year. With the increase in energy costs we can look forward to increased dividends in the year ahead which will allow us to support more projects in the future.

Over the last few years the trust has supported:

The maintenance of the Jetty at the Lifeboat Station.

Restoration of the local path network.

The new bus, Vertidrainer and car park improvements for Kyles Athletic Shinty Club.

The new Tractor for the Golf Course.

I Pads for the Primary School.

The VETS Emergency Telephone System and all the defibrillators situated throughout the parish.

New Kitchen for Kings Court

The Heritage Centre.

Kames and Kilfinan Hall refurbishments.

Kames Hall Indoor Bowling Equipment

Management of the Kyles Ten Miles event.

Friends of Glenan Wood.

Taking over the Knotweed Spraying from The Community Council.

Homework provision for all the school children residing in the Dunoon Hostel.

If you have been travelling up the Smiddy Brae in the last few days you will notice our biggest project since the jetty is underway with the refurbishment of the Tennis court. At a cost of £27600 our thanks go to Awards for All for a sizable grant together with many donations from the local community. The lions share has been met by the trust although further contributions would be welcome to enable the trust's money to go further.

We are currently seeking the finance to buy the Heritage Centre and Old Post Office shops to maintain the character of the village by preventing them being turned into residential properties, which might occur if bought by a third party.

The owners of the Petrol Station are hoping to retire shortly and, in common with very many local residents, the trust has identified the continuation of having fuel in the village as an essential service to the community. The trust is considering how this might be achieved.

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

The Heritage Centre has proven to be a great asset to the village and thanks go to Roberta Wallace and her team for looking after it and we look forward to seeing many new displays in the years ahead.

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

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.

Lastly I am particularly pleased that Alastair Barge has agreed to take over the Chairmanship of the trust for the next two years.

Are there any questions before we move on?

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