



## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Ardrishaig Community Trust

Held at 7.30pm on 15th March 2022 in the Public Hall

### For Approval

#### 1. Directors Present

Arthur Barclay (Chair), Hamish Nicol, Duncan Broadfoot, Lynn Gorrie, Linda Quelch, and Edward Laughton.

#### 2. Apologies

None

#### 3. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18th November 2020 were approved by the Members. Proposed by Jeanette Laughton, seconded by Mary Broadfoot.

There was no meeting in 2021 due to Covid.

#### 4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Arthur Barclay, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then reported on the Trust's activities over the previous year.

He welcomed the Trust's new Development Officer, Bek Hawky-Whitwell. This position is funded by the Development Trusts Association Scotland.

He also welcomed representatives from the Lochgilphead Soccer Centre, who later gave a demonstration of their skills. The Trust is in the final year of a three year sponsorship of the Soccer Centre, taking into account the impact of Covid.

The Trust's activities, like so many others, have been severely restricted by Covid. At the same time the income from Allt Dearg Community Windfarm has been low due to the unusually low levels of wind.

Despite this, work has continued on refurbishment and improvements to the halls. There is still quite a lot to do before they are at the standard we are looking to achieve. Thanks are due to the volunteers who have put in a lot of time and effort to help.



For a small donation we acquired kitchen fittings from the old A&B hospital, which will contribute to a much improved kitchen facility in the Public Hall.

A special mention is due to Ed Laughton, for all his achievements on behalf of the Trust and the Ardrishaig community. In particular his initiative in getting involved with the windfarm at an early stage, successfully bidding for funding for improvements to Robbers Den, the DTAS funding for the Development Officer position, and his continuing efforts dealing with the hall improvements as well as day to day issues. Along with many more examples of his successes and achievements.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Edward Laughton, then delivered his financial report.

As the 2021 annual accounts were still in preparation by the accountants, the report focused on the published accounts to end October 2020.

Donations were received from the Trust's wholly owned subsidiary, Ardrishaig Renewable Energies, from its investment in Allt Dearg Community Windfarm. During the financial year, these amounted to £186,968.

During the Covid lockdown, to compensate for loss of hall rental income, the Trust received a grant of £17,500 from the Scottish Government via Argyll and Bute Council.

At the close of the financial year, cash in bank amounted to £235,863.

The Trust signed a contract with MacLeod Construction Ltd in January 2020 for the renovation of the Public Hall to be completed the following July. Due to lockdown, renovation work ceased and recommenced within the limits of government covid guidelines. The completion date for the renovation was subsequently not met and estimated to be sometime during 2021.

We applied for Scottish Government 'Strengthening Communities Programme' funding for a three year project to support the employment of a Development Officer. Following a successful award, Bek Hawkby-Whitwell has been selected and is now in post as of the beginning of March.

Our current financial position (as of February 2022) is that we have £86,000 at bank, with £18,000 of that being Restricted Funds for the Development Officer salary.

## 6. Independent Examiner's Report

Wm. Duncan & Co. again carried out an independent examination of the Trust's finances. These are documented in the Trust's annual accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

There were no issues with the annual accounts that needed to be reported.

The overall financial position is strong, with the balance sheet being particularly strong.



## 7. Annual Accounts

The annual accounts for the year to 31st October 2020 were approved by the Members. Proposed by Jeanette Laughton, seconded by Mary Broadfoot.

## 8. Election of Board Members

In accordance with the Trust's Memorandum & Articles of Association, the office bearers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) will stand down as of the close of the AGM.

Directors retire each year by rotation and are available for re-election. In this case two Directors were duly re-elected: Hamish Nicol and Arthur Barclay.

The Members approved these elections. Proposed by Jeanette Laughton, seconded by Mary Broadfoot.

## 9. Meeting Close

The Chairman declared the 2022 Annual General Meeting of Ardrishaig Community Trust closed, and thanked everyone who had attended.