

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Lochwinnoch Bowling Club

22nd November 2023



LOCHWINNOCH
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST

1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absences

Diarmid Harris (chair) welcomed attendees. The meeting was attended by 19 members in person and 4 members by zoom. Apologies were received from a further member. Three absent members, having completed proxy forms, were included in those entitled to vote.

Since there were greater than 20% of the membership (98) present, the meeting was quorate.

2 Minutes of AGM 2022

The were displayed, having been already been distributed to members.

3 Chairman's Report

The chair reminded members about the objectives and structure of the Trust and introduced various members of the board who described the projects achieved over the previous year.

Organisation Development

The Board identified and engaged in training to improve its competencies through the Scottish Government's Accelerate Programme. In particular it looked at enhancing PR, HR and Financial Services. We aim to put in place succession plans to ensure that key office bearer posts can be filled by trustees with the required level of skills and to promote a culture of continuous development.

Lochhead Community Garden

Soil Contamination

Funding for soil testing was secured from Renfrewshire Council. Tests indicated there was widespread, (but not generally serious), contamination of the underlying soil from its industrial past. Public access is OK (apart from one area) but we would not be able to plant food crops in the underlying soil. Some soil will be removed and food crops will be planted in raised beds.

Volunteer work

We removed the old raised beds and also cleared some of the brambles in the planting areas.

Larder

The Community Larder (operated by LEAP) continued to operate successfully.

Wildcare and Toddlers Groups

These activities continued as before.

Garden Design

Our professional garden designer held two days of public consultation to inform the final garden design.

Muirshiel Regeneration Project

Our key aims remain:

- o Peatland restoration
- o Rewilding, tree planting and sustainable forestry

- o Restoration of two small farms
- o Sustainable leisure and tourism
- o Access to volunteering and wild spaces
- o Environmental education.

Over the past year we were awarded funding from the Scottish Land Fund for a Community Consultation (probably in January), Business Study and Valuation and negotiations continued with Renfrewshire Council and other bodies.

Warm Spaces Project

The Warm Spaces Network ran from mid November 2022 through to March 2023 (20 weeks). The Warm Spaces financial breakdown is included in the Treasurer's report.

We achieved the following aims:

- o Created warm spaces for all,
- o Decreased social isolation and loneliness,
- o Supported local establishments,
- o Supported local employment.

Park Restoration

We secured funding to complete playground and seating through Community and Businesses sources and Renfrewshire Council.

Lochwinnoch Parish Church

A Public Meeting was held and a group formed to explore the possibility of Community Ownership..

4 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Bill White, shared the balance sheet for 2022/23 as below.

	2023			2022
	General Funds	Project Funds	TOTAL	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>				
Donations & fundraising income	0	0	0	9,954
Grant income	0	80,491	80,491	20,901
Bank interest received	32	0	32	0
TOTAL INCOME	32	80,491	80,523	30,855
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Development Worker fees	0	12,056	12,056	0
Development Worker expenses	0	1,159	1,159	0
Rent	0	6,405	6,405	0

Insurance		0	162	162	162
Project costs		0	25,207	25,207	422
Venue hire		0	8,836	8,836	25
Refreshments		0	463	463	0
Printing & newsletter costs		301	440	742	0
Small equipment purchases		0	5,314	5,314	3,996
Equipment hire		0	264	264	0
Subscriptions		30	0	30	0
Legal & consultant costs		13	1,544	1,557	0
Recruitment costs		0	276	276	0
Website		0	1,800	1,800	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		344	63,926	64,270	4,605
Net surplus/(Deficit)		(312)	16,565	16,254	26,250
Funds b/fwd at 1 April 2022		1,028	25,811	26,839	589
Funds c/fwd at 31 March 2023		716	42,376	43,092	26,839

Balance Sheet As At 31 March 2023	2023 TOTAL	2022 TOTAL
	£	£
<u>Cash at bank and in hand</u>		
Coop Current Account	14,884	3,683
Coop Savings Account	33,189	23,156
Total Cash at bank and in hand	48,072	26,839
Net current assets	48,072	26,839
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Acting As Agent	4,980	0
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4,980	0
Net current assets (liabilities)	43,092	26,839
Total assets less current liabilities	43,092	26,839

Total net assets (liabilities)	43,092	26,839
Capital and Reserves		
Retained Earnings	26,839	589
Surplus for the year	16,254	26,250
Total Capital and Reserves	43,092	26,839

These accounts were approved by the Management Committee of the Lochwinnoch Community Development Trust on 23rd October 2023 and signed on their behalf by Diarmid Harris (Chair) and Bill White (Treasurer)




ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

I report that the following accounts of the Lochwinnoch Community Development Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023 agree with the books and records supplied to me and fairly represent the Trust's financial position at that date.



Heather Hartman BA(Hons) CA

20th October 2023

In the 2022-23 financial year, the Trust increased its range of activities, building on the work for the redevelopment of the Play Park and the preparations for the Lochhead Gardens to provide support for the Elderly Forum, the Warm Spaces projects and Force for Nature, attracting grant income of £80491 (£30855 in 2021-22).

A lot of work was completed during the year resulting in expenditure of £64,270, but a significant balance was carried forward to cover the cost of further planned activities.

As the Trust continued to support the community with its existing projects, so it also sought to expand its activities in a variety of ways that justified the assistance of a part time Development Officer (DO), funded through a Scottish Government grant. The DO has aided the Trust in numerous ways and has been instrumental in initiating and assisting in the development of new projects which has generated ongoing grant applications and awards that will bear fruit for the community in the financial year 2023-24 and beyond.

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (as at 23/10/23)
Income	£30855	£80523	£53398
Expenditure	£4605	£63926	£44581

5 Motions

- Approve minutes from 2022 AGM - proposed by Zul Bhatia, seconded by Martin Mansell approved nem con
- Approve accounts for 2022-23 - proposed by Bill Wright, seconded by Diarmid Harris approved nem con

- c) Approve an application being made to OSCR to have charitable status and the consequent changes to our articles. It was explained by Martin Mansell that the Board had decided to seek approval to apply to OSCR for registration as a charity. This would open up sources of funding which would not be available to non-charities. Registration as a charity would require some changes to our objects, which were outlined in the meeting documents. The changes also included removing the requirement for directors to consider whether to admit any person and reducing the quorum for an AGM to 10% of membership. These changes were proposed by Joe Greenlees and seconded by Jamie McNamara and were passed nem con.

6 Election of Board

The current board (Diarmid Harris, Ann Kerr Friend, Bill White, Martin Mansell, Rafe Dewar and Dianne Allen) were all willing to stand again. No further nominations were put forward and the motion to appoint these people was proposed by Bill Wright and seconded by Dave Mellor and passed nem con.

7 Plans for the current year

Louise McCarron, our Development Officer, gave an outline of the work proposed for the current year.

Organisational Development

Further work by Directors on Governance and Training with the continued support of Community Enterprise and DTAS

Lochhead Garden

- o 10 year lease granted, legalities almost completed,
- o Design finalised & tender documents prepared,
- o Funding secured for Phase 1 - Toilet/Store/Workshop, including water & drainage,
- o Funding applied for groundworks, should start in March.

Muirshiel Regeneration Project

- o Support of elected Councillors
- o Working with Renfrewshire Council supporting peatland restoration
- o Prospect of an Asset Transfer for part of the estate
- o Community Consultation will be held, probably in January.

Park Renovation

- o Teen Shelter – donations & grant funding applied for
- o Mural 1 – workshops completed with children
- o Mural 2 – funding applied for workshops with teenagers

Warm Spaces

- o The Senior's Forum's Tea Bar
- o Lochwinnoch Crafting Group
- o Mental Health Crafters – GP Community Link Worker
- o Children's activities at The Annex

Funding to be confirmed:

- o Men's Shed Winter Wednesday's Drop-In at The Three Churches
- o Teen Workshops at Shrubs to Suds

Parish Church

- o New strong Steering Group, meeting monthly,
- o Understanding reached with Church of Scotland
- o Training undertaken,
- o Research of similar projects well underway
- o Quotes received & funding applied for community consultation, valuation, condition report & business plan.

Lochwinnoch Business Network

- o All businesses, trades, services, freelancers, etc
- o Phase 1 – Retailers aim to increase footfall
 - Late opening x 2 nights
 - Christmas Lights Parade
 - Christmas Markets in Castle Semple & RSPB
 - Discover Lochwinnoch banners

www.lochwinnochonline

- o Congratulations and THANKS to sara, Kirstin & Morag
- o Wonderful tool for attracting visitors and supporting village life
- o Some businesses, trades, services, freelancers and community groups still to sign up – spread the word!

Other Groups

- o Men's Shed
- o Lochwinnoch Crafting Group
- o Lochwinnoch Force for Nature
- o Bloco Winnoch - Samba Drumming Street Performance

8 Guest Speaker Jamie McNamara

Jamie is a Historic Building Conservator working with the Church of Scotland and living in the village. He spoke of the unique character of the Parish Church, one of only a few A listed buildings in Renfrewshire. He mentioned the many varied uses that the building could be put to and fully supports the proposed buyout, although he is not able to be part of the group because of a potential conflict of interest.

9 Any Other Competent Business

No matter brought forward.

10 Date of Next Meeting

This will be determined by the board.