



Glenkens & District Trust (SC042489)

Report from meeting of Trustees - January 2021

We appointed Julie Garton as an independent Trustee. Julie lives in Corsock and, until recently, was the Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Nurse Consultant at NHS Dumfries and Galloway. She brings valuable experience to our Trustee group. There will be a recruitment drive for independent Trustees in the coming year and more information will be provided in due course.

The focus of the January meeting was on the following areas:

Funding Round

We discussed the opening of the Fund in February and the information required to facilitate this. We agreed: -

1. Revisions to the Fund Strategy which provides the detailed context to the running of the Fund and underpins the criteria used by Trustees to make decisions on awards;
2. Revisions to the Fund Factsheet which summarises the Fund Strategy and will be used to publicise the fund. This document will be distributed to potential applicants alongside the application form as a 'how to' guide to applying;
3. The press release which will be used to promote the Fund reopening on 1 February will be distributed by Foundation Scotland to all the usual outlets (an article has already gone to the Glenkens Gazette). It will also be used as the basis for social media promotion;
4. The Fund promotional poster which will soon go on noticeboards. It promotes/encourages the availability of the one-to-one support sessions being offered by Foundation Scotland. These can be being booked via calendly.com/blackcraig/info (live now).

This material is available on

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/blackcraig>

Key items to note for this round: -

1. Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd have decided not to continue the bespoke arrangements with Glencairn Community Council so organisations in the Glencairn Community Council area will be eligible to apply to the Fund. The money available in the Main Fund has now increased by £16,000 per annum as a result of this decision.
2. The opening date for applications is 1 February 2021.
3. The closing date for applications is 6 April 2021.
4. Around £336 000 will be available for distribution in 2021.
5. Decision-making meetings are planned to take place by early June 2021.

The Fund is still open for 'urgent funding' outwith the main funding round.

Fund Statement and Grant Making Report

We reviewed these statements prepared by Foundation Scotland to inform us on the monies available for the new round as well as to assure ourselves that the monies awarded had been utilised in line with the purpose of grant. We were pleased to see so many projects completed but did note that a number of projects from the first round in 2019 had not yet submitted their Completion Reports. Foundation Scotland will continue to chase for these.

Community Action Plan

The Steering Group is meeting regularly with Community Enterprise to discuss the work underway on the Community Action Plan. A short update with more information is provided at Appendix 1.

£4,500 has been allocated from the ring-fenced monies set aside from the Fund to cover this phase: £2,000 to GCAT Ltd in respect of the Glenkens Gazette to work up a plan for developing it and to ensure a broader reach; and £2,500 to Propagate in respect of its food project looking at how best to develop an improved and more affordable food ecosystem locally, linking growers, retailers and users.

Barnaby Fryer, the Loch Ken Trust Officer has joined the Steering Group.

We also agreed the Terms of Reference for the Steering Group.

The Glenkens Summit

This is scheduled for 2nd March at 7pm. This event, facilitated by Community Enterprise, will provide an opportunity to think about our community, its assets and challenges and to influence what the Community Action Plan should focus on going forward. This will be a virtual event so please look out for details on posters and social media. Registration for the event is available here: <https://tinyurl.com/glenkens>

Constitution and Governance

As you are aware, the Community Council Members approved the new Constitution at our AGM in December, so we have been updating our various governance documents to reflect this new Constitution.

At the meeting we approved: -

1. Trustee Role Description and Code of Conduct.
2. Conflicts of Interest Policy and Declaration of Interest Form.
3. Matters Reserved to the Board of Trustees and Delegations.
4. Community Council Guide to GDT Membership.

Work is still underway on processes for recruiting Associate Members and this will be reviewed at our next meeting in March.

Annual Report and Accounts and AGM

We approved the Annual Report and Accounts for y/e 31st August 2020 and agreed that we should hold our next Annual General Meeting on 9th March 2021 at 7pm. We agreed the form of the Notice, which will be sent out shortly. The Community Council Guide to GDT Membership will be sent out at the same time. This Guide is intended to assist Members to

agree the right approvals at their meetings so as to enable them to comply with the requirements on Members under the Constitution.

We appreciate that this is very soon after the meeting in December, but we need to bring the Annual General Meeting forward so that it is closer to the year-end, in order to keep our Members informed with current information.

Potential further developments

We continue to engage with wind farm developers in our area and are careful to ensure we only discuss their approach to Community Benefit Payments, in the event of their projects proceeding. We do not discuss the merits or otherwise of the developments as this is a matter for the Community Councils. We have had positive interactions with EnergieKontor, EDF and Falck Energy over the last few weeks.

Awards and Extensions

Other than the amounts awarded from the money ring-fenced for the Community Action Plan work, no other amounts have been awarded or extensions given in January.

Appendix 1

Glenkens & District Action Plan Update No 2: Glenkens Community Summit

The Glenkens & District Community Action Plan published last year is a roadmap for the whole community over the next five years, with the goal that 'the Glenkens and district will be a connected, resilient and carbon neutral place, where people will want to live, work and visit, to bring up their families, and to grow old'. You can find a copy of the plan in your local village shop or online by searching for Glenkens Action Plan.

The first year is well under way. This is an implementation phase, creating the foundation on which future activities will be built. Since the last update, national organisation Community Enterprise has been appointed to take forward this work in collaboration with local body Sleeping Giants. We have been working since September to get things moving in relation to the four thematic areas and funding for this has been provided through Blackcraig Community Fund.

Improving the use of community assets and buildings emerged as a key priority in the Plan. A meeting took place with representatives of many of the local halls and buildings and there is a plan to map what the community has, so that these assets can work together more easily and effectively. There is a huge amount happening with food, from the local Producer Market and Glenkens Food Month, to community owned shops. A project is being funded to start to develop a better and more affordable food ecosystem locally, linking growers, retailers and users in a better way. Young people are a key part of the community and discussions are moving ahead with the design of a bespoke Glenkens youth project. Also, a piece of research is being commissioned soon to consider how to develop accessible childcare across the Glenkens, fitting around what already exists and filling any gaps. And finally, because communication and information is so vital, the Glenkens Gazette has received a small grant to work up a plan for further development in this area and to ensure a broader reach.

However one of the most inspiring things in the planning at the moment is the launch of the first Glenkens Community Summit which will take place on 2nd March at 7pm. Due to Covid-19, this event will be virtual but it is planned to be a high profile event, bringing together the whole community, young and old, from all our villages and settlements. Anyone from outwith the area who works here or has an interest in it will be very welcome but the focus of this event is the people who live here. There will be an opportunity to hear inspiring stories from elsewhere, to think about the community, its assets and challenges and to influence what the Community Action Plan should focus on in the future.

There will be lots of publicity about the event over the coming weeks but to register for the event you can get the link from Facebook, Twitter using the handle [glenkenstrust](#) or by emailing douglas@communityenterprise.co.uk or Fiona.smith1@btinternet.com