



Glenkens & District Trust

**Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the
Year ended 31 August 2021**

Scottish Charity number SC042489

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2021

Scottish Charity Number **SC042489**

Trustees

Trustee	Date acted	Name of body entitled to nominate Trustee (if any)
Des Hadnett		Balmaghie Community Council
Richard Middleton		Crossmichael and District Community Council
William Dickson		Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham Community Council
Denise MacDonald Kiernan		Balmaclellan Community Council
Allan Todd	Resigned 29 September 2020	Dunscore Community Council
Rosalind Hill	Resigned 15 September 2021	The Royal Burgh of New Galloway and Kells Parish Community Council
Fiona Smith		
Thomas Marshall		Parton Community Council
Julie Garton		Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham Community Council until 19 January 2021 and thereafter Independent
Andrew Mellor		Dalry Community Council
Gavin Creaney	Appointed 29 October 2020 Resigned 9 March 2021	Dunscore Community Council
Graham Walker	Appointed 26 April 2021	Dunscore Community Council
John McGaw	Appointed 15 September 2021	The Royal Burgh of New Galloway and Kells Parish Community Council
Matthew Shedden	Appointed 14 September 2021	

Contact Address

Glenkens & District Trust
 Balmaclellan House
 Balmaclellan
 Castle Douglas
 DG7 3PW

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

As set out in the table above eight Trustees are nominated by their respective Community Councils. The Constitution requires the person nominated by each Community Council to be either a member or associate member of that Community Council and requires the Community Council to take into account any role description/skills matrix provided in making that nomination. This has been provided as part of the Members' Handbook referred to below.

The Constitution allows for Trustees to appoint up to five Independent Trustees. The Trustees can, by two thirds majority, appoint an Independent Trustee based on their skills, experience, background, profession, expertise, and any other relevant factors. During the year the role of Independent Trustee has been promoted locally with a pack setting out the requirements being freely available and applications sought. As at the date of signing there were three Independent Trustees.

Governing document

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

Charitable purpose

The organisation's purposes during the year being reported on were:

1. to advance citizenship and community development by distributing Wind Farm Community Benefit money and other grants to local groups, organisations or individuals according to criteria and need as defined from time to time, as well as commissioning and providing funding for projects that will benefit local communities within the Community Council Areas,
2. the advancement of environmental protection or improvement including the preservation or conservation of the natural environment or particular parts of it and the promotion of sustainable development. "Sustainable development" means development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, and
3. the prevention or relief of poverty including preventing those who are poor from becoming poorer, as well as preventing those who are at risk of being poor from becoming poor.

Activities & Achievements

During the year ended August 2021 we have progressed on a number of our areas of focus namely: -

- Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund
- Community Action Plan
- Constitution and Governance
- Communications and engagement
- Potential wind farm developments.

In common with other organisations the challenges arising from COVID 19 and associated restrictions have required us to work differently and to find new approaches to our work. We have continued to meet virtually on a regular basis and been able to carry on with the work of GDT effectively in all the circumstances.

Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund

Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund (the Fund) is provided by Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd from its Blackcraig wind farm. The Fund is run as a partnership arrangement between Foundation Scotland and Glenkens and District Trust. Foundation Scotland takes care of operational delivery of the Fund and GDT is responsible for strategy and decision making. Foundation Scotland processes all monies paid to or by the Fund. The role of GDT is to decide on how the Fund is used. GDT has a Memorandum of Understanding with Foundation Scotland setting out their respective responsibilities.

Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd also decided during the year that they would not continue with separate arrangements with Glencairn Community Council and that organisations in Glencairn would be eligible to apply directly to the Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to help our communities be even better places to live, work and visit for people of all ages by becoming more connected, strong, creative, inclusive, healthy and long-lasting.

During the reporting year the following arrangements for distributing money from the Fund applied:

1. An allocation to each Community Council in the Fund area for local distribution.
2. A Main Grants programme, with advertised funding rounds widely promoted across the Fund area.
3. 'Out of cycle' applications for urgent funding requests
4. Commissioning
5. Targeted awards to support the implementation of the Community Action Plan

6. An Emergency Covid 19 Community Fund

The Year 2 Fund Report by Foundation Scotland for the year ended 31 May can be found on the following link <https://tinyurl.com/BlackcraigYr2>

We ran one open award round during the reporting year. This opened in February 2021 with a closing date for applications in April 2021. In advance of the opening for this round we reviewed our Fund Strategy in light of the output from the Glenkens & District Community Action Plan and the other Community Action Plans across the Fund area.

In June we made decisions on awards as part of this open funding round. Awards totalling £116 634.84 were made during this round to 13 different organisations

The awards covered a wide range of costs including building improvements, equipment and materials and operating or staff costs to support projects.

In reviewing the outcomes from this round, we were only too aware of the difficulties for organisations to develop and plan projects which was exacerbated by the issues related to Covid 19. We had two key observations arising from this round of funding - we found it interesting to note the role of development trusts within the area in providing support to the various groups, and to share expertise and learning; and the other was that projects involving assets can be complex, and we are developing our fund materials to support applicants to ensure they are getting the appropriate level of technical, funding and professional support to bring forward well-developed applications, not just to Blackcraig but to any funder, and for the benefit of the communities who will be the beneficiaries of these projects.

To address these, we will work with anchor organisations across the Fund area to gain a better understanding of the role they play and how we could invest in them to secure positive outcomes and maximum value for our communities as a whole.

The Trustees at each of their meetings reviewed the Fund Statement prepared by Foundation Scotland showing the monies allocated and available for awards. On a quarterly basis we also reviewed a detailed Grant Making Report from Foundation Scotland to assure ourselves that the monies had been utilised in line with the purposes of the grant. Unsurprisingly given the circumstances there were some requests for extensions granted and we also gave additional time for successful applicants to provide their Completion Reports.

Community Action Plan

Following publication of the Glenkens & District Community Action Plan (CAP) and associated Research Report we moved into an implementation phase. Following an open tender process Community Enterprise were appointed to support us in this work. A CAP Steering Group was set up to oversee this work and this met on a regular basis with an early focus being to identify local groups/organisations who could facilitate the development of priority items highlighted in the CAP. £20k was ringfenced from the Fund to facilitate this work with approval of any spend subject to the usual approval processes.

Details of awards made are included in the Year 2 Fund Report. In addition we also, after a tender process, commissioned some work to gain a better understanding of the issues associated with childcare provision in the area.

We also convened and organised the first Glenkens Summit which was held virtually and had over one hundred people in attendance. We were able to get external speakers who brought a wider perspective to the issues we face, and we received positive feedback from the event.

We spent considerable time considering the appropriate monitoring and oversight arrangements on the CAP to ensure that they are effective. This included consulting with the local community organisations that act as 'community anchors' about how this could best be done. As a result of this work and consultation, as reported below, a grant of £19,000 has been awarded to Glenkens Community and Arts Trust Limited to contribute to the costs of a new senior role in GCAT. GCAT were awarded funding from South of Scotland Enterprise and combining the two awards plus their own resources enables GCAT to create a post which, as part of the role, will help move forward the issue of how to provide appropriate leadership and oversight of the CAP, ensuring it is community owned and not rigidly identified with GDT, which as a fund distributing body is committed to resourcing and enabling community development in the Glenkens. We will work with GCAT to clarify each organisation's CAP roles and responsibilities and map out partnership working.

Constitution and Governance

Following the approval of our new Constitution we took steps to ensure our governance arrangements were aligned with the new requirements. We produced a Member Handbook for our Community Council Members setting the requirements for them to appoint trustees and representatives. We developed and agreed the arrangements for Associate Members and encouraged people and organisations to join. We produced our first members newsletter and plan to produce this twice per annum going forward.

Communications and Engagement

The restrictions arising from Covid 19 meant that we were reliant on virtual meetings and online engagement. We continue to use social media to communicate and now have a website <https://www.glenkenstrust.org.uk> . This hosts all our key information including reports from all our meetings. Our Trustees also report back to their Community Councils and we have a standing agenda item to get feedback from Community Council Members.

Potential new wind farm developers

While being extremely careful not to discuss the merits or otherwise of any development, during the year we continued to maintain a positive dialogue with potential wind farm developers in our area in order to set out the rationale for Glenkens & District Trust being used for any future community benefit payments in the event of a wind farm being developed. We have shared information with them on our approach and updated them on our new governance arrangements. We were also asked by Vattenfall to coordinate responses from our member Community Councils in relation to their Community Development Strategies for their potential developments at Quantans Hill and Whiteneuk. We sent our response it at the end of July 2021. We are embarking on further work to consider how the community as a whole can get the best outcomes from any future community benefit arrangements.

Funding contributions

The invoice for £304.47 shown as unpaid in our accounts as at 31 August 2020 in respect of work on the Community Action Plan was settled directly by Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd. In addition, they also settled directly the costs incurred with Turcan Connell in respect of the work on the Constitution. These amounts are therefore not shown in our Income and Expenditure statement.

Conclusion

This has been a very busy year for GDT and its Trustees. The work done leaves us with solid foundations to move forward positively as we address future arrangements for community benefit monies. We would like to thank Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd for continuing to fund the Blackcraig Wind Farm Fund which is making a difference across our community; our Community Council Members for their continued support; the wider community for their engagement with us and in particular their positive support for the Community Action Plan; and last, but not least, Foundation Scotland staff for their hard work and good nature during a very strange, demanding and difficult year.

Trustee Remuneration and expenses

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration during the period nor were any expenses reimbursed.

Reserves

The only expenditure during the year was met by funding from Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund . At the year end there was £348.38 unrestricted funds and £4 560.00 restricted funds.

The independently examined Accounts are attached.

**Approved by the Trustees on 16 November 2021 and signed
on their behalf**



Fiona Smith
Chair

Income and expenditure for the period ended 31 August 2021

Income

Funding from Blackcraig Wind Farm Community Fund	£11 760.00 ¹
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Expenditure

Costs associated with Community Action Plan	£ 7 200.00
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Surplus	£ 4 560.00
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Movements in Bank Account

Opening Balance	£ 348.38
Surplus for period	£ 4 560.00
Closing balance	£ 4 908.28

The invoice for £304.47 shown as unpaid in our accounts as at 31 August 2020 in respect of work on the Community Action Plan was settled directly by Blackcraig Wind Farm (Scotland) Ltd as set out in the foregoing Report.

¹ Restricted to external consultancy work on set up phase of Glenkens & District Community Action Plan

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Glenkens & District Trust

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 21 August 2021 which are set out on page 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities

Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name and signature **STEPHEN THORPE DAVIE** *Stephen Thorpe Davie*

Address *66 Main Street*

*Dalry
Castle Douglas DG7 3UW*

Date: *3rd November 2021*