



Annual Report

July 2022–June 2023



www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Contents

Contents.....	p2
Message from Chair.....	p3
Westray Renewable Energy.....	p3
Friends of Kalisgarth Update.....	p4
Project Progress Report.....	p5-9
Grant Awards 2022/23.....	p10-17
Operations Report.....	p18
Finance Report.....	p19
AGM Agenda & Thanks.....	p20

Message from the Chair

This year has been another busy one for Westray Development Trust as you will read in the rest of this year's annual report.

One of the big projects for this year has been the preparations for The 2023 Westray Conference. There has been a great deal of work going on behind the scenes to set up workshops and stalls that covered as many topics as we could. The weekend was a big success and well attended despite the weather. Plans are now underway to bring together

the ideas and information we gathered so we can put into place our next community development plan.

There were changes in the office staff this year as well. We were delighted to have Sarah Cowe joining the team to job share the Administration Assistant post.

As always I would like to end this short message by thanking all the staff and directors on the trust for there continued hard work throughout the year.

Louis Pottinger

Chair

Westray Development Trust



Westray Renewable Energy

Production by the community wind turbine this year, July 2022 to June 2023, was 2,314,760KWh total power exported to the national grid, slightly up compared to 2,208,576KWh for the previous year. This production gives a total gross income of approximately £505k. All operating profits are transferred to Westray Development Trust as the sole shareholder. The agreed Gift Aid payment for 2021/2022 was £486K. The period saw extremely good generation during October to December, with November generating 416,396KWh alone, the third highest November recorded so far for the turbine. Unfortunately, since February the turbine has been plagued with a series of breakdowns resulting in a significant lack of generation.

During this period the outstanding compensation owed from Enercon for the 2021 year was issued, along with the settlement from the outstanding insurance claim relating to the major breakdown in 2020-2021.

Despite switching FIT suppliers in the hope of experiencing fewer issues receiving FIT payments, the new supplier has been equally problematic. Despite the issue with our FIT supplier, WRE was able to donate £486k to WDT this period.

A Forward Planning Subgroup was setup comprising members of the WRE and WDT Boards and they have begun exploring feasible options for the Company to replace the income generated by the current turbine

once it reaches the end of its operational life.

This process is still in the early information gathering stage and WRE have commissioned Stromness based firm, Aquatera to conduct a feasibility study looking at several options.

Board Directors for this year were Wullie Bain (Chair), Philip Bews, Andrew Seatter, Jeemie Stout, Louis Pottinger and Geordie Thomson. Clare Walker is secretary for the company and provides Administration and Finance services.



Friends of Kalisgarth Update

It's been another busy year at Kalisgarth, and it's hard to believe that it's passed so quickly that we're already looking ahead to another tree lighting ceremony with local school kids and the Kirkwall Salvation Army band – Saturday 2nd December if you want to put it in your diary.



Pictured: Kalisgarth Day Care and residents enjoying the new arts and crafts.

Throughout the year, Friends of Kalisgarth have managed to support the purchase of various art and craft materials and to fund extra activities for the benefit of residents and folk attending day care. Amongst other things, we were able to help Santa provide gifts and bought gardening tools, compost and shrubs for trees, which were kindly provided by Orkney Rotarians. Books were purchased along with a renewed Auk Talk subscription, oil diffusers, reading lights, some small tables, a new lap top and hard drive back-up. We were also able to assist, along with WDT, to help fund two staff places on an intergenerational training course in Kirkwall.

Attention is now increasingly turning towards the area of garden to the NE of the building which has yet to be landscaped. Plans are advancing for a minimal-intervention, low-maintenance woodland corner with soft landscaping, which should encourage biodiversity as well as providing a pleasant walking and sitting area.



It was great to see a Westray Connections event in Kalisgarth and we've been delighted to see both the trishaws out and about in Westray, following WDT funding for that project.

We are also having ongoing discussion with WDT round the issue of accessible transport needs which would benefit both the Kalisgarth community and the wider Westray community. This is in its early stages but we hope it may lead to a way of solving a long-identified gap in provision.



Feed-in-Tariff income from the Kalisgarth wind turbine continues to help with funding as does the opportunity to participate in the Bargain Box rota. But most of all we're very grateful to all the Kalisgarth staff and to Westray residents (and others) who continue to so generously support fundraising ventures, ensuring that Westray remains a place where care needs are met and people are valued.

***Iain MacDonald
for Friends of Kalisgarth***



Project Progress Report

Bayview - Affordable Housing

*Key development themes; **Housing, Industry & Business, Youth and Children***

In July 2019 Scottish Land Unit Funding was secured to purchase Bayview from Orkney Islands Council and bring it into community ownership. Funding for renovation work was secured from the Scottish Government's Island Housing Fund and work commenced on renovating Bayview in 2020 with local contractor Daniel Marcus Construction.

Since work began on Bayview, a global pandemic coupled with national supply chain disruptions meant that the renovation work was delayed much to the frustration of all involved.

Electricity meter connections were delayed but thankfully they were connected in November 2022. All necessary checks were then able to be carried out. Flooring will be complete in Autumn and tarmac to follow.



Pictured: One of the kitchens in the Bayview flats.



Höfn Youth Centre

*Key development themes; **Youth & Children, Recreation and Leisure & Voluntary Groups***

We have added to our pool of Youth Support Workers this year, Edith Costie and Margo Makin are now joined by Nick Wood and Maggie Drever. Thanks to them and Angela Muir, our cleaner, for all their hard work.

We have also re-introduced a Youth Sub Group which has representatives from the young folk, parents, youth support workers and WDT. The group set a fundraising goal this year of around £1000 for new equipment and between Bargain box weeks and a coffee morning they have raised £648.62 which is an amazing total for the young folk. Thanks to parents and young folk for their continued support.

As things have opened up more and confidence built we find ourselves hiring the Höfn out to other services coming to Westray. There isn't a week goes by without someone wondering where they can go in Westray. It's a busy place and sometimes we could hire the space out twice over.

Bargain Box—Westray Community Fundraising Shop

*Key development themes; **Recreation, Leisure & Voluntary groups***

The Bargain Box continues to be well used by groups and the community as well as visitors.

The total funds raised over from July 2022 to June 2023 was £9004.70 in shop sales and £4657.14 in raffles and baking. A great effort from all the groups who continue to use the bargain box.

We currently have 20 plus groups who can, if they wish, reserve slots in the Bargain Box. Some groups only request one or two slots per year, whilst others often accept additional. Either option caters to each individual groups needs.

As ever a big thanks to Anne Burgher for all her hard work managing the Bargain Box. Thanks to the groups who continue to book slots and to everyone who donates, buys and volunteers to keep the Bargain Box open. It wouldn't work without you.



Project Progress Report

Westray Public Bins

Key development themes;
Environment, Recreation and Leisure

We were able to install the five extra bins thanks to Christopher Rendall for making the bases and then battening down the lids after we lost one to the weather.

An agreement between OIC and WDT means that the bins are emptied, and we are very grateful to Robert Rendall and his team for always going over and above for the community.



Westray Fuel Grant

Key development themes; **Education and Training, Youth and Children, Recreation and Leisure**

The Westray Fuel Grant was first established in response to a higher cost of living recorded in the North Isles and in particular high fuel bills. In recognition that all are affected in different ways by these higher costs in our community, the WDT Board agreed to make a Fuel Grant available to all Westray households. It was

hoped that a universal grant would reduce stigma, and ensure the grant reached those who needed it most.

The board agreed that due to the cost-of-living crisis payments this year would match the governments Energy Support scheme. 260 households applied this year and were allocated £400 per household. The total payments made were £104,000. There were seven more households supported than in 2022.



Many thanks to Margo Makin, Gill McEwen and Sarah Cowe for administering the fuel grants so smoothly. It is a mammoth task making sure everyone's grants are paid.

WDT review the Fuel Grant every year to reflect the current situations and will endeavor to do their best to continue to help householders with fuel bills.

Westray Coronation Celebration

Key development themes; **Youth and Children, Recreation and Leisure**



Westray created a media frenzy with the most northerly Big Lunch in Britain celebrating the coronation of King Charles.



WDT successfully applied for a National Lottery grant to pay for a lunch for any Westray Resident who wanted to attend.



Any club who put on a taster session or event during the weekend had their costs covered.

It was a great success and not just because of the funding but because of the volunteer contributions, the support and the "lets give it a go" attitude in Westray. We hope King Charles was impressed with the spread provided.



Project Progress Report

Home Help Service

*Key development themes; **Health & Care***

The WDT home help service continues to be a well-used service. Joining Angela on our workforce were Amanda Rose, Suzanne Stout and Sophie Paterson joining the pool of Here 2 Help workers. This may seem like a big increase in workers, but the need has increased from four households too eleven households using the service.

If you, or a family member, are interested in the Home Help Service then please contact our wellbeing coordinator for more information.

Westray Community Fridge – Waste not Want not

*Key development themes; **Environment, Health & Care, Education***

When Kieran Fowler worked at Westray Development Trust he identified the need to deal with food waste on the island through a community survey. CLLD and HUBBUB funding was secured and planning began. Danny Marcus and Craigie Sandison created a bespoke sharing shed for us which tucks in next to our office building. Unfortunately, just as we were connecting the power we were informed that we should have applied for full planning permission. Thankfully this was granted the end of June. Community Fridges are not about food poverty they are about food waste and how we can share food that would otherwise end

up in the bin. We are working hard at finishing off the last bits and pieces of paper work necessary, including a what you can and can't donate to the fridge leaflet and we hope to open soon.



Pictured: Community Fridge

Bargain Box & WDT Office Extension

*Key development themes; **Recreation, Leisure & Voluntary groups, Environment, Industry & Business***

Planning permission for the new Bargain Box and WDT Office extension was granted back in March 2019 however there were unavoidable delays due to the pandemic. In September 2022, the building warrant was also approved.

Tender documents were sent out to contractors but with the rising building costs it was felt that this project needed a review. Is it what we really need? Does it cover many things or just a few?

An options appraisal team were brought in to look at the bigger picture and during the conference in October 2023 the community will get to take a look and say yes this is what's needed or back to the drawing board for us.

The need for a Bargain Box space is still pressing though as our temporary portacabins have become weathered. A temporary solution was found in the snooker room and as we write this report we are just waiting for the change of use planning permission to be approved.

As always, the continued success of the Bargain Box is down to all the hard work that the community groups put into it and also the volunteers who give up their time every week to help sort and manage the local fundraising shop.



Project Progress Report

Westray Community Garden

Key development themes; **Environment, Health & Care, Education**

This is us into our seventh year of the community garden.



The board agreed early on after listening to community feedback and given the cost of living crisis that a priority this year was affordable fruit and veg for our community. This was done by not only keeping prices the same as they were last year but by cutting prices.



Clearer packaging was also a point made by the community and we added in our logo as much as we could. Knowing what produce would be where

was also asked for and we have tried really hard through social media to spread the word.



You will all be aware of what a glorious summer it has been and there are no complaints but this does bring challenges to gardens. The most popular offerings were our crispy headed lettuce, pointy headed cabbage and as always strawberries. There were also great reports on the summer squash.

Pictured: Lots of colour and variety of fruit and vegetables available to Westray residents this year.



Garden Events

We continued with the seed and plant swap event in the spring time. It was well attended and a really enjoyable morning. We were delighted to have GoGo Olive providing the teas and coffees. We also took the bag the bruck equipment into the Hofn to hand out to folk, it gave us a grand opportunity to encourage folk to beach clean.



Next year we really hope that a lot of the knowledge gained from our years of researching which crops do best in Westray can be shared more widely with the Westray Community.

Grants Awarded 2022-2023

The Community Turbine Fund

The Community Turbine Fund has had a very Successful year awarding £107,965.80 towards projects, events, travel and training within the Westray Community. The uptake of grants has increased this year after such quiet years during and after Covid. We are delighted that the Community Turbine Fund can provide this funding to assist new project start ups, help out great community events, and encourage individuals in Westray to take up more training courses.

Young Persons Travel Grants

This is a new grant that is still evolving, there has been a few teething issues with folk not remembering to keep receipts, but is growing in interest and popularity with more applications coming in this year already. We've had bairns apply for boat and plane trips to attend swimming lessons, darts competitions football and rugby training. Total paid out this year is £114.75

Education and Training Grants

The Training and Education grants have had a fantastic uptake this year with 48 people accessing 73 grants, totalling £7,835.50. This fund is proving very popular and has grown, in terms of applicants, year-on-year. This is very positive for Westray and enables members of the community to access training at a more affordable cost, which in turn furthers personal and professional development in Westray.

We have had some lovely feedback from this year's applicants.



"They have helped me go further with my voice than I thought was possible and be more able to do what I want to do in the future."

Ivy McEwen



Applicant	Course	Awarded
James Hill	Golf Coaching	£150
Andy Makin	RYA Yatchmaster offshore certificate of competence	£500
Bobby Harcus	Driving Lesson and Test	£196
Elizabeth Drever	PAT Course	£18
Christopher Rendall	PGA Level 1 Coaching	£150
Jack Seatter	Football Training Camp	£55
Stewart Rendall	Football Training Camp	£55
Robbie Rendall	Football Training Camp	£55
Davy Hutchison	Football Training Camp	£55
Arun Summers	Piano Lessons	£172
Jack Summers	Piano Lessons	£172
Xander McKnight	Piano Lessons	£72
Willow Pickering	Piano Lessons	£138
Tanna Groat	Piano Lessons	£126
Ivy McEwen	Piano Lessons	£126
Caleb McEwen	Piano Lessons and Exam	£252
Jennifer McKnight	History Course—Road to War	£75
Mia Pottinger	Piano Lessons	£246
Alison Drever	Piano Lessons	£126
Ivy McEwen	Singing Lessons	£160
Davy Hutchison	Piano Lessons	£192
Lydia Harris	Quacker College Course—Groundwork	£145
Valerie Thomson	Intergenerational Training	£50
Beverley Tulloch	Intergenerational Training	£50

Grants Awarded 2022-2023

Applicant	Course	Awarded
Carole Brooks	PhD Researching D E Stevenson	£500
Jennifer McKnight	Writing Coaching Programme	£500
Helen Bain	Kirsteen Stewart Sewing Course	£25
Monica Coutts	Piano Lessons	£66
Erika Pottinger	Sewing Course	£50
Gina Rendall	Sewing Course	£25
Margaret Hutchison	Sewing Course	£50
Amanda Philips	Sewing Course	£25
Kirsty Stout	Sewing Course	£25
Caragh Rendall	Sewing Course	£25
Edith Costie	Sewing Course	£25
Shelagh Hutchison	Sewing Course	£25
Meghan McEwen	Leadership in Professional contexts (Msc)	£500
Ivy McEwen	Driving Lessons	£175
Sarah Cowe	Sewing Course	£25
Coilla Drake	Coastal Navigation & Tidal Planning, Sea Kayak Leader Training	£75
Erika Pottinger	Advanced Gut Restoration Nutritional Advisor Certification Course (Level 5)	£269.50
Erika Pottinger	Kirsteen Stewart Bloom cushion course	£50
Ellie Cowe	Kirsteen Stewart Bloom cushion course	£52.75
Ivy McEwen	Driving Test	£31
Kathrin Strang	Safe use of Sheep Dip Course	£337.50
Zoe Williams	Advanced nutrition for weightloss diploma	£29
Thomas Pottinger	Safe use of sheep dip course	£337.50
Mia Pottinger	Piano Exam	£22
Zoe Williams	Personal Training ad Fitness Instruction	£105.75
Irene Cockett	Woven Tapestry—Seaweed	£225
Thomas Paterson	3 Day Firefighting Course	£330
Ewan Makin	Guitar Lessons	£60
Coilla Drake	Advanced Sea Kayak Leader	£73
Coilla Drake	Open water Navigation and Tidal Planning	£25
Davy Hutchison	Ross County Football Training Camp	£55
Jack Seatter	Ross County Football Training Camp	£55

"I learnt a great deal about the European context, post WW1 and gained deeper insights into the complex factors and individuals involved in Hitler's rise to power. It has already helped me to better teach aspects of history and will inform my future planning and assessment also. I have no doubt that it has had a positive impact on the learning experience of the learners in our school. " *Jennifer McKnight*



"I learned new skills which I can now use to help my daughter with her sewing." *Sarah Cowe*



"The training really helped Stewart build his confidence and he learned new skills and gained a few new friends as well." *Donna Rendall*

Entertainment Grants

Bisgeos Walk/Run

This was the 10th and final Bisgeos walk/run. Westray Development Trust are proud to have supported the event over the years. The day consists of a 12 mile walk/run starting at Rapness Pier and concluding at the Bisgeos accommodation. There is then a supper and dance to conclude the event. Any money raised goes towards a charity of their choice, this year they chose CRY and the Alan Bain memorial fund. This is a fantastic event enjoyed by many and Westray Development Trust were delighted to support them. *Funding awarded: £700*



Westray Sailing Club

Regatta 2022

The Westray regatta is an annual sailing event held every year on the last Saturday in July. For decades the regatta has attracted sailors and visitors from Orkney and beyond. It is one of the constants in the Orkney sailing Calendar. The Regatta and the following evening's entertainment will continue to be part of the summer season events that attract visitors and those with Westray roots to return to the island year after year. *Funding awarded: £700*

Intergenerational Prize

Bingo

Kalisgarth Day Care wanted to provide a number of Intergenerational Prize Bingo sessions at Day Care where they invite school children to join them. The Intergenerational Bingo was cancelled 4 times before the summer due to weather, school staffing, pupil attendance and then exam prep. They are re-scheduling this now and hope to have it in one of the weeks to come.

Funding Awarded: £293.99

Westray RNLI Scarecrow

Trail

RNLI Guild ran their second Scarecrow Trail after lots of requests from the public. The year before had been a huge success and had 43 entries all over the island. Maps and voting slips could be bought to do the trail. This was a huge success with locals and visitors enjoying the "day oot" having a tour around Westray spotting them.

Funding awarded: £80



Brough Open Day

Westray Heritage Centre hosted an open day at Brough. They wanted to reinforce past heritage, how this can be regenerated plus give an event for people to attend and learn about the house and organic gardening. They also invited Vintage Vehicles across for the day to provide an additional attraction.

Funding awarded £100

Westray Football Club

Supporters

We were asked to help fund a couple of big Westray banners for use at the parish Cup final. The banners are generic so that they can be used at other competitive events such as the Swimming Gala, North Isles Sports for example. The signs being available for other clubs will also benefit the community when they are needed in the future. *Funding awarded: £320.15*



Harvest and Halloween

Hoolie

Westray Parent council Events Group were looking to provide a fun filled event for all the primary and secondary children. There were games, food, drink and lots of entertainment provided and everyone had a great time and promoted positive self esteem amongst the young generation who are still in recovery from being isolated after Covid. *Funding awarded: £700*

"We feel that having termly events for the school kids has been beneficial in many ways. It gives the kids something to look forward to where they can engage in different social activities and let their hair down."

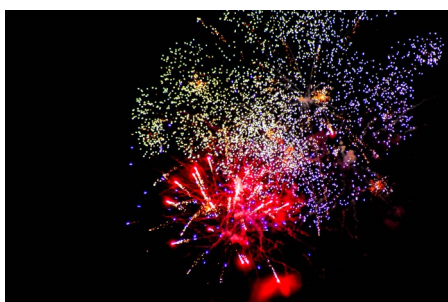
Val Thomson

Grants Awarded 2022-2023

Fireworks Display

Westray Community Council were approached to organise the annual fireworks display. Following Covid there having been little or no events over the past 2 years, it was thought that having the annual fireworks display again this year was a necessary event as a means of returning to a "normal" routine. This gave the community the chance to meet in an outside environment, particularly those who still felt vulnerable.

Funding awarded: £700



Senior Citizens Christmas Party

The Senior Citizens Party has become a well-loved event in Westray's calendar. This was the first party since COVID. This provided folk with the chance to gather and enjoy other folks company, share news and enjoy some entertainment. A great night for all involved. *Funding awarded: £700*



Westray Harvest Home 2022

Westray Sailing Club held a Harvest Home dinner dance. We were delighted to support this so folk could enjoy a sociable evening together with a hot meal and finish with some traditional dancing and fun.

Funding Awarded: £700

Fun Run Cool Cruise

The whole Island had the opportunity to partake in this fun event.

Members of the community could enter and decorate tractors and vehicles and tour around the island for all to see. This was an enjoyable outing for families and got everyone into the Christmas spirit. We were delighted to support such a fantastic event. *Funding Awarded: £700*

"I feel that the Tractor Run brought back the 'Community Feel' that Westray has been lacking since the pandemic. It was so good to have over 40 entries who spent valuable time and took pride in decorating their 'vehicle' and being part of the run. There was a tremendous turn out of spectators." Val Thomson



Winter Warmer Concert

The Westray Connections Group hosted an event in December to bring the community together for good music and dancing. It has been 3 years since they hosted an event due to COVID. Saltfish Forty were invited out and made a fantastic night of dancing and good music for all to enjoy.

Funding Awarded £500

Youth Group Christmas Party

The Church of Scotland Youth Group asked for funding to help with their Christmas night at the hotel. This means that they can offer this as a free evening for all secondary age children. The night consists of a meal at the hotel, exchanging secret Santa gifts, games and lots of laughs.

This is a popular evening with the youngsters and Westray Development were delighted to support it for another year. *Funding awarded: £700*

"It has made a huge difference to what we as a small group can offer. We didn't have to get a contribution from families for the meal so everyone was included." Helen Bain

Westray Winter Warm Hub

Both Westray's churches came together to plan and create a space in the community for all Westray residents to utilize for socialising, keeping warm and connecting with each other. The space was heated and set up for recreation, crafting, reading, games and with a children's play area. There was soup, sandwiches, tea and coffee provided. In the post-pandemic time of isolation this was a great space to encourage community connections again. It was a great success and well attended.

Funding awarded: £700

"The project completed its pilot year in March 2023, and is now moving to continue this winter season due to the success it experienced. The Hub was well attended over the winter months with positive feedback from attendees." Cheryl Scott



Westray Burns Supper

Westray Sailing Club and Westray Golf Club held a dinner dance. This is a popular event with the Westray residents and provides a lovely social evening in the winter months.

Funding awarded: £700

Raymond Besant Wildlife Filming Talk

Orcadian wildlife film maker and photographer Raymond Besant came and shared his experiences of filming on recent productions such as Frozen Planet 2 for the BBC and filming Forest Elephants in the jungles of Gabon for National Geographic. Westray Birds and Wildlife Group along with Saintear provided a lovely social evening.

Funding Awarded: £500.94

"Attendees were able to experience wildlife in diverse environments from the comfort of a local venue among friends. Raymond's talk helped to build more empathy with the subject of local and global wildlife."

Sandra Otter



End of Session Evaluation Night

Church of Scotland Youth Group ended their session with a Pizza and evaluation night. This was held at Saintear and the bairns enjoyed a night of food and fun with all their friends before Youth Group ended for the summer. The evaluations help leaders plan for the next sessions activities and to see what the teenagers would like to do again. The night was well attended and, thanks to the entertainment Grant, free to all, being able to host the

night free means that they everyone can attend if they wish without the worry of having to pay in these difficult times. Funding Awarded: £600



"25 of Westray's youth attended this evening. Saintear filled us of pizza and pudding, amazing as always. We didn't need to charge the youths to come along thanks to this grant, everyone was invited and included."

Helen Bain

Reading of 'Sea Bean' by Sally Huband

The public were invited to Saintear to hear Sally Huband read from her book about beachcombing, island living and Shetland. This was a successful evening and Saintear once again provided a warm and welcoming atmosphere for those attending.

Funding Awarded: £250



Grants Awarded 2022-2023

Westray Industrial Show

The industrial show has been an annual island event for many years and is well attended by Islanders and holiday visitors. Folk enjoyed inspecting all the different show sections. An added attraction is the teas, coffees and home bakes. A lovely social day for all ages.

Funding awarded: £700

WRI Annual Meal Out

This grant provided an all inclusive opportunity for WRI members to socialise together and enjoy a bistro dining experience at Saintear.

Funding awarded: £450

Community Grants

Island Games 2023

Bobby Marcus asked for our help to attend the Island Games 2023 and represent Orkney. This gave him the opportunity to travel to Guernsey and compete in track events and interact with athletes from all over the world.

Funding awarded: £750



Golf Sixes league competition

Our Junior Golfers got the chance to compete in the Golf Sixes league competition in St Margarets Hope. They hosted an event in Westray and this was their return event. These events help to boost the juniors



confidence in the game as some of them don't have children of a similar age to play against. This gives them the chance to meet other golfers on the mainland and build relationships for the future.

Funding awarded: £82.40

Island Menopause Support Group

Margo Makin found a gap in what was available to women on Westray and wanted help to set up a monthly

Menopause Group. This is a space where women are able to talk to other women about what they are going through and help with their mental health. It informs women about their symptoms, what has helped for some and just a chance to talk freely.

Funding awarded: £1,000

Swan Trip

Westray Junior High School are committed to offering a wide variety of engaging learning opportunities for all young people in Westray. They applied for funding towards S1 taking part in an outdoor learning experience on The Swan. The trip departed from and arrived back in Pierowall, the day trip provided S1 bairns with the opportunity to learn practical sail boat skills and built team work skills.

Funding awarded £700

"All pupils involved very much enjoyed their day, and the trip allowed pupils and staff to work together in a very different environment, contributing to positive relationships" Tim Ross



Grants Awarded 2022-2023

The Cleat, Westray, Regeneration Project

The Cleat, Westray, Regeneration Trust applied for start up funding to form a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation to restore and regenerate the buildings at Cleat. This project will be long term over 3 phases. Phase 1 being the restoration of Cleat House and gardens to form self catering units and an event venue. Phase 2 the restoration of the cottages and doocot to form fair rent homes for Westray and phase 3 the restoration of the steading to provide a disabled friendly self catering unit and a farm museum. It is hoped that this project will bring a greater awareness of the cultural and environmental heritage of Westray. Consolidation of surrounding archaeology, enhance visitor accommodation for Westray and provide affordable housing.

Funding Awarded: £14,000

Westray Connections 2023

Westray Connections has been a feature of our Island's calendar for over 10 years and made a welcome comeback this year. The weekend provides an exciting and varied opportunity for everyone in Westray to experience and see high quality music performed in their local community. They created a weekend of performances that highlighted our incredible island, bringing people together for wonderful music, fun and laughter. Funding awarded: £2,100

Westray Directory

Westray Heritage Trust provided a Westray Directory listing opening hours

for all shop, eateries, swimming pool and gym. It also included lists of businesses and services such as builders, garage, car hire etc. It has an easy to read Westray only ferry and plane timetable. This was printed and distributed, the hope is it will encourage locals and visitors to shop and eat in Westray as well as use local businesses and other island facilities.

Funding awarded: £ 700

Development/ Investment Grants and Ongoing Grants

These are large grants, some of which span multiple years of ongoing support. We also provide the option for Community grants to be awarded on a three-year rolling basis for annual grants that change little from year to year. This saves groups having to submit the same application every year.

Island Christmas Cards

Every year since 2006 the Church of Scotland and Baptist Kirk, working together have produced a Christmas card which is posted to every household in Westray. This card gives details of all church services which take place over December and early January in both kirks. This is well received and appreciated by all the community wanting to know what events are on over the festive period. PEG also decided due to the nature of the application being an annual application which varies little from year to year they will approve it for the next 5 years.

Funding awarded: £290

"The availability of funding assistance for these types of community 'projects' means that they can go ahead whereas it would be very difficult to do so otherwise. It takes away the thought of 'it would be nice to be able to do something, but it's not possible', when there is access to this kind of assistance."

Karen Penn



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Grants Awarded 2022-2023

Westray Sailing Club boat shed and skiff build

The Sailing Club currently only have a small shed for storing their rescue boat and small training dinghies, the new shed will provide storage for the club's four skiffs along with a workshop to build the new skiff and repairing their current boats. Members of the sailing club will have use of the shed and workshop to work and maintain their own boats as well as their clubs. They plan to involve the school kids and anyone with an interest in boat building to help with the building of the new skiff and help insure that traditional boat building skills are not lost. The shed will also include toilets and shower facilities for club members and users of the marina in the summer. *Funding awarded: £61,943*

Roadside Bulbs

Another year of roadside bulbs thanks to Sandy McEwen. Spring bulbs certainly give pleasure to us all after a long winter and welcome nectar to the bees and bumble bees in early spring. The roadsides give plenty of space for the flowers to bloom and spread. The bulbs are available to every Westray resident to pick up from any of the 3 shops. *Funding awarded: £400*

Auk Club-Outing and Social activities

The Auk Club is a much loved and well attended social club on the island. The Auk Club provides vital social interaction for its members, particularly for those who live alone,



and the funding from WDT, enables the group to meet up for social engagements, activities and trips to the Mainland.

Funding awarded: £2000

"The grant enabled the organisers of the club to continue to provide social entertainment and stimulation for the elderly of Westray. It also enabled those who live alone or who are isolated to meet up with folk thus helping their wellbeing and assisting with social skills."

Jan Stevenson

Westray Heritage Centre - Financial Stability of WHC following COVID-19 restrictions

Prior to the occurrence of the severe effects from Covid restrictions on income, Westray Heritage Trust were on course to meet the objective of having Westray Heritage Centre in a manageable financial situation. However that situation was seriously changed with the Covid-19

restrictions in 2020/21 and although some help was obtained through government and other resilience grants the setback in cash flow and risk to Westray Heritage Centre remained a problem.

The current project is therefore set up to provide financial assistance over 2 years (2022 and 2023) to enable Westray Heritage Centre get back on track to achieving financial stability. Going forward, the Heritage Centre is moving towards self-sufficiency into the future, and there is great confidence they will achieve this. WDT recognised the Heritage Centre as a significant and important visitor attraction and guardian of Westray's cultural heritage.

Funding Awarded: £6,000

"The grant received from WDT has contributed greatly to taking WHC through a particularly difficult financial time from a situation which was hazardous for survival returning to one where there is reasonable confidence of a manageable cash flow in the near future."

Operations Report—Looking to the future

This time last year I found myself writing a report about a year I hadn't been involved in. It was quite surreal and I struggled until Keiran Fowler said to me just be yourself that's all anyone's asking. As I start this years report full of my usual thoughts of what will folk think, have we done enough? I am reminding myself of Kieran's words just be yourself, that's all I can be and that 's ok.

I think it would be fair to say that this year has been about finding my feet. It was a benefit to have lived in Westray and understand the community but there are many things that I needed to learn about the Westray Development Trust. Every day is a school day they say and thank you for your patience as I continue to learn more.

With learning in mind I did quite a bit of training from October to April this year, completing the Scottish Rural Leadership Program (SRLP) in March and a CMI in line management in April. The SRLP meant a lot of travelling and I'm thankful to all the staff who put up with me not being in the office as much. This course is well established but had never had Orcadian students before. Not only were there workshops on how to build good relationships, establish teamwork and grow your business there was an offer of one to one mentoring. I found the networking and the one to one mentoring the most beneficial. My tutor knew Westray and understood small community life so was able to unpick the imposter syndrome I had and build up my confidence.

The directors set out six main priority projects for me in my first year, Bayview, Bargain Box, HR & Governance, Public Bins, Broadband and The Westray Conference. You will have read about most of them in the Project Reports.

Bayview seems to be tarred with difficulties, problems in getting sub-contractors to the island delayed works again. We do still hope to have tenants in the building in 2023. Although this project has taken a lot longer than anticipated WDT should be proud of the work they have done. Bayview was a mammoth project but it looks to be just the start of WDT's housing journey.

The Bargain Box looks likely to have a new temporary home relieving the pressures on a new build. I would encourage you to take part in the public consultation being carried out over the next few weeks. Your voice will enable us to plan a project fit for purpose which we will endeavor to future proof.

HR and Governance is a thing that must happen in any company. I have been able to get my head around most of this and add in policies that we lacked. This isn't my favorite part of the job and something the community won't see very much for, it is however a necessity and when in place it just makes things run a little smoother, leaving more time for projects.

The Rubbish Bins were really a quick win as it was order them and then get them installed. Shame the wind whipped off a lid at Sand o Gill, I had money on the one at Bacarass before that one!

Broadband also looked like a jump in progress with the lobbying for a fair roll out meaning Westray sees an estimate of fiber being available to all households by 2024. With some works already happening we will continue to monitor

Then there was the small amount of work that became the Westray Conference. I'm writing this the Wednesday after the conference but this is the next WDT year so it will be a project reported on next year. Clear as mud?

I will say at this point that without the Westray Residents who turned up and engaged in workshops and our feedback processes then it wouldn't have been the success we feel it has been. Thank You.



Operations Report Continued

A few other things that have happened this year was a huge increase in Here 2 Help service users and staff, a re-established Youth Sub-Group, Hofn support workers in place, maintenance of our buildings taking place, discussion groups with our young folk at the school and an agreement from the Board to fund a wellbeing coordinator. Successful funding bids for the Community Fridge, Coronation Celebrations and Men's Shed coming to almost £24,000.

Last year I wanted public engagement and communication to be one of our priorities and I feel that we have improved but Rome wasn't built in a day and there's always room for improvement. Ways to find out more are to follow us on social media, we have our monthly news in the Auk Talk, minutes are updated on our website monthly and we also try to keep information in the shop windows as much as we can.

Looking forward, with the conference taking place in October this will give us a really good start on our Community Plan. There will be more opportunities to feed in your thoughts as we move this forward, we need to get it right so we will probably need a couple of drafts for you to look at.

This year I hope our main focus is not to let fear steer us. There is a big difference being risk aware and risk averse and It's time that we became more risk aware and give it a go anyway. Westray already knows that there is nothing to be learnt from not trying. My mother in law used to say to my boys "You should never say you can't, you should always say you'll try" and we still say that to them.

Every school year would end with me telling parent's it was a privilege to work with their bairns and thank them for entrusting me with their peedie folk. When writing this I've had that same feelings. It's a total privilege to work in this community, for this community and thank you for entrusting me with your vision.

I will always say I'll try.

Please contact me on
gina@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk
01857 677858 or 07974108982

Gina Rendall



Financial Report

As part of the audit, we have been asked to report on the financial position of the Trust, and its subsidiary, Westray Renewable Energy Limited. Both the Trust and its subsidiary remain in a strong position. The Trust holds significant reserves, with unrestricted funds at the balance sheet date totalling £1.09m. The Trust also holds restricted funds totalling £863k and designated funds totalling £2.58m. WRE has just entered into another long term maintenance contract which covers the turbine until the end of 2030 and it continues to generate a healthy profit each year.

Westray Development Trust

The financial results for the year to 30 June 2023 are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£,000	£,000
Incoming resources	549	479
Total expenditure	393	371
Net gain/(loss)	65	(35)
on investments		
Surplus	221	72

Notable movement in the year include an additional £240k of 'investment income', which includes the annual donation received from WRE (£486k in 2023; £270k in 2022) and an additional £24k received in bank and loan interest. Grant income has fallen by £164k, as the prior year included the final instalment of the funding towards the Bayview Renovation.

Running costs for the Trust have remained relatively static, if not for one or two additional purchases, for example the IT work moving the server onto the cloud. The Trust paid or committed to £207k of 'new' grants in the year, compared to £185k in the prior year.

On the balance sheet:

	2023	2022
	£,000	£,000
Fixed assets	1,320	1,249
CCLA + unlisted Investments	1,234	1,169
Concessionary loans	318	343
Current assets (debtors + cash)	1,789	1,653
Current liabilities (creditors)	124	98
Net assets	4,537	4,316

The increase in fixed assets represents the continued expenditure in Bayview. Once this comes into use in 2024, this will start to be depreciated, along with reducing the corresponding restricted fund. A gain has been recognised on the value of the investments held at the balance sheet date, whilst the balance of the concessionary loans continues to fall, inline with the repayments. As stated earlier, the Trust continues to hold a significant cash balance, in addition to the various investments held.

Westray Renewable Energy Limited

Westray Renewable Energy Limited, the wholly owned subsidiary of the Trust was, as always, a significant source of the Trusts income in the year. In the company's own accounts, it reports a pre-tax profit of £382k from a turnover of £499k.

The company's turbine has experienced some operational issues over the past couple of years and an additional £35k has been recognised in the current year following the eventual settlement of the previous year's insurance and compensation claims. An additional amount is expected in respect of this year, however due to the uncertainty over the timing and amount of compensation, this has not been recognised and is instead 'disclosed' in the notes to the accounts.

WRE will be required to make a donation of £425k to the Trust before 31 March 2024, if they wish to fully extinguish their tax liability of £87k

Scholes Chartered Accountants



Thanks go to the following funders and partners who have supported WDT

Alan Flint, Bank of Scotland

- Billy Groundwater, Orkney Surveying Services
- Burness Paul LLP
- Communities Housing Trust
- Community HeartBeat Trust
- Companies House
- Dalgleish Associates Ltd
- Daniel Marcus Construction
- Developing Strathclyde Limited
- Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS)
- Francesca Couperwhite, Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE)
- Heather Lamont, CCLA
- Highlands & Islands Enterprise
- National Lottery
- North Isles Landscape Partnership Scheme (NILPS)
- Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)
- Orkney Island's Council (OIC)
- RM Computing
- Scholes Chartered Accountants
- Scottish Communities Finance
- Scottish Government
- Scottish Islands Federation
- Social Farms and Gardens
- The Long Partnership
- The Prince's Trust
- Triodos
- TwoCircles Communications
- Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO)
- Westray Renewable Energy Ltd.
- Hubbub
- CLLD

Thanks to all WDT Staff & Project Team who have worked for WDT in 2022/2023

- Gina Rendall (Operations Manager)
- Margo Makin (AFO & Youth Support)
- Mhairi Noble (Administration Assistant)
- Sarah Cowe (Administration Assistant)
- Mark Dickinson (Lead Gardener)
- Benny Norquoy (Assistant Gardener)
- Edith Costie, Nick Wood, Maggie Drever (Youth Support)
- Angela Muir, Suzanne Stout, Amanda Rose, Sophie Paterson (Home Help)
- Thank you to everyone in the community for your support.

Many thanks to all volunteer Directors who have worked with us in 2022/2023 who were elected to represent the Westray Community in WDT's work.

- Louis Pottinger
- Douglas Leslie
- Anne Burgher
- David Stephenson
- Coilla Drake
- Gill McEwan
- Steven Drever
- Harmadeep Gill
- George Thomson
- Peter White

If you are interested in joining our Board please contact a current Directors.

Agenda for the AGM 7pm 14th November 2023

- 1. Welcome and Apologies—Louis Pottinger (WDT Chair)**
- 2. Minutes of AGM on 6th December 2022**
- 3. Accounts Presentation and Adoption**
- 4. Appointment of Auditors**
- 5. Trust Investments—Heather Lamont CCLA**
- 6. Election of Directors + PEG**
- 7. A Year in review, including conference—Operations Manager**
- 8. Questions**
- 9. AOCB**



Westray Development Trust

Quarry Road, Pierowall, Westray, Orkney KW17 2DA

Telephone: 01857 677858

Email: admin@westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk