



Annual Report

2017-2018



www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Chairman's report

This year I would choose to write this in Orcadian but even Orcadians would find it difficult to read, so here it goes.

The team of WDT Trustees has altered quite a bit this year but although we have lost some key players, we now have a vibrant, forward looking Board who have the confidence to make some hard decisions over the coming year for the good of our island.

I myself am saying cheerio to the Chair and Board. After three years as Chair and over 15 years as a Trustee I feel I've been here long enough. I'm looking forward to spending more time with my wife and family, getting on with my life on the farm and preparing for 100% retirement. Well maybe 80%!

I leave the Trust in a financially healthy position and as you can see from the Treasurer's report the Trust has adequate funding to support and create old and new ventures. If you have any thoughts on new ventures please bring these to the attention of the Trustees or staff.

As a committee we strive to make the right decisions on behalf of the people of Westray but we are only human and can't please everyone. We have to follow legislation and hope you agree that we make more right decisions than wrong ones. At the present time we have a minimum number of 6 Trustees from a maximum of 15. The Board has the responsibility of running your organisation – which is something the Trustees take very seriously. Sometimes it's easier looking for hens' teeth than it is finding new Trustees.

As I mentioned at last year's AGM, WDT needs fresh folk to serve on the Board, to ensure that we are reflective of the community and the community's needs.

Projects in the offing are mainly the Quarry, which is still under development and certainly not forgotten. Watch this space as we endeavour to get it to a stage where a final decision can be made.

Housing is something else we are investigating and aim to help in the best way we can. The project we have looked at could cost upwards of 1 million pounds with the Trust's contribution towards that being around 2-3 hundred thousand pounds. Until we have figures to present to the membership this is still a work in progress.

Our Bargain Box has, I'm sure, you'll agree been a huge success and is an example of investing in the community so the island clubs/groups can help themselves. The growing project is also finding its feet and you can see by the annual report that there is a lot going on. There are many questions etc. that end up in the office and the staff deal with things in a professional manner. The Directors, who are volunteers, take on the ultimate responsibility.

Being a founding member of the Trust I fully support the Board of Trustees and all they endeavour to do for Westray and fully appreciate without the income from the Wind Turbine less would be happening. All developments take time; accessing funding, finding the right people etc. but

so far we have been successful and we look forwards as eventually the Turbine will get tired. As of 2019 there will be no new FITS to acquire, therefore as an organisation we must look towards the future and replacing the income gained by the Turbine.

LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

This year, the Trust has experienced some unexpected challenges with both the office staff and the board. In order to find solutions to these issues and create a more productive structure, we sought advice externally. Chessa Couperwhite, our HIE Account Manager is incredibly supportive and as part of this support, she recommended the use of an external consultant to provide analysis and expert advice on the way forward.

Let's be clear, there was nothing broken and there was no state of emergency. The Trust continued to operate efficiently due to the dedication of the office staff and the Directors of the Board. The decision to engage an external consultant was to be proactive, to get an external opinion on how things were going and hopefully provide some useful advice to further enhance the forward planning and productivity of the Trust.

Thanks to Chessa, an external consultant was sourced and the costs were fully funded by HIE. The consultant quickly got to work, meeting with all members of the board, the staff and consulted with our external advisors such as Chessa and Alan Flint.

Chairman's report continued

We believe that the recommendations made were extremely beneficial and the following changes have been made:

- A new structure in place. We are hoping to retain Isobel Thompson, our current graduate placement, to work alongside the Operations Manager in the capacity of a Project Officer. We expect this will be an extremely positive placement.

- A change to office staff. A member of the office staff chose to resign from their position in the administration function, however we are happy to have been able to offer this as an

opportunity to an existing member of staff.

- A full review of all HR policies and Procedures. The consultant is an expert in HR, so has updated and revised our policies, enhancing our commitment to our people going forward.

- A fresh approach to attracting new board members. We have successfully recruited a new board member, with several others showing interest. Social media has played a significant role in this.

It is important to remember that this Trust has evolved quickly.

Other Trusts, similar to ours have not grown or developed so quickly. The decision to be proactive in reviewing the structure and processes of the business was in the interests of further supporting the growth we have experienced.

The work we have done will now be used as an example for other Trusts across Scotland. According to the information we have received, we are the first Trust which has attempted a review project. The success is now a standard being set for others.

**George Drever,
Chairman**

Westray Renewable Energy report

Production by the community wind turbine this year, July 2017 to June 2018, was somewhat lower than for the same period last year with 3,134.310MWh total power exported into the national grid compared with 3,485.028MWh last year. This production gives a total gross income (including weighted average) of £438,973.

We were required by SSEN to shut the turbine down for a ten-day period in May/June to allow essential work to be carried out. Unfortunately at the end of that period the turbine did not start up correctly and was out of action for several weeks. Engineers were eventually able to restart the turbine at 20% efficiency on 1st August. Further work required to bring it back up to full efficiency

was carried out during August and the turbine was back in full operation on 31st August. The insurance company was notified and we are providing them with all the information that they require.

We are now in the ninth year of production as the turbine was commissioned in October 2009. During the first eight years, almost £2m has been gift aided to Westray Development Trust in addition to loan repayments, ground rent and management charges.

All operating profits are transferred to Westray Development Trust as the sole shareholder. Audited accounts have been submitted indicating payments of over £300,000 to

WDT (including gift donations, intercompany loan repayments and ground rent).

October 2019 will see the 10 year anniversary of the commissioning of the turbine. At this time a major overhaul will be required and any repairs needed at that time will be carried out. As this is a planned event any loss of income will not be covered by the insurance.

Current board members are Wullie Bain (Chair), Sam Harcus, Philip Bews, Jeemie Stout, David Hutchison and Andrew Seatter. Elizabeth Drever is Secretary for the company.

Wullie Bain, Chairman

Treasurer's report

Following the sudden resignation of Ian Ricketts from the Board of Directors at the end of July 2018, I was asked to take on the role of Treasurer for WDT.

I cannot therefore write with first-hand knowledge and experience of the role and responsibilities of Treasurer. I do, however, gratefully acknowledge the following roles: Janice Kirkness, Administration and Finance Officer for the Trust, and Margo Makin, who has taken on Janice's role whilst Janice enjoys her maternity leave. Janice and Margo have both worked very hard in this financial year to ensure that the day-to-day financial matters of the Trust are dealt with efficiently and professionally.

There have been several unexpected issues to be dealt with that have increased the

workload and the burden of responsibility, particularly for Margo, who has had a very steep learning curve to conquer since she started in February 2018. Particular thanks must go to Margo for her tenacity in working through the issues that have been thrown at her.

The Board of WDT is aware that Margo's role has not been simple and straightforward and our grateful and sincere thanks are extended to her.

Westray Renewable Energy (WRE) Ltd continues to be our primary source of income; the turbine has experienced problems this year which have reduced the generated power output and hence the Gift Aid income to WDT. The turbine has now been completely repaired and has been running at full capacity since August 31st.

WDT and WRE Board of Directors are aware that there is a need to look to the future for a continuing source of income as the turbine ages and eventually has to be decommissioned. Various options have been suggested and we are considering the best way forward.

One way we are preparing for this is with our investment in the COIF Ethical Investment Fund with CCLA (Churches, Charities and Local Authority). We originally invested £750,000 on the 9th of February 2017, and that has now grown to £894,674, as of 9th August 2018. Any profits made from this are just reinvested at the moment, however, there is an option to withdraw yearly profits, which is something we could look at once the turbine stops turning.

The audited accounts for WDT are available to the members of WDT; I have updated the table of grants awarded by WDT over the 2017-2018 financial year below:

Year	# of Awards	Overall Value	Observations
2017-2018	32	£55,474.17	no loans
2016-2017	50	£131,000	no loans
2015-2016	72	£535,000	included 2 loans
2014-2015	46	£114,000	no loans
2013-2014	31	£36,000	no loans
2012-2013	18	£74,000	no loans
2011-2012	12	£147,000	includes 1 loan

The Westray Bargain Box opened its door for the first time on Wednesday 2nd August 2017 and has proved to be a much valued and successful enterprise. In its first year of operation, just short of £19,000 has been raised by the various groups which have been 'in residence' during this period.

Andrew Seatter
Treasurer

Financial report

We have links with a number of organisations like Westray Development Trust (WDT) in Scotland and the achievement of WDT are still viewed with admiration. In the time that we have been involved with the Trust we have seen big changes. In the early years there was the search for viable projects that could be funded. You had no money and were dependent upon grants.

Then, there was the decision to focus on the turbine and now you are in the envious position of deciding what to do with the results of this massively successful project. The next challenge will be how to plan for what happens when the turbine stops "printing cash". This will be one of the biggest challenges for the board as they steer the Trust forward and it is something that should be part of discussions for the whole island.

The accounts for 2018 once again show a good set of results. The backbone of the operations in terms of finance is still the turbine which continues to generate revenues in excess of £500,000 each year. However it is not the only source of income and in 2018 the Trust attracted over £45000 in grants to support various projects.

The contribution to WDT from WRE is made up of various components. In 2018 these comprised:

	£000
Rent	2
Loan repayments	85
Loan interest	15
Management charges	5
Annual Payment	350
Surplus	457

So, the contribution of WRE is far more than just the annual payment out of profits.

What do we do? We are just the support act and we take the results generated by the respective Boards of WDT and WRE and present the figures on paper. We begin by preparing accounts for each individual company and the results for 2018 are shown below.

	WDT £000	WRE £000
Income		
Annual Payment to Trust	92	550
Overheads	(267)	(124)
Surplus	175	26

The "income" in WDT includes rent, interest payments and management charges from WRE.

The accounts that are signed off and presented at the forthcoming AGM will be the consolidated accounts which will also be audited. Consolidation means taking the results of both companies and adding them together to produce a set of figures as if everything was being done by a single company, eliminating all intercompany transaction.

Why are there two companies?

The structure is more expensive to operate but there are 2 very good reasons why these additional costs are justified. The first is risk. If anything had gone wrong with WRE, WDT would have been protected and although it would have suffered financially, could still continue to operate. The second reason is tax. If WDT had developed and run the turbine,

the profits would have been taxable even although it is a charity, because there is a limit how much trading a charity can undertake. HMRC, on their website, describe how charities should operate trading activities, and this is exactly how WDT and WRE are set up. It means that as long as WRE make a payment each year of their entire profits, WRE pays no tax. WDT pays no tax either because the receipt is a charitable donation. Basically legalised money laundering.

Lastly, we should perhaps highlight the direct and long term benefits to Westray. Between WDT and WRE payments of nearly £200,000 are paid out to local groups, to develop local projects and to pay local wages. Despite this WDT has managed to accumulate cash reserves of £1.65M which will be the basis for determining what happens when the turbine is no longer turning.

In conclusion, we can say that you have one of the most successful companies in the North of Scotland. The finances are strong and outlook for the next 10 years is positive. But here is a question. **What is the most important word in business?** The answer is just one word – "next". **So, what is "next" for WDT and Westray?**

Alan Long
The Long Partnership
Kirkwall.

Operations report

At the time of report writing our Ops Manager is unfortunately absent so this year I'm taking over the Operations Report. Having just joined Westray Development Trust in January 2018 I've arrived with a fresh set of eyes to look over what WDT had achieved this year and wow has it been a busy year!

Westray Development Trust is easily one of the largest and busiest Trusts in Orkney. We've got a lot going on to support the Westray community which, while very rewarding, unfortunately means a lot of paperwork to keep the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and Companies House happy. So while it may take a while to get things rolling as we wade through paperwork we're happy to report that we've made a lot of progress this year. This is all thanks to the hard work and input of our staff and project teams, volunteer Board of Directors, project volunteers and the invaluable support of the community.

There can be no clearer example of Westray community spirit than what can be seen through the success of the Westray Bargain Box. Open one year and the shop managed to raise just short of £19,000! A very impressive number for an island population of about 600. The aim of this project was to give local groups another way of fundraising for themselves and support the community while providing a second-hand shop on the island, and it has certainly done that.

Seventeen groups currently use the Bargain Box to help fund their activities. For example the

Westray Nursery has used its income from the shop to kit out its new kitchen with pots, pans and utensils, the Westray Golf Club puts funds towards course and machinery maintenance and the Westray Youth Club recently brought the Orkney Kayaking Group to the island and held four sessions for 39 children, from both Westray and Papa Westray.

We'd like to thank all the Bargain Box volunteers, particularly Anne Burgher, Edith Costie and Liz Drever for all their hard work, giving up their free time and delicious baking to make the Bargain Box the success that it is. We hope this will continue as the Bargain Box continues to grow.

We're also very pleased to see the overwhelming support Westray has had for the Food Miles to Food Smiles project. Special thanks must go to Mark, Clare and Benny for the hard work they put into growing delicious fresh produce right in the heart of Pierowall, particularly with this year's expansion to include outdoor beds. Mark, Clare and Benny are always on the lookout for ways to improve the project and make it as environmentally-friendly as possible. Special thanks must also go to the three Westray Shops, Chalmersquoy Accommodation and the Lynnfield Hotel for their continued support of this project. To read more on our work this year take a look at the Key Themes and Grants Reports.

Another major change this year had been... well me! Working together with Highlands and Islands Enterprise's (HIE) ScotGrad scheme WDT

employed me for a one year placement. As a Geography and Law graduate of Newcastle University I had a wide range of skills to offer as well as a specialism in impact research and working in remote communities. My project as a Social and Economic Researcher is to review WDT's Grant and Loan Schemes in order to ascertain and monitor community impact and aim to improve processes. In addition to this I've happily taken on other work to help out more in the very busy office.

We've had lots of ups and downs this year at WDT and WRE with staff and board changes and faults with the Turbine. In my final list of thank-yous I'd also like to thank the members of the Westray community who volunteered for our Boards and PEG this year; Geordie Drever, Douglas Leslie, Andrew Seatter, Bill Turnbull, Phillip Bews, Peter Needham, Ian Ricketts, Edith Costie, Louis Pottinger, Wullie Bain, Liz Drever, Sam Marcus, Jimmy Stout, David Hutchison, Steven Bain, Peter Brown as well as Alan Flint. Thanks also to all staff Andy Makin, Janice Kirkness, Margo Makin, Eileen Woodhouse, Isobel Thompson, Angela Muir, Mark Dickinson, Clare Lucas and Benny Norquoy.

Thanks also go to Caroline Kent for her volunteer work every month to set up our conference call to Alan Flint.

May 2019 be even better.

Isobel Thompson
Graduate Social & Economic Researcher

ScotGrad is a 12 month placement programme for recent university graduates run by Highlands & Islands Enterprise (HIE) in collaboration with Scottish employers, such as the Westray Development Trust. ScotGrad helps with advice for employers and is active with graduate recruitment as well as funding.

In November 2017 I got the call that Westray Development Trust had picked me for the job of Social and Economic Researcher.

MY EXPERIENCE

I studied at Newcastle University for 4 years achieving two degrees; a bachelors in Geography (BA Hons) and a masters in International Law (LLM) and graduated in December 2017.

Through my education I specialised in many things, most relevant to WDT being Impact Research (Social, Economic, Environmental, Political and Cultural) and working in remote communities. Before I came to Westray I worked as a researcher and teacher on the Thai-Burma Border with Burmese refugees as well as with a range of charities on community-based projects across Europe and Asia. These included CAFOD, Amnesty International and the International Voluntary Service as well as community-based organisations in rural Serbia, Cambodia and Malaysian-Borneo. So when I saw the job advertisement for someone to conduct impact research in Orkney I applied straight away!

Even when I was warned by others down south that the



transport links in Orkney would be limited, it would be isolated, cold and windy I just shrugged my shoulders and said "all part of the adventure, just don't send me back to the jungle!". I have happily traded the humidity and mosquitoes for the wind and midges.

SCOTGRAD TRAINING

A compulsory part of my ScotGrad placement was a residential training course in Cromarty funded by HIE.

This training covered

- Developing business ideas and models
- Market research using SWOT analysis
- Strategic planning and project management
- Sales, influencing and negotiating and delivering presentations.

This training was incredibly useful and I learned a lot. I also networked with the other ScotGrads, some of whom were also working with Development Trusts but in the Western Isles.

We are still in contact sharing ideas and offering advice to each other.

ABOUT MY WORK

My ScotGrad project brief as a Social & Economic Researcher was to undertake research to develop a new template that calculates the community benefit of the WDT loan service and grant schemes. Such a template would also consolidate the existing application & assessment templates, together with supporting documentation.

I would assess their usability, validity and completeness, refine them where necessary and share the new system with other communities who wish to build on Westray's experiences.

I looked into lots of different ways of doing this, fancy software, the latest academic trends, I contacted other organisations but nothing seemed to fit what WDT needed, so I took a step back and looked how to keep it simple.

ScotGrad report continued

I redesigned the application forms (and while some of you may curse me for that) they now reflect the grant assessment process PEG follows. This will make it easier for applicants to answer what PEG needs to know and it also gives indications of community impacts. After all who knows better the merits of a project than the ones doing it!

We then catch up with you later to see how the project went. I used this to then construct a database to hold all this information. Now it is not only easier to search through past grant applications it is also easier to monitor community impacts for example: how many projects benefited youth? Or how many helped protect/preserve the environment? Etc.

So that was the grants. I was about to turn to loans when suddenly our small busy office got smaller and busier.

I lay my project aside and got stuck into helping out anyway I could.

- I took on revising the management of the Höfn and organised the recruitment of the four Höfn Youth Support.

- Drawing on my law degree I ensured that WDT was compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) introduced this spring. I also drafted the contracts for the Höfn Youth Support and revised 'Become a Director' Application Forms among other bits and pieces.

- I organised the research trip to Shetland and networked with various charitable organisations and projects in Shetland.

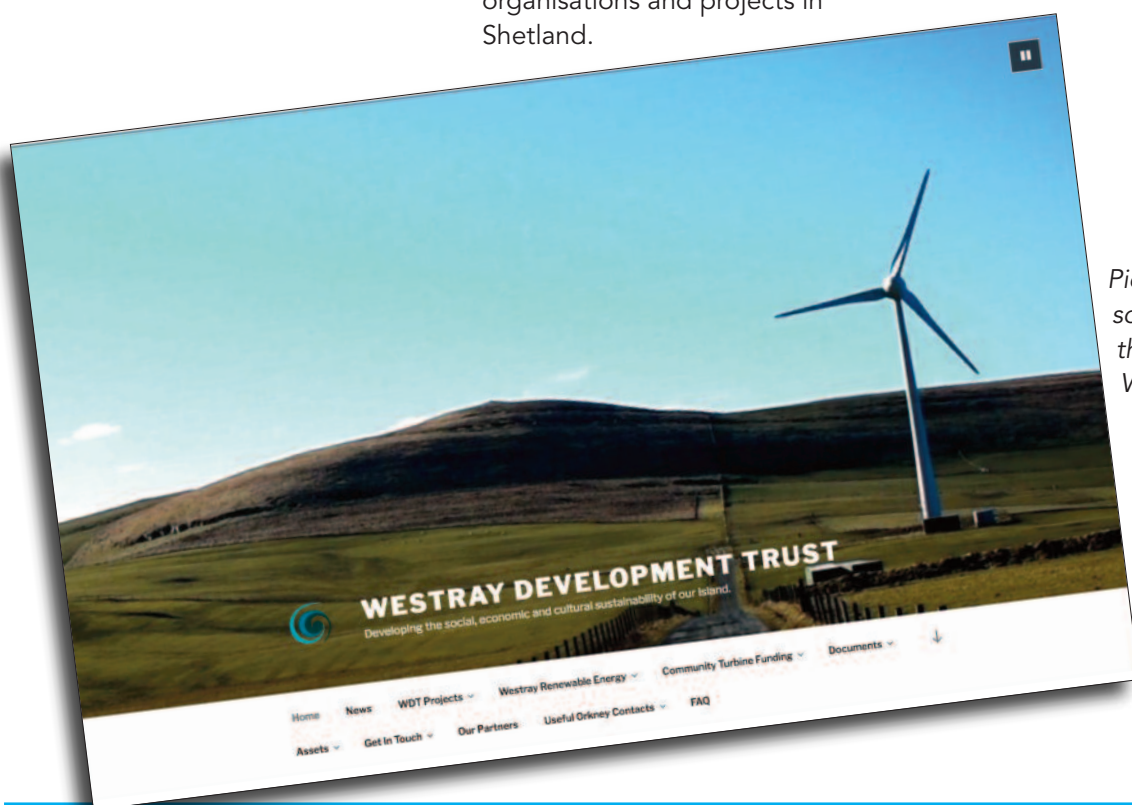
- I took on responsibility to update the website and Trust social media, the posts with too many exclamation marks are me!

- I worked with HIE to submit an award application to SURF.

- I have been happy to help with anything the other staff members, projects, Directors, community members, HIE or even BBC Radio have needed.

At the time of writing this report (September) I am back working on the loan scheme.

The hope is that we can share my and WDT's experience this year with other organisations so that we may continue to develop and grow together.



Pictured left, a screen shot of the current WDT web site

Learning Centre report

In the year 2017 - 2018 the aim of work at Westray Learning Centre has been to:

1. Respond to local employer and community needs for training
2. Research and advertise training opportunities available to Westray residents
3. Increase the range and reach of courses available in Westray
4. Improve facilities at the Learning Centre rooms
5. Develop new partnerships and strengthen existing relationships with a range of education providers

This work has been undertaken against a backdrop of decreasing availability of free local opportunities as many organisations move over to internet-based learning. While the growth in internet based courses undoubtedly offers many new and exciting opportunities, especially for island communities, the Learning Centre rooms have not previously been able to benefit due to lack of internet access.

There remains a need for classroom and social learning, however. Some courses (e.g. First Aid) are better suited to delivery in person by a dedicated and supportive trainer while other activities, such as craft and leisure pursuits are also social events which bring people together.

Going forward, it is planned that individual learning and internet-based study will increase as the facilities in the Learning Centre rooms improve and that classroom-based courses and activities will also continue to be carried out. Challenges for the

future include expanding outdoor and practical learning opportunities of interest to a rural community.

1. LOCAL EMPLOYER AND COMMUNITY TRAINING

During this year local employers have been canvassed with regard to their training requirements. The major requirement continues to be for First Aid at Work training. While this training is offered in Kirkwall, most employers consider it a more convenient option to have training provided on Westray.

Two full-day courses have been held this year in November 2017 and June 2018 and both were very well attended. The first course in November 2017 was organised through Orkney College; the second course, in June 2018, was organised directly between Westray Learning Centre and the course tutor. The latter allowed for a more flexible programme. In addition to the full-day course, the programme also included a dedicated session with secondary school pupils and a half-day refresher course.

Direct organisation also made it possible to share costs between different groups and thereby reduce individual course fees considerably. In all, 18 individuals, representing 8 local employers and all secondary pupils benefitted from these courses. We have also been able to build up our relationship with the excellent course tutor and are now looking at options for future courses.

2. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WESTRAY RESIDENTS

- With so many great internet courses now available and also a number of specialist and business related courses being offered by training providers in Kirkwall, the Westray Learning Centre has worked to raise awareness of these opportunities locally through the use of social media.
- Using a Facebook page dedicated to publicising these opportunities as well as regular postings to the Westray Facebook page, the purpose is to create a hub for education and learning related matters in Westray. This has also provided an opportunity to let people know about hobby and leisure-related classes and events. The feedback from this has been very positive, with many people liking and sharing the information posted.
- Following up on social media postings, individuals and local employers have also got directly in touch, via email and telephone for help and advice with learning-related matters. It is planned that this element of the work is expanded in autumn 2018 with a regular drop-in session to be held in the Learning Centre Room.

3. INCREASING THE RANGE AND REACH OF COURSES

Westray folk have been encouraged to get in touch with suggestions for courses which they would like to see held here. Most respondents have mentioned leisure and hobby

type courses with some interest also being shown in farming and practical courses. In response to this, we have investigated numerous possibilities, of which, a number have already taken place, with several more currently in the pipeline.

This year (to July 2018) courses/educational opportunities organised by or using the facilities of Westray Learning Centre include:

- Hands-On Archaeology
- Italian Language and Culture
- First Aid at Work (two Full-day courses)
- First Aid (General)
- First Aid Refresher
- Pottery (with another course scheduled for Autumn 2018)
- Orkney in Photographs and Photo Archiving Workshop (scheduled for September 2018)
- Patchwork & Sewing Beading (private tuition)

Three of these courses have also been extended to include a schools element: (Hands-On Archaeology, Pottery & First Aid – General).

This year, to end of August 2018, it is estimated the Learning Centre has provided or facilitated local tuition for 110 course places

Pictured right, the 2018 Heritage Centre exhibition celebrating the end of WW1. The Heritage Trust received a grant towards the upkeep of the Heritage Centre.

to local residents, reaching over 18% of the population. In addition to this, information and advice has been provided via both social media, telephone and email. Our research has indicated that there are a number of people who have not previously taken a course / engaged in an activity who would be particularly interested in more practical and outdoor types of learning. To this end, several further courses are currently under discussion (Animal Husbandry, General (Domestic) Maintenance and Construction, Local Pottery Tuition).

Two further courses have been investigated but unfortunately have had to be postponed due to the high cost of insurance required (Drystone Walling, Archery). For the future, it is hoped that the forthcoming North Isles Landscape Project will bring or facilitate new local training opportunities.

4. IMPROVING FACILITIES AT THE LEARNING CENTRE ROOMS

The two Learning Centre Rooms (situated next to the gym and

pool inside the Healthy Living Centre) have seen declining use over the past few years. There are several reasons for this, including the lack of flexibility in internal arrangements (e.g. too much / wrong type of furniture and equipment) and the need for a larger space for some courses (e.g. First Aid).

The lack of internet provision, however, has been the major reason, since most courses now utilise at least some online resources. Through discussions with OIC and Orkney College, this situation has been rectified this year and there is now useable (if not super-fast!) broadband available in the rooms. This will make it possible to undertake a wider range of courses in the future - hopefully to include a regular basic computing and internet drop-in session from autumn 2018.

There remain several issues with regard to access to the building, but it is hoped that these can be ironed out soon through liaison with the Community Association.

For the future, when these issues have been satisfactorily resolved,





Pictured: some of the Nursery children who have received healthy snacks every day. They are seen here working hard on their "baking".

it is hoped that self-guided learning using the Learning Centre rooms can be made available to local residents - and possibly even an internet-café type arrangement can be introduced – proving a service to visitors and business customers and generating a new revenue stream to help fund further improvements.

5. DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS AND STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

The Learning Centre has benefitted greatly from the support of OIC Community Learning and Orkney College IT input. In addition to the provision of internet access, we have also been offered new and upgraded equipment through Orkney College. A visit in spring 2018 from Kerry Spence and Ernie Skea (OIC Community Learning) led to some very productive discussions and resulted in the provision of a Pottery class, with a second course planned for the

autumn. It is hoped that a range of courses can be held in conjunction with OIC Community Learning in the future.

The possibility of delivering Westray-based courses in Animal Husbandry and General (Domestic) Maintenance and Construction are currently being investigated by Orkney College, while communications with the Scottish Crofting Federation have also been positive; discussions regarding the provision of courses in Westray are ongoing.

In addition to local and national training providers, the Learning Centre is also keen to encourage Westray-based folk with particular knowledge and skills to provide tuition. Following on from a local promotion (shop window adverts, Facebook posts) several possible courses have been investigated.

To date, courses have been offered in Italian Language and Culture and Hands-On Archaeology; a possible course in

Pottery is currently under consideration. Courses in Drystone Walling and Archery, meanwhile have had to be postponed due to insurance issues.

The relationship between the Learning Centre and Westray Junior High School has developed over the past year, from the Hands-On Archaeology sessions to the sharing of pottery and first aid classes.

The enthusiasm of the Head Teacher and school staff in embracing such opportunities made these courses financially viable, thereby benefitting pupils and the community alike. It is hoped that this approach will be continued.

Hazel Moore
Learning Centre
Co-ordinator

Progress on key themes

THEME 1: HOUSING:

We've made a lot of progress this year! After identifying the need for housing in Westray WDT made a successful offer to purchase Bayview from OIC subject to a successful application to the Scottish Land Fund for 80% of purchase cost (£150k). We've passed Stage 1 of this application and are working on Stage 2, the final stage. We're also working on gaining funding from the Rural Housing Fund to develop the property into a number of flats as designed by a team of architects headed by Shane M. Scott Ltd of Toab.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue with the development of Bayview.

THEME 2: INDUSTRY & BUSINESS

Quarry: Progress continues to be made on the development of the Westray Community Quarry at the Gallowhill site. A British Geology Survey of the site has been conducted. The lease for the site have been agreed in principle with the land owners. We have issued invitations to tender for the development and operation of the proposed quarry. Two companies have expressed an interest in quoting for the Quarry development and or management. Negotiations are taking place. Once the site is developed WDT have agreed to provide a weighbridge and commission a topographical survey before and after each campaign for the accurate measurement of the volume of aggregate removed from the site.

Loans: The WDT Loan Scheme currently remains under temporary

suspension as part of Isobel Thompson's ScotGrad placement she has been working on reviewing WDT Grant and Loan schemes. WDT's current business loans continue to perform well.

FUTURE PLANS: Isobel Thompson will complete her review of the WDT Loan Scheme and relaunch the programme.

Negotiations for the Westray Community Quarry development and operation will be completed.

THEME 3: YOUTH & CHILDREN

Grants: WDT continues to support the Westray Nursery in its provision of an affordable healthy snack for the Nursery children. As a result of being at the end of a very long food supply chain fresh fruit and veg have an extra cost in the Isles. WDT support of Westray Nursery helps ensure that Isle's children are not disadvantaged in access to healthy food.

Through our Grant schemes this year WDT has contributed to extra education for youth for example: driving lessons, training coaches etc. WDT also regularly supports the annual Höfn Bonfire Night.

Höfn: The Höfn is an unstaffed youth facility and therefore a high degree of trust and responsibility is expected of the young folk and generally they maintain these high levels. In recent years however, youth, parents and WDT have had difficulty managing Höfn use. WDT is very grateful to all the parents who volunteered for the parent rota to open and close the Höfn and keep an eye on things. However, in response to a growing need for more support and less reliance on parent volunteers WDT

has employed four local Youth Support Workers. The Höfn Youth Support are taking over responsibility of keeping an eye on the Youth Centre, opening and closing the building, being on-call to support youth and arrange youth activities.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue to support the Höfn Youth Centre and work with Höfn Youth.

THEME 4: HEALTH & CARE

Our Home Help Scheme continues to provide an important service for elderly folk in Westray through the amazing work of our Home Help Carer Angela Muir. She currently supports 3 households assisting in cleaning and shopping. Are you interested in joining our Home Help Carer Team? Get in touch with the office. After being a key supporter of the development of the Kalisgarth community garden we were delighted to see it open this year. We hope it will continue to benefit the residents and staff of Kalisgarth as well as the community of Westray. We were also glad to support several individuals achieve First Aid Training through our Education & Training Grants.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue to support health and care in Westray.

THEME 5: ENVIRONMENT

The Bargain Box has actively encouraged more reuse/recycling in Westray while supporting local groups through its design as a second-hand fundraising shop. The Food Miles to Food Smiles Project has continued to progress and succeed in its mission to provide local, fresh produce to our

Progress on key themes continued

local shops. Particularly this year with the addition of the outdoor beds outside the polytunnels, allowing more variety in our produce. The project is as environmentally aware as a small island project can be. We've dramatically reduced the carbon footprint of fresh fruit and veg by producing over 680kg so far (September figures), over 200kg more than last year, meaning that less has been hauled across to Westray. 401 kg of this figure was harvested in August alone! The growing of the produce reduces carbon, our focus on human effort done by our amazing team of Gardeners; Mark, Clare and Benny, and limited use of machinery reduces the carbon footprint too! In addition the planting medium is peat free and the pots they use to grow the plants are biodegradable. The fertilisers the garden uses are all organic. The sheeting they use to mulch the outside spaces are biodegradable and the electrical energy being used is supplemented by a wind turbine. The packaging is sourced from a company called Vegeware which produces a plastic type package from plant material. The labels on the packages and the glue that fixes them are also biodegradable. As always we will continue to opt to operate the project in as environmentally way as we possibly can and hope we can continue to improve by sourcing more environmentally-friendly alternatives.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue to support sustainable and environmentally friendly methods of production in our Garden Project. Continue to support environmental initiatives that support our beautiful island.

THEME 6: RECREATION, LEISURE & VOLUNTARY GROUPS

Aspects of the Community Grant Scheme and the Entertainment Grant Scheme were used to support a variety of activities on and off the island, further details can be found in the Grants section of this report.

FUTURE PLANS:

WDT will continue to support activity related to this theme through our Community Turbine funding.

THEME 7: TRANSPORT

WDT continues to support the principle of affordable and accessible transport in Westray and is open to work with any presenting authorities/organisation to improve the ferry service.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue in this way.

THEME 8: EDUCATION & TRAINING

WDT continues to support Hazel Moore as the Learning Centre Coordinator through Go Westray CIC. See her report for more details.

WDT's Education and Training Grant continues to be the most popular Grant scheme applied for. At the time of writing this report we have supported over 23 residents to access further education & training opportunities. These include: Space School, Driving Lessons, various Coaching Course, First Aid, Food Hygiene, Safeguarding and more!

Application Forms for this grant scheme can be found on the

website or collected from the office. WDT policy is to fund 50% of course fees to a maximum of £500, travel is not included. WDT continues to support the development and training of its staff team.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue to support Education and Training for Westray Residents through our Community Turbine Grants.

THEME 9: DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

Broadband: The Trust continues to liaise with the Government agency (HIE) and the contractors (BT and BT Openreach) to explore the roll out and any future opportunities to improving the broadband service for the whole island.

However, until such times that BT and BT Openreach have fulfilled their current contractual obligations, and the Governments R100 (Scottish Government's commitment to 100% of properties in Scotland being connected to Next Generation Broadband) the Trust cannot commit to any community-led developments, as this may preclude the island from any future funded/adopted broadband solutions.

FUTURE PLANS:

Continue to support improved Digital Connectivity in Westray

If you need any more information on any of the above, please contact the Trust office. You can also find information on the Trust website

www.westraydevelopmenttrust.co.uk

Grants awarded in 2017-18

This has been a relatively quiet year for grants in comparison to previous years. There were 32 grant claims received in total to the value of £55,474.17. There were 3 claims rejected 2 of which as they were applied for retrospectively and another was sent back for more information.

ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS GRANTS

The Trust awards up to £300 for travel and accommodation for any entertainment for an event brought to Westray. This said it awarded this amount to the Westray connections event in August 2017, to Westray Community Association for harvest home in November and to Westray Processors for band costs for the dance held to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING GRANTS

Westray processors were awarded £137.50 to assist with the costs of 11 non employees training in a Food Hygiene Elementary Course. Jonathan McEwen was awarded £64 for training in coding and computing whilst Kieran Bews was awarded £290 to attend a course for the safe use of pesticide/sprayer test. Isobel Thompson received £75 to put towards driving lessons and a maximum of £150 was granted to Jamie Rendall for the same. Aida McEwen was awarded £192.50 towards her attending space school during the summer and Andy Makin completed his ASQ level1 certificate in coaching golf and was awarded £137.50 towards the cost. Bill Turnbull received £7.50 towards a *Safeguarding Children in Sport*

course whilst John Banks and Lauren Harcus were awarded £45 each towards an Italian language and culture course. Ann Rendall and Jamie Rendall each received £20 towards a first aid at work course.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Applications received from Westray connections and the Bisgeos Run/walk were received this year and the Trust has underwritten these events which means that if they run at a loss the Trust would make up any shortfall. Westray Connections to the sum of £2,000 and Bisgeos run/walk up to £1,000. Westray Community Council was awarded £970 toward the annual tree lighting event and £600 to the Hofn youth group for the bonfire event. Westray Church of Scotland and Baptist Kirk inter Kirk group were granted £190 towards the annual Christmas card. Westray nursery was awarded £579.60 to provide healthy snack to the kids once again. Links of Noltland legacy project was awarded £750 to allow them to investigate the potential for development of a permanent display at the site. SWI was awarded £500 towards the annual Westray Industrial Show. Westay learning centre applied for funding towards Orkney photographica it was agreed that this would be underwritten to the value of £300. Westray cinema club applied for and was awarded £500 to enable them to develop and sustain a community cinema on the island.

DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Westray Heritage Trust were awarded £6,500 to support its continued existence on the Island. A decision was made to match fund the amount that was raised to enable Lorna Kemp to receive a bionic hand and she was awarded £6,000. Westray Golf Club received £8,000 which is their year 3 funding.

LOCAL INVESTMENT BUDGET

The Trust awarded £10,508.59 to Westray Community Association which would enable it to purchase new tables and chairs for the Community Room.

Other payments made were £2,100 towards the Home help service on Westray, £600 towards the Westray Community Association Coordinator and £1,000 towards the Play Group Leader.

This year also saw payment made to previous years' Grants of £4,840 for the Hofn refurbishment and £6,451.98 towards the Friends of Kalisgarth Community Garden.

Some of our completed projects



Pictured above: The Community Association received a grant towards new chairs and curtains for the Community Hall.

Pictured below: The Westray Sailing Club received funding from WDT towards the building of a new Westray Skiff in Stromness.



Pictured above: The Bargain Box has proved a very popular place to be every Wednesday and Saturday, with bargains for all.



Pictured left: The Food Miles for Food Smiles project has supplied fresh produce via the local shops for the past two years.

Thanks go to the following funders and partners who have supported the Westray Development Trust this year:

- Alan Flint, Bank of Scotland
- Big Lottery: Investing in ideas
- Billy Groundwater - Orkney Surveying Services
- Burness Paul LLP
- Colin McAndrew – Adhoc HR
- Community Development Fund
- Companies House
- Dalgleish Associates Ltd
- Developing Strathclyde Limited
- Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS)
- Di Grieve – Breck Designs
- DSL Business Finance
- EASE Archaeology
- Go Westray CIC
- Francesca Couperwhite – Highlands & Islands Enterprise
- Heather Lamont - CCLA
- Highlands & Islands Enterprise
- Luke Fraser - Orkney Islands Council (OIC)
- North Isles Landscape Partnership
- Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)
- Orkney LEADER Programme
- RM Computing
- ScotGrad
- Scottish Land Fund
- Scottish Rural Housing
- Shane M Scott Ltd
- The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
- The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust
- The Long Partnership
- Triodos
- Voluntary Action Orkney
- Westray & Papa Westray Tourist Association
- Westray Community Council

- Westray Golf Club
- Westray Heritage Centre
- Westray Renewable Energy Ltd.

Many thanks also to the numerous volunteers who have been involved with the work of the Trust this year. Your help is very much appreciated by the Board and staff team. We couldn't make things happen without the support and input of the community.

Agenda for the AGM

Tuesday 6th November 2018

at 7.00pm in Westray Parish Kirk

- 1 **Welcome and Apologies**
- 2 **Minutes of AGM on 7th November 2017**
- 3 **Minutes of GM on 3rd April 2018**
- 4 **Accounts Presentation and Adoption**
- 5 **Appointment of Auditors**
- 6 **Presentation by Colin McAndrew, HR Consultant**
- 7 **Election of Directors**
- 8 **Alan Flint, Bank of Scotland – Advisor to the Board**
- 9 **AOCB**
- 10 **Refreshments**



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