



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN ISLES DEVELOPMENT TRUST (COMPANY NUMBER SC271462)

Date & Time: Thursday 24 November 2022 at 5:00 PM

To be held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

### CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

- Welcome members.
- Appreciate efforts of members to attend.
- Introduce Board directors in attendance.

The Company has continued to encourage applications from community bodies for financial support from across the Western Isles and has made numerous awards of grant funding from the continuous Main Fund and the annual Summer Activities and Small Projects funds. These grants further WIDT's objectives to aid community bodies in the Western Isles in carrying out their important work.

#### Funding

In the past year the Board took the decision that it should seek to hold a minimum of £85,000 in cash.

As a significant proportion of the Company's reserves above this level have now been expended (due to the deliberate running down of excess funds), the Board understands that it is likely that the Main Fund will need to be frozen for a period while reserves are renewed.

The Board believes the impact of smaller grants from the Small Projects and Summer Activities funds are so great that allocation to these funds should be prioritised from annual income. These funds also allow the WIDT to spread community benefit to numerous bodies across the Western Isles.

#### Main Fund Applications

Since the previous Chairman's report there have been 10 full applications with 8 of these proving successful.

#### Successful Main Fund Applications

The successful applications since the previous Chairman's report are as follows:

- |                                                              |                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Comunn Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh (Energy survey and savings)   | £10,000.00            |
| • Spòrs Nis (Community Green transport Shed)                 | £5,000.00 (unclaimed) |
| • Laxdale Community Association (Laxdale Hall)               | £20,000.00            |
| • Iochdar Community Council (Slighe an Iochdair)             | £15,000.00            |
| • Comunn Eachdraidh Nis (Sustainable Development Officer)    | £10,000.00            |
| • Berneray Community Association (Berneray Hall)             | £10,000.00            |
| • Lochboisdale Amenity Trust (Talla a Chidhe)                | £10,000.00            |
| • Comunn Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh (Former School Redevelopment) | £10,000.00            |

### Small Projects Fund 2021

The Small Projects Fund 2021 opened to applications on 1 September 2021. Applications were invited from community groups for a maximum of £2,000 in grant funding. Applications were required to meet at least one of the WIDT's objectives (as set out in its Articles of Association and published on the website) and demonstrate benefit to the community. The fund closed once the limit of £44,674.00 had been expended.

#### 2021 Small Projects Fund Successful Applications (further details on the website):

- Urras Coimhearsnachd Bhradhagair agus Arnoil
- WI District Scout Council – Scout and Guide Hall Committee
- Carloway Community Council
- Harris Voluntary Service
- Sgoil an Iochdair agus a' Choimhearsnachd
- Comunn Eachdraidh Nis
- Urachadh Uibhist
- Bornish Community Council
- Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn
- Ceolas
- Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland
- SUEAAC
- Tong School / Nursery Parent Council
- Grimsay Boatshed
- Sgoil Breascleit Parent Council
- Comunn Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh
- Point and Sandwick Coastal Path
- Barra Clay Pigeon Club
- Carloway Community Association (CCA)
- Comunn Eachdraidh Bhac
- Western Isles Cancer Care Initiative
- WISCK
- Acair
- Cabraich Community Arts Funding Application

### Small Projects Fund 2022

The maximum expenditure for the fund for 2022 was set at £30,000 (reduced from £40,000 in previous years). The fund remains open at the time of this report.

#### 2022 Small Projects Fund Successful Applications (to date):-

- North Lochs Community Association
- The Caladh Trust
- Urras Coimhearsnachd Bhradhagair agus Arnoil
- Uist Council Voluntary Organisation
- Scalpay Community Association
- Sandwich Hall
- Sgoil Dhalabroig Parent Council
- Comunn Eachdraidh Nis
- Barra Children's Centre
- Caraidean Uibhist SCIO
- Urras Oighreachd Bharabhais
- West Harris Trust
- North Lochs CC
- Uig School Parent Council
- Western Isles Foyer
- Clan MacQuarrie

#### Youth Summer Activities Fund 2021

The Youth Summer Activities Fund 2021 was launched on 6 May 2022. This gave community groups an opportunity to apply for up to £1,000 (reduced from £2,000 in previous years) for projects which would encourage youth activities, particularly over the school summer holidays. The fund closed once the limit of £16,000 had been committed.

#### Youth Summer Activities Fund 2021 Successful Applications

- 2nd Stornoway Scouts Get Outside – Camping
- Barra Children's Centre Pottery Play
- Sporsnis Ploigh and Mountain Bike Club
- Western Isles Foyer Ditch It! Week
- Barra Youth Café To Mingulay and back
- Northbay Community Council Barra & Vatersay SciTech Summer Festival
- Breasclete Community Association Summer Holiday Club
- Dannsairean Mairi Dance for Today, Fit for Tomorrow, Fit for Life
- Uig Community Centre Association Holiday Club 2022
- Uist Community Riding School Activity Days
- Point Youth Club Summer Activity Programme
- Comunn na Gaidhlig Campaichean Saor Laithean ann an Sgìre Loch a' Tuath

- Comunn na Gaidhlig Bringing together Sir E Scott and the Nicolson
- Comunn na Gaidhlig Club Samhraidh an Toabh Siar
- LHYCA (Scaladale) Summer Holidays Activity Days
- Who Cares? Scotland Youth Summer Activities 2022
- Back Football and Recreational Club Water Sports

#### Income

The Company receives payments from the following developers of windfarm projects in the Western Isles:

- Galson Energy Limited;
- Pentland Windfarm Limited;
- Point and Sandwick Power Limited; and
- South Uist Renewable Energy Limited.

Between the last AGM (25/11/21) and 6/10/22 (when the last bank statement was received), a total of £43,813 has been paid to the Company by the developers noted above.

The second 'balancing' payment from Pentland Windfarm Limited is awaited. The level of this contribution has been reduced over the last 2 years due to the failure of the subsea interconnector cable between Skye and Harris in 2020. As this problem has now been resolved it is understood that the funding is likely to be back to its regular level next year.

#### Transocean

As reported previously, the Company accepted a donation of £60,000 from Transocean following the Ocean Winner rig incident at Dalbeg, Lewis and resolved to use those funds to support young people and others in education to access and participate in sport. That support has now been fully disbursed to the sports councils.

WIDT also held sums for the Dalmore Cemetery Lairholders Association SCIO. Those sums have not been fully paid out to the charity.

#### New Directors

Since the last AGM the following directors have resigned:

Fiona Stokes (Community Land Scotland)  
 John Mitchell (Harris, Elected)  
 David Wake (Community Energy Scotland)  
 Cllr Norman A. MacDonald (former Chair) (CNES)  
 Cllr Iain MacNeil (CNES)  
 Cllr John MacKay (CNES)

I wish to thank all directors for their work over the past year.

The following directors have been appointed since the last AGM:

Finlay MacLennan (Community Land Scotland)  
 Matthew Logan (Community Energy Scotland)  
 Cllr Kenneth Macleod (Vice Chair) (CNES)  
 Cllr Grant Fulton (CNES)  
 Cllr Iain Murdoch MacLeod (CNES)

#### Membership

There are currently 71 members of the Company including 9 nominated corporate members.

**END.**