



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

Date & Time: Thursday 28 November 2024 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.

Main Fund Applications

Since the previous Chairman's report there have been 11 expression of interest applications with 6 of these being invited to submit full applications. In the same period, there have been 6 full applications with all of these proving successful.

Successful Main Fund Applications

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

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|---|-------------|
| • Comann Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh Ionad Eilean na h-Oige | £19,000.00* |
| • Comunn Eachdraidh Nis Redevelopment Completion | £10,000.00 |
| • Northton Heritage Trust Old Schoolhouse Northton | £15,000.00 |
| • Lochmaddy Village Hall Improvements | £10,000.00 |
| • Macaulay College Building for the Future project | £10,000.00 |
| • Lochside Arena Arena Energy Efficiency Improvements | £5,000.00 |

*To commemorate 10 years since the Pentland Windfarm became operational, Pentland Road Windfarm Limited agreed to fund WIDT by a further £19,000 to support the Comann Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh Ionad Eilean na h-Oige Project (specifically to finance bore holes for the renewable heating system).

Small Projects Fund 2024

The Small Projects Fund 2024 opened to applications on 3 September 2024. A total of £24,810 was awarded to applicants throughout the islands. Applications were invited from community groups for a maximum of £1,500 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.

2024 Small Projects Fund Successful Applications:

• The North Harris Trust	Huisinis Heart-Start	£1,500.00
• Sgoil an Iochdair Parent Council	Sgoil an Iochdair Youth Club & Football Club	£600.00
• Harris Community Wheels	Harris Community Wheels	£1,000.00
• Lewis & Harris Youth Football Association	U14 Development Squad	£1,000.00
• Guth Airson Iarrtasan Nis (GAIN)	Eoropie Play Park	£1,500.00
• Urras Coimhearsnachd Bhradhagair agus Arnoil Taigh na Greine		£700.00
• Scottish Crofting Federation	Crofters Gathering - Stornoway	£1,000.00
• Claire Mairi Davidson	Barra & Vatersay Dance Festival	£1,000.00
• Stornoway Running and Athletics Club	Storage Container	£1,500.00
• Lewis & Harris Harriers	Establishment of Community Athletics Hubs	£750.00
• Seann Eolaich	Moving Forward	£500.00
• Western Isles Association for Mental Health (WIAMH)	Fuel Up	£1,000.00
• Point Youth Club	Accessibility for All	£1,000.00
• Lewis Camanachd	Supporting youth participation / Gaelic language	£500.00
• Dannsairean Mairi	Oidhche le ceol 's dannsa	£750.00
• Cabraich Arts	Arts for all Winter	£750.00
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• Feis Tir an Eorna	Feis Tir an Eorna	£1,000.00
• Lewis Pipe Band	New Uniforms & Equipment	£1,000.00
• Feis Bharraigh	Feis Workshops	£1,000.00
• Western Isles Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee	Equipment Project	£1,500.00
• Barra Children's Centre	BabyBallet	£750.00
• Southend Football & Community Club	3G Project Development	£1,000.00
• Lochside Arena Richard Johnston - Smith		£750.00
• Taigh Sgire Sholais	Community Park	£1,500.00
• Torman Torman Music Recording Session		£1,260.00

Youth Summer Activities Fund 2024

The Youth Summer Activities Fund 2024 was launched on 24 April 2024. This gave community groups an opportunity to apply for up to £1,000 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 2023 Successful Applications

• Cothrom Summer Club Provision	£1,000.00
• Barra youth café Summer Activities	£1,000.00
• Stornoway Free Church Summer Holiday club	£1,000.00

• Action for Children ‘Sunnd Summer Activities	£1,000.00
• Lewis & Harris Women’s Football Club Girls Summer Football Camp	£400.00
• Barra Children’s Centre BCC @ The Garadh	£500.00
• Iomairt Uibhist a Deas & Eirisgeidh Tachartsan Samhraidh	£600.00
• Taigh Chearsabhagh Museum & Arts Centre Summer Arts Tents 2024	£996.00
• Barra Clay Pigeon Club Junior Summer Cup	£600.00
• Stornoway United FC Coaching4Kids	£400.00
• Harris Highland Dancing Highland Dancing Summer Workshop –	£1,000.00
• Hotspot Intervention Team Hotspot Intervention Team	£500.00
• Isle of Barra and Vatersay Science Festival Rockpool and Snorkel Sessions	£450.00
• Feis Tir An Eorna Feis Travel Costs	£1,000.00
• Lewis & Harris Youth Council Lewis & Harris Youth Council Summer Meet Ups	£500.00
• Lionel School P7 School Trip	£500.00
• Sgoil an Iochdair Parent Council Sgoil an Iochdair Youth Club & Football Club	£450.00
• Dannairean Mairi Summer Dance Activities	£1,000.00
• Scalpay Community Association Summer Workshop	£1,000.00
• Breasclete Parent Council Tachartasan Sgìre Bhreascleith	£694.00
• Sradagan Uig Tachartasan an t-samhraidh	£912.50
• Back Football and Recreation Club BFRC Summer Family Programme	£500.00

Income

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

- Galson Energy Limited;
- South Uist Renewable Energy Limited;
- Point and Sandwick Power Limited; and
- Pentland Road Windfarm Limited (“PRWL”).

Since the last Chairman’s report was issued, a total of £13,816 has been paid to the Company by the community windfarm developers noted above (being the first 3 companies listed above).

£58,919 has been received from PRWL in that period (not including the £19,000 paid in respect of the Comann Eachdraidh Eirisgeidh project referred to above). The increase in the sum received from the company from previous years is due to the variable payment rate increasing from 0.75% of gross revenue to 1% of gross revenue from 1 November 2023.

Election/New Directors

An election of Elected Directors was held in March 2024. The directors elected to the Board were as follows:

Lewis

Alice Murray
Donnie Morrison (Chair)

Harris

Calum John Mackay.
VACANT

Uist

Kevin Morrison
Andrew Ross

Barra

Katie Denehy.
Elizabeth McAtear.

The Comhairle also nominated Kenneth M Macleod as a nominated director.

Since the last AGM the following directors resigned:

Anne Bird
Cllr Grant Fulton

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

Membership

There are currently 66 members of the Company including 9 nominated corporate members.

END.