

Annual Report

Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company

Year 3

This report covers activity from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018, the third year since the company was established.



Introduction

Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company (ANCBC) is funded by ScottishPower Renewables community benefit fund for Harestanes windfarm in Dumfries and Galloway. The fund supports projects located within or directly benefiting one or more of 42 community council areas in Annandale and Nithsdale.

ANCBC is a company limited by guarantee with a voluntary Board of twelve directors elected from the membership. Members are nominated by each of the community councils within the area of benefit.

ANCBC receives an annual donation from ScottishPower Renewables of c. £320,000. The Fund is split between open grant making and Local Grants to Community Councils.

Each established Community Council in the area of benefit is eligible to apply for an annual grant of up to £2,000, for use by the Community Council itself and/or onward distribution to other local groups. This allows decisions to be made locally and appropriately by Community Councils. During the year 33 community Councils claimed their Local Grant, which meant £59,670 of the fund was allocated to Local Grants.

Between April 2017 and March 2018, ANCBC awarded £231,533 through open grant making. This represented 72.4% of the 2017/18 total fund income of £319,851

During this period there were 34 applications received. Of these 3 were withdrawn, leaving 31 to be considered by the Board. 23 of these groups were awarded grants. 11 awards between £500 and £5,000, 3 between £5,001 and £10,000, and 9 between £15,000 and £20,000 were made.

The maximum Grant of £20,000 was awarded to 7 organisations for projects including hall refurbishments; running and staff costs; improving outdoor facilities; and social programmes for young people.

8 applications were not supported for a range of reasons, including the applicant having overly high unrestricted reserves, the project delivering insufficient benefit to the community, geographical ineligibility and governance concerns.

The average award over the period was £10,067. The average value of projects funded (all funding sources) was £52,129 giving a leverage ratio of 19%. This means that for every £1 awarded from ANCBC, a further £5 was raised from elsewhere.

Eight projects in Annandale were awarded a total of £59,030 (25% of funds awarded), with 14 projects in Nithsdale awarded £152,503 in total (66% of funds awarded). One project, awarded £20,000 (9%), supported young people across Annandale and Nithsdale.

Summary Financial Statement

Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company

Accounting Period: 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018

This statement summarises the full company accounts, which can be downloaded from www.ancbc.co.uk or by contacting our office.

Opening Balance	£80,896
Income	
Scottish Power Renewables	£319,851
Bank Interest	£63
Total Income	£319,914
Expenditure	
Support and governance costs	£26,466
Community Council Grants	£59,670
Main fund grants	£217,644
Total Expenditure	£303,780
Net Income/(Expenditure)	£16,134
Total funds carried forward	£97,030

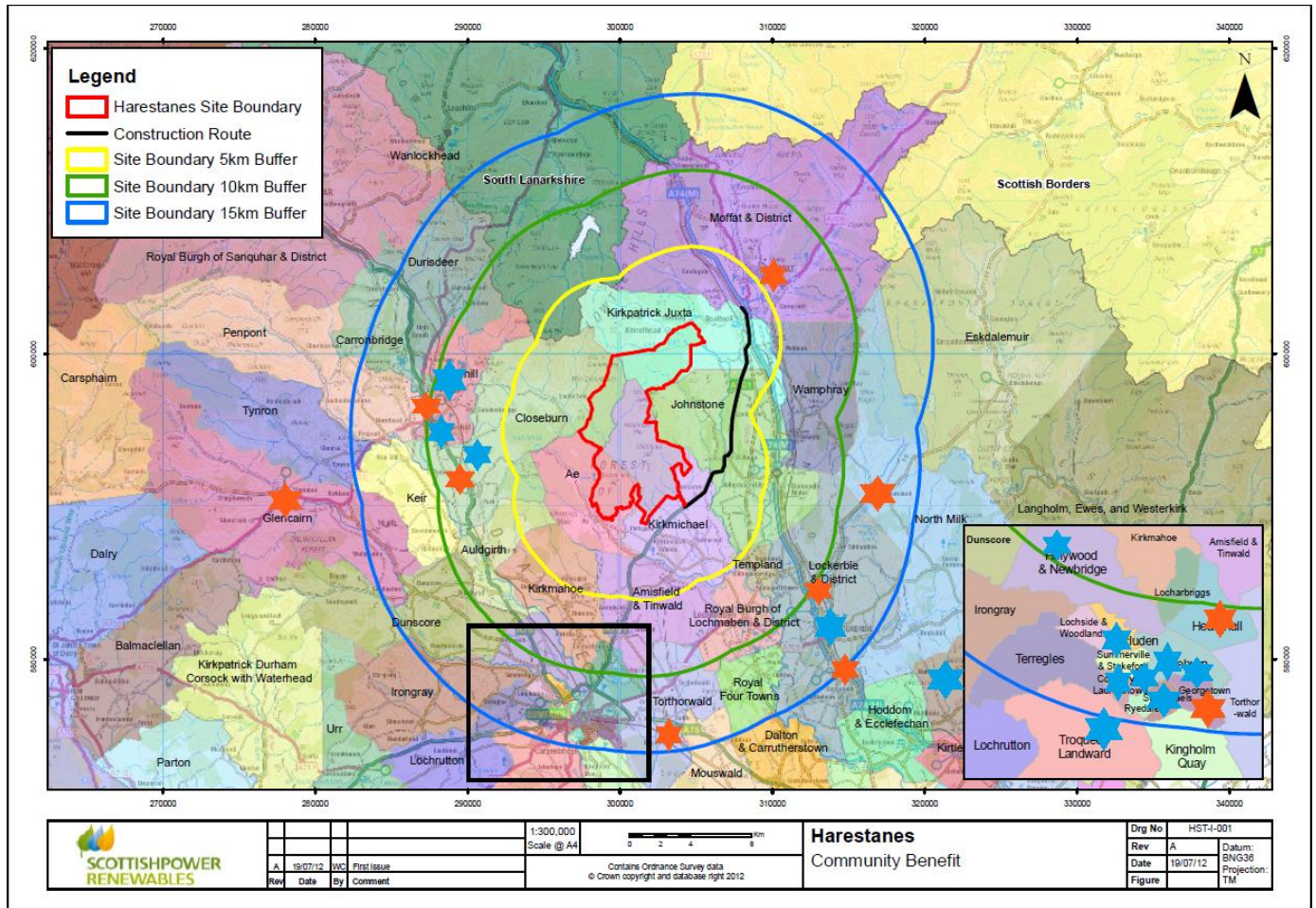
Awards during year 3

Applicant	Project	Project cost	Amount awarded	Leverage*
Thornhill & District Community Transport	To assist in the purchase of a replacement minibus.	£74,040	£9,466	12.8%
SWing Band	To fund the purchase of music stands, banners, scores and outdoor jackets for performers and a study day with a professional jazz musician.	£5,404	£4,053	75%
Lochar Thistle Youths AFC	To remove and replace fluorescent lighting in an indoor training arena with energy-efficient LED lights.	£5,587	£4,000	71.6
Thornhill Friendship Club	To fund energy saving measures, renew toilet facilities for disabled use, structural repairs & refurbish kitchen.	£70,349	£20,000	28.4%
Collin Village Hall	To upgrade boiler and heating system in Collin Village Hall.	£4,510	£3,310	73.4%
Annandale Community Transport Services	To contribute towards the running costs of providing affordable accessible community transport for the residents of Annandale & Eskdale.	£277,500	£20,000	7.2%
Moniaive Michaelmas Bluegrass Festival	To contribute to the costs of accommodation, tutor fees and campsite hire for the Moniaive Michaelmas Bluegrass Festival.	£17,348	£1,000	5.8%
Troqueer Landward Community Council	To provide a range of outdoor playpark equipment, including inclusive equipment at the Beeches Avenue park in Cargenbridge.	£86,873	£20,000	23%
Kate's Kitchen	To contribute towards funding a support worker and development worker for 3 years	£102,000	£20,000	19.6%
Boreland Village Hall	To purchase 15 new tables and 20 new chairs for Boreland Village Hall	£2,802	£1,000	35.7%
Food Train	To replace the delivery van used by the Annandale & Eskdale branch.	£15,847	£7,924	50%
Thornhill Bowling Club	To purchase ten benches to create a comfortable spectator area.	£1,563	£1,172	75%

South of Scotland Beekeepers Association	To convert and upgrade an existing stone building to become a dedicated location from which all of the SSBKA activities can be run.	£72,532	£20,000	27.6%
Sleeping Giants Community Development CIC	To contribute toward "Hidden Histories of Dumfries and Galloway", a varied and exciting skills, personal, and social development programme for young people from a range of disadvantaged backgrounds	£160,000	£20,000	12.5%
Dumfries and Galloway Arts Festival	To increase the number, diversity and quality of live theatre, music and performing arts events in Annandale.	£30,000	£15,000	50%
Moffat Academy Community Partnership	To pay for the salaries of 2 part time staff and the resources needed for the toddler group to continue.	£4,720	£3,520	74.6%
Lockerbie Bowling Club	To contribute to the cost of purchasing a replacement boiler.	£4,338	£3,000	69.2%
Sandside Community Garden Association	To purchase fencing for the Sandside Community Garden.	£22,918	£6,018	26.7%
Closeburn Gala Fundraising Committee	To run a variety of events during the Closeburn Gala week in June 2018.	£9,404	£2,895	30.8%
Parents Inclusion Network	To contribute to Coordinator costs over three years.	£39,950	£19,975	50%
Lockerbie Primary Parent Council	To cover the transport and entry fees for extra-curricular class and sport trips.	£7,200	£4,200	58.3%
Guild of Players - Theatre Royal Dumfries	To contribute to staff costs for the Theatre Director, Business Administrator, Heritage & Education Officer, and Marketing & Communications Officer for 2 years.	£175,550	£20,000	11.4%
Closeburn Recreation Hall	To modernise and update the Hall's fixtures and fittings.	£8,532	£5,000	58.6%
23 awards		£1,198,968	£231,533	19.3%

*Leverage is the percentage of grant costs compared to the overall project costs. This indicates the amount of match funding the group secured in relation to ANCBC funding.

Geographical distribution of awards during year 3



Large grants (£5,001-£20,000) ★

Small grants (£500-£5,000) ★

Please note that often beneficiaries of a grant will live throughout a wide geographical area and the stars allocated above may only reflect the central HQ or main office location of a project.

What difference is the Fund making?

The Sleeping Giants Hidden Histories Project was awarded £20,000 over two years and has so far had a big impact on young people in several ANCBC communities in North West Dumfries.

The Hidden Histories programme of activities and events, based around Lincluden Collegiate Church and Twelve Apostles Standing Stones, was developed and delivered with leading creative production professionals as well as local and national heritage experts.



The project is designed to re-engage people, with a strong focus on young people, with their local and cultural history while building their understanding and opportunities to access work. The first year of the project included:

- 234 attendances by young people under 15 at activities/events
- 1,052 attendances by young people aged 15-25 at activities/events
- 444 attendances by people aged 25+ at activities/events
- 61 volunteer shifts undertaken by 21 regular volunteers (26 shifts by volunteers aged under 25)
- 69 new learning opportunities offered in the local area

Volunteers now

- Undertake regular "poo patrol" and litter clearing activities around Lincluden Abbey;
- Work with Heritage Environment Scotland (HES) to create new signage for the Abbey;
- Undertake guided tours and events at historical sites
- Participate in 2 weekly group sessions - "Keepers of the Knowledge" weekly youth group, and a "Traditional Skills Craft club" in Lincluden Community Centre.
- Deliver 2 new educational/learning packages for Maxwelltown High School, including 2 days of Archaeology ReDiscovered sessions for S1s & S2s, which acted as part of their soft landings programme into the new school, and a full 'Takeover week' of Hidden Histories which provided 12 different heritage related skills based activities for S3 & S4 pupils.

Hidden Histories also delivered sessions as part of the Amaze Me LEADER programme in August to help bring to life local histories and showcase local heritage offerings for 60 young people (aged 18-29) from across Europe who were travelling the region as part of a roaming think tank. 19 local young people took part in this project.

8 work experience placements for local young people were secured through the project:

- 1 local young person secured a work placement on the Game of Thrones set;
- 4 local young people got Extras parts on the new Netflix Robert the Bruce blockbuster 'The Outlaw King' due for release end of 2018;
- 3 young creatives received paid work experience (with built in professional tuition) filming and photographing our project work to date.

Please find below links to videos that show the impact of their work on the young volunteers / trainees:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7BRRuJvd1E&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYTww9GtGFs&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W4K65Te3qy0&feature=youtu.be>



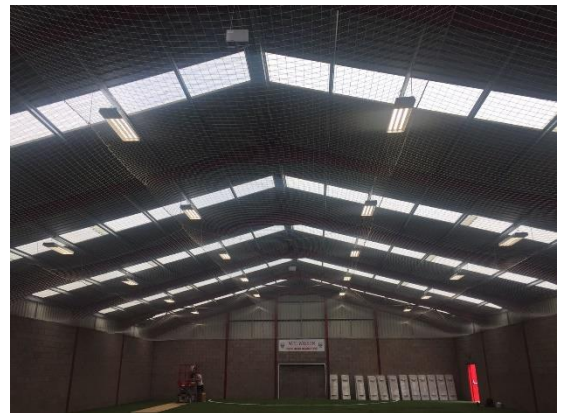
Thornhill & District Community Transport used ANCBC funding to contribute to the cost of purchasing a new Mercedes Sprinter wheelchair-accessible minibus that was delivered in March 2018.

Around 2,000 passenger journeys are made each year with the community group and many passengers rely on the service to access shopping, social and work opportunities.

The new bus both improves their offer to passengers, by making the service accessible to wheelchair users, and reduces the group's costs incurred through maintaining their previous ten-year-old minibus.

Lochar Thistle Youths FC were awarded £4,000 in June 2017 to remove and replace fluorescent lighting in an indoor training arena with energy-efficient LED lights. The project is likely to recover its costs in the long-term, through reduced energy and maintenance bills, and the new lights have an anticipated lifespan of 25 years.

The project was a good fit for the fund criteria of supporting the maintenance and running of community facilities and promoting sport and recreation, in particular the sport and health of young people. Consideration had also been given to minimising the environmental impact of the group and reducing their carbon footprint. Around 200 players have benefited from the new lights already, with many more likely to enjoy them over the coming years.



Governance and Administration Overview

The Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company Board can have between 6 and 12 Directors and has been operational with between 11 and 12 members for the reporting period. Attendance at meetings has been consistently good and this has resulted in a well-formed group with plenty of experience in making what are sometimes difficult decisions. Board minutes can be viewed at www.ancbc.co.uk.

All the company's directors retired at the Annual General Meeting, held in June 2017. Richard Mann did not stand for re-election and retired from his role as Treasurer. All the other directors were re-elected, along with new directors Hugh Buck and Mike Steele, who were appointed following an active recruitment drive.

For the purpose of appointing Directors, the ANCBC area of benefit is split into three geographical areas. There should be between one and four members from each geographical area serving as Director at any time. These areas are East, South and West. Board members at 31 March 2018 were:

East: Martin Brown, Helen Haggart, David Booth.

South: Murdoch MacPherson, Russell Stuart, John Magill, Sheila Farries.

West: Alastair McFadzean, Richard Clarke, David Dick, Mike Steele, Hugh Buck

The West region is currently over-represented with one additional Director, however one of those directors will stand down should another director for the East or South area come forward.

The Directors are volunteers and recognised from the outset the company would require paid, professional support, particularly with the company's grant-making activity. Foundation Scotland, which is a national grant-making charity, continued to provide this service and acts as the main point of enquiry for groups seeking funding.

Contact us

For general enquiries: Foundation Scotland, The Kiosk, Gatehouse of Fleet, Dumfries and Galloway, DG7 2HP

Tel: 01557 814927 E-mail: office@foundationscotland.org.uk

For Community Council Local Grants or to contact the Chair: Annandale & Nithsdale Community Benefit Company Limited, c/o Farries Kirk & McVean, Dumfries Enterprise Park, Heathhall, Dumfries, DG1 3SJ

Email: info@ancbc.co.uk

Registered company number: SC492185