



ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 2011



SUPPORTING THE STRONSAY COMMUNITY
TO SECURE ITS OWN SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in Scotland. Company Number SC271553
A Scottish Charity SC038888 Registered Office: Clifton, Stronsay, Orkney KW17 2AR



ISLAND SUSTAINABILITY IN CHALLENGING TIMES



How we started

The Stronsay Development Trust was established in June 2004 following the designation of Stronsay as an Initiative-at-the-Edge area. IatE was a Scottish Executive programme to encourage regeneration of fragile communities. Following extensive consultation with the community, a Development Plan was produced with a broad strategy to promote local development.

Funding for a Local Development Officer to help the Trust to implement the plan was made available through IatE in 2005.

Some of the early plans included a recreation ground for young people, the restoration of an historic lifeboat, installing a community-owned wind turbine to provide income for the island, and the creation of units to accommodate small businesses.

The Trust became a registered Scottish Charity in 2007.

What we do

The Directors of the Development Trust meet on a monthly basis and have four paid posts as support, these are 100% funded. The minutes of the meetings are published on the website and also displayed on island notice boards. Reports on projects are often included in the 'Limpet', the island's free newspaper.

The board is responsible for financial management and staff management as well as ensuring that it acts within the legal requirements of Company Law and the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator.

Any proposals for individual or group projects need to be viable, come within the Trust's objectives (see the Memorandum and Articles of Association) and have support from the community.

Members of the Trust must be over the age of 18, ordinarily resident on Stronsay and entitled to vote in local elections. Directors/Trustees of the board are voted on by the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Nearly eight years later and we are now working to achieve the planned outcomes in the third local development plan, produced by the Trust in 2011. We have achieved some major projects since the 2004 plan: the play park and the wind turbine and we are well on the way to building business units.

Sadly, it has not yet been possible to find a building capable of housing the historic lifeboat.

How we're funded

100% grant funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise, LEADER, Orkney Island Council and the Lottery.

Funding in the future will be greatly assisted by the gift aided income from the wind turbine. A Community Fund will be established, from which grants can be approved for the community. The process for this will be published in November 2012.



Chair's report

I am pleased to present the Development Trust report for 2010/2011 to you. There was much to celebrate this year and we shall soon be able to reap some rewards from the wind turbine. The new community fund from the turbine revenue means that we shall be able to invest in Stronsay's future for the next twenty years.

It isn't often seen as an exciting prospect to serve the community by being on a committee and this is understandable on an island of 'doers'. It would always be appreciated if you could spare a little time and your skills could be useful as a volunteer in any of our island community groups or as an SDT board member because so much depends on voluntary effort and these are challenging times.

There were some mixed views about the feasibility study into the purchase of the haulage business and development of the yard to offer rented business units. Eventually we learned that the haulage business would not be viable as a social enterprise, mainly due to staff costs, so the business was not purchased. The Trust is going ahead with buying the yard and also the lobster ponds in order to build an enterprise zone.

This year we saw the grand opening of the community greenhouse at the Science Festival weekend picnic, we had the unveiling of the children's community art project in the hall and my moment of immense joy was watching the huge components of our 900 kW wind turbine arriving on special ferries overnight in July. For such a small community we should be justly proud of our huge achievements.

A lot of hard work has been done and there is plenty more where that came from. The Trust has expanded its work and therefore its administrative and financial operations. In June we employed Lisa De Geer to undertake bookkeeping work and by August we were granted two years funds for another employee to help us to achieve quality standards and develop the process for granting money from the community fund.

I have been accepted for the latter post and therefore had to resign from the board from November, although I am continuing to work voluntarily for Stronsay Renewable Energy Ltd. This therefore, is my last report as chair of the Development Trust.

I commend the report to you and finally thank all the board members and others who have gone beyond the call of duty to achieve success: Marion Macleod for continuing to run the Greenhouse group and Eco club, Jenny Stone for overcoming considerable difficulties to produce a lovely artwork legacy, Bruce Fletcher for quietly and efficiently producing the Limpet every month and both Lisa De Geer and Anthony Withers for working with such commitment and dedication.

Julia Crocker

Directors / Trustees of Stronsay Development Trust Board

1 September 2010 to 29 February 2012 (in alphabetical order):

Malcolm Addison

Julia Crocker – resigned 21 November 2011

Valerie Fraser – resigned 5 May 2011

Helen Garside – appointed 15 November 2010

Nina Glead

Cora Goodram

Sara Goodram – resigned 16 January 2012

Karen Griffin – appointed 5 May 2011

Marion Macleod – appointed 16 January 2012

Adrian Miller – appointed 7 February 2012

Roger Neville-Smith – appointed 16 January 2012

Paul Riley – appointed 12 December 2011

Ian Stevenson – resigned 5 May 2011

Damian Stout – resigned 5 May 2011

Yvonne Weaver – appointed 15 November 2010

With thanks to our staff:

Admin and bookkeeping; Lisa De Geer from June 2011

Clerk; John Steenton up to October 2010

Community Development Officer; Anthony Withers

Company Secretary; Lisa De Geer

Powerdown Officer; Marion MacLeod up to October 2010

Powerdown Officer; Simone Kirk from November 2010 to March 2011

Turbine Development Officer; Anthony Withers

Main Activities of the Trust - September 2010 to August 2011

The Limpet

Prior to July 2011 the *Limpet* was printed at Claremont. This was quite an undertaking even though the printers (one for black & white, one for colour) were quite fast; over 200 double sided copies of a 24 page *Limpet* took the best part of a day to print & staple. When the printers at Claremont finally gave up the ghost, the job was transferred to the Orcadian and this is now working very well, especially since the "cut-off date" was moved further back from the publication date thus giving the Orcadian more time to print the newsletter and get it back to us.

Thanks are due to all the regular and occasional contributors who provide the raw material that makes up an informative publication which seems to be quite popular.

Quite a few folk have ceased taking the printed version and now read the *Limpet* online at www.stronsaylimpet.co.uk. However, over 100 printed copies are still distributed via Olivebank, Ebenezer and the Post Office, and there are still over 40 postal subscribers.

Stronsay folk are now aware that the *Limpet* is a great place to advertise their business, send congratulations and thanks, advertise local events and to post reports of events (with photographs).

Bruce Fletcher

Claremont

ricardian@btinternet.com

Note from SDT: All households should have a free copy of the *Limpet* on the last Thursday of every month and so please contact Bruce if you don't get one.

Letting Bruce know if you are able to use the online (colour!) version would also help the Trust to reduce its printing costs.

Annual Picnic and Official Opening of Stronsay Community Greenhouse

By the summer of 2010, The Keder Greenhouse that was erected in the summer of 2009 was running to its full capacity with 12 indoor plots worked by local residents and by the children's Eco Club.

It has been hugely successful in extending the growing season and providing shelter from strong winds thus enabling a larger variety of crops.



The Greenhouse Group Big Picnic

As part of a range of Science festival events the Stronsay Community Greenhouse celebrated its official opening in a traditional manner.

The event was blessed with beautiful weather and around 50 people gathered outside the greenhouse, including Councillor Graham Sinclair and Nana Peace who had been invited to cut the ribbon. After the ceremony visitors were invited to a huge buffet picnic of Stronsay and Orkney produce.

The greenhouse group wishes to thank all those who attended with special thanks to Nana Peace and Graham Sinclair.

Powerdown Project

The Climate Challenge Fund sponsorship for this project came to an end in March 2011. As well as the Community greenhouse and Eco club, a great deal of work was done under the affordable warmth part of the project.



The Eco club

In November 2011 Simone Kirk took over the post of Powerdown Officer, covering for Marion Macleod's maternity leave. Simone continued work on the affordable warmth outcomes as well as looking at the feasibility of new projects. Simone wrote a useful report about a recycling centre on Stronsay for the Trust's use in the future. Other activities included:

- Energy Evening – “Warts & All” January 2011 Stronsay Community Hall. The evening consisted of information on Home Renewables, grants, tariffs and a question time followed with the speakers.
- In February 2011 Powerdown followed up six referrals from Orkney Island Council UHIS scheme. Out of the six referrals two were interested in applying for internal insulation.
- End of Powerdown Coffee Morning with energy efficiency survey and gadgets Stronsay Fish Mart March 2011. 50 people attended.
- Home Visits – 40 were carried out by Powerdown during the project including energy advice, EAP referrals and some thermal imaging.
- 138 home visits were carried out by the HIS officer in liaison with the Powerdown officer.

Children's Community Art Project

In April 2011 Councillor Graham Sinclair and Erynn Stevenson unveiled the Stronsay Community Art Project for public viewing in the new hall at the community centre.

Mainly funded by the Lottery Awards for All and with financial help from the Robertson Trust, Stronsay Community Council and the Stronsay Development Trust. The project was led by Jenny Stone.

This collection of art work was the culmination of a full year of effort and research by 22 of the island's young people into learning about Stronsay's past, exploring their perceptions of the island in the present day, and using their imaginations to speculate about the future.

The result is a collection of 47 blocks or tiles of great imagination and beauty, providing a legacy art work for the island. It has been expertly framed and next to it is a plaque and photographic 'key' which allows us to identify the artists.

There were many adult volunteers involved and our grateful thanks to them for helping Jenny to run the sessions, inspiring the artists and finishing off the final very professional display.



Unveiling the Art Work in the Hall

Community / Turbine Development Officer's report

This reporting period has proved to be a very busy time especially in connection with all the work to get the community turbine project ready to go. It is fair to say this took up 70% of my work time due to the amount of paperwork and meetings needed.

Wind Turbine Project

The Turbine project at the time of this report had reached the stage where we had achieved commercial close (the deal in principle) with the Bank and Enercon who build them. A change in the rules regarding grants for such projects meant we could no longer use the majority of the £435,000 BIG Lottery funding towards the build and still claim feed in tariffs. We had to renegotiate with the Co-op Bank and ask for a 90% loan to value. The Bank displayed great trust in us and the project and agreed to progress on this basis.



The wind turbine under construction

Enterprise Zone

Investing in Ideas' Lottery funding has enabled us to complete the feasibility study and secure planning permission for the enterprise zone.

The Enterprise Zone project stepped up a gear with full planning permission obtained. This project funding has been agreed with the Lottery as one of our outcomes under Growing Community Assets, so we are able to use the BIG Lottery grant that was not utilised in building the turbine.

Serious interest in the business units has been expressed with an undertaking from Mr J Holland to lease back the existing shed to continue operating light haulage from there and moving his heavy haulage work to Millfield.

The Trust and its subsidiary companies will lease the office unit. The enterprise zone will be managed by a separate company with its own management board.

Work with the Community Council

Funding was obtained to enable the community council to employ a team of consultants to do a feasibility study on the Fish mart

Stronsay Development Plan

I have also been involved with producing the Stronsay Development Plan 2011, 'Island Sustainability in Challenging Times', which is now complete and is available in full on the Trust's website. The main thrust of the plan focuses on:

1. The Island Economy.
2. The Island's Infrastructure.
3. Housing.
4. Youth, Culture, Heritage and the Environment.
5. Governance of the Trust.

Work with the Stronsay Community Association

In partnership with the Community Association I am investigating new insulation and heating options for the Community Hall. It is intended to use some of the Lottery funding agreed for the Growing Community Assets affordable warmth outcome to fund this.

Science Festival

The Science Festival Weekend was enjoyed by all who attended including the guest speakers. Let's hope that this can become a bi-annual event and I promise that the quiz will be easier.

One attendee said 'I attended nearly all the events and the overall feedback was very good. Nick Morrison and Jon Side in particular were very impressed with the warmth and hospitality (and food!) they received in Stronsay'.

Thanks to those that made it such a success by their support.

BBC Autumn Watch

The BBC stayed with us for four weeks to film Autumn Watch. My role as local coordinator was very satisfying. Thanks to those who helped make their stay a successful one. Stronsay was famous for a while and we are hoping extra visitors to our beautiful island will result.

Overall a busy, but rewarding year.

Tony Withers



The Future

The main priorities for the Trust this year are:

- To build the enterprise zone
- To consult the community about the possible uses of the recently purchased lobster ponds
- To agree, document and publicise the process for applying to the community fund for grants.

For further background information about the Trust;

www.orkneycommunities/sdt.co.uk

For further information about Stronsay Renewable Energy Ltd;

www.stronsayturbine.co.uk

Summary Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2011

Summary Statement of Financial Activities	2011	2010
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Grants		
Awards for All	-	3850
Community Energy Scotland (Power Down, General)	44207	55659
HIE (CDO, TDO)	28280	20493
Keep Scotland Beautiful (Green Island)	22015	30895
Big Lottery Fund (Turbine, Enterprise Zone)	110688	9780
Other	2795	3800
Generated Income		
Limpet (Subs & Advertising)	682	765
Management Charges	1500	1500
Sundry	1021	119
Other Income (Donations, HMRC)	2451	1075
Total Incoming Resources	213639	127936
Resources Expended		
Wages	33534	32068
Travel & Subsistence	3693	3896
Other Overheads	31654	19066
Total Resources Expended	68881	55030
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources for the Year	144758	72906
Summary Balance Sheet	2011	2010
	£	£
Fixed Assets (at Net Book Value)		
Turbine Project	3450	3870
Enterprise Zone	7223	-
Equipment	1109	1479
Greenhouse	32602	24603
Shares in Stronsay Renewable Energy (Subsidiary)	100	100
Total Fixed Assets	44484	30052
Current Assets		
Stock (Brochures)	787	1571
Due from Stronsay Renewable Energy Limited - Loan	100307	48055
Other Debtors (Grants receivable, prepayments, etc)	15087	8246
Cash at Bank	105085	28247
Total Current Assets	221266	86119
Creditors	(16448)	(11627)
Net Current Assets	204818	74492
Net Total Assets	249302	104544

The Summary Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet have been extracted from the Financial Statements of Stronsay Development Trust for the year ended 31 August 2011, which have been Independently Examined as the company is exempt from audit in the current year. The complete financial statements will be available at the AGM.