



2017 ROUND UP Community Benefit Begins

The initial round of Community funding is a result of agreements in place to ensure that local communities see a tangible benefit from the use of the local land resources. The Wind Farm at Freisdale, operated by RES is the first wind farm with agreements in Tarbert and Skipness to become operational.

The first round of this funding announced in Early August 2017 is already helping support 16 diverse community groups. Projects worth over **£100k** and incorporating over **1500 hours** of volunteering are supported by the Community Benefit. Some of the projects are already in progress, including planning for a cultural visit to London by Tarbert Guides, new display boards for Heritage Ring Net Trust and a dream garden designed by kids of Tarbert After School Care.

Tarbert Soccer Centre 'Soccer Bridges' project is well underway and new equipment for Tarbert Toppers Sailing Club is in the pipeline. Feis An Tairbeirt hosted a fantastic day of music, drama and storytelling in mid-September and new access paths at Tarbert castle are complete. All these projects are partially supported by the first round of Community Benefit funding.

TSCT now has the benefit of a Projects Support Worker, Nicky Brown. She will be out and about in Tarbert and Skipness this Autumn & Winter, connecting with our community groups and key stakeholders. She can offer groups advice on how to get themselves ready to apply for future rounds of funding. Nicky is keen to work with groups to support collaborative efforts to grow new ideas and ensure sustainability for current community groups and activities. Contact Nicky by emailing kintyrealm@gmail.com or Mob: 07886771958

The Community Benefit Advisory Group encourages applications from any group with ideas and energy aimed at working to enhance and strengthen our community.

Details can be found on www.tsct.org.uk

Tarbert Castle & Community Orchard

As the Castle flag was lowered for the season, volunteers enjoyed the first produce of fresh apple and blackberry slices at the orchard. A few new volunteers (one from a neighbouring village) arrived to join the celebration of the first fruits from the community orchard.

Schoolchildren, visitors and volunteers of all ages have enjoyed digging in to make the dream of a community orchard become a reality. The orchard is fast becoming an established well-used and precious peaceful space for the community & visitors alike.



New paths at the castle- installed Sept 2017

The first batch of Tarbert Castle Apple Trees has been grafted and only time will tell if this little project will be create a mini-social enterprise offering a small & sustainable future income for the Castle Trust! The Willow yard will be gearing up to see what it can produce for Christmas.

Tarbert Academy pupils continue to regularly using the Castle woodland to explore with Forest School and have been introduced to the Bee Hive. Some tasted the first Tarbert Castle Honey!

Regular volunteer sessions working on all aspects of the Castle property are on the **First Saturday morning in each month. No special skills needed, just willingness as you can learn on the way. All are welcome!**

Total Sum funded across 16
successful projects: **£18,055**

Volunteer value in cash terms within 16 projects:
£23,720 (1, 580hrs)

Total Cash Value of community projects funded during round 1 of Community Benefit:
£103,209.50p (17.5% of this is the actual money given by community benefit to these projects)