



Kirkcowan Community Development Trust Newsletter - Spring 2025

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www.kcdt.uk

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Kirkcowan Community Development Trust Newsletter. As we move into the longer, brighter days of Spring we can look ahead to an official opening of the playpark, and more groundworks to improve access to the Jenna Morra Woods. We are also about to launch a Community Consultation exercise to refresh the previous Community Action Plan which ran up to 2025. This will be an opportunity for Kirkcowan residents to have a say in how the community benefit funds, generously donated to us by Scottish Power Renewables Kilgallioch Windfarm and RES Glenchamber Wind Farm, are spent. More information on that and how you can get involved to follow, but don't forget you can always get in touch with KCDT through the website www.kcdt.uk With best wishes from the KCDT Board.

Funding Spotlight: Community Minibus



In 2024 KCDT funded the purchase of a Community Minibus for use by different groups within the community for the benefit of local residents. Recent bookings have included trips out for The Rainbows, Change Mental Health, a Fibromyalgia support group, and use as wedding transport, as well as acting as a back-up vehicle for the Riverside Centre.

The minibus is available for use by members of the Kirkcowan Autumn Club, and other organisations and groups within the Kirkcowan Parish area. The minibus can accommodate one wheelchair user, and is accessible for those with mobility issues with a ramp and grab-rails.

For more information on booking the minibus, please contact Dave Edwards at The Autumn Club or email dedwards.autumnclub@gmail.com

AGM Update

KCDT held its Annual General Meeting on 20th January 2025 - thanks to all who attended. With Charlie McNeill reaching the end of his tenure, he stood down as Chair and was publicly thanked for his commitment and service to the Trust and to the Kirkcowan Community. Martin Marsh moves from Vice-Chair to Chair, Bill Harkness was re-elected as a Director, and Vivienne Bradley was newly elected to the Board. Minutes of the AGM can be found on the Trust website www.kcdt.uk

The Autumn Club is kindly acting as a convenient drop-off point for correspondence for KCDT. Post can be left in the Club post-box and is only opened by KCDT

Jenna Morra Wood -Volunteer updates and new groundworks

Volunteers have been out every Saturday morning in January and February to clear vegetation from the road verge. It now looks a lot tidier and it will make it safer for anyone walking along the road. They also planted some more snowdrops both in the verge and along the path through the wood. The next thing will be to get the roadside dyke repaired.



Before and after of the verge maintenance by volunteers - our thanks to them for all their hard work.



Work has also started on creating a new path along the river bank. This is proving quite hard going for a mini-digger, clearing away stones and tree roots and creating a level surface with culverts for the many ditches. Once this work is completed it will take a little while for the ground surface to recover and vegetation to return leaving a pleasant surface to walk on and providing an alternative route through the wood, with good views of the river and the old mill. At the same time the first part of the existing path from Johnston's Bridge is being improved with some extra stone brought in. Some of this will be used along with timber battens to construct steps up the hill.

Andrew Gladstone



Does your community group need funding for projects this year?

If so, we want to hear from you! You can find information on what is eligible and how to apply by visiting the KCDT website, or head straight to www.foundationscotland.org.uk and search for Kirkcowan Community Fund to read the criteria and start your application.

