



Making a lasting difference to the local community

In its first year of grant making the Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company (ANCBC) has awarded over £581,000 to 35 community groups and small charities, making a positive difference to the area.

ANCBC was established to benefit and support community groups and charities working in forty two community council areas across Annandale and Nithsdale that are providing vital services/activities which benefit the area.

In its first year a very wide range of projects have been supported. Large



awards included helping Mossburn Community Farm to deliver a three year equine therapies project for people living with mental and physical disabilities; a notable award made has been to Moat Brae House, the one-time home of Peter Pan author J M Barrie to secure and

restore the house and in turn help and inspire disadvantaged children through play, creative learning, entertainment and literature; along with a grant towards a much needed extension to the Nith Inshore Rescue Lifeboat Station.

Small grants (up to £5,000) have proved very popular with the fund and have also supported a variety of local activities including renovations to village halls and bowling clubs; enabling local community events such as music festivals, family fun days and Galas; supporting pipe bands, retirement groups, sports clubs and playgroups as well as purchasing community notice boards and helping with a community transport scheme.

Young people in the area have also benefited and have had the opportunity to experience a large scale music festival, which they may otherwise not have been able to thanks to a grant of £3,000 to Oasis Events Team. The grant helped them promote the event, hire stalls and provide activities at the Youth Beatz Festival.



[Read our First Annual Report Here](#)

Community Councils have responded well to the needs of their local communities

In addition to the main grants programme £186,000 was allocated to established community councils in the area of benefit, giving them the freedom to support grassroots projects and good causes. Reports are still coming in but first assessments indicate Community Councils are providing support and encouragement seed fund initiatives and help build capacity for community developments supporting diverse projects from Solar Lighting to promoting Disability Sport as well as supporting on going maintenance for community facilities.

Membership Update

Thankfully most Community Councils have now managed to re-establish so keep an eye out for Company Membership Renewal Forms which will be making their way to all participating Community Councils this Autumn.

“It is fantastic to see the wide range of projects that have been supported in the first year of the fund, and the positive impact that they have had in their communities. £8 million of funding will be available for communities over the 25 years that Harestanes windfarm is anticipated to operate for, and we hope that many more local projects come forward to seek support in the coming months and years.”

-Kenny Peberdy, UK Onshore Director for ScottishPower Renewables

www.ancbc.co.uk