



ANNUAL REPORT 2009 – 2010



SUPPORTING THE STRONSAY COMMUNITY TO SECURE ITS OWN SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE

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

Chair's report

Welcome to the 2009/10 annual report of the Stronsay Development Trust. At the time of writing the Community Wind Turbine project is on the brink of its official start date with the wind turbine due to be built at Rothiesholm in late summer of 2011, while funding for our Powerdown Officer is coming to an end in March 2011.

It has been a very exciting and eventful year with the hard work of grant applications bearing fruit; in the space of a couple of months we were granted £435,000 towards the community turbine, nearly £50,000 for the Green Island project, over £10,000 for the Children's Art project, nearly £10,000 for investing in the enterprise zone plus HIE/LEADER funding for two jobs.

This sounds like fun until the accounting for it and drawing down of funds begins. A good time to remind everyone that these funds are ring-fenced to specific projects or jobs and board member's labour and some expenses often go unpaid. The Development Trust itself does not have a pot of gold waiting to be claimed!

Although we have tried to keep the report to within the Trust financial year boundaries, i.e. up to the end of August 2010, there are some exceptions to this where it makes sense.

With more funded projects we have been able to offer more employment on the island, and my thanks go to all those who have taken on these roles and who have willingly given both extra time and effort to get things done in spite of any difficulties.

Importantly we have also had very good support from volunteers for both the Community Art project led by Jenny Stone and the Eco club. The Development Trust has gained the permissions for a lead signatory to do the initial CRBS disclosure check process and thanks to all we have been able to support two projects for children.

I hope that Stronsay residents are pleased with what has been achieved and with your continued support the Trust will be able to meet its objectives and help the community to secure its own sustainable future.

My thanks also to Bruce Fletcher, for all his time and effort in keeping the website updated and producing the Limpet, and to our main partners; other Development Trusts in Orkney, Community Energy Scotland, Orkney Community Planning Partnership, HIE Orkney, Climate Challenge Fund and Voluntary Action Orkney.

Julia Crocker

Chair

Directors / Trustees of Stronsay Development Trust Board

1 September 2009 up to the printing of this report

In alphabetical order:

Malcolm Addison (Treasurer)

Julia Crocker (Chairman)

Michael Erdman – resigned 8 June 2010

David Fernley – resigned 13 August 2010

Valerie Fraser

Helen Garside – appointed 13 November 2010

Nina Gleed – appointed 13 January 2010

Cora Goodram

Sara Goodram – appointed 13 January 2010

Heather Johnston – resigned 26 October 2009

Ian Stevenson

Damian Stout

Yvonne Weaver – appointed 13 November 2010



Exchange visit to Sanday Development Trust July 2010

Main Activities of the Trust - September 2009 to August 2010

With thanks to:

Administrative support; Leza Haystead from August 2009 to August 2010
Clerk; John Steenton to October 2010
Community Development Officer; Anthony Withers from Sept 2009
Company Secretary; Lisa De Geer from April 2010
Powerdown Officer; Marion MacLeod from June 2009 to October 2010
Powerdown Officer; Simone Kirk from November 2010 to March 2011
Support to Green Island project; Robin Graham from June 2010 to October 2010
Turbine Development Officer; Anthony Withers from June 2010

Powerdown - Funded by the Climate Challenge Fund

The Affordable Warmth Project

This was designed to look into various schemes and grants available to help householders and community buildings with energy efficiency, reduce bills and reduce carbon emissions. Home Energy surveys by Orkney Energy Agency were carried out and arrangements made for full audits, OWL meter installations, presentations and informative events were arranged. Stage 1, March-April 2010; saw half of the island's households being contacted about home visits to check eligibility for Home Insulation Scheme or Energy Assistance Package. Stage 2, January-March 2011, saw the remaining households covered and referrals for improvements followed up, with work scheduled to be carried out during the rest of 2011.

The Recycling Project

A survey was carried out in 2010 in partnership with Stronsay school children to highlight the recycling centre in Stronsay and discover how many people used it. The results identified good local usage but some people were a bit unsure what could and could not be recycled, so in an article in the Limpet detailed information was provided addressing the issues raised. A proposed recycling centre for large items such as furniture, DIY and farmers' exchange was looked into, but proved to be unfeasible at this time.

The Green Island Project

In the beginning of April 2010 The Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) announced that SDT was amongst the successful applicants of the CCF phase 2 projects. The Green Island Project was awarded nearly £50,000 for the erection of a 20m x 24m Keder greenhouse, a children's Eco club and funding towards training and events plus the employment of a gardener for 5 months

Greenhouse

Planning had been obtained and granted for the greenhouse at a site on the south side of the Moncur Memorial Church. The Kirk board were willing to lease this bit of land to the project.

Robin Graham was appointed to the temporary post of gardener for five months.

The structure was erected in late June by the manufacturers and the large area had to be split into 11 plots plus a communal area with a picnic-workbench.

The 10 plots were soon allocated. Some are shared or worked by someone on their own.

By late July seeds were in and some harvesting of salad produce started as early as 4 weeks later. It was very quickly obvious how beneficial growing under cover actually was.



August 2010

Eco club – see cover photo

The 11th plot was allocated solely for the use of a children’s club named the “Eco Club”. The club started in August and approximately 11 children were attending every week. They planted their own produce on their plot and enjoyed other Nature and wildlife spotting activities. Very soon the children were able to bring samples of some of their produce home.

One of their main events incorporated a visit from a mainland outdoor survival expert Malcolm Handoll.

Green Island 3-day Festival

The Green Island Festival was held in Early September. The Festival ran over 3 days alongside the Orkney Science festival. It incorporated a drama night for the whole family in which the Stronsay Silver Darlings did a guest performance, 2 days of recycling craft workshops and a local food café.

The Local Food Cafe provided nearly 100 meals over the two days. It was organized by Marion Macleod and an army of volunteers who cooked and served home-made, mainly grown or sourced ingredients from Stronsay and Eday.

The craft workshops offered spinning, weaving, felting, paper-making, rag-hooking and plastics. Displays included local fibres from goats, alpacas, rabbits, dogs as well as sheep. Dyes made from local plants such as ragwort, docks, lichens and some from food colours, hand-made soap. Approximately 100 attended over the 3 days. One visitor said: “It was the most enjoyable event I have ever been to. Please organise another one”. It is always nice to hear that!



Powerdown Community Events

- Tattie Evening – raising awareness of local food production
- Energy Evening 2010 –raising awareness of energy efficiency and how to improve efficiency
- Traditional Stone-built Homes – how to calculate U values in hard-to-heat homes
- Green Island 3-day Festival – local food and local materials for crafts

Workshops and Education

- City & Guilds Certificate in Energy Awareness (3 candidates qualified, 1 leading to employment with the Home Insulation Scheme)
- Horticulture Training – workshop for Greenhouse group and open to community
- Willow Workshop – planting and sculpture open to community.
- Greenhouse Group visit to Eday – composting and visiting a polytunnel
- Bush Craft Day – Eco Club
- Eco Drama – school workshop and eco play “The Isle of Egg” for the community

Powerdown ends for Stronsay at the end of March 2011. It will leave a lasting legacy of the Community Greenhouse and Eco Club which will both hopefully continue to run successfully for years to come.

A survey is due to be carried out to ascertain how many households benefitted from the Affordable Warmth Project.

Children’s Community Art Project

With over £10,000 of funding from the Lottery Awards for All, The Robertson Trust and OIC; the Stronsay Community Art Project is a creation by the young people of Stronsay of a large mural of their artwork depicting their viewpoint of past, present and future aspects of the island. It is intended for permanent or semi – permanent display at the Community Centre, with the possibility of the best of the remainder of their work to be displayed at the Fishmart Interpretation Centre. There are thirty three young people involved, the age group ranging from three to eighteen years old. The first session took place in May 2010, with regular weekly sessions since.

The project is run by a group of eight adult volunteers, who attend each session on a rota basis, supporting the children in their work and giving practical assistance in the running of the project. There is a new topic every week, based on research and exploration of their ideas relevant to Stronsay's history, current events and future possibilities.

A key aspect of the art project has been the involvement of as many islanders as possible. This includes providing an opportunity for the young people to socialise on a regular basis whilst attending the art project sessions, parental involvement and opinions taken into consideration, and many others giving of their time, ideas, and donations of materials toward the project.

Especially important is the contribution of a substantial fund of local knowledge which was given generously by many in the community, especially the older generation. This added a real life flavour to the research needed in looking into Stronsay's history. The young people were also taken on guided tours and shown old crafts. Many people donated a considerable collection of photographs for the children to use.



Jim shows how to make sheaves

These young artists have gained a considerable amount of knowledge and wisdom in a number of ways. They have learned a good deal about their environment, how to explore their own ideas and viewpoint, and have shown a clear progression of their skills in art work. They have also explored handling an extensive variety of media and differing techniques as part of their experience of the project – a number of sessions were set aside for this purpose.

They have completed their research into Stronsay's past and present and are now fully underway with sharing their ideas on the island's future; the third and final area of research before they begin the creation of the finished piece ready for display.



Bill Miller explains the history of the herring fishing industry



An important aspect of this project has been the financial benefit to the community; very little of the funding allocated was spent outwith Orkney, and as much as possible has been kept within Stronsay itself. Materials have been supplied by local businesses with most work done by local trades/craftspeople, and the regular hire of the hall premises has also been of financial benefit to the Stronsay Community Association.

There will be an open invitation to view the work in April.

Community Development Officer's report

The Community Development Officer job is a new post funded by HIE/LEADER which serves all Stronsay community groups and the scope of the role was agreed at the outset with Stronsay Community Council and Stronsay Community Association.

Tony Withers says "On taking up the post I found myself hitting the ground running. I had to get up to speed on the Community Wind Turbine Project and assist in the completion of the Business Plan and application to the Big Lottery Fund. As you will be aware this was successful and the Trust secured lottery funding to the tune of £435,000 towards the estimated £1.6M build cost".

It also meant that work had to be started on the Community outcomes of the Turbine project which had been agreed by The Big Lottery Fund. Apart from the turbine installation itself the other outcomes are, reducing fuel poverty and an **Enterprise Zone**. These outcomes were based on needs identified in the last development plan drawn up in 2007. Pictured below is the design for the Zone by award winning local architect Leslie Burgher.



Enterprise Zone (EZ)

Nearly £10,000 was secured for a feasibility study from the Lottery, 'Investing in Ideas'. This funding has enabled us to use the services of a Management Accountant, Architect and Quantity Surveyor to assist the Trust in establishing the viability and sustainability of the project.

Reporting the full outcome of this will be in April 2011 and form part of our new Development plan. This ongoing study is funding the report into the sustainability (or otherwise) of the EZ proposal.

Community consultation has included a public meeting and establishing from a survey, more than 85% approval of the proposal. Consultations have also included meetings with residents regarding the EZ as well as taking on suggestions about what the EZ should contain.

Light Haulage

With regular updates in the Limpet on projects, you may be aware that due diligence work on the Enterprise Zone has shown that the purchase of the Light Haulage business is not a viable option for the Trust to pursue at this present time because it would involve large price increases to make it sustainable. We are however continuing with the Enterprise Zone feasibility study and applying for planning permission on the same site.

Stronsay's Community Wind Turbine

The turbine project has used much of the CDO's time during this reporting period with the amount of work increasing with regular group meetings in Kirkwall with Community Power Orkney (CPO). The CPO group is supported by Community Energy Scotland and is a working forum of the five Orkney Isles who were awarded lottery grants for community wind turbines. Hoy, Rousay Egilsay/Wyre, Shapinsay, Eday and Stronsay. The aim of the group is to work together and reduce costs by sharing joint project management and by group tendering for contracts.

By July the trading subsidiary, Stronsay Renewable Energy Ltd, had started to define important governance issues. A local Turbine Development Officer post had been funded by HIE/LEADER for 2 years, and by September 2010 Northwind Associates were appointed as Joint Project Managers.

The CDO has also attended several training courses. These include Social Accounting, How to produce Business Plans, Project Management Techniques and Working with Volunteers.

Other work has included advice and support to other community groups and administering the Fairer Scotland Fund service level agreement between OIC and the other eleven development trusts in Orkney.

Sadly this funding has now been withdrawn and we are actively seeking alternative funding as this money allows the Trust to pay for insurance, an accountant, the Limpet and stationery costs and without which we cannot function.

The Future – Community Development Plan

With the cuts in public spending and reduction in grants, there is likely to be more 'bad' news in the pipeline for community groups on the island. In the last couple of weeks OCPP has announced that SDT will not get capacity funding in 2011/12 from the Fairer Scotland Fund and the OIC Youth Development Officer funding ceases at the end of March. The capacity funding is the only general and non ring-fenced income the trust receives so this affects our ability to finance the Limpet and Secretarial support.

Clearly the voluntary sector is going to be expected to do more, with less; so Stronsay is fortunate that the income from the wind turbine will help the community to achieve long term projects that make a real difference. We need to rally round and become stronger groups to do the work and see things through.

The Enterprise Zone is one of the early outcomes agreed by the lottery funding (and will be mainly financed by that grant). SDT needs to prioritise what the zone will consist of and the trust will be asking everyone state their preferred top three. Those projects that cannot be 'housed' by the enterprise zone could still be incorporated into the long term plan if they are within SDT objectives.

The Wish List - some ideas gathered so far - please contribute your own.

- Business units for rent - start ups and expanding businesses
- Self catering holiday lets
- A community bus
- Heritage centre, island ranger
- Sheltered housing for elderly
- Youth centre/coffee shop
- Indoor sports hall
- Recycling centre for farming, fishing and household goods
- Production of compost from seaweed

Summary Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2010

Summary Statement of Financial Activities	2010	2009
	£	£
Incoming Resources		
Grants		
Awards for All (Leaflets, Art Project)	3850	9013
Community Energy Scotland (Power Down, Turbine)	55659	8326
HIE (LDO, CDO, TDO)	20493	28403
Keep Scotland Beautiful	30895	-
Big Lottery Fund	9780	-
Other	3800	5905
Generated Income		
Limpet (Subs & Advertising)	765	745
Management Charges*	1500	1500
Sundry	119	638
Other Income (Donations, HMRC)	1075	110
Total Incoming Resources	127936	54640
Resources Expended		
Wages	32068	14364
Leaflet Production	1992	4596
Other Overheads	19896	9583
Other Including Depreciation of Fixed Assets	1074	1609
Total Resources Expended	55030	30152
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources for the Year	72906	24488
Summary Balance Sheet	2010	2009
	£	£
Fixed Assets (at Net Book Value)		
Turbine Project	3870	3870
Equipment	1479	324
Greenhouse	24603	-
Shares in Stronsay Renewable Energy (Subsidiary)	100	-
Total Fixed Assets	30052	4194
Current Assets		
Stock (Brochures)	1572	3143
Due from Stronsay Renewable Energy Limited - Loan	48055	
Other Debtors (Grants receivable, prepayments, etc)	8246	1588
Cash at Bank	28247	34427
Total Current Assets	86120	39158
Creditors	(11628)	(11714)
Net Current Assets	74492	27444
Net Total Assets	104544	31638

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 2010, 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 in due course.