



HUTTON COMMUNITY  
FELLOWSHIP

## **Hutton Community Fellowship**

### **Chairs report on activity in 2020/2021 for the AGM on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

The Fellowship has met 3 times since the last AGM. All meetings have been by zoom as a result of Covid restrictions.

Given the lack of ability for events to take place the Fellowship deferred an application for Minsca funding in 2021 until 2022. In 2021 the Fellowship received an annual payment from Ewe Hill of £12583.25.00

Activities supported over the period 1 April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 are set out in the accounts and amounted to £8234.64.

Since 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 the Fellowship has allocated further funds to the following.

Outdoor Learning Shelter for Hutton and Applegarth Schools £1000

Covid resilience Boreland Village Hall £3346.84

Christmas hampers @£30-35 per household

### **Community Consultation**

This time last year the community consultation undertaken in 2019/20 was being finalised. The final documents were published in early 2021 and summary flyer sent to all households in the consultation area. All can be downloaded from the Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Groups web site at [Community Consultation | Dumfriesshire East Community Benefit Group \(DECBG\)](#).

One of the key recommendations in the reports was the need for a community development officer to help communities develop their ideas and secure the funding to make projects happen. DECBG commissioned Southern Uplands Partnership to recruit and employ an officer on their behalf who will have the task of working particularly with Lockerbie and the smaller communities between Lockerbie and Langholm. That recruitment has been completed and the officer will start work in 2022.

The conversations held in Boreland by the consultants during the early stages of the consultation are captured in the Consultation Feedback document and could form the basis of further work with the Community Development Officer (CDO) in developing ideas and plans in our community over the next year. HCF will pay a contribution to the cost of employing the CDO.

## **Dumfriesshire East Community Development Group DECBG**

The Fellowship provides two Trustees for DECBG and continues to support the work of DECBG in giving grants for community projects across the area. In 2021 two rounds of grant applications were considered one in March and another in September, the latter the first face to face meeting of DECBG for 18 months. In March 7 projects were supported including Corrie Hall refurbishment works, Langholm Initiative moorland education work, Lockerbie Ice Rink accessibility improvements and Moffat Mountain Rescue. In September 3 applications were supported including sports facilities in Gretna and Glenzier Hall improvements.

## **Crossdykes Wind Farm**

I reported last year that DECBG was leading work on behalf of the communities that will benefit from Crossdykes Funding (Eskdalemuir, Langholm, Lockerbie, Middlebie and Waterbeck and North Milk Community Council areas) in looking at the opportunity for the communities to buy a shares in the windfarm. In September 2021 representatives of 4 of the 5 communities agreed to take up the share offer on the basis of a legal structure giving the communities security that the loan they would require was guaranteed by Muirhall, the owners of Crossdykes. The communities have now set up a new company, Crossdykes Community Benefits Limited (CCBL) with a wholly owned subsidiary and they will receive community benefit funds and share dividends once the loan to buy 5% share of the windfarm is paid off (in about 7 years). In the meantime a small amount of community benefit funding will be allocated by CCBL once Directors have agreed their processes and procedures.