

MID 2024 NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our mid 2024 newsletter which gives an update on our activity in the last six months period. We have continued to fund various projects as shown below from our overall funds.

Our AGM has been arranged for 23rd July and we look forward to a good turnout as this gives everybody the chance to find out how and where the funds are accrued and spent.

Application Forms for funding can be requested by emailing:

ardentinyrenewablestrust@gmail.com

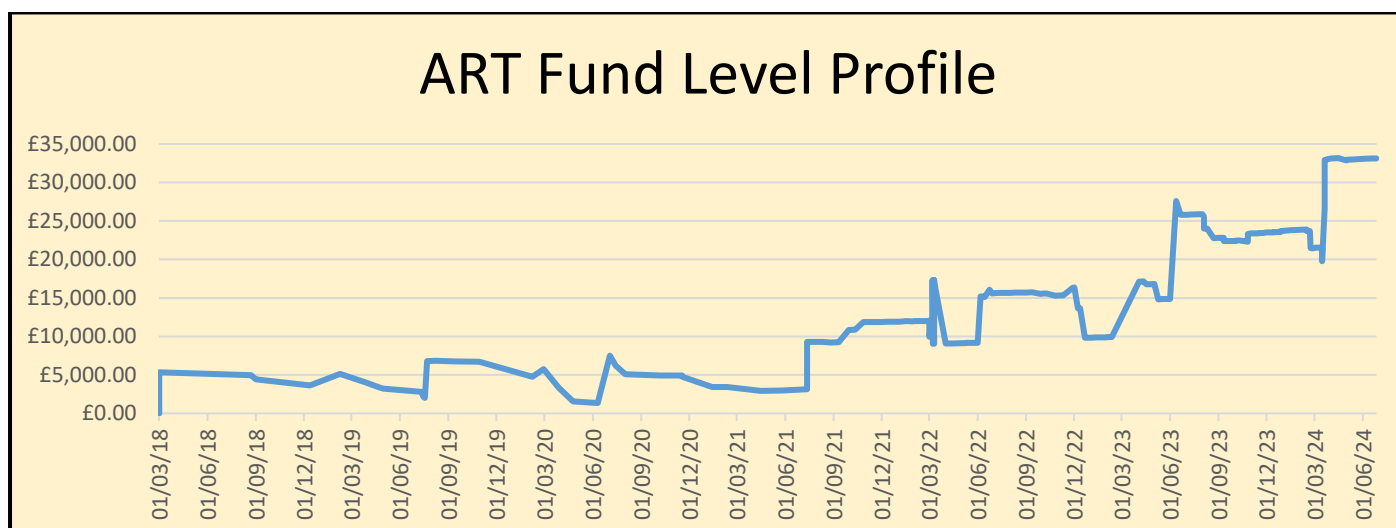
Anyone living in the Ardentiny Community Council area is eligible to become a member of the Trust (some restrictions may apply)

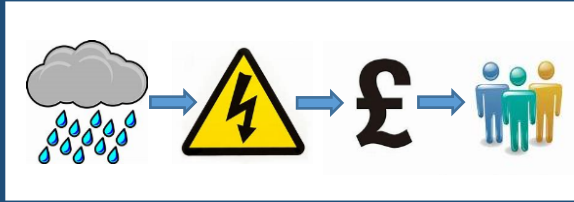
When applying, always request a form to be sure you have the latest version

REVENUE INCOME FROM COMMENCEMENT UP TO MID 2024

Excluding bank interest, the table below shows our income since commencement from all external sources

	Previous Payments	Payments in this Half Year	Totals
Hydrover (Finart)	£41064.89	-	£41064.89
JB Hydro (Cuil)	£3617.48	£6860.10	£10477.58
JB Hydro (Schoolhouse)	£3663.04	£6298.70	£9961.74
Ross MacArthur (Drynain)	£5500	-	£5500.00
Amazon Smile	£46.35	-	£46.35
Hydrover (Tech Support)	£950	£250	£1200
JB Hydro (Tech Support)	£681.25	£390	£1071.25
OVERALL TOTAL			£69321.69





FINANCES

This year has seen a significant increase in our income from the generation of electricity at our local schemes. This has been due to both companies having a much more lucrative selling price to the grid to which our 5% share is linked. As these prices are locked for a limited time we can expect future income to drop back to a lower amount more typical of historic values.

Our income for Technical Support to the hydro schemes, provided by Stuart, has been significantly increased from £50 to £115 monthly.

As can be seen on Page 1 the fund is currently very healthy and we have **£18516** (£33108 Actual – less £14952 Committed) available now to be spent on new projects. As we like to remind you, this is your money so please come forward with ideas of how to spend it on projects that will enhance the village. Application forms are available from Neil.

ardentinnnyrenewablestrust@gmail.com

Please always apply for the up-to-date form and avoid using any ones already in your possession.

ART BANKING

The new bank accounts are already proving to be much more efficient in making payments to those who have applied for funding. In addition to this we have also accrued £263.61 in interest since opening the accounts in October last year. This more than offsets the account fee which amounts to £60 per annum.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

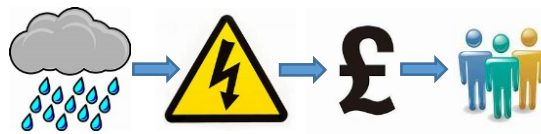
We have compiled our accounts for financial year 23-24 and these have now been audited. We will present these at the forthcoming AGM and then submit them to OSCR.

ART CONSTITUTION

The Constitution was written when ART was set up and formed the basis of how we would operate. With 6+ years having now elapsed, it was felt that it was worthy of a review. That review revealed some typographical errors in the text and some minor modifications needed to our processes and organisation structure in order to better reflect how we were actually operating. In addition to this we clarified, through the inclusion of definitions, the eligibility of members based on geographical boundary and residential status. This was conducted in consultation with OSCR. The Constitution is now at formal release Issue 2 and has been filed by OSCR.

AGM

This year's AGM will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd of July at 7:30pm. This is an open meeting and your attendance is welcomed. Further details will be published in the ACC Weekly Newsletter and displayed on the village noticeboard.



PROJECTS WE HAVE FUNDED AND COMPLETED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2024

The amounts shown against each project are ART's contribution to its cost.

Picnic Tables

Applicant – Walled Garden

£1800 part funded by ART

The Walled Garden purchased three 8-seater picnic tables that are now out in the garden increasing their seating capacity at events. These are low maintenance all weather tables made from recycled plastic and should provide many years of service.



Bowling Green Repairs

Applicant – Ardentinnny Bowling Club

£2200 part funded by ART

The wooden boards supporting the edges of the bowling green were rotting and the green itself had begun to drop away reducing the playing capacity of the green. New plastic boards were fitted and the green relevelled. Opportunity was taken to replace the wooden steps down to the green with concrete ramps.



Sound Equipment

Applicant – Music Group

£200 part funded by ART

Sound equipment for use by the music group has been put to regular use at their weekly meetings. Available for other uses, it has recently been utilised at the monthly Quiz Nights



Village Hall Internet & Phone Service

Applicant – Village Hall Association

£684.36 fully funded by ART

A mast mounted antenna has now been installed which connects to the mobile phone 4G network and provides the Hall users with Internet access and VOIP calling e.g. WhatsApp. Users can access the service by logging into the Hall's WiFi and can expect download speeds of up to 10 Mb/s with coverage extending throughout the carpark.

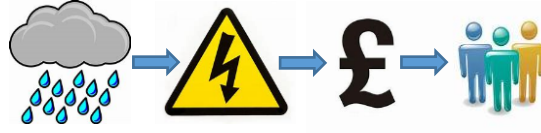


Previously, weak phone signals limited the ability to phone emergency services from the Hall. This deficiency was identified by the Emergency Team and was a key requirement of any implemented solution.

The Hall Association are funding the running costs of the service.



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Carpark Toilets Cleaning Contract

Applicant – Ardentinnny CC
£1242 part funded by ART

This payment supplements the funding from A&B Council to cover the annual cost of weekly cleaning which is required in order for the toilets to remain open to the public. The CC has managed to negotiate the cost to be held to last year's price.




As well as the completed projects, funding has been approved for repairs to the Bowling Green Clubhouse and preliminary approval has been given for new heating for the Village Hall. Factoring in these commitments and including £7000 reserved as an Emergency Fund, determines the amount of **£18516** mentioned earlier that is currently available for new projects.





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COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING AVAILABLE!



ART manages a small income from 4 hydro schemes in the area for the benefit of the community







WHO CAN APPLY?
Anyone over 18 who lives in the Ardentinnny Community Council area and is a member of the trust.

HOW MUCH DOES MEMBERSHIP COST?
It is free to become a member of the Trust

HOW TO APPLY?
Apply to become a member or receive an application for funding email:
ardentinnnyrenewablestrust@gmail.com

TRUSTEES

Dougie Menzies - Chair
Neil Robinson - Secretary
Stuart Gray - Treasurer
Bill Tierney
John Brint
Jo Carr
Helen West