

## ARISAIG COMMUNITY TRUST

### TREASURER'S REPORT - 9 MARCH 2020

First of all, many thanks to everybody for welcoming me to my first year as an ACT Director. Also, to Judy Budge who relinquished her position as Treasurer and handed over to me. It is with some trepidation that I attempt to fill Judy and Gordon's shoes. I am trying very hard to emulate the extreme efficiency with which tasks were delivered by my predecessors!

Anyway – it has been an interesting time recently as Julie has indicated in her report. The outcomes from successful funding applications straddling the two financial years has necessitated in the handling of fairly large sums of money necessitating, at times, fairly complex accounting procedures.

I am currently overseeing the finances for the year 2019/20 accounting period and the detail of this will be examined by the accountants during the course of the next few months. So ..... the extracts here for your perusal this evening are for 2018/19, not those I worked on. Interpreting financial statements with ease at a moments notice is not easy. However, I have looked at the figures in some detail and hopefully will be able to answer any queries which you may have. Where I have to check something out I will do so and come back to you after the meeting. Equally, if you retain the information for tonight's bed time reading and find that you have questions, do not hesitate to e mail me at a future date.

1 Like all charitable organisations, there are challenges. While ensuring ACT holds a healthy bank balance funds must be distributed in accordance with the primary objectives of our charity. (You can read all about that on our Website!)

2 Most incoming funds are the outcome of successful funding applications and are therefore what we call **Restricted** and may only be directed to a specific project. **Unrestricted** funding is undoubtedly our main challenge and we are always mindful of the requirement to ensure that we generate sufficient funds to cover general administration and staffing costs.

3 We have two jewels in the crown – the ISIC and our Toilets! There is no doubt that the ISIC is a hugely valuable contribution to the village of Arisaig. Amazing comments, managed exceptionally professionally by Alison Stewart and staffed by a team willing volunteers. The centre is financially viable and makes a small profit each year along with with a significant donations figure. Toilets – another crucial facility in the village. This is managed financially by a sum of £200 per month from Highland Council + very generous donations, particularly during the period May-September.

4 I think it is probably true to say that ACT is increasingly moving to a more business model, particularly as there are now 6 people on the payroll. This of course, means that income tax payments, a pension scheme etc are now all part of the monthly returns. In this regard it is good practice for charities to have a Reserve Policy. In simple terms this is ensuring that there are sufficient funds in the "pot" to cover redundancy payments in the event of adverse circumstances. We so not anticipate this being the case though.

Anyway, that was a brief outline so we welcome any questions you may have. Alternatively, please take home the Balance Sheet as bedtime reading!