Scottish Charity No.SC039328 Scottish Company No.SC336337

# Strathblane Community Development Trust (Limited by Guarantee)

**Financial Statements** Year to 31 January 2024

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## **Trust information**

### Directors

Robert Davies (appointed 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023)
Mark Elder
Hannah Freireich
Alistair Gray (appointed 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024)
Julie Hutchison
Alan Hutton (resigned 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024)
Patries MacIntyre
Murray McGarvie (appointed 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024)
James Millar
Edward Pickard (resigned 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024)
Iain Stewart
Andrew Thompson
Margaret Vass (Chair)

## **Trust Secretary**

Robert Davies

## **Principal Address**

Strathblane Village Club 20-22 Glasgow Road Blanefield G63 9BP

### **Bankers**

Royal Bank of Scotland 24 Douglas Street Milngavie Glasgow G62 6PB

Hampden & Co 9 Charlotte Square Edinburgh EH2 4DR

## Independent Examiner

Catherine Baxter CTA
Baxter Accounting and Tax Services Ltd
12 Southview Road
Strathblane
G63 9JQ

## Report of the Directors for year to 31 January 2024

The Directors are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements for the year to 31 January 2024.

### Status of Trust and Governing Document

Strathblane Community Development Trust ("the Trust") was incorporated on 17 January 2008 as a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and is a recognised Scottish charity, number SC039328.

#### Charitable Objectives

The Trust was formed to benefit the communities of Strathblane, Blanefield and Mugdock by promoting community development, education and citizenship A full description of the objects of the Trust is given in the Articles of Association.

## **Directors**

The Directors who served during the year were:

Robert Davies (appointed 25th September 2023)
Mark Elder
Hannah Freireich
Julie Hutchison
Alan Hutton
Patries MacIntyre
James Millar
Edward Pickard
Iain Stewart
Andrew Thompson
Margaret Vass (Chair)

## Appointment of Directors

The Directors are all volunteers and residents of Strathblane, Blanefield or Mugdock. Strathblane Community Council has the power to appoint two directors. Other directors are appointed by the members of the Trust in General Meeting following recommendations by existing directors and taking into account their particular expertise and skills. Directors may be co-opted by the Board during the year, such appointments falling to be ratified by members at the next General Meeting.

#### Administrative Structure

The Directors are responsible for direction and administration of the Trust. The Trust has no employees and the Directors receive no remuneration.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The Directors encourage the formation of working and project groups with a view to widening the opportunities for residents to become involved in projects for the benefit of the community. These groups are provided with guidelines setting out the parameters within which they may operate under the aegis of the Trust and perhaps benefit from its charitable status which gives access to funding and other opportunities not otherwise available. The Board hopes that the Trust will continue to be used in this manner with new groups starting up where appropriate.

The Thomas Graham Community Library was opened on 18 April 2023 by Angus Graham, the major donor. The opening event was attended by around 80 people including representatives from Stirling Council, donors and library users. Very favourable press reports were received with notable television and newspaper coverage.

Most income and expenditure in respect of the library occurred in previous financial years. In the financial year to 31 January 2024, a further £10,000 was spent on the construction. The library was designed by Thomas Robinson Architects and constructed by Fleming Buildings. It is owned by a subsidiary company, Thomas Graham Library Limited. There are site lease and operating agreements in place with Stirling Council and it is expected that ownership of the site will transfer to Thomas Graham Library Limited in the future.

The library is now providing the community with a purpose built, modern facility that has been warmly welcomed by the community.

## Report of the Directors for year to 31 January 2024

Other groups connected with the Trust have also been active:

- The Strathblane Wildlife Sanctuary continues to go from strength to strength. There was income in the year from
  grants, donations and other fund raising events and activities. Expenditure was made on lining the pond, fencing
  and draining whilst the volunteers worked on further planting and maintenance.
- The Paths Group has concentrated on the maintenance and repair of its existing assets and has started to develop the idea of the Blane Valley Link Path. They continue to lobby for the improvement of other paths in the area which are not under their control.
- The Trust is continuing to liaise with Building Control to receive a completion certificate for the Bothy. This will allow it to be used as an information point for the community and visitors.
- The Allotments Group continues to be very active with 40 plots and a number of communal areas. Members assist in the general maintenance and repair of the allotments as well as tending their own plots. Fund raising is ongoing in respect of the repair and maintenance of the fencing in particular.
- Campsie Crooners continues to attract good numbers of singers to their fortnightly sessions with lots of new members. They have also participated in a number of community events.
- Following a survey of the community on sporting facilities, the Trust is continuing to discuss with Blane Valley Thistle the drainage of the King George V playing field and the potential for a new sports pavilion.

The Trust continues seek to increase its membership and works hard to communicate with the community through regular Instagram posts, Facebook posts, Blane Valley Bulletin articles and a quarterly newsletter to members, to increase engagement and understanding of its purposes and activities. There is ongoing work to improve the website, www.strathblane.online.

Sustainability has been widely discussed and the Trust has become involved with the Scottish Communities Climate Action Network. Much of the work of the Trust already furthers sustainability and this focus is expected to continue.

It is important for all our working groups to follow good and standard practice. The Trust has worked to ensure that our governance is robust particularly in relation to our charitable role. This provides the framework that our groups, affiliates and subsidiary company can use. New guidelines have been developed and agreed for our groups during the year. It is hoped that this will strengthen the role of the Trust, ensuring that it is more prominent in the community and encourages more involvement. The working groups will however continue to be the engine for delivery of projects that benefit the community.

The Board expresses its thanks and appreciation to the several organisations and many volunteering individuals without whose support none of these benefits to the community would have been achieved.

### **Grant Making Policy**

Grants will not be made by the Trust unless in exceptional circumstances.

## Grants and Donations Received

During the year ended 31 January 2024 grants were received by the Trust from the Brown Forbes Memorial Fund, Clackmannan & Stirling Environment Trust, and CARES Energy Saving Trust. Many donations were received from members of the community in support of the Wildlife Sanctuary. Details are given in Notes 2 and 4 to the financial statements.

#### Investments

In the year to 31 January 2024, some funds were held in a deposit account providing interest. The interest has been allocated to the General Fund for use in running of the Trust.

## Results for the Period

The financial statements for the year are set out in pages 6 to 13. The Statement of Financial Activities on Page 6 reflects a net expenditure of £2,959 for the year (2023; expenditure of £709,323).

## Report of the Directors for year to 31 January 2024

#### Reserves

At 31 January 2024 unrestricted reserves amounted to £8,593 (2023: £8,147), restricted funds were £120,440 (2023: £123,845), giving total reserves of £129,033 (2023: £131,992).

The Directors are satisfied that unrestricted funds are sufficient to enable the Trust to continue its activities.

## **Independent Examiner**

Catherine Baxter of Baxter Accounting and Tax Services Ltd is proposed for re-appointment as Independent Examiner for the ensuing year.

## Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue its activities.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

On behalf of the Board

Margaret Vass AUSTAR GREDirector

Dated 17/10/24

## Report of the Independent Examiner for year to 31 January 2024

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year to 31 January 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 13.

## Respective responsibilities of directors and independent examiner

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The directors consider that an audit is not required for this period under Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trust and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

## Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- 1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4
    of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

muin Book.

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

In my opinion the information given in the Report of the Directors is consistent with the accounts.

Catherine Baxter

Chartered Tax Adviser

Date

19/9/2024.

## Strathblane Community Development Trust Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024

			stricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Notes		Designated			
Income	_	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	2	129	-	6,399	6,528	72,371
Investment income	_	1,184	-	-	1,184	1,553
Other trading activities	3	1,207	-	-	1,207	1,013
Income from charitable activities	4	4,776	-	14,617	19,393	94,635
Total income		7,296	-	21,016	28,312	169,572
Expenditure						
Charitable activities	5	6,761	-	24,510	31,271	878,895
Total expenditure		6,761	-	24,510	31,271	878,895
Net income/(expenditure)		535	-	(3,494)	(2,959)	(709,323)
Transfers		(89)	-	89	-	-
Total funds brought forward		8,147		123,845	131,992	841,315
Total funds carried forward		8,593	-	120,440	129,033	131,992
Comprising Unrestricted Funds General Fund		8,593	•	•	8,593	8,147
Designated		<del>-</del>	-	-	-	-
Restricted Funds		8,593	-	_	8,593	8,147
Greenheart		_	_	1,237	1,237	1,237
Paths development		-	-	3,451	3,451	3,520
Library		-	_	87,760	87,760	97,411
Bothy		-	_	13,043	13,043	13,444
Wildlife Sanctuary		-	_	10,986	10,986	3,578
Blane Valley Bulletin		-	-	3,963	3,963	4,655
		-	-	120,440	120,440	123,845
		8,593	-	120,440	129,033	131,992
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<del></del>		

			2024	2023
	Notes	£	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets				
Investment in subsidiary company	10		100	100
Tangible fixed assets	11		13,043	13,043
Current Assets				
Debtors	12		381	476
Cash at bank and in hand			116,308	118,986
			116,689	119,462
Creditors: Amounts falling				
due within one year	13		(799)	(613)
Net Current Assets			115,890	118,849
Total Net Assets			129,033	131,992
The Funds of the Trust				
The Tunus of the 1143t				
Unrestricted funds - General	16		8,593	8,147
Unrestricted funds - Designated	16		-	-
Restricted funds	16		120,440	123,845
			129,033	131,992

The directors consider that the Trust is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006. Members have not required the company under Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 to obtain an audit for the year ended 31 January 2024. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for: ensuring that the Trust keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust as at 31 January 2024 and of its surplus for the year then ended in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to the accounts, so far as applicable to the Trust.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

on its behalf by:

Director

Notes to the Financial Statements - for year to 31 January 2024

## 1. Accounting Policies

## **Basis of Preparation of Accounts**

The financial statements of the Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)", Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Income

Donations are included in income when received. Income tax receivable in respect of Gift Aid is accounted for on an accruals basis at the time that donations are received. Grants and donations in respect of capital expenditure are credited to a restricted income account. Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income when the Trust has acquired unconditional entitlement and so as to match them with the expenditure to which they relate.

#### Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

#### Tangible Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Heritable property - 10% straight line

Equipment - 25% straight line

Expenditure on fixed assets is only depreciated once the assets have been brought into use by the Trust.

#### Investments

In the year to 31 January 2024, the Trust has received interest income from funds held in a deposit account.

#### Reserves

The reserves of the Trust are held in specific funds as follows:

General funds comprise donations and other income to may be applied in accordance with the objects of the Trust as the Directors decide.

Designated funds have been allocated by the Directors for specific purposes in furtherance of the Trust's objectives.

Restricted funds are grants and donations held for purposes specified by donors.

2.	Donations	Unrest	ricted	Restricted	2024	2023
		General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
	General purposes	129	_	-	129	619
	Library	-	-	110	110	69,299
	Bothy	•	-	-	-	313
	Wildlife Sanctuary	-	-	6,260	6,260	218
	Allotments	-	-	-	-	-
	Paths	-	-	29	29	1,923
		129	_	6,399	6,528	72,372
3	Other trading activities					
		Unrest General	ricted Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
	Membership subscriptions	1,185	-	_	1,185	965
	Fundraising companies	22	-	-	22	48
		1,207	_	•	1,207	1,013
						A Mining and the second
4	Income from charitable activities					
		Unrest		Restricted	2024	2023
		General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
	Paths			<b>6</b>		2.000
	Paths for All	-	=	-	-	3,000
	C & S Environmental Trust	-	-	-	-	170
	Allotments			200	200	200
	Allotment plotholders' contributions	-	-	200	200	200
	Strathblane Wildlife Sanctuary					
	Brown Forbes Memorial Fund	-	-	10,000	10,000	-
	Glengoyne Distillery	-	-	-	-	1,000
	SUEZ	-	-	-	-	19,208
	C & S Environmental Trust	-	-	1,600	1,600	1,767
	Fundraising events	-	-	2,478	2,478	900
	Library					
	Hugh Fraser Foundation	-	-	-	-	30,000
	Bottomley Trust	-	-	-	-	20,000
	Paul Charitable Trust	-	_	-	-	10,000
	Fundraising - painting sale	-	-	339	339	-
	Other	4 20			4 77/	2 200
	CARES - Energy saving Trust	4,776	-	-	4,776	3,390 5,000
	Bottomley Trust	4,776		14,617	19,393	5,000 94,635
		4,770	-	14,01/	13,373	74,033

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year to 31 January 2024

5	Charitable expenditure	Unre	stricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	•	General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
	Insurance	1,168	-	_	1,168	1,075
	Renewable energy feasibilty study	4,776	-	-	4,776	3,390
	Publicity	-	_	-	-	265
	Website costs	263	_	-	263	263
	Miscellaneous expenses	223	-	171	394	141
	Bank/Just Giving/Paypal charges	1	-	19	20	126
	Allotments					
	Allotments rent	-	_	200	200	200
	Library					
	Construction	-	-	10,000	10,000	847,000
	Paths Development Group					
	Path improvements	-	-	98	98	4,752
	Blane Valley Bulletin					
	Print costs	-	_	690	690	345
	Strathblane Wildlife Sanctuary					
	Tree purchase	-	-	1,767	1,767	_
	Groundworks	-	-	11,075	11,075	20,271
	Bothy					
	Drawings / building warrant	-	_	490	490	596
	Governance costs (Note 6)	330		-	330	471
		6,761		24,510	31,271	878,895

No remuneration was paid to directors during the period. There were no staff employed by the Trust.

6	Governance costs	2024	2023
		£	£
	Companies House fees	13	13
	Meeting costs	77	158
	Independent examination	300	300
	Adjustment to 2023 Independent examination	(60)	
	•	330	471
7	Operating surplus	2024	2023
	This is stated after charging	£	£
	Independent Examiner's fee	300	300

### 8 Transactions with directors

There were no transactions with directors during the period.

#### 9 Taxation

The Trust has charitable status and no liability to UK corporation tax arises.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year to 31 January 2024

## 10 Investment in subsidiary company

The Trust owns 100% of the issued share capital of Thomas Graham Library Limited.

## 11 Tangible fixed assets

11	I andinic liven assers					
			Heritable			
			Property		Total	
			The Bothy			
	Cost		£		£	
	1 February 2023		13,043		13,043	
	Additions		-		-	
	Disposals		<u>-</u>			
	31 January 2024		13,043		13,043	
	Depreciation					
	1 February 2023		_		-	
	Additions		-		-	
	Disposals		-		-	
	31 January 2024		-		-	
	Net Book Value					
	1 February 2023		13,043		13,043	
	31 January 2024		13,043		13,043	
	• '			<del></del>		
12	Debtors	Unre	stricted	Restricted	2024	2023
		General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
	Gift Aid	181	_	-	181	276
	Blane Valley Allotments Association	-	-	200	200	200
	•	181		200	381	476
13	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	Unre	stricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	,	General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
	Accrued expenses	382	_	317	699	513
	Accrued purchase of TGLL shares	100	-	-	100	100
		482		317	799	613

## 14 Liability of members

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of winding up the liability of each member is limited to  $\pm 1$ .

## Strathblane Community Development Trust Notes to the Financial Statements for the year to 31 January 2024

#### Analysis of Net Assets by Funds 15

	Unres General	tricted Designated	Restricted 2024		2023
	General £	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	•	-	13,043	13,043	13,043
Investments	-	-	100	100	100
Current Assets					
Debtors	181	-	200	381	476
Cash at bank and in hand	8,894	-	107,414	116,308	118,986
Current Liabilities					
Creditors	(482)	-	(317)	(799)	(613)
Net Assets	8,593	*	120,440	129,033	131,992

#### 16 **Movement of Funds**

	1 7 1 4042	Incoming	Outgoing		24 T 2024
	1 Feb 2023	resources	resources	Transfers	31 Jan 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Greenheart	1,237	-	-	_	1,237
Paths development	3,520	29	98	-	3,451
Allotments	-	200	200	-	-
Library	97,411	449	10,100	_	87,760
Bothy	13,444	_	490	89	13,043
Wildlife Sanctuary	3,578	20,338	12,930	-	10,986
Blane Valley Bulletin	4,655	-	692	-	3,963
	123,845	21,016	24,510	89	120,440
Unrestricted Funds		<b>?</b>			
General funds	8,147	7,296	6,761	(89)	8,593
	8,147	7,296	6,761	(89)	8,593
	131,992	28,312	31,271	_	129,033

## Strathblane Community Development Trust Notes to the Financial Statements for the year to 31 January 2024

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		stricted Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Charitable activities				
Grants and donations	5,022	-	162,997	168,019
Investments				
Bank interest and Dividends	1,553	-	-	1,553
Total	6,575	-	162,997	169,572
Expenditure				
Charitable activities	5,611	-	873,284	878,895
	5,611		873,284	878,895
Net income/(expenditure)	964	<u></u>	(710,287)	(709,323)
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward at 1 February 2022	7,183		834,132	841,315
Closing balance at 31 January 2023	8,147	_	123,845	131,992
Comprising:				
Unrestricted funds				
General	8,147	-	-	8,147
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds				
Greenheart	_	_	1,237	1,237
Paths development	-	-	3,520	3,520
Library	-	-	97,411	97,411
Allotments	-	-	-	-
Bothy	-	-	13,444	13,444
Wildlife Sanctuary	-	-	3,578	3,578
Blane Valley Bulletin			4,655	4,655
	8,147	_	123,845	131,992