

CASTLE LOCH LOCHMABEN COMMUNITY TRUST

SCOTTISH CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION NUMBER SC044045

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR TO 31 MAY 2020

Part 1 – Administrative Information.

Charity Name & Address	Castle Loch Lochmaben Community Trust, Lochfield Cottage, Priestdykes, Lochmaben, Lockerbie DG11 1LP	
Website	www.castleloch.org.uk	
Facebook	www.facebook.com/castlelochlochmaben	
Charity trustees	Howard Baisden Chairman Freda Seddon Minute Secretary Tony Hancock Hazel McNinch Ian Stewart	John Robson Neill Smith Treasurer John Reid Muriel Robinson Tony Stewart
Project Officer	Darren Flint	
Bankers	Bank of Scotland, The Direct Business, PO Box 1000, BX2 1LB	
Solicitor	Lucy Robertson, Harper Robertson & Shannon, 100 High Street, Annan DG12 6DW.	
Independent Examiner	Robert Murray, Cruachan, Hillbank Road, Lochmaben DG11 1RR	

Part 2 – Trustees' Annual report

Structure Government and Management. The Trust is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by a Constitution dated 25 June 2013. Membership of the Trust is open to any individual aged 16 or over who is resident in the area covered by the Community Councils of Royal Burgh of Lochmaben & District, Templand & District and Royal Four Towns. Interested individuals resident outwith these areas can be admitted to membership but are unable to vote. There are currently 407 members. A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10 Board Members/Charity Trustees are elected at each AGM. All of the Trustees must retire at each AGM but are eligible for re-election. Since 24 February 2014 a part time Project Manager, Darren Flint, has been in post.

Objectives and Activities. The Trust's purposes as laid out in the Constitution are:

- To advance environmental protection and improvement and
- To advance citizenship or community development through community ownership and management of Castle Loch, Lochmaben.

In pursuance of these objectives a dedicated team of volunteers has been established who regularly carry out a range of tasks around the Loch. Children's and youth groups have been encouraged to utilise the facilities and appreciate the importance of caring for this important environment. A large and growing number of members of the community of all ages access the path round the Loch and this inspired more people to become engaged in the management and protection of the area.

Achievements and Performance. Volunteering: Along with the ongoing site activities such as path maintenance, pothole filling, brushcutting undergrowth along the paths and helping at public events, the big area of volunteering

during this year centred around the newly acquired Kirkhirst Wood. Key actions included the creation of new footpaths through half of the wood, making a children's outdoor play area, clearance of rhododendron to enable the extension of this new path, building of three timber bridges and clearing the route of the roadside safety fencing. All volunteering was put on hold mid-March due to the Covid-19 lockdown, at this point the new path creation had to be placed on hold. New owl and bird of prey bird boxes were made and erected. During the course of the year just under 900 hours were donated, sadly the final sessions of the year had to be cancelled due to the lockdown.

Loch Users and Facilities: The purchase of the Kirkhirst woodland, adjacent to the grassland, at the eastern end of the loch was finalised and funding secured to undertake the management works and creation of new facilities. By the time of the Covid-19 lockdown pausing of works in March 2020 a new footpath and play area had been completed, safety roadside fencing installed and bridges built. The clearance of invasive rhododendron was started and the second half of the footpath route cleared, but this work had to go on hold. The works were funded by ANCBC, Magnox, Tesco Bags of Help and Lochmaben Community Council.

The loch continues to have a wide range of users of all ages and interests, including sailing, fishing, wildlife enthusiasts, walkers, and joggers. Walking continues to be extremely popular with 22,746 undertaking the full 3-mile circuit of the loch during the year as recorded on the people counter, up from 18,158 the previous year.

Community Engagement: The Trust undertakes regular activities with a range of local groups and educational facilities, both on site and remotely including school visits, sponsored walks and partnership working with other local projects eg monitoring of invasive species with Scottish Natural Heritage and River Annan Trust, running of moth events with Butterfly Conservation Scotland. To celebrate the Community Land Week we ran a very successful Teddy Bears' Picnic and storytelling event in August. In conjunction with Lockerbie Writers' Kerry McKinnel we ran a series of children's writing workshops as part of the loch's annual children's writing competition. Some of the local business supported in the last year included GLS Fencing, Patterson Fencing, Dumfries Timber, Murrays of Beattock, and TreeSurv.

Habitat Management: Invasive/unwanted plants such as American skunk cabbage, Himalayan balsam and rhododendron were cleared, also Innerfield Burn was monitored for fringed water lily. Replacements for the damaged owl and bird of prey boxes were built and erected by the volunteers. Local ecologists, botanists and bryophyte experts/enthusiasts continued to survey the grassland and woodlands recording birds, moths, flora, and mosses species. The Trust continues to take an approach of minimal intervention and allowing the habitats to develop and regenerate naturally, focusing any works on safety around the footpaths

Future Plans. At the time of writing the Covid-19 pandemic continues apace and other than essential site maintenance all volunteering, events and project delivery actions are on hold. Also, the Project Officer has been furloughed until July 2020. There are some signs of the lockdown restrictions being loosened by the Scottish Government and as more is known the project officer and Trustees will review the situation. It is hoped that volunteering can begin again in some scaled back form, which would enable the finishing of the new footpath this year. The rhododendron management works will resume September once bird breeding season has passed.

Financial performance. Receipts during the year exceeded payments by £6,049 resulting in reserves increasing by this amount to £41,839. Most of the reserve is restricted and will be utilised for projects during the remainder of 2020. It is the Board's policy to try to maintain an unrestricted reserve of around £10k in order to meet unforeseen expenditure. The Board expresses its sincere thanks to all funders including local residents who participate in regular giving schemes or make one off donations. The post of Project Officer is funded for two days per week until 31 December 2020. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic it was not possible to continue with work on site and the Project Manager was furloughed with effect from 20 March. It is currently planned that he will return to work on 1 August. During this 19 week period all planned work has been halted but as compensation has been received under the Job Retention Scheme for part of the salary costs this will be used to finance the post into 2021 and The Board is currently seeking funding to enable the post to be continued at least until the end of 2021.

Signed on behalf of the Board.....

Howard Baisden Chairman 30 June 2020

**Part 3 - Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Castle Loch Lochmaben Community Trust**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year to 31st May 2020 as set out on pages 4 to 5.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees 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 as amended. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report.

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 charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees 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.

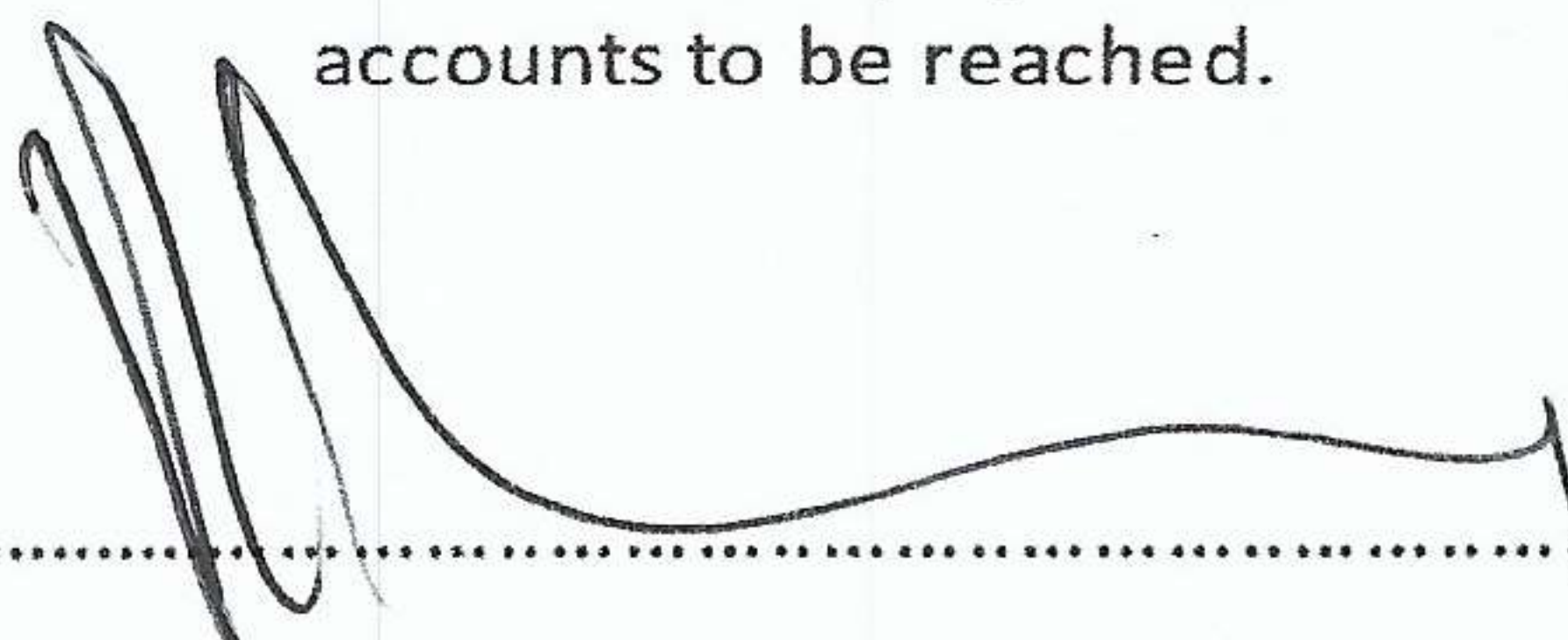
Independent examiner's statement.

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 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

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


..... Robert Murray.

31 July 2020.

Address of Independent Examiner : Cruachan, Hillbank Road, Lochmaben, Lockerbie DG11 1RR .

Part 4 - Receipts & Payments Account

	Notes	Unrestrict- ed Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Receipts					
Donations		6,127	0	6,127	10,431
Grants	5	600	22,490	23,090	76,465
Fundraising		0	0	0	407
Fishing permits		1,150	0	1,150	3,450
Insurance claims		484	0	484	0
Gift Aid Tax		2,309	0	2,309	523
Sundry income		0	0	0	0
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>10,670</u>	<u>22,490</u>	<u>33,160</u>	<u>91,276</u>
Payments					
Charitable activities	6	3,733	23,378	27,111	86,623
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>3,733</u>	<u>23,378</u>	<u>27,111</u>	<u>86,623</u>
Surplus/deficit (-) for the year		6,937	-888	6,049	4,653

Part 5 - Statement of Balances as at 31 May 2020.

	Unrestrict- ed Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Bank balance at start of year	11,124	24,666	35,790	31,137
Surplus/deficit (-) for year	6,937	-888	6,049	4,653
Total funds at end of year	18,061	23,778	41,839	35,790

Part 6 - Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. They consist of a summary of all monies received and paid via the bank and in cash during the year, along with a statement of balances. No adjustments have been made for any income due but not yet received, nor for any expenses incurred but not yet paid. Fixed assets are not capitalised.

2. Funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the Board's discretion in furtherance of the Trust's objectives. Restricted funds are those given for specific purposes.

3. Contingent Liability

Some grant funders may demand repayment of their grant in the event that it is likely that the Trust may have to stop operating, if the grant conditions are not met or in certain other defined circumstances.

4. Trustee Remuneration, benefits and expenses.

No Trustee received remuneration or reimbursement of expenses other than reimbursement of purchases made on behalf of the Trust.

5. Grants received during the financial year.

	Unrestrict- ed Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Tesco	0	2,000	2,000	1,250
George Hunter Trust	0	2,000	2,000	0
The Robertson Trust	0	0	0	5,000
ANCBC	0	6,000	6,000	6,500
Magnox	0	0	0	6,500
Scottish Land Fund	0	5,000	5,000	49,000
SWEAT	0	0	0	7,215
Lochmaben Community Council	600	0	600	1,000
Foyle Foundation	0	5,000	5,000	0
Job Retention Scheme	0	2,190	2,190	0
Community Land Scotland	0	300	300	0
	600	22,490	23,090	76,465

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestrict- ed Fund	Restricted Fund	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Employee costs	209	13,429	13,638	17,458
Lochfield Cottage costs	1,207	0	1,207	2,335
Cottage lighting upgrade	713	0	713	0
Insurances	731	0	731	684
Site maintenance costs	260	0	260	2,925
Tools & equipment	165	0	165	0
Kirkhirst Wood - Purchase price and costs	0	0	0	37,140
Kirkhirst Wood - Development costs	0	9,649	9,649	339
Barn conversion	0	0	0	16,169
Cottage access improvement	0	0	0	8,658
Other costs	448	300	748	915
	3,733	23,378	27,111	86,623

Signed on behalf of the Board.....

Howard Baisden 30 June 2020