

Buittle Quest

Trustees' Annual Report

1 March 2024 to 28 February 2025



Charity contact information

Your charity's name: Buittle Quest

Scottish Charity Number: SC049978

Address: Palnackie Village Hall, Port Road, Palnackie,
Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Galloway

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Charity Trustees

1. Fiona Anderson
2. Vivienne Brown
3. Angus Campbell
4. Jenny Chapman
5. Lorraine Light
6. Jim Niven
7. Bob Shipway

Objectives and activities

The following extract is from our Buittle Quest Constitution vsn 3, Section 4:

The charity's purposes are to benefit principally the community of Buittle Parish which comprises the area administered by Buittle Parish Community Council ("the Community") and those members of the public, groups and organisations visiting Buittle Parish and make use of one or more benefits with the following objects:

- The advancement of citizenship and community development by the ongoing development of community plans, delivering the programmes identified through those plans and building partnerships between community groups to enhance decision making and engagement.
- The advancement of community heritage by means of
 - restoring and preserving historic buildings, monuments and sites of architectural importance
 - collecting, cataloguing and displaying artefacts and records in museums and archivesThe provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended by the good stewardship of said facilities and activities.
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement by
 - the protection or conservation of land and water, including areas of natural beauty and scientific interest and
 - the promotion of energy saving measures and the use of renewable energy.
- The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage by the provision of drop-in centres and similar support services including the provision, improvement and maintenance of public amenities

But only to the extent that the above purposes are consistent with furthering the achievement of sustainable development.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Buittle Quest is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) governed by its constitution and reporting into the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Trustee recruitment and appointment

There has been no changes to our board of trustees during this accounting year.

We are currently seeking additional trustees with a proven track record in secretarial, accounting, project management, and/or marketing skills, to join our board of trustees. We will also be willing to take on trustees seeking to improve their knowledge/capability in these areas and train them up over time.

Achievements and performance

Whilst most of our energies have again been taken up with our two long-term projects:

- Owning, improving and maintaining Palnackie Village Hall and
- Owning, improving and sustaining the north side of Palnackie Basin (harbour)

we have also provided a host of activities for the residents of, and visitors to, Palnackie and wider Buittle Parish.

Highlights of these activities include:

- Alternate monthly coffee mornings and afternoon teas in the village hall (March through to September 2024)
- Sponsoring and delivery of our second annual Family Summer BBQ in our village hall (August 2024)
- Successfully securing funding from Dumfries & Galloway Council to continue and complete the first phase of our Local Place Plan project (February-March 2025)
- Engaged the two consultants, who had previously undertaken extensive community consultation and produced Finding New Ways for Palnackie in 2018, to undertake our Local Place Plan project on behalf of our trustees (November 2023-July 2025)
- Sponsoring and delivery of our Palnackie Traditional Christmas Fayre (November 2024)
- Securing funding for, and delivery of, the second year of monthly Music & Memories sessions (January and February 2025 and carries on to the end of 2025) with an added aim of encouraging people who have and play musical instruments to join in practice sessions.
- Publicised our activities through occasional parish wide newsletters.
- We are about to complete our review of our policies and procedures.

Financial review

After achieving an income more than our outgoings in all but one year since our launch, and building our reserves every year in that time, we decided to consolidate our position pending the completion of our Local Place Plan activities and associated action plans. This resulted in us using some of our unrestricted funds to cover our planned operational shortfall of £2,209 this year. We were mindful that the works being undertaken by Scottish Water and their contractors on the south side of Palnackie Basin ('harbour') is creating uncertainty about our plans to landscape and improve community access to the north side of Palnackie Basin owned by our charity on behalf of our community. We are seeking an ongoing relationship with Scottish Water in respect of our respective ownership of the land abutting Palnackie Basin.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our trustees agreed to hold a reserve of £2000 and consider immediate replacement should it ever be called upon for essential use. We will review our need for reserves once our Local Place Plan, and associated action plans are completed, and the next phase of community projects are ready to launch.

Details of any deficit

Our planned deficit during this financial year enabled us to fund our Coffee Mornings and Afternoon Teas, second annual Family Summer BBQ, review and consolidate our policies, and our Traditional Christmas Fayre. This deficit was made good as soon as possible, as shown in the accounts of the following year.

Donated facilities and services

None.

Future plans

Our trustees are committed to completing our parish wide Local Place Plan (target completion date end July 2025) and implementing the recommendations through several specific projects including:

- Palnackie Basin North Side Improvement
 - Our hope is that the challenges relating to our ownership of the north side of Palnackie Basin (harbour) will be swiftly resolved such that we can start to make the improvements that our residents and visitors alike seek and identified through our Local Place Plan project
- Palnackie Village Hall Refurbishment and Improvements
 - To be based on the outcome of our first Local Place Plan
- Music & Memories 2025
 - Deliver the remainder of this project to time and cost
- Delivery of our 2 major annual fundraising events
 - Summer Gala (late August) and a seasonal replacement of our Christmas Fair (November)
- Development Officer (part time)
 - Securing the ongoing viability of Buittle Quest through adoption of good practice in fundraising, project development/delivery and day-to-day running of the charity
 - Pro-actively engage our trustees with project ideas gained from interactions with residents, visitors and other interested parties
 - This role would be suitable for shared support to Buittle Quest and Palnackie Village Shop Limited should it meet requirements of both organisations and the individual concerned

Additional information

Our community is facing an existential threat to their community assets due to the continuing works being undertaken by Scottish Water and their contractors at Palnackie Basin (harbour). This is greatly affecting our current, and future, plans for restoring and improving community amenities/facilities there.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

Angus Campbell

Print name

ANGUS CAMPBELL

Designation

CHAIRMAN

Date

17/03/2026