Oban Winter Festival

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31st January 2026

Scottish Charity No. SC044782

Oban Winter Festival

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

CURRENT TRUSTEES

Pamela Lockhart	Chair
Karen Mackie	Secretary
Iain MacKinnon	
Beata Povey	
David Smith	Treasurer

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Innishail
Croft Road
Oban

CHARITY REGISTRATION

Scottish Charity Number	SC044782

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

The trustees are pleased to present the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st January 2026.

Constitution

Oban Winter Festival is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form with the Office of the Scottish Charities Regulator with effect from 1 April 2014. The charity was previously an unincorporated association and the assets of that association were transferred to the SCIO on 1 April 2014.

The charity has a single tier structure and therefore the trustees are the members of the charity.

Appointment of trustees

Trustees may be any person aged 16 or over who subscribes to the purposes of the charity. The board of trustees may at its discretion accept or veto any person applying for or nominated for membership as a trustee.

Objectives and Activities

The organisation was established to organise and promote an annual Winter Festival in Oban, providing a focus for local charity and community groups to stage events. The aim is to provide a stimulus to the local economy and generate a spirit of fun and excitement for the local community.

Activities

The committee now has five volunteers who are responsible for putting together the programme of events, liaising with the media, local businesses, charity and community groups, organising events, parades, workshops and markets.

Achievements and Performance

The Festival held in November 2025 included an expansion of events outwith our normal core weeks at the end of November. New events, in December, included Santa flying in for a visit to Oban Airport and a live nativity in association with Spotight Musical Theatre at the Oban auction mart.

Our alternative Christmas trees - the Creel Tree and the Geometree wooden tree were enthusiastically received by locals and visitors alike.

The Festival received siginificant local and national press coverage and we were nominated as a finalist in the Highland and Islands Tourism Awards.

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

Financial Review

The charity's main source of income was grant income and details of grants received are given at note 4 to the accounts.

Total income for the year amounted to £83,895 (2025: £65,398). The increase was due to higher ticket sales at Festival events and additional funding from grants and donations, including donations for the Creel Tree.

Expenditure increased from £52,696 in 2025 to £72,078 in 2026. There was a general increase in costs partly due to inflation and partly as a result of the additional activity during the festival. In particular the cost of the Creel Tree amounted to £8,463.

The results show a surplus for the year of £11,817 (2025: £12,702).

Reserves Policy

The Festival has no restricted reserves.

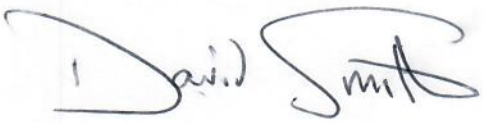
Oban Winter Festival is very dependent on grants and sponsorship in order to fund its events and this process is a yearly cycle.

Whilst the committee would seek to build up reserves, so that the Festival was less dependent on annual fundraising, this must be seen as a long term objective and may take many years.

Future Plans

The committee are working hard on planning for the next Festival in November 2026.

Approved on behalf of the trustees



David Smith 27 October 2026

Oban Winter Festival

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

I report on the accounts for Oban Winter Festival, which are set out on pages 5 to 7.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. 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.

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 accounts.

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

Nicola Jane MacLeod

Date 27 October 2026

Nicola Jane MacLeod
5 Aray Gardens
Oban
PA34 4JX

Oban Winter Festival SC044782

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

		2026		2025	
		£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Donations and sponsorship	3		6,895		1,263
Grants received	4		26,000		20,875
Receipts from fundraising activiites	5		10,960		7,874
Other income	6		40,040		35,386
TOTAL RECEIPTS			83,895		65,398
PAYMENTS					
Fundraising expenses		-		-	
Cost of charitable activities	7	71,878		52,146	
Donations		200		550	
TOTAL PAYMENTS			72,078		52,696
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			11,817		12,702

Oban Winter Festival **SC044782**

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Bank account	38,833	27,106
Cash in hand	125	35
Net Assets	38,958	27,141
Reserves		
Funds held at 1 February 2025	27,141	14,439
Surplus for the year	11,817	12,702
Funds held at 31 January 2026	38,958	27,141

Approved on behalf of the trustees

Date 27 October 2026

David Smith, Chartered Accountant
Treasurer, Oban Winter Festival

Oban Winter Festival SC044782

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY 2026

1. **Basis of accounting**

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. All of the funds held are unrestricted funds which may be used at the discretion of the trustees in support of the aims and objectives of the charity.

		2026	2025
3.	**Donations**	£	£
	Other	934	313
	Creel Tree donations	2,461	
	Drax Corporate	1,000	750
	Glensanda Quarry (minibus sponsorship)	2,500	
	Rotary Club	-	200
		6,895	1,263
	Grant Income		
	Argyll & Bute Council	4,500	500
	Awards for All (National Lottery)	10,000	10,000
	ACHA	-	500
	Event Scotland	7,500	8,875
	Oban Common Good Fund	3,500	-
	Scottish Seafarms	500	1,000
		26,000	20,875
5.	**Fundraising**		
	Stall Fees	8,037	6,050
	Food stall fees	280	720
	Haggis Festival income	1,067	1,104
	Merchandising and sales	1,576	-
		10,960	7,874
6.	**Other Income**		
	Ticket Sales	21,732	19,792
	Markie Dan's	1,000	-
	Perle Hotel (concert sponsorship)	-	1,000
	Concert ticket sales	16,108	11,644
	Advertising income	1,200	950
		40,040	33,386
7.	**Cost of Charitable Activities**		
	Promotion and Marketing	4,148	1,351
	Printing and stationery	3,248	2,529
	Insurance	1,680	662
	Stewarding costs	3,725	2,761
	General expenses	50	141
	Event costs	4,036	1,193
	Winter Woods Costs	28,545	26,534
	Haggis Festival costs	319	395
	Concert costs	8,695	8,645
	Creel Tree costs	8,463	-
	Venue Cost	1,953	1,098
	Equipment costs		-
	Performer costs	3,800	3,250
	Travel and subsistence	760	719
	Bank charges and ticket commission	2,456	1,512
	Storage costs	-	1,356
		71,878	52,146
	Donations Paid		
	Fairness Acceptance Inclusion Oban	200	-
	Oban High School Pipe Band	-	550
		200	550
8.	**Income Received after 31 January 2026**		
	Argyll & Bute Council	500	-
	Event Scotland	1,125	1,125
		1,625	1,125

This related to grants received in respect of the Festival in November 2025.