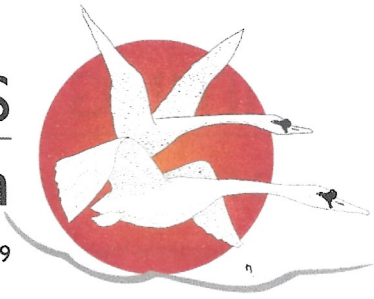


WHITING BAY & DISTRICTS Improvements Association

A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Charity No. SC047609



OSCR Annual Report 2025–2026

Introduction

The Trustees of Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association SCIO are pleased to present the Annual Report for 2025–2026. This year has once again demonstrated the strength of our community and the dedication of our volunteers, partners, and supporters. Together, we continue to enhance both the natural and built environment of Whiting Bay, promote civic pride, and provide amenities that enrich the lives of residents and visitors. The period 2025-2026 has been another notably successful year for the Charity.

1. Planted Tubs and Spring Bulbs

Across the village, more than 50 tubs and boats are maintained to provide seasonal colour and visual interest. These displays are cared for by our committed volunteers, who also oversaw the replacement of several tubs this year. The continued supply of spring bulbs ensures that Whiting Bay remains vibrant and welcoming throughout the year.

2. Bus Shelter Artwork

The bus shelter artwork continues to be a distinctive and much-loved feature of the village. Routine upkeep ensures that this installation remains attractive and contributes positively to the character of our public spaces.

3. Putting Green Management

The Putting Green remains a popular attraction for both residents and visitors. Thanks to the work of our grass cutter, the green is maintained to a high standard while retaining natural verges that support local wildlife and flora. This recreational space continues to play an important role in community wellbeing and outdoor enjoyment.

4. Beach Cleanup and Path Maintenance

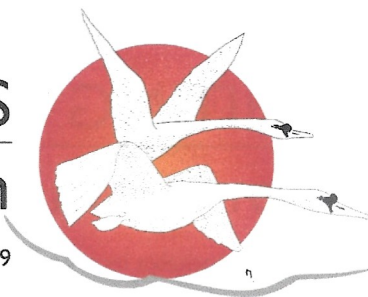
Volunteer work parties have once again been central to keeping Whiting Bay clean and welcoming. Regular litter picking, strimming, weeding, and general maintenance help preserve the village's natural beauty. Benches and picnic tables have also been repaired and repainted, ensuring these amenities remain in good condition.

5. “Walk Your Way Round Whiting Bay” Leaflets

Striving to make Whiting Bay & Districts a great place to live and visit.

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Our free walking leaflet continues to be widely distributed across Arran and remains a valued guide for exploring local routes. It encourages both visitors and residents to enjoy the area's scenic landscapes and promotes outdoor activity.

6. Public Toilets

The public toilets at Sandbraes and in the village centre remain open 24/7 due to the ongoing commitment of our volunteers. This year saw significant improvements: refurbishment of the village toilets, new doors installed at Sandbraes, and the creation of a concrete path and handrail from the road—made possible through support from North Ayrshire Council.

7. The Jetty

The restored jetty continues to serve as a lively focal point for water activities, family visits, and quiet enjoyment of the coastline. We maintain clear access to the jetty and this year transformed the adjacent area into a fully gravelled picnic space with flower tubs and sea views. This enhancement has received exceptionally positive feedback and has been well used. A similar upgrade was carried out around the village post box, resolving long-standing issues with mud and puddling.

8. The Boat Slip

The boat slip provides essential access for small vessels and a hard standing for boats and kayaks. Work is ongoing to strengthen sea defences and improve the general appearance of this area.

9. Annual Fun Weekend

The Annual Fun Weekend once again proved to be a highlight of the year. Events included Family Fun in the Park, the Bay Queen crowning, Putting Competition, Sand Sculpture Contest, Quiz, and Car Treasure Hunt. With support from partner organisations, additional activities such as a Bowling Competition, and Beach Scramble were also offered. This weekend remains our principal fundraising event and a cherished celebration of community spirit.

10. Additional Activities

Throughout the year, we continued to deliver a range of community events, including the 50-50 Club, the Annual Firework Display, and the Hogmanay Dance. These traditions are now firmly embedded in village life and contribute greatly to community cohesion.

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11. Village Green

Our most significant project this year focused on addressing coastal erosion at the village green and reclaiming lost land. This amenity is highly valued by the community, and its preservation was a priority. Rock armour was installed and the reclaimed area reseeded. We are deeply grateful to the Ayrshire Rural and Islands Ambition (ARIA) Fund and North Ayrshire Council for their financial support. Benches were restored and new plant tubs added, and the community has expressed great appreciation for the safeguarding of this important space for future generations.

12. Community Support

Strong attendance at our public meetings reflects the high level of engagement from residents, businesses, and visitors. These meetings support transparency, shared decision-making, and collective ownership of our projects.

13. Projects for the Coming Year

In addition to ongoing maintenance of our assets, including the jetty, we plan to plant the edge of the village green with grasses and coastal plants to further protect against erosion. We also intend to work alongside the Village Hall to support the replacement of the Sandbraes Play Park.

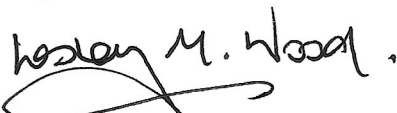
14. Pride in Citizenship and Environment

The commitment of our Trustees, members, and volunteers to nurturing good citizenship and caring for Whiting Bay's natural and built environment remains central to our mission. Our work aims to enhance the wellbeing of all who live in and visit the village, and we remain proud custodians of Whiting Bay's heritage and future.

Closing Remarks

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to the life and vitality of Whiting Bay. Your continued support enables us to maintain and improve our village, ensuring it remains a place of beauty, community, and pride.

Signed


Lesley Wood, Treasurer

on behalf of *Trustees of Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association SCIO*

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