

Fort Seafield and Wallacetown Community Energy Project

Summary Activity Report

2021 -2024

Introduction

The table below provides a summary of activities in relation to the project objectives and their status. For details I would refer you to the detailed reports supplied to both the Community Council and Association since 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Community Council and Association members, Working Group members past and present, South Ayrshire Council, University of Strathclyde, Fraser of Allander Institute, CARES, Net Zero, Scottish Power Networks, RICARDO, Ayrshire College, Education Scotland, Home Energy Scotland, Riverside Trust, Newton Primary School, St John's Primary School and Wallacetown Early Years Centre. I also acknowledge the support from our elected constituency MP and MSP and elected councillors who regularly attend the Community Council meetings to hear first-hand the progress of the project.

If I have inadvertently missed anyone who should be thanked, my sincerer apologies.

Summary

Activity	Comment
Project idea presented to the Community Council by Alan Roseweir (Member).	April 2021
Formation of the Association (SCIO) and the Energy Working Group (South Ayrshire Council and Association Members).	Community Association (SCIO 051189) registered, WG members cross partnership formed. August 2021
Engagement with University of Strathclyde	Submission to the university to be recognised as a Grand Challenge Innovation Project- successful. September 2021
South Ayrshire Coastal Community Fund	Application for Funding bid successful, £10000 January/February2021
Engagement with South Ayrshire Council Education Department	Agreement to support STEM advancement, equipment purchase and to provide school support March 2022
Engagement with Education Scotland and Home Energy Scotland	support for Logo Competition plus Collaboration agreement March 2022
Engagement with Ayrshire College	Agreement to support March 2022
Engagement with Local constituency MSP and MP	Project endorsed by both

	March 2022
Engagement with Fraser of Allander Institute (University of Strathclyde)	Fuel Poverty study report commissioned and completed August 2022
Engagement with Riverside Trust Wallacetown	Community engagement and support. Further events being planned November 2022
Design of project leaflet	Project Leaflet designed, printed and distributed December 2022
Engagement with Dumfries House STEM Centre	Agreement to support STEM Activities January 2023
Presentation to Senior Council staff (including portfolio holder for Energy)	Fully supportive of the project February 2023
Presentation to Senior Community planning partnership group	Fully supportive of the project March 2023
Project banners and pop up designed	Banners and pop up produced. Banners have been located at each of the school building sights. March/April 2023
Press support and Launch – Daily Record 4 th March 2023(on-line) and Ayrshire Post 23 rd March 2023	https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/ayrshire/poverty-hit-ayrshire-area-transformed-29367236?utm_source=linkCopy&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=sharebar Banners positioned at Schools, STEM kits and material supplied to the schools. March/April 2023
Engagement with Scottish Government Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES)	Outline paper submitted, Capital Funding discussions took place on 5 TH April further talks planned Stage 2 April 2023]
Application to Net zero Scottish Power Networks for feasibility funding	Application successful. SPN providing support to develop the business case RICARDO appointed. June 2023
Application to SAC for Regeneration Capital Grant Funding	Application successful. Submitted to Scottish Government. June 2023
Application from SAC to Scottish Government stage 2 for Regeneration Capital Grant Funding	Unfortunately, the bid which was one of four bids that were unsuccessful. October 2023
Partnership agreement with SAC	A formal letter of support has been received from SAC.
Net Zero (SPN) commissioned RICARDO report	Report now completed. We have a viable project with each building being approved for grid connection. October 2023

Net Zero (SPN) Capital funding bid	The capital bid submitted to Scottish Power Networks (SPN) was unsuccessful at this stage We have been asked to resubmit, (deadline 26th January). The panel were supportive of the overall project concept and have provided feedback to help us in the resubmission. Net Zero will provide support for the resubmission. December 2023
Wallacetown – ‘A Net Zero Village’ Plan	University of Strathclyde Formal engagement has begun with the Engineering Faculty specifically with the Department of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Department of Architecture and Design and Manufacture. The plan is to engage with all year students across the departments in project activities that will build a Net Zero Sustainability Plan for Wallacetown. The organisation and management of the plan will work on the principles of ‘Working on behalf of the Client’ where the client will be Wallacetown (Fort, seafield and Wallacetown Community Association). This will generate an informative plan to assist South Ayrshire Council in the reduction of the areas carbon footprint and be imbedded in their Local Heat Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES). This provides an opportunity to produce a model of good practice that can be shared with other Local Authorities. The first stage of the plan development has started: The MSc Renewable and Sustainable students have agreed a group project. The Department for Architecture have agreed to engage in Session 2024 -2025 onwards with student project activity imbedded into the curriculum. December 2023 onwards
Net Zero (SPN) Capital funding bid	We have been informed our bid has been successful. Grant offer letter to follow. (July 2024)
Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) Matching fund bid	We have been informed our bid has been successful. Grant offer letter to follow. (July 2024)
Summary Note	Subject to Grant offer letters being signed we have full capital funding for the project to the value of £536000