

Cromdale and Advie Community Trust

Chair's report AGM, 15th Feb 2023

It's been a year of ups and downs.

It started with the installation of the community laundry at Cromdale Park. This was supposed to pay us commission to cover the running costs and provide a little extra for our funds. Unfortunately it has been found over recent months that this has not been the case. The Community Council has continued paying for the water and electricity until recently, November to be exact, when responsibility was transferred to the Trust. This was offered approx. a year ago but not actioned. A large electricity bill seemed to have spurred the C.C. into action. The Trust has received the commission from the laundry, £933.37 to date. We were in a position to say the £720 we paid in solicitor's fees to Turcan Connell has been recouped and the commission should now go, in part at least, to the C.C. Obviously this is no longer relevant as we have taken over payment of the utilities. In relation to that we have just paid an outstanding electricity bill of £591.27 to SSE but have negotiated a new, and improved, contract with them. We can expect another bill to take us to 31st January, under the old tariff, and then we start on the new contract with better rates and payment by DD.

Water will be free as we are a registered charity and this has been already actioned.

Peter Scullion has been working extremely hard in attempting to negotiate better terms with Revolution Laundry. **Our thanks go to him.** In the meantime the power supply to the laundry has been switched off to prevent the complete exhaustion of our funds. (Ongoing)

The campervan project was started, but unfortunately didn't last long following the local outcry from the village following the arrival of 3 traveller families. A public meeting was quickly held and a vote taken resulting in the campervan project being abandoned. Most of the committee were disappointed by this and, in my opinion, it was a short sighted decision.

One bright light, in a somewhat disappointing year, was the access being regained to the RBS bank account. This will be covered in more detail in the Treasurer's report.

J D Robson (Chair)