

KILMACOLM CIVIC TRUST

Scottish Charity Number SC 032744

Executive Committee Report and Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2016

The Kilmacolm Civic Trust is a charitable unincorporated association. Our objects, as recorded in our constitution, are:-

- (a) To stimulate public interest in and care for the beauty, history and character of the parish of Kilmacolm, its villages and their surroundings.
- (b) To encourage the preservation, development and improvement of features of general public amenity or historic interest.
- (c) To encourage high standards of architecture and town planning in and around Kilmacolm.
- (d) To pursue these ends by whatever means is considered appropriate.

The members of your Executive Committee are appointed by the members of the Trust at our annual general meeting and are:- Nicol Cameron (Chairman), Elaine Gallaher (Secretary), John Hunter (Treasurer), John Hamilton (Archivist), Graeme Andrew, Brelde Baum, Fiona Campbell, John Cooper, Louise Eadie, Catherine Harbon, Jim Hood, and Brian Lang.

No member of the Executive Committee received any remuneration. Expenses were reimbursed to six members of the Executive Committee and totalled £444.

Your Executive Committee has met monthly in The Cargill Centre during the past year and our main activity has continued to be the regular scrutiny and general discussion of the merits or otherwise of the various planning applications submitted to Inverclyde Council for approval concerning properties in the Kilmacolm and Quarriers Village areas.

During 2016, the Trust considered a total of 61 such applications and made formal objections to Inverclyde Council in the case of 5 particular applications. No formal objections were made in the remaining cases although constructive comments were made in a number of instances.

During the year, the Trust began to prepare an Oral History project and a Digital Archiving project. The Oral History project consists of videoing interviews with local residents who discuss matters of interest in the course of the recordings which will then be included in the archives of the Trust. The Digital Archiving project consists of listing all the documents physically held in the Trust's archive, arranging for their safe, accessible storage, and creating digital copies of selected items for a digital archive on the Trust's website. This will eventually enable readier access to all the items in the archive. It is anticipated that the project will take up to three years to complete and will have a significant cost. The trust is applying to the Heritage Lottery fund to assist with the expense and will also seek financial assistance from other sources.

During the year the Trust held an Autumn Talk with a successful presentation by David Walker on Glasgow's Hidden Architectural Treasures. The Trust also carried out a consultation exercise with the members on the proposed 2020 Local Inverclyde Plan. This resulted in a detailed submission to Inverclyde Council on our ideas and matters of concern. In September we also participated in a public consultation regarding the Inverclyde Town & Village Centres Environmental Improvements Project.

Extending our influence beyond the immediate area, the Trust worked with St Columba's School Writer in Residence, to support a creative writing initiative, which resulted in a series of monologues that were recorded and posted online as part of the Creative Communities group on soundcloud.com. In November, our Chairman addressed the Scottish Civic Trust Conference at Linlithgow and we have subsequently been invited to submit a 'guest blog' on the Built Environment Forum Scotland's website.

Inverclyde Council has approved the creation of an additional Conservation Area in the centre of Kilmacolm. It may be that this initiative will give some impetus to the general development of the village centre which KCT is keen to generate in conjunction with Kilmacolm Community Council but on which there is no progress to report.

The accounts show a surplus for the year of £474 compared to a deficit last year of £1,845. The Reserves carried forward at 31 December 2016 totalled £16,329.

The Trust can be contacted at the following address: John Hunter, Woodcliffe, Barclaven Road, Kilmacolm PA13 4DQ.

The accounts for the year are attached and form part of this report which was approved by the Executive Committee on 19 January 2017.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Committee

Nicol Cameron, Chairman

19 January 2017