

PORTAFERRY COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE LTD
ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25
Company Reg. No. NI621142 - Charity Reg. No. NIC101935



Welcome to Portaferry Community Collective Annual Report for the period April 2024-March 2025. The last period has seen Portaferry Community Collective Ltd continue to grow from strength to strength running several projects.

Our Mission Statement

“Portaferry Community Collective Ltd is committed to working in partnership to build positive relationships at a local level, fostering dialogue and co-operation between community groups to address the needs and aspirations of the local community.”

Throughout this period Portaferry Community Collective Ltd has very successfully worked in partnership with many of our local groups and in the wider Council area to develop projects that have aimed to address the needs of the local community. Relationships have continued to be developed externally with a wide range of statutory and voluntary organisations.

Portaferry Community Collective Ltd (PCCL) is open to all groups and organisations within the town. Below are details of projects:

1. *PROJECTS*

- ❖ Community Event Resource Pack and Including IT – ongoing every year pack includes Diesel Generator, Gazebos, Tablets, Laptops, Mini Wi-fi Hubs, Tables/Chairs and Digital Camera. These are available to be loaned out to community groups.
- ❖ Portaferry Reminiscence Project funded by Community Foundation NI – project started in Apr 2024, delivered in partnership with PresenCE group this has seen workshops held with older people living in the community, sharing their memories of older family members and life experiences it included genealogy sessions on resources available online to find out information on family members.
- ❖ Hardship Project – PCCL successfully obtained funding from ANDBC towards this project to support those in need. As part of this Holiday Hunger Vouchers were provided through the 3 schools to families of pupils in receipt of Free School Meals to 122 families.
- ❖ Portaferry Heritage Festival – PCCL partnered with Portico of Ards, PAST, PRL, etc to help with the delivery of a very successful 3 Day Portaferry Heritage Festival.
- ❖ Portaferry Welcome Sign – successful application made to Planning for relocation of sign to Demesne, wee Dam corner, approval sought from DfI has been obtained, this has now been completed in the current financial year.
- ❖ Tullyboard windmill – ongoing meetings with Council.
- ❖ PCCL continued to meet monthly also community groups.
- ❖ PCCL partnered with Ards Peninsula Villages Partnership for delivery of the Ards Peninsula Art Mosaic Project, this included work with Ballyphilip Youth Club and Older people.

- ❖ Engagement of PCCL members with Ards and North Down Borough Council on proposed new Village Plan.

3. *ADVOCACY*

Also a role of Portaferry Community Collective Ltd has been advocating for issues to be addressed on behalf of the community in the town and supporting others. This has included:

- ❖ Members of PCCL also sit on the NIHE Housing Community Network, this is for Community Organisations throughout Ards and North Down and they meet quarterly.
- ❖ Members of PCCL attend the Ards Peninsula Villages Partnership meetings, this is a forum of community organisations across the Peninsula co-ordinated by CDRCN, looking at common issues and needs and developing a joint strategy to address them.
- ❖ Ongoing meetings with Council Officers, in particular in relation to development of a new Village Plan for Portaferry.

5. *ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/THANKS*

Finally we would like to acknowledge and thank all those who have been supportive of Portaferry Community Collective Ltd during the last year.

- ❖ Members and Committee of Portaferry Community Collective Ltd.
- ❖ All the individuals/groups/organisations/schools within the town and beyond both members and non-members of Portaferry Community Collective Ltd who have supported our work, and those who contribute equally to making the community infrastructure so strong and provide important services and activities to the local community. In particular can we make mention of the 3 schools, Portaferry Integrated Primary School, St Mary's Primary School and St Columba's College their help in identifying those in need was critical especially during what has been another difficult year.
- ❖ Our local Elected Representatives who have provided help, advice and guidance.
- ❖ Wildgaze Trespasses Films for their donation.
- ❖ Council Officers from ANDBC, Housing Executive, Ards Peninsula Villages Partnership and County Down Rural Community Network.
- ❖ Our funders – Ards & North Down Borough Council, DAERA and Community Foundation NI.