

Islay Community Access Group

**Trustees' report & financial accounts
for the year ended 31 January 2025**

Registration No – SC037772



Simmers & Co
Chartered Accountants
OBAN

Islay Community Access Group

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 January 2025

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Islay Community Access Group

Trustees' Annual Report

Year ended 31 January 2025

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 January 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Islay Community Access Group

Charity registration number SC037772

Principal office Lochindaal House
Port Charlotte
Isle of Islay
PA48 7UD

The trustees

Independent examiner



Islay Community Access Group

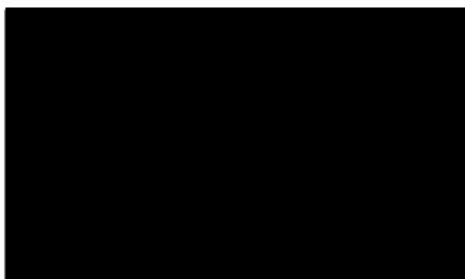
Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charity and registered as a charity on 30th January 2007.

The Trustees who served during the year were:



Under the requirements of the constitution, the Management committee is elected at the AGM and members serve for three years with the possibility of being elected for a further three years. The Chairman may only serve a term of two years unless overridden by the Committee, this having happened by unanimous decision since 2013. Additional members, up to a maximum of 15 of the Management Committee. The Management Committee is deemed to meet a minimum of four meetings in the year. Zoom meetings have supplanted face to face meetings during Covid and even greater emphasis on IT communication has been necessary. Such contemporary communication has been deemed adequate and effective by the Management Group.

The Trustees have delegated the day to day running of the organisation to the Management Committee on a relevant skill basis and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

Objectives and activities

The charities objectives are:

Improve the quality of life for those who live on Islay and those visiting Islay by creating a safe and accessible range of opportunities to access the countryside for recreation and enhanced health and wellbeing.

Advance education about environmental and cultural aspects of the countryside.

Increase learning opportunities about safety and accessibility of the countryside for all.

Increase community benefit, involvement and interest in responsible access to the countryside.

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

The Trustees and members of the Management Committee are all volunteers. Additional volunteers help with the Group's activities from time to time.

Islay Community Access Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

Achievements and performance

The purpose of the Islay Community Access Group (ICAG) is to create and maintain wheeling and pedestrian pathways between the villages on Islay where there are presently insufficient pavements or paths. To facilitate this, we need to raise funds from private businesses and through grants and funding from local and national governments. We also seek public donations and are still working on introducing a QR system to allow direct transfer of funds as more and more people visiting the paths do not carry cash. During this year we have been fortunate to receive several donations from private individuals and businesses. Sadly, the problems with ferry bookings and unreliable ferry services have seen a downturn in visitors this last year and a similar downturn in our public donations. In addition to the fund raising, we have limited responsibility to maintaining some pathways that give access to beaches and open spaces.

We had been working with the Botanist Trust (Bruichladdich) to develop new educational signage for the paths to give information regarding the geological formations, wildlife and flora to be observed along the Lochindaal Way. These signs have been installed and we have received positive verbal feedback on the information available.

In order to facilitate the arrangements for the maintenance and construction of the paths under our responsibility we hold bimonthly management meeting with the ICAG trustees. At present we have seven trustees holding office. There have been no changes in the trustees in this year but we do need to attract new members as we all grow older. This is to be discussed at the AGM.

In 2024/25 we had responsibility for the maintenance of two paths. The Three Distilleries path, shortly to be renamed as the Four Distilleries path when the Portnatruin Distillery comes into operation, from Port Ellen to Ardbeg, and the Lochindaal Way which joins the villages of Bruichladdich and Port Charlotte. To maintain these paths, we have engaged with a local contractor who has cut back undergrowth and cleared grass where this was overgrowing the path. Various works have been completed where walling repairs were required where these have been damaged through wear and tear and animals. The Lochindaal Way was severely damaged by flooding when the roads department cut through a verge and allowed flood water to cascade onto the path surface causing severe erosion of the path and lifting a large area of the top surface. Despite this being taken up by the local councillor the roads department have denied any responsibility and we will have to fund the repairs ourselves.

There is a housing development by West Highland Homes, (a partnership of Argyll & Bute Council and the Scottish Government) at the Port Charlotte end of the Lochindaal Way. As part of these works, the contractor took away the banking on the roadside and left the wall and path in a precarious state. After several communications the local councillor assisted in bringing this to the attention of the planning authorities who instructed the contractor to make the area safe. The precarious wall was demolished and bank graded but the resultant pavement is less wide at only two metres wide and a steep gradient connects onto the existing path which has reduced accessibility for those less able.

Work has still continued on the latest project throughout 2024 with the design and arranging permissions for the Bowmore to Bridgend pathway. This is still in the planning and development stage (Stage four) and planning permission is underway with Argyll & Bute Council. Grants were awarded for the planning and development of the path which have now been consumed. The main objections are from the roads department which has held up planning for several months. These objections and the people involved are now subject to an internal investigation within A&B Council. There is very little funding available for the development of paths as most of the Sustrans funding goes to the larger cities where they already have walkways and Sustrans has no control over how the monies are spent.

Islay Community Access Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

It is likely that once planning permission is obtained the project will be split into four sections which will have more manageable costs.

In 2023 we started the process of applying to become an SCIO however the application has been rejected as our constitution does not meet with the requirements of OSCR. As suggested by OSCR we have applied to our Third Sector Interface Office for guidance but to date have not received any reply although this is being followed up. Once we have achieved our SCIO status we will develop a new land agreement.

Financial review

It is policy of the Charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The Trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue that Charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The organisation generated total income of £77,791 (2024 - £117,580) of which £13,802 (2024 - £11,341) was unrestricted and £63,989 (2024 - £106,239) was restricted. Total expenditure was £72,983 (2024 - £119,218) of which £8,994 (2024 - £12,980) was unrestricted and £63,989 (2024 - £106,239) was restricted. As a result, the charity generated an overall surplus of £4,808 (2024 - deficit £1,639) and made a surplus on unrestricted funds of £4,808 (2024 - deficit £1,639) and a deficit of £nil (2024 - £nil) on restricted activities. Total funds at the year-end were £49,355 (2024 - £44,988), £44,988 (2024 - £44,988 including £20,000 designated) were unrestricted and £nil (2024 - £nil) were unrestricted.

Principle funding sources in the year were donations from the donation boxes and local businesses to maintain the existing paths and grants from Argyll & Bute Council for maintenance and planning of the Bowmore to Bridgend path.

The Trustees have considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds and has found that short to medium term investment of funds should be held in a mixture of current accounts.

Islay Community Access Group

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

Plans for future periods

In 2025 we will aim to continue our maintenance of the two existing paths, the Four Distilleries path and the Lochindaal Way, using our local contractor and raising funding from the distilleries and other businesses on the Island. We will continue with our applications for planning permission for the Bowmore to Bridgend pathway and working with Sustrans and other government bodies (Paths for all) to raise funding for the construction of the paths.

We are also actively working on bringing our website up to date and to improve the information available. At present the website, Islay Pathways, has very limited information on the Bridgend to Bowmore pathway and nothing about our other interests.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 10 April 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Trustee

Trustee

Islay Community Access Group

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Islay Community Access Group

Year ended 31 January 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Islay Community Access Group ('the charity') for the year ended 31 January 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the '2005 Act') and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). You are satisfied that your charity is not required by charity law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 44(1)(c) of the 2005 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the requirements of Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity has prepared its accounts on an accruals basis your examiner must be a member of a body listed in Regulation 11(2) of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended); or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent Examiner
Simmers & Co, Chartered Accountants
Albany Chambers
Albany Street
Oban
Argyll
PA34 4AL

Islay Community Access Group

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 January 2025

			2025		2024
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	642	63,989	64,631	107,080
Charitable activities	5	13,160	–	13,160	10,500
Total income		13,802	63,989	77,791	117,580
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	8,994	63,989	72,983	119,660
Total expenditure		8,994	63,989	72,983	119,660
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds		4,808	–	4,808	(2,080)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		44,547	–	44,547	46,627
Total funds carried forward		49,355	–	49,356	44,546

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Islay Community Access Group

Statement of Financial Position

31 January 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	12	1,405	1,773
Current assets			
Debtors	13	98	7,016
Cash at bank and in hand		48,514	41,497
		<u>48,612</u>	<u>48,513</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	662	5,739
Net current assets		<u>47,950</u>	<u>42,774</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>49,355</u>	<u>44,547</u>
Net assets		<u>49,355</u>	<u>44,547</u>
Funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds		<u>49,355</u>	<u>44,546</u>
Total charity funds	15	<u>49,355</u>	<u>44,546</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 10 April 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Trustee

Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 January 2025

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in Scotland and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is Lochindaal House, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay, PA48 7UD.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charity Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Tangible assets

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Plant and machinery	- 20% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Donations			
Donations	642	–	642
Grants			
Grants receivable	–	63,989	63,989
	<u>642</u>	<u>63,989</u>	<u>64,631</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations	841	–	841
Grants			
Grants receivable	–	106,239	106,239
	<u>841</u>	<u>106,239</u>	<u>107,080</u>

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Other income from charitable activities	13,160	13,160	10,500	10,500
	<u>13,160</u>	<u>13,160</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>10,500</u>

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Path maintenance and development	8,520	63,989	72,509
Support costs	474	–	474
	<u>8,994</u>	<u>63,989</u>	<u>72,983</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Path maintenance and development	12,962	106,239	119,201
Support costs	460	–	459
	<u>13,422</u>	<u>106,239</u>	<u>119,660</u>

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2025 £	Total fund 2024 £
Path maintenance and development	72,509	–	72,509	119,201
Governance costs	–	474	474	459
	<u>72,509</u>	<u>474</u>	<u>72,983</u>	<u>119,660</u>

8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>351</u>	<u>442</u>

9. Independent examination fees

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>662</u>	<u>819</u>

10. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2024: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

11. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by any of the trustees.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 February 2024	2,153	7,463	9,616
Disposals	–	(220)	(220)
At 31 January 2025	2,153	7,243	9,396
Depreciation			
At 1 February 2024	1,863	5,980	7,843
Charge for the year	58	293	351
Disposals	–	(203)	(203)
At 31 January 2025	1,921	6,070	7,991
Carrying amount			
At 31 January 2025	232	1,173	1,405
At 31 January 2024	290	1,483	1,773

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	–	6,920
Prepayments and accrued income	98	96
	98	7,016

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	662	5,739

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

15. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 February 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 January 2025 £
General funds	24,547	13,802	(8,993)	29,356
Designated Fund	20,000	–	–	20,000
	<u>44,547</u>	<u>13,802</u>	<u>(8,993)</u>	<u>49,356</u>

	At 1 February 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 January 2024 £
General funds	26,627	11,341	(13,422)	24,546
Designated Fund	20,000	–	–	20,000
	<u>46,627</u>	<u>11,341</u>	<u>(13,422)</u>	<u>44,546</u>

Within unrestricted funds the trustees have designated the sum of £20,000 to be held to fund repairs to the paths as required

Restricted funds

	At 1 February 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 January 2025 £
Restricted Fund - path development	–	63,989	(63,989)	–

	At 1 February 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 January 2024 £
Restricted Fund – path development	–	106,239	(106,239)	–

Path development - funding was received from Argyll & Bute Council to continue the development of a path from Bowmore to Bridgend.

Islay Community Access Group

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 January 2025

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,405	1,405
Current assets	48,612	48,612
Creditors less than 1 year	(662)	(662)
Net assets	49,355	49,355

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,773	1,773
Current assets	48,512	48,512
Creditors less than 1 year	5,739	5,739
Net assets	56,024	56,024

17. Financial instruments

The carrying amount for each category of financial instrument is as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	50,017	50,728