



serving the community of Feughside, Aberdeenshire

# **Feughside Community Association [SCIO]**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

Period From 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Registered with OSCR as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) No. SC052558: not registered for VAT

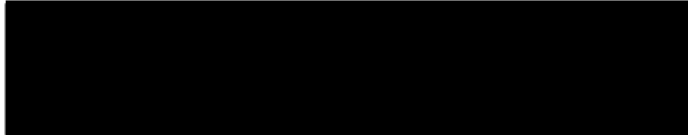
Registered Office: Burn Of Rhoda, Strachan, Banchory. AB31 6LN

## **Charity Contact Information**

Feughside Community Association [SCIO]

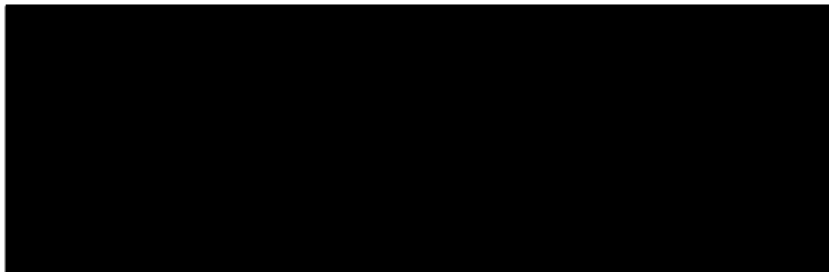
Scottish Charity Number: SC052558

Address: Burn of Rhoda  
Strachan  
BANCHORY AB31 6LN



Facebook – Feughside Community Association

## **Charity Trustees**



## **Purposes**

The charity has been formed principally to benefit the community served by Feughside Community Council in Aberdeenshire with the following purposes:

- The advancement of community development (including the advancement of rural regeneration) principally within the Community;
- The provision (or advancement of the accessibility) of recreational facilities, and/or the organisation of recreational activities, which shall be available to members of the Community and the public at large, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the Community.
- The advancement of community development through the provision and maintenance of community gardens, public areas and open spaces in order to promote people's physical and mental health and participation in community life.
- The provision of educational opportunities in the Community, increasing awareness of the environment, culture, heritage and/or history, including the improvement of the Community's knowledge of gardening and environmental protection.

But only to the extent that the above purposes are consistent with furthering the achievement of sustainable development.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Type of governing document**

FCA was previously a Private Limited Company registered as a charity by OSCR.

At the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 two resolutions were proposed and agreed unanimously:

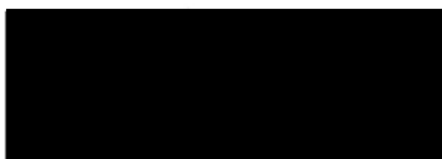
- To convert FCA from a charitable company to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation [SCIO].
- To adopt a proposed constitution of a SCIO.

On 15<sup>th</sup> April FCA was converted into a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and simultaneously Companies House cancelled our company registration.

### **Trustee recruitment and appointment**

At the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 two trustee/directors (Caroline Clephan and Christopher Caldwell) retired and were re-elected unanimously. One additional trustee/director (Michael Sanderson) was elected unanimously.

At the Board Meeting on 11th March 2025 the following officers were elected – all unanimously:



On 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025, the Board approved a Trustee's induction pack and code of conduct.

### **Membership**

At end April 2025, FCA had 77 members. The secretary to the Board holds a register as required by OSCR for a SCIO.

## **Activities**

Last year (2023/24) was focussed on attempts to complete a Community Asset Transfer of Strachan School Garden to FCA. Negotiations between FCA

directors/trustees and Aberdeenshire Council were eventually unsuccessful as we were unable to secure rights of access to the garden through the lane beside the school. No further work was done regarding the Strachan School Garden.

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024 we completed purchase of the Manse Croft Plot an area of 4.2 acres on the west side of Strachan including a static caravan and shed. The purchase price was £78,750 and this was raised through a grant of £50,000 from the Midhill Community Benefit Fund (via FCC) and the remainder by private donations from the community.



We believe the Manse Croft Plot will prove to be a fantastic amenity for Feughside residents. It is south facing, located between the road and the river, is adjacent to the Strachan Playing Field and comprises both woodland and meadow areas. We believe there are massive opportunities for the community to further develop the plot including improvement of paths for walkers, active tree management in the wooded area and development of the upper area into a community garden. It will be a long term project but work has started to clear part of the meadow and the community garden area including an overgrown hedge on the North side.

In February 2025, we received a generous proposal from a member of the local community offering to gift Ardlair Wood and Footpath to FCA. The wood extends to around seven acres and is mostly mature trees served by a footpath up from the centre of Strachan. Whilst it is early days, the Trustees believe that Ardlair Wood will provide an excellent long-term amenity for the Community and we are looking forward to engaging with FCA members on how it might be best used and managed. We hope to work with Banchory Paths Group to see what can be done to improve the path but any major work will depend on funding.

Although the Wood and Footpath will be transferred to FCA on a no-cost basis, there will be some modest legal costs associated with the transfer; however these will be covered by specific pledges from Feughside residents. Burnett & Reid are working on the transfer for us but the deeds are still in the old Sasine register so it is a bit of a jigsaw piecing them all together!

After Aberdeenshire Council announced they will not be providing bedding plants for the summer flower display. The Strachan Garden Group (as part of FCA) have placed an order for bedding plants from the Seed Box in Ballogie (a local company) and they have replaced the flower tubs at Strachan Village Hall. Having ordered almost 1,000 plants, we expect to have a great display this year.

## **Financial Review**

### **Accounts**

Accounts for the period 1/5/24 to 30/4/25 are attached at the end of this report.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, the charity had £9,972.55 cash in the bank. This includes £851.14 held as restricted funds to support the activities of the Strachan Flowers Group.

### **Assets**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September FCA completed purchase of the Manse Croft Plot in Strachan. The purchase price was £78,750 plus solicitor's fees etc of £1,064.

With the help of a grant from Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund of £12,314.45 – various services and equipment have been purchased towards clearing the Manse Croft site and starting the creation of a community garden.

### **Statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

The board has agreed to retain reserves of £1,000 in order to ensure the charity remains solvent at all times and can meet unexpected emergency expenditure for health and safety, environmental protection, insurance or legal reasons.

### **Details of any deficit**

The charity has no deficits

### **Donated facilities and services**

The charity has not made any donation of facilities or services.

## Future Plans

In the near term our efforts will be concentrated on the Manse Croft Plot including improvement of paths for walkers, active tree management in the wooded area and development of the upper area into a community garden. The upper area was originally the car park for the old concrete works in Strachan so has a gravel base with little soil. Work has already been started to clear this overgrown area including removing an overgrown leylandii hedge on the roadside. With community resources voluntary and paid, we plan to convert this upper space into a wildflower gravel garden and vegetable area allowing us to make the transformation without considerable expense.

The next phase will be focused on the Community Garden:

- Purchase and install gabions along the north side of the garden
- Purchase and fill behind the gabions with rubble and topsoil to support the bank along the road. This bed will enable volunteers to plant a native mixed hedge later this year which will provide screening from the road.
- Fill the hedge returns with topsoil in preparation for the native mixed hedge
- Establish a gravel garden

The results of the recently commissioned Local Place Plan (LPP) for Feughside Community (which included a survey and interviews representing the views of 100 people) demonstrate that there is significant support for the community garden as an outdoor space for working with other volunteers, attending outdoor workshops and walking in the established wooded area.

Residents of Feughside of all ages and abilities are encouraged to have their say in the development of the garden through the LPP, membership of the Feughside Community Association (there are 77 members), monthly Garden Group meetings and the Feughside Community Association Facebook page (which has 149 members). The Community Garden has already provided

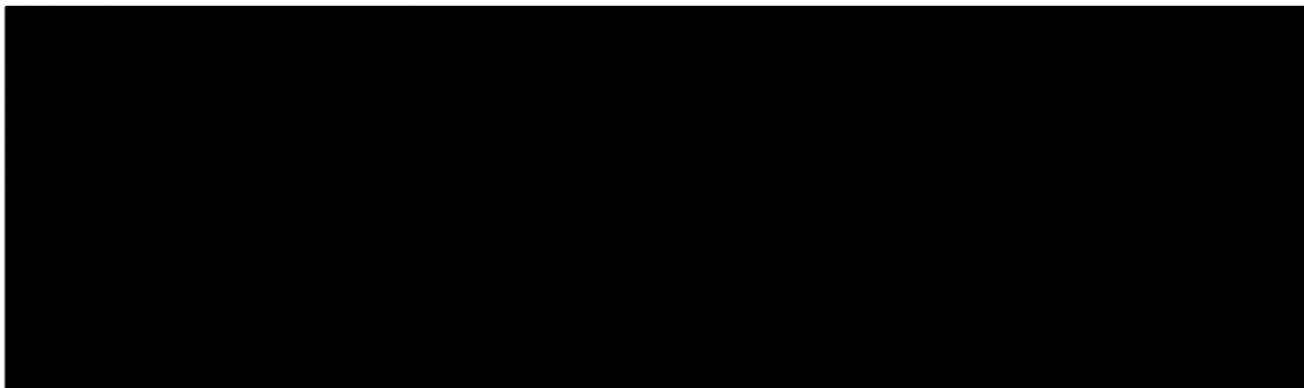
opportunities to bring the community together as evidenced by the four volunteer days held so far which attracted on average 28 people at each. Local contractors have already offered to sponsor the next phase by providing free gabion rocks, free gravel and free ungraded topsoil. Graded topsoil has been offered at cost price.

The Strachan Flowers Group will be working on the summer display of bedding plants from late May 2025.

We also expect to complete the transfer of ownership of Ardlair wood and path to FCA during the year.

### Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Designation: .....CHAIR.....

Date: .....5/08/25.....



Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	01	05	2024		30	04	2025

## Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total funds current period to nearest £	Total funds last period to nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>						
Donations	43,786	954			44,740	
Legacies					-	
Grants		12,314			12,314	
Receipts from fundraising activities	605				605	
Gross trading receipts		473			473	
Income from investments other than land and buildings					-	
Rents from land & buildings					-	
					-	
<b>A1 Sub total</b>	<b>44,391</b>	<b>13,741</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,132</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Receipts from asset &amp; investment sales</b>						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
<b>A2 Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>44,391</b>	<b>13,741</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58,132</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	
Gross trading payments		576			576	
Investment management costs					-	
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	4,210	11,018			15,228	
Grants and donations					-	
Governance costs:					-	
Audit / independent examination					-	
Preparation of annual accounts	480				480	
Legal costs	1,024				1,024	
Other	195				195	
					-	
<b>A3 Sub total</b>	<b>5,909</b>	<b>11,594</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,503</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements</b>						
Purchases of fixed assets	28,750	1,943			30,693	
Purchase of investments					-	
<b>A4 Sub total</b>	<b>28,750</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,693</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>34,659</b>	<b>13,537</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>48,196</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net receipts / (payments)</b>	<b>9,732</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers to / (from) funds</b>						
	(647)	647			-	
<b>Surplus / (deficit) for year</b>	<b>9,085</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>-</b>

- SC052558

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Expendable endowment funds to nearest £	Permanent endowment funds to nearest £	Total current period to nearest £	Total last period to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash and bank balances at start of year	36				36	
	Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	9,085	851			9,936	
						-	
						-	
	<b>Cash and bank balances at end of year</b>	<b>9,121</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,972</b>	<b>-</b>

(Agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Market valuation to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B2 Investments				
		Total	-	

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (if available) to nearest £	Current value (if available) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B3 Other assets	Manse Croft Plot, Caravan & Shed	Unrestricted Funds	78,750	80,607	
	Bosch AXT25D Shredder 240V	Unrestricted Funds	321	297	
	Border Fork and Digging Fork	Unrestricted Funds	71	68	
	2 Garden Spades	Unrestricted Funds	96	92	
	Husqvarna 535IFR Battery Brushcutter o/w Batteries, Charger & Helmet	Unrestricted Funds	1,456	1,438	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>80,694</b>	<b>82,502</b>	

Details		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
B4 Liabilities				
		Total	-	

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (estimate) to nearest £	Last year to nearest £
<b>B5 Contingent liabilities</b>				
		<b>Total</b>	-	

**Signed by one or two trustees  
on behalf of all the trustees**

Date of approval

4/8/25

## Section C Notes to the Accounts


**C1 Nature and purpose of funds** (may be stated on analysis of funds worksheets)

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## C2 Grants

Type of activity or project supported	Individual / institution	Number of grants made	£
Aberdeenshire Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund		1	12,314
Midhill Community Benefit Fund (see note C6)		1	50,000
		Total	62,314


### C3a Trustee remuneration

If no remuneration was paid during the period to any charity trustee or person connected to a trustee cross this box (otherwise complete section 3b)	
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### C3b Trustee remuneration - details

Authority under which paid	£

#### C4a Trustee expenses

If no expenses were paid to any charity trustee during the period then cross this box (otherwise complete section 4b)	
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#### C4b Trustee expenses - details

	Number of trustees	£

### C5 Transactions with trustees and connected persons

[illegible]

## C6 Other information

**Purchase of Property**  
During the year, a grant of £50,000 was awarded to the charity towards the purchase of property. The grant was paid directly by the funder to the solicitor handling the purchase. As the charity did not receive or disburse the funds, the transaction does not appear in the Receipts and Payments account. However, the property acquired is now held in the name of the charity.

**Transfer of Funds**  
The transfer of £047 between funds in box A5 relates to Feughside Community Association's contribution the purchases attributed to the First Transition grant.

# APPENDIX 3



		Independent examiner's report on the accounts v2					
Report to the trustees/members of	Charity name	Feughside Community Association					
	Registered charity number	SC 052558					
On the accounts of the charity for the period	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year	to	Day	Month	Year
	01	05	2024		30	04	2025
Set out on pages							(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)
Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.</p>						
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.</p>						
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]</p>						
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and</li> <li>to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>have not been met, or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</li> </ol>						
Signed**:	[Redacted Signature]			Date:	1/8/2025		
Name:							
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	<p>ICAS The institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland</p>						
Address:	<p>The Grant Considine Partnership Chartered Accountants 46 High Street, Banchory Aberdeenshire, AB31 5SR</p>						

\*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

\*\*OSCR will accept digital or typed signatures.

## APPENDIX 3

### Disclosure section

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of  
any items that the  
examiner wishes to  
disclose