

## Welcome

Welcome to the first PCDT newsletter, which we hope you will find informative and useful. PCDT is open to all and you will find contact details overleaf.

### About Development Trusts

Communities across Scotland are setting up development trusts to promote community led activity, partnership working and local enterprise. Development trusts are a particular type of partnership organisation one that offers benefits to the local community and is owned and operated by its members.

Development Trusts get involved in all sorts of community projects including managing and owning community assets, community energy and working with young people and disadvantaged groups.

### About PCDT

Portpatrick Community Development Trust (PCDT) was formed by resolution at a meeting of founding members on the 26th March 2019. A web site has been set up explaining the background and the objects of PCDT. (<https://pcdt.scot>).

PCDT Objectives are laid out in full in the articles of association and the web-site, however they may be summarized as **“The advancement of community development including the advancement of rural regeneration.”**

### Membership

Membership is open to all those normally resident in the Portpatrick and its immediate environs and who support the objects of the Trust. (See overleaf) .



### DTAS

We are pleased to announce that PCDT is a provisional member of the Development Trust Association of Scotland (DTAS), (<https://dtascot.org.uk/>) who are able to offer legal, technical and other support and guidance to PCDT over the next year and for

the next steps.

Members benefits include Networking with other development Trusts, Support for Strategic planning , free legal advice discounted energy and equipment.



### Portpatrick Village Hall

On 9th April PCDT submitted a **Stage 1: Expression of Interest** for Community Asset Transfer for the Village Hall. This is the first stage in the process and allows us to open up a dialogue with D&G Council and also allows D&G to provide us with support and advice on working through the asset transfer process.

Portpatrick Village Hall has been identified by D&G as suitable for transfer to the Community. Following several public meetings at which no Community group came forward, D&G Council proposed closure in October 2016. An interim arrangement was then agreed with the Community Council and part of this agreement was that the volunteers Hall Group would work towards an entity capable of taking over the Hall.

The Stage 1 expression of interest is an outline proposal to undertake a management lease for a period no longer than two years during which time PCDT will work to further develop the PCDT as a Community Transfer body and develop a sound and commercially sustainable business plan to enable full asset transfer.

The immediate community benefit is that the Hall will be retained as a community resource at the heart of Portpatrick and will con-

tinue to be available to all community groups and as a venue bringing economic activity and visitors to Portpatrick.

The PCDT are looking to develop the Hall as an attractive and vibrant hub at the centre of the community, and we shall be seeking ways to increase both community use and bring economic benefit to the community. If the Stage 1 is accepted by D&G Council then **stage 2** will be to develop a full business plan for the hall and work to clarify all issues around condition, title etc.

## What can PCDT do?

As a community-based incorporated body (ie registered companies) PCDT is designated as a Community Transfer Body under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. and so can fund, build and own community-based assets.

PCDT is an organisation owned and led by the members, therefore projects will be developed in response to our community priorities. Among the first activities will be member workshops and consultation on priorities for the Village.

Some development Trusts are quite broad in approach ,while others specialise. Potential areas of activity include:

### Improve local services and amenities

- Develop and run sports and recreation facilities/events
- Manage community centres
- Community based health facilities

- Promote local heritage
- Run play schemes and child care centres
- Support affordable housing
- Support community development

### Promote and support local economic activity

- Develop and manage community enterprise
- Provide office space, shops and market areas
- Run job and training schemes
- Promote tourism and encourage inward investment

### Improve the local environment

- Improve and develop unused land
- Regenerate and manage public open space
- Carry out local improvement schemes
- Restore buildings
- Be involved in education work with schools

As a Development Trust PCDT can develop a land or property base to earn income. Some Trusts specialise in one or more areas while others diversify across a wide range of projects. Now that we are established we will be working to expand our membership and understand community priorities. PCDT will be looking to provide local solutions to local need and aim to be innovative, responsive, business-like, professional and effective.

## PCDT MEMBERSHIP

Would you like to get involved in shaping our activities, delivering improvements in our local community or even just support our work? Did you know that PCDT is **open to all individuals, organisations and businesses** that support the objects and activities of the Trust.

Joining as a member of PCDT is a way of influencing, contributing and supporting PCDT's aims and work—to make Portpatrick and the surrounding area a better place for residents, business and visitors alike.

Email: [info@pcdt.scot](mailto:info@pcdt.scot) or go onto our web site <https://pcdt.scot> where you can read about our aims and download an application form or simply register to be put on our mailing list.

There are three classes of member:

**Full members** ( are ordinarily resident in the defined community of Portpatrick it's immediate environs ( see web site for list of post-codes) and registered to vote in local government elections.

**Associate members** Associate membership is open to individuals, organisations and businesses who are not ordinarily resident in the Community but support the aims and objectives of PCDT.

**Junior members** Individuals aged between 12 and 15 who wish to become involved.



**PCDT** Portpatrick Community Development Trust

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Provisional Member of the Development Trusts Association of Scotland. (No. SE275)