

Development Coll

Adhartas le cheile

A Brief Guide 2018

*Promoting the sustainable development of
the Isle of Coll*





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Achievements

In keeping with its ethos of self help and self reliance, Development Coll has made some significant achievements in recent years:

- **Scotland's first island to have 4G mobile network**

Coll's community-owned 4G mast was a pilot scheme, supported by the Scottish Government's 'Demonstrating Digital' programme, to inform and test the viability of community ownership of a mobile mast in an area not previously seen as commercially viable by mobile operators. With several long-term contracts in place with mobile operators, the mast is now generating an annual operating surplus.

- **Being self-sustaining**

Development Coll has operated without grant funding since 2015 and in the past 2 reporting periods has generated an operating surplus.

- **5* rating for bunkhouse**

Coll Bunkhouse has retained its 5-star rating with Visit Scotland, despite only having a part-time staff.

- **Health Services**

The gym at An Cridhe, combined with the multi-purpose hall, are now being used to facilitate GP referral and weigh management services. We are delighted that An Cridhe can assist with the provision of such important services to the community of Coll.

- **An Cridhe**

Since opening almost 6 years ago, An Cridhe has demonstrated its ability to facilitate a wide variety of service provision. From educational facilities to a catering kitchen, from hosting meetings to hosting large community events, from office services to providing a hub for the community and visitors alike, the capabilities of the hall have been tested and found to be excellent. And new ideas are still rolling in...

- **Housing**

Following community engagement, Development Coll identified the availability of affordable, quality housing as a key concern in the community. A director was appointed as sponsor for this project and Development Coll was making headway in the early stages of identifying and the necessary funding for a small housing development. At the same time as Development Coll hit its first, but not insurmountable, hurdle, ACHA stated its aim to provide two new social houses on Coll. These new houses are now occupied and, for the time being at least, Development Coll's project has been put on hold.



What We Do

Development Coll undertakes projects chosen principally through community engagement and which are in keeping with the organisation's aims and objectives. In the past decade, 3 large-scale projects have been successfully completed. An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse are open all-year round and a staffing structure is in place to facilitate daily operations. The directors have overall responsibility for these activities and receive monthly management and finance updates.

New projects: Development Coll welcomes new projects that meet with its aims and objectives. Directors act in a voluntary capacity and while individual directors may sponsor a particular project, the success of a project is often dependent on the support of a voluntary sub-committee made up of members (or people with relevant expertise) who are also passionate about the project. Do you have an idea for a new project? We'd like to hear it.



An Cridhe (/kr'i.ə/): 1) the heart, 2) the centre, the middle
THE HEART OF COLL'S COMMUNITY

The mission statement for An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse is:

'To provide a centre for culture, interaction and warm hospitality to visitors and the local community. Both buildings should be run for the overall benefit of the community and should be financially self sustaining.'



Opened by HRH Princess Anne on 11th July 2012, An Cridhe is intended to be at the heart of life on Coll. It is a multi-purpose facility that caters for the many different needs of islanders and visitors, providing opportunities for sport, education, live entertainment, social functions, office services and meeting facilities. The building is open 9am-9pm, 7 days a week, except Christmas and New Year.

An Cridhe most certainly plays a significant part in island life here on Coll. It has made keeping fit easy, even in the dark winter. It has provided me with a lot of fun and enjoyment, bringing a bit of culture to the island. There is no place better for a good dance and a celebration. (CJ - Mar 2018)



What We Do (continued)

A 5-star bunkhouse (awarded annually by Visit Scotland) ideally situated in Coll's village, making it a great base for exploring this beautiful island before returning to the village in the evening for a relaxing meal, enjoying some craic with the locals, and star gazing on a clear night.

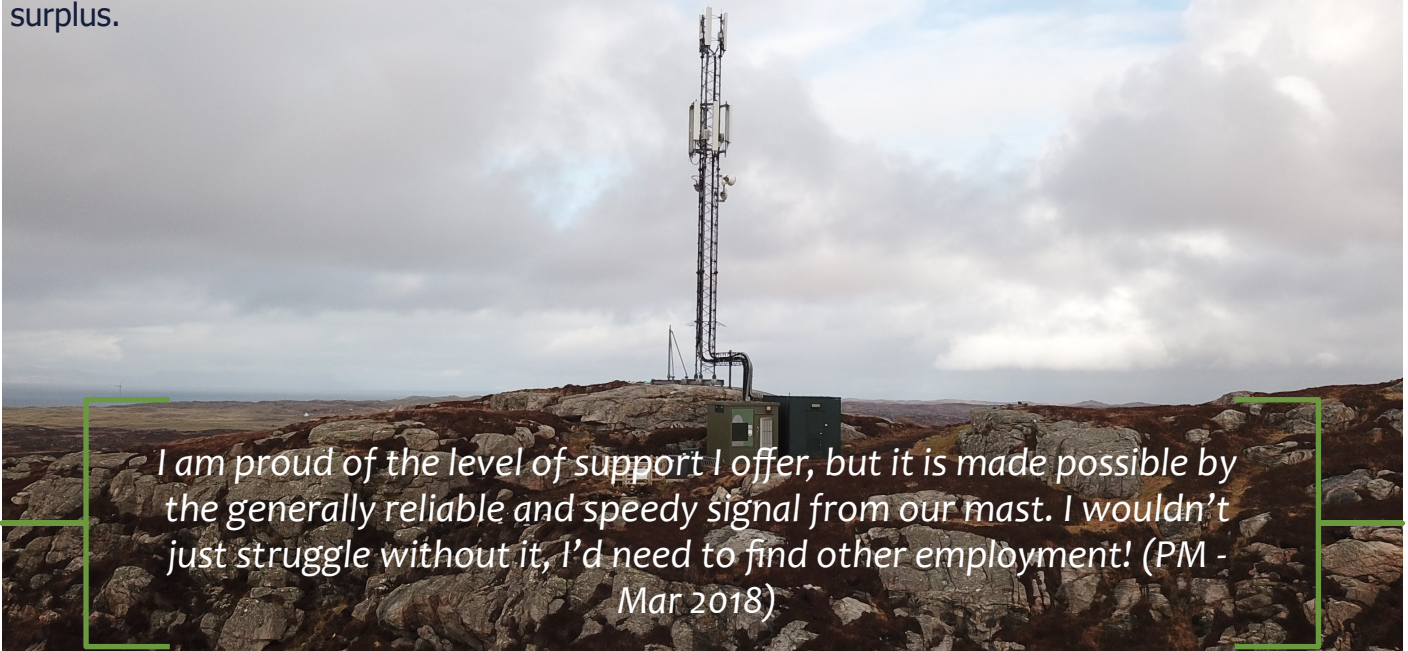


Coll Bunkhouse is an amazing place to stay! The building is absolutely fantastic; great kitchen and common area, hot powerful showers, and the bunk rooms are spacious and well-presented. The Bunkhouse is bright, clean and comfy and the staff are super helpful. (Nov 2017)

Coll
BUNKHOUSE

Any surplus from Coll Bunkhouse is used to further the aims and objectives of An Cridhe, predominantly helping to fund the running costs of the property.

In 2015, Coll became the first Scottish island with 4G mobile communications technology thanks to a pioneering community project developed by the Scottish Government's Demonstrating Digital Programme. The programme worked in partnership with Development Coll and Vodafone to deliver a self-sustaining model for community-owned masts in locations not previously seen as commercially viable by mobile operators. Coll's mast now generates a small annual operating surplus.



I am proud of the level of support I offer, but it is made possible by the generally reliable and speedy signal from our mast. I wouldn't just struggle without it, I'd need to find other employment! (PM - Mar 2018)



The Role of Volunteers

Since its formation, volunteers have played a vital role in the work of Development Coll and the directors would like to pass on their sincere gratitude for everything they do, and have done, to help Development Coll meet its aims and objectives over the past decade and more.

What do volunteers do?

This list highlights just some of the vital roles our volunteers play:

- Groundskeeping and Cleaning

- Opening and Closing An Cridhe

- Organising events

- Help at events— planning to attend an event, why not check if you can join the team?

How do I get involved?

If you'd like to volunteer to help in a practical way, please speak to the office staff. Whether it be helping at a single event or making a regular commitment, we would be delighted to hear from you. Training is provided where required.

How do I become a member or volunteer on a committee?

If you think you have experience that may benefit our committees you first need to be a member of Development Coll. Membership doesn't cost anything and there are 3 types of membership available depending on place of residence and age. Speak to a trustee to find out more.

I volunteer because I am proud to have a venue like An Cridhe and want to keep it looking good. (CFS - Mar 2018)

At Coll Bunkhouse we don't expect a Thank Ewe card, but it's great that a guest enjoyed their stay so much that they took the time to send this card.





How Are We Funded?

The work of Development Coll is funded predominantly through provision of services and donations:

Income from services (An Cridhe, Coll Bunkhouse, mobile mast)

Development Coll has income from a wide variety of services. When setting prices for services, the priority is first to ensure services are affordable and accessible to the Coll community and, secondly, at a level that will encourage visitors to join in. The small population of the island has a significant impact on the level of utilisation of services, particularly an Cridhe. We continue to explore new income avenues to help us continue to be a self-sustaining community organisation.

Income from donations

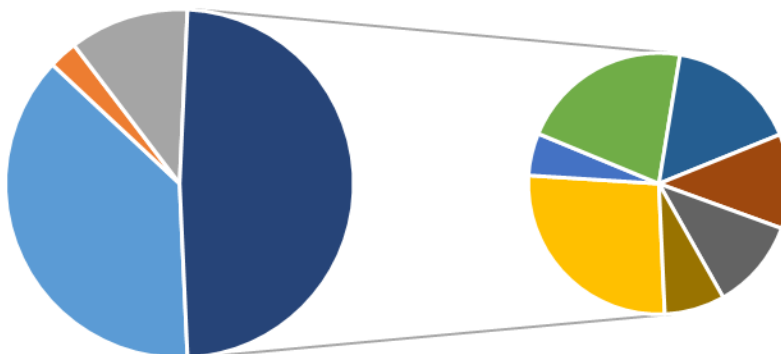
An Cridhe is very grateful to visitors (to the island and specifically to An Cridhe), who have shown their appreciation of An Cridhe by making a voluntary donation towards its running costs.

What about grant funding?

In the past decade or so, Development Coll has been the recipient of capital grant funding to enable the construction of An Cridhe/Coll Bunkhouse and the mobile mast. This was followed up with revenue grant funding and contributions to help develop and establish a self-sustaining future for these projects.

Development Coll has not received grant funding since 2015. If new projects are to be taken on in the future it may be appropriate, and/or necessary, to apply for grant funding as there are restrictions on how some of the existing income streams can be used. When applying for grant funding, consideration is always given to whether the project could be self-sustaining in future, and/or whether it provides a particular benefit to the wider community that could not be achieved without grant funding.

2017 Total Income £87,083



The chart on the left shows 2017 income split by the main 4 income streams, and the chart on the right gives a breakdown of An Cridhe's income.

Financial Stability

Development Coll made an operating surplus in 2017, increasing our unrestricted reserves to £29,432. Development Coll aims to maintain an unrestricted reserve equivalent to at least 3 months of unavoidable operating costs. This helps ensure financial stability in the unlikely event of a large loss of business or unexpected and large repair bill. As at 31 Dec 2017, unrestricted reserves equated to 5-6 months of unavoidable operating costs.



Who Are We?

Development Coll is a Company Limited by Guarantee with Charitable Status:

Company Number: SC300498

Charity Number: SC038217

Registered Office:

An Cridhe
Arinagour
Isle of Coll PA78 6SY
Tel: 01879 230 000

The independently-examined Annual Accounts and Trustees' Report are statutory documents which can be viewed on our website or at An Cridhe during office hours.

This publication is being presented to the community of Coll as a less formal communication and provides an update and review of the work and achievements of Development Coll in recent years.

DIRECTORS:

L MacLean-Bristol	Chair, Finance Committee
H Davies	Secretary
B M ^{ac} Intyre	Treasurer, Finance Committee
N Smith	Management Committee, Finance Committee
S Martindale	
J Robertson	
M Wheeler-James	

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:

The running of An Cridhe is overseen by the Management Committee who work to ensure that the aims and objectives are met. The mission statement for An Cridhe and Coll Bunkhouse can be found on page 4.

STAFF:

J Metcalfe	Manager, An Cridhe & Coll Bunkhouse jane@developmentcoll.org.uk
A Jones	Assistant Manager, An Cridhe & Coll Bunkhouse alison@developmentcoll.org.uk
D Delaney	Centre Assistant, An Cridhe & Coll Bunkhouse info@ancridhe.co.uk info@collbunkhouse.co.uk



Why Are We Here?

Development Coll exists to promote the sustainable development and regeneration of the Isle of Coll for the benefit of residents, visitors, groups and businesses. It is owned and managed by the local community and is a development trust.

The charity was formed:

- to manage community land and assets as part of the protection and sustainable development of the natural environment.
- to promote rural regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation within the Community.
- to advance the education of the Community about its environment, culture and/or history.
- to promote, operate and/or support other similar charitable projects for the benefit of the Community.

As a development trust, the organisation is underpinned by the ethos of self help and self reliance and a belief that community regeneration which is achieved through community owned enterprise and assets is the way to build strong and sustainable communities. Any trading surpluses are reinvested in the organisation and in the local community.

The company was formed in April 2006 in order to fulfil the needs of the Island of Coll as set out in the development plan which was drawn up following Community Consultation in 2005. The intention is to tackle local issues and improve the quality of life to help build a vibrant and sustainable community.

Development Coll owns and operates the following property on behalf of the community: An Cridhe, Coll Bunkhouse, Mobile Mast.

