**Why Wallacetown**

**Capital Funding**

**Community Benefit Model**

Wallacetown in the town of Ayr is impacted by issues of multi- generational deprivation and poverty. It has a combined population of 3,107 and falls within the 5% Most Deprived Areas in Scotland.

It is the 75th (out of 6,976) most Income Deprived Data Zone in Scotland, the 23rd most Employment Deprived and 18th most Health Deprived areas in Scotland. (Source SIMD 2020).

in April 2021 the proposal of an energy project was presented to the Fort Seafield and Wallacetown Community Council. Following agreement, the Community Association. A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation was established.

**Partnership**

A unique partnership has been developed with South Ayrshire Council through the formation of a joint Energy Working Group. This led to full cabinet approval for a 25-year lease (Roof space) agreement being signed by both parties. With a continuation of close working across all relevant Council departments.

We made two Capital Funding applications as follows:

* Scottish Power Networks (SPEN) Net Zero fund for the majority of the Capital Costs.

RIIO-T2 Net Zero Fund

* Scottish Government Net Zero Community Benefit fund as the match fund element of the Capital costs

Both bids were successful. The Grant Funding provided allowed us to:

Appoint On -Site Generation to Project Manage the Installation.

Appoint Advanced Grid Solutions as the Contractor to complete and maintain the Installation

To include a 5 -year Operational & Maintenance package.

One of our key aims is to have an educational involvement. The starting point was with Newton Primary School where we recently held a competition to design an energy logo for our project.

A judging panel consisting of membership from the Wallacetown Community, Education Scotland and Home Energy Scotland. The winning logos are shown on this leaflet.

As a prize the overall winner and the class will experience a STEM day out at Dumfries House.

We have also engaged with the University of Strathclyde who recognise this as an

important community project and are providing support and advice. Ayrshire College are also providing support. Education will be a key success

**Project Installation**

**t**

**With the funding in place we were**

**What is the Project?**

We identified three publicly owned buildings, all school buildings, in Wallacetown. We carried out a Technology Feasibility Study to ascertain their suitability to host PV panels on their roofs.

Their suitability provided the opportunity to generate energy that will offset the energy costs and reduce the carbon emissions and also provide an income stream by selling the energy generated to South Ayrshire Council any excess energy back to the grid. This income source will be used by the community of Wallacetown to build Net Zero capacity.

**Feasibility Funding**

The initial funding came through a successful bid to South Ayrshire Coastal Community Fund abs SPN Net Zero Fund. This has allowed us to commission and complete Two feasibility studies and the Independent review:

* Fuel poverty baseline study (Fraser of Allander Institute)
* Technology Feasibility Studies of the three building (Absolute). a Scottish company with expertise in photovoltaic (PV) design and installation.
* SPN Net Zero funding for Feasibility review and Project Planning. (Ricardo)

The installation commenced on the 30th June 2025 and was completed in August 2025

**Summary**

This was an ambitious project which will have a significant impact on the community of Wallacetown. It provides a model of good practice to build on and to share with other Community Groups. The ability to apply for and funding not open to local authorities provides the perfect opportunity

to build a strong sustainable partnership.

The development and empowerment of communities is core, this project will allow us to strengthen this even further. A Project video is available via the Association Website (Scan the QR code). The video tells the story of the project from birth to completion. It also includes Time-Lapse capture of the installation on the three sites.

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**Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC051189**

**Fort, Seafield and Wallacetown Community Association (SCIO)**

**Wallacetown Community Energy**

**Project**