

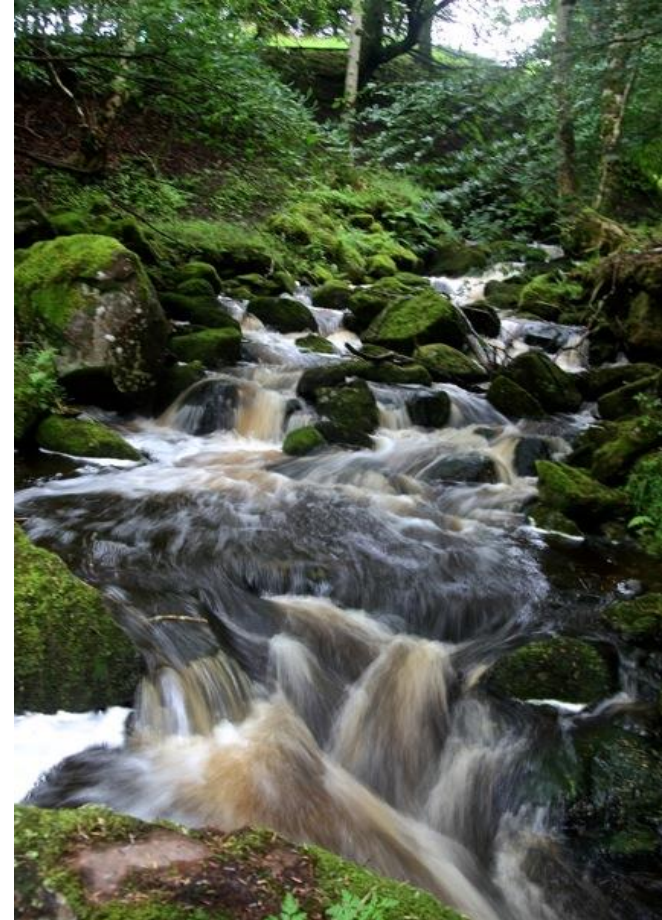


APPLECROSS COMMUNITY COMPANY
COMPANAIDH COIMHEARSNACHD NA **COMRAICH**

Alison Macleod

Local Development Officer

From Petrol to Apple Juice



Applecross

- Remote rural community (85 miles from Inverness)
- Population of 225 in scattered crofting townships along the coast of the peninsula
- Successful tourism, traditional employment in decline
- Around 50% holiday homes
- Over 40% of the population over 60, school roll 8, just 10 full-time residents in their 20s.
- 65,000 acres owned by the Applecross Trust
- ACC owns a filling station forecourt

Applecross Community Company

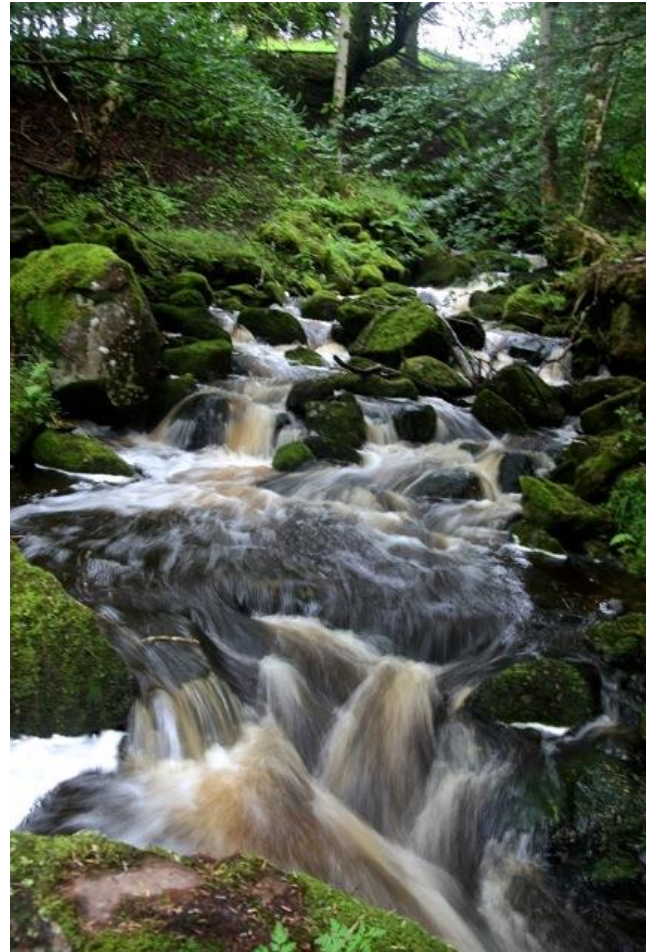
- Limited Company set up 2008
- Local membership based (118 members)
- Volunteer board, currently 7, all local
- Purpose to promote sustainable development
- Became registered charity 2010
- Trading subsidiary set up 2008, 6 on board
- No employees until 2010, now 1FT & 2PT

Filling Station



Renewables

- Income generator
- Public meeting; sub committee formed
- Biomass and/or hydro?
- Feasibility studies 2009
- Allt Breagach identified
- CCF 2010-11, first employee



Hydro Development 2011-12

- Visits/events/learning from others
- Local consultation/information
- Grid connection application
- Detailed feasibility/design
- Negotiation of lease terms
- Planning application
- Exploring finance options

Hydro Development 2013-15

- Grid connection offer, planning permission, heads of terms for lease all in place
- Registration for FiTs December 2013, allows two years to build
- But, early 2014 grid connection offer falls apart
- Exploration of potential use of energy locally results in private wires design and specification
- But, the clock is ticking.....

Community Shares Offer



- £803,700 total
- Raised in 38 days
- 282 investors
- Around 4% interest
- Tax relief through EIS & SEIS
- Support from Co-operative & Mutual Solutions, Community Shares Scotland & Calum MacLeod @ Harper MacLeod.

And at the same time.....construction.
Scheme commissioned 11th Dec 2015,
one day before deadline!



Other Projects: AppleNet & AEE



So that's the feel good story.....

- Lack of capacity
- Number of challenges
- No access to land
- Distant landowners
- Division in community
- Isolation
- Lack of understanding
- Reliance on volunteers
- No long term funding
- Land Action Scotland
- North Coast 500



Next steps.....

- Affordable Housing
- Community care
- Pier feasibility
- Ferry
- Local Energy Use
- Transport Project
- Broadband Upgrade

