



Beith Trust

Our Journey

2013 – 2026



Visit Our Website

www.beithtrust.org

www.geilsland.com

www.beithhive.co.uk





Beith Community Development Trust...

Beith Trust Purpose

To make Beith a better place to live, work and visit.

Our Core Values, they guide how we work together everyday:

We are active – we learn by doing

We are creative – there is always a way

We are resourceful – we make the most of what we have

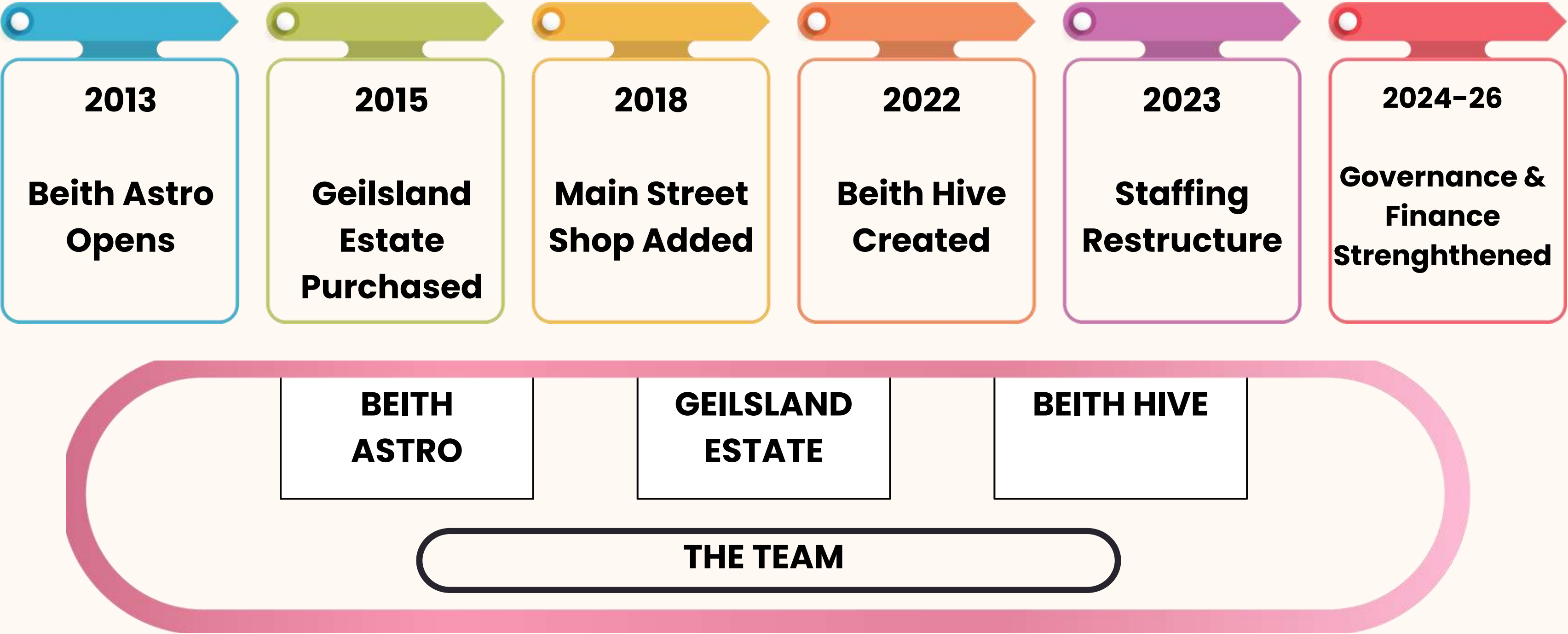
We love people – everyone has potential

In 2013 we started with one community facility - and grew into an organisation carrying assets, services, trading activity and responsibility, do we know it all today in 2026, absolutely not, our learning journey continues.....



Beith Community Development Trust

Our journey, built in stages



2013 – Where it all began



- **Our First Asset**

- **A Place people used**

- **Income Stream**

- Full size Astro Football Pitch
- Community Gardens
- Growing Space/groups
- Nature Play groups
- Forest School activities
- Weekly local football team training and matches
- Out of school activity camps





Geilsland Estate



Geilsland gave us opportunity – but it also gave us a much bigger organisational responsibility

- 15 acre estate is located in the heart of Ayrshire
- Owned by parent charity – Beith Trust
- Managed by Geilsland Enterprise – Social Enterprise

Spaces at Geilsland

- 8 Cottages for hire
- 2 residential lets
- Commercial Spaces
- Wedding & Event Spaces for hire
- Neighbouring onto 50 acre woodland
- Paths & Ground Maintenance



The Portfolio kept Growing



More Assets meant more routes to impact – and more need for structure.....



The structure had to grow too

BOARD
OVERSIGHT

WORKING
SUBGROUPS
WITH PURPOSE

EXTERNAL
ADVICE

TRADING
ARMS WHERE
NEEDED

The board and management team can't carry every detail.....

WHY WE SEPARATED SOME ACTIVITY?

The structure wasn't about adding bureaucracy.
It was about managing risk, compliance and clarity.

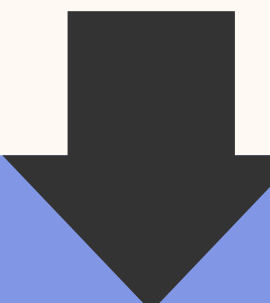
PARENT CHARITY



TRADING
ARMS

Beith Community Development Trust

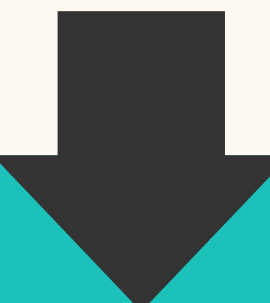
Our journey, built in stages, learning every step of the way....



FINANCE BECAME PART OF THE STORY

- New Systems
- Training for staff and board
- Management accounts
- Quarterly Reviews

GOOD FINANCIAL INFORMATION
GAVE US BETTER DECISIONS AND
MORE CONFIDENCE TO ACT.



THE HARD BITS

- Finding the right advice
- Projects taking longer
- complexity increases
- Challenging poor value

WE ARE A DEVELOPMENT
ORGANISATION, WE LEARN BY
DOING. DON'T APOLOGISE FOR IT!

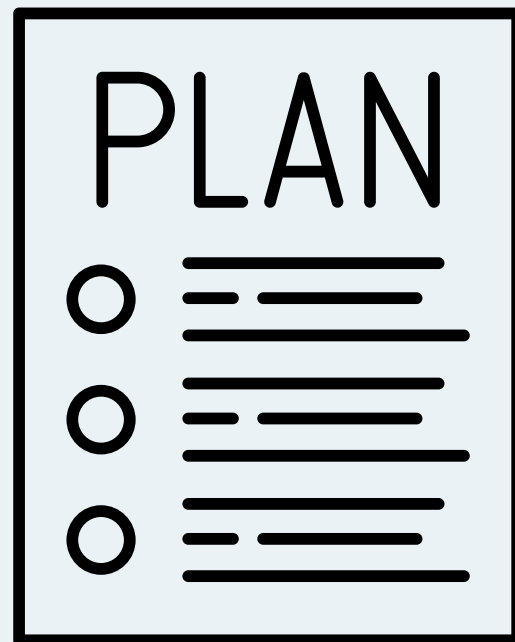


WHAT WE WOULD PASS ON

- Start with purpose
- Build the foundations
- Do the activity while you plan
- Review as reality changes

TELL THE STORY - WARTS AND ALL.

OUR WORKING RHYTHM



Feasibility + Business Plans + Advice

Engagement + pilots + activity



LEARNING: TEST THE IDEA WHILE YOU DEVELOP IT



How did we learn to say yes?

LEAD WITH
PURPOSE
YOUR WHY?

PEOPLE
AND
SKILLS

SOUND
INFRASTRUCTURE

OPPORTUNITY

The opportunity might be exciting – but the foundations underneath it have to be strong enough.

Still Becoming.....

The structure that works today, may not be the structure we need five years from now.

Capital Works



Staff Development Stronger Story Telling



Future Priorities

Capital Development

- Mansion House
- St Inan's
- Packing Sheds
- New Astro Pitch

- **Facility Maintenance & Sustainability**
- **System development**
- **Staff training**
- **Strategic Partnerships**
- **Member & Partner Structure**
- **Telling our story**



Any Questions?

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