

Charity Registration Number: **SC051608 (Scotland)**

Aultbea Hall [SCIO]

**Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements
for the period ended 31 December 2023**

Aultbea Hall [SCIO]

Contents	Page
Legal and administrative information	1
Trustees' Report	2-3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of financial activities	5

Aultbea Hall [SCIO]

Legal and Administrative Information

Trustees

Elected	Andrew Townsend (Chairperson) Fiona Mackenzie (Vice-chairperson) Pauline Butler (Secretary) Bruce Jeffrey (Treasurer) Jean Ross
Co-opted	Colin Bell Joyce Bell Mike Webber (resigned 10 October 2023)

Charity number (Scotland) SC051608

Registered office Aultbea Hall
c/o Laide Post Office
Laide
Achnasheen
IV21 2NB

Independent Examiner Michael Northeast
Fellow of the Association of Corporate Treasurers

Aultbea Hall [SCIO]

Trustees' Report for the period 1 January to 31 December 2023

Constitutional and administrative developments

Aultbea Community Centre and Football Field Trust, (usually known as Aultbea Hall Trust), and Aultbea Hall [SCIO] operated in tandem, with the same trustees, for more than a year whilst the necessary constitutional and land registry changes were completed. The financial assets were transferred from the Trust's bank accounts to the SCIO's accounts on 3 January 2023 and the titles of the two property assets of the Trust on the Land Registry, (ROS25831 & ROS25977) were transferred to Aultbea Hall [SCIO] on 16 January 2023. Following the resolution at the AGM held on 28 March, arrangements were finalised with OSCR for the dissolution of the Trust and confirmation was received that it had been removed from their register on 20 June 2023. As of 31 December 2023, there were 123 local residents who had signed up as members of Aultbea Hall [SCIO].

Aultbea Hall Revival! - the project

The project to repair and renovate the Hall was divided into two phases for practical and grant funding purposes. Phase I was planned to restore the two-storey block to community use. This included remedial work to the fabric, including ceilings, two kitchens and both gents and ladies toilets, some double-glazing, and all areas to be freshly painted. The old electrics were stripped out completely, with the new installation and the completely new fire security (alarms and fire doors) meeting all current specifications. The work completed, the "Crow's Nest", (so much more interesting a venue than "the upstairs room"!) has become a warm and welcoming space for group sessions, meetings (Wifi is available), and social get-togethers since the summer. As well as the excellent work by our contractors, (almost all from the local area), we acknowledge with gratitude the sterling efforts of many volunteers, including from Aultbea Men's Shed, who gave so generously of their time and expertise to ensure progress was maintained, even in the coldest of weathers.

Most of the grant funding for Phase I came from the Place-based Investment Programme (via Highland Council, who have always been most helpful). External improvements to signage and fencing were paid for by the North Highland Initiative and sufficient was raised from events, individual donations and from the boxes hosted by our shops and cafés to pay to do more than originally intended and to still have a useful financial reserve for Phase II.

A number of grant applications were made early in 2023 to finance strengthening of the roof supports of the main Hall, undertake other repairs internally, extend the electric and fire security systems and, for once and all, to resolve the longstanding drainage issues. Pledges were received from the Regeneration Community Fund (again through Highland Council and again, for a very high percentage of the estimated costs), the National Lottery Awards for All Scotland Community Fund, the Hugh Fraser Foundation and the Sylvia

Waddilove Foundation which meant that we secured all the external funding required by our funders. However, it took longer than we had expected to complete the necessary certification of the technical specification for the roof structures, so, although the substantial drainage improvements were completed in the autumn of 2023, we could not commission the steelwork. To our delight, building control permissions were granted early January 2024 so we are now looking forward to seeing contractors on site again.

Activities and achievements

Board meetings have been held on a monthly basis throughout 2023, with trustees attending in person or by Zoom, always focussed on our commitment to explore every opportunity to reopen Aultbea Hall for community use. Several other volunteers from the community have also regularly attended these meetings, giving invaluable assistance to the project, be it by planning and organising fundraising events and activities for *Aultbea Hall Revival!*, keeping our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/153352818475359> lively and active, or dealing with bookings for the Crow's Nest. Minutes are posted on the Aultbea Hall website and our Facebook page has been active throughout the year, keeping everyone well informed of what is going on inside and outside the Hall. Reports of our project developments and activities have also been published in the *Gairloch & District Times*.

The fund-raising (and fun) community activities organised in 2023 have been:

April onwards	Sales of the iconic project T-shirt, with its tributes to Hall music-making through the decades. These have been modelled on land and sea, be it in Japan, the Sahara, Morocco, Malta, Rhodes, the Caribbean, Columbia or the USA, just to mention a few of the destinations.
Saturday 6 May	Coronation Capers: fancy dress, BBQ, tea tent, licensed bar, games, cake competition, tombola, raffle & music.
Saturday 5 August	Summer Flotilla, tea tent & BBQ.
Friday 29 December	Festive Fun: food, games and raffle in the Crow's Nest, which had been decorated by Bualnaluib School.

Nothing we do in the name of Aultbea Hall would be possible without the encouragement, contributions and efforts (including an epic sponsored walk) of so many in the community, be they residents, visitors or businesses. We also very much appreciate the ongoing and significant sums deposited by anonymous supporters into the wee, green boxes on the counters of the village shops and cafés. Both Aultbea Hotel and the Perfume Studio have raised money on our behalf through focussed activities. Finally, the two stunning roundels, created by the pupils of Bualnaluib School and now in prominent place at either end of the building, signify to all that *Aultbea Hall Revival!* is achieving our ambitions.

Report to the trustees/members of

Registered charity number

On the accounts of the charity for the period

Set out on pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

Basis of independent examiner's statement

Independent examiner's statement

Signed:

Name:

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Address:

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

v2

Charity name

AULTBEA HALL [SCIO]

SC 051608

Period start date

Day

Month

Year

1

JANUARY

2023

to

Period end date

Day

Month

Year

31

DECEMBER

2023

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention ~~[other than that disclosed on the attached page*]~~

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date:

11/01/2024

MICHAEL WILLIAM NORTHEAST

FELLOW OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CORPORATE TREASURERS

13, FASAICH

GAIRDOCH

ROSS-SHIRE

IV21 2DH.

Income and Expenditure 1 Jan-31 Dec 2023

Total	29,265.30	65,472.58
-------	-----------	-----------

	2023	2022
Opening bank balance	16,299.56	1,904.00
Income to 31.12.23	29,265.30	65,472.58
Expenditure to 31.12.23	25,212.73	51,077.02
Bank balance 31.12.23	20,352.13	16,299.56

11/01/2024