

## **Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.**

The trustees of Finnard Rural Development Association are pleased to submit their report and accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### ***Achievements and Performance***

#### **Meeting Programme**

There were four meetings with an average attendance of eight.

#### **Activities Throughout the Year**

As in previous years the main activity has been Highland Dancing classes which are held on a regular weekly basis.

Post CoVid-19 guidance in respect of social interactions involving group settings is followed and monitored by the committee.

The classes have been well attended and have had competition success under the excellent tuition of Kathryn Stewart.

#### **Membership**

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 there were 13 members of the association.

#### **Accommodation**

The association continues to use the facilities of Finnard Orange Hall and is grateful to the lodge for their continued support.

## ***Financial Review***

### **Financial Performance**

Financial performance has continued to be strong with a closing balance of £1,799.

### **Income**

Income receipts for the year totalled £4,449. The association's income is generally healthy and remains consistent with previous performance.

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure for the year totalled £3,542 and was mainly in respect of dance tutor fees and insurance,

### **Financial Management**

The Association continues to use the services of a Chartered Accountancy practice to ensure that the requirements of The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 are being met.

The Association continues to maintain a small reserve of funds to better allow it to meet the funding challenges which the wider economic situation may impose. Securing external funding is becoming more difficult and the Association continues to review its own funding opportunities to maintain its ability to provide for the needs of the local community.

### **Accounts for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

( Please refer to the attached accounts ).

## **Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Charity Name**

Finnard Rural Development Association

### **Charity Number**

Registered in Northern Ireland, NIC103492

### **Principal Address**

47 Old Newry Road, Rathfriland,

Newry,

Co. Down

BT34 5BQ

### **Charity Trustees in the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

<i>MR WILLIAM MITCHELL</i>	<i>Chairman</i>
<i>MR WILLIAM NIBLOCK</i>	<i>Vice-Chairman</i>
<i>MR KEITH HAMILTON</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>MRS DIANE GRAHAM</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>MRS LOUIE CAMPBELL</i>	<i>Child Protection Officer</i>
<i>MRS ANDREA BARR</i>	<i>Publicity Officer / Catering</i>
<i>MRS ALLISON NIBLOCK</i>	<i>Catering</i>
<i>MRS ELEANOR HENNING</i>	<i>Catering</i>
<i>MRS SHARON MAGOWAN</i>	
<i>MR JOHN MAGOWAN</i>	
<i>MR RODNEY HAMILTON</i>	
<i>MRS AUDREY HENNING</i>	
<i>MRS SALLY ANN MAGOWAN</i>	

## **Advisors**

Banking                    Danske Bank, 37-39 Bridge Street, Banbridge, BT32 3JL

Accountancy            S. M. Vint & Company, 8 Newry Road, Banbridge, BT32

## ***Structure, Governance and Management***

### **Governing Document and Management**

The Association is governed by a constitution adopted on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2007 and last amended on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

The Association is run entirely by its committee members (trustees) and as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 there were 13 members.

### **Trustee Selection and Management**

The Association is managed by a Committee which consists of all the appointed Trustees. A number of trustees also hold offices within the association as noted in the list of current trustees above. The committee typically meets four times per year.

At each meeting the minutes are read out, the Treasurer reports on the latest accounts, correspondence is reviewed and the committee discuss plans for any future special events or projects.

The Annual Report and Statement of Accounts are presented at the Annual General Meeting and approved by the Trustees / Committee Members.

## ***Objectives and Activities***

### **Charitable Objectives**

The object of the Association, as set out in our Constitution, is to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Finnard area and its environment and to advance knowledge and appreciation of the Ulster Scots music, language and culture and to encourage understanding and acceptance of all cultures in the area of benefit.

### **Public Benefit Statement**

The Trustees of Finnard Rural Development Association confirm that they have complied with their duty with regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidelines on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the association in the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

In evaluating public benefit the trustees note that membership of the association is open to all persons from the community.

### **Summary of Main Activities**

The core activities of the Association are

- Promote knowledge and appreciation of the Ulster Scots culture
- Encouraging understanding and acceptance of all cultures in the area
- Provide opportunity for the community to come together by planning events and activities that are open to all.

Our philosophy is to offer to all, opportunities for community integration and cooperation regardless of personal circumstances, race, gender, ability or faith.

Approved and adopted at a meeting of the Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 and signed on their behalf.



Keith Hamilton

Secretary