



# BRIDGE OF ORCHY VILLAGE HALL

Carraig Gheal Wind Farm  
Community Benefit Fund Case Study

Carraig Gheal Wind Farm is jointly owned by GreenPower, a Scottish renewable energy company and Railpen, the railways pension fund.

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## What difference is the fund making to local communities?

Since the inception of the Carraig Gheal Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund in October 2013, a total of £449,650 has been paid into the fund by the wind farm.

“£449,650 has been paid into the fund”

The Community Benefit Fund is divided between two funding schemes:

**Micro-grant:** with grants of up to £500. There have been 84 approved micro-grant applications totalling over £25,700.

**Main grant:** with grants of up to £10,000 available. To date, 69 main grants have been approved by the Steering Group totalling over £350,900.

A summary of the main and micro grants awarded can be found on the website [carraighealwindfarm.co.uk](http://carraighealwindfarm.co.uk). The grants have helped a wide range of projects to go forward. The following information goes into further detail about one of these projects, Bridge of Orchy Village Hall.

# BRIDGE OF ORCHY VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall at Bridge of Orchy serves the rural population of the Glen Orchy and Innisheal Community Council area as well as being located on the busy A82 and adjacent to the popular West Highland Way. By 2015 the Hall had deteriorated to the point where it was virtually unusable (as seen below).

“ A total of £200,000 has been raised for the hall, kickstarted by the Community Benefit Fund. ”

The Hall is now a key community hub, promoting education, recreation and centralising services. At a time when rural isolation is increasing and the demographic slide is towards urban living and away from the countryside, the rejuvenation of the hall has brought the community together in a common cause and now provides a community hub for everyone to use.

It provides a meeting space and drop in centre for locals and visitors alike. The hall also plays an important role in the Bridge of Orchy Community Resilience Plan providing a place of shelter in the event of an emergency.



Before renovations began in 2015

Four main grants have been awarded to the Village Hall between 2016 and 2018, which provided match funding to enable a series of large refurbishment projects to take place. These have enabled a near total renovation of the hall, replacing windows, fitting new flooring, a new kitchen and toilets and installing a new heating system. A total of £200,000 has been raised for the hall, kickstarted by their first grant from the Community Benefit Fund.



New kitchen equipment



Improved access



Renovated floor



After

Further information can be found at:  
[www.bridgeforchryhall.co.uk](http://www.bridgeforchryhall.co.uk)

