



Local Orkney Press Release – 2nd April 2010

As part of the Community Powerdown consortium which includes 26 community groups in Scotland and 5 in Orkney, Energy Action Westray is delighted with the latest announcement that their application for funding a community garden through the Climate Challenge Fund has been awarded.

Following an event on the island last March, also funded by the CCF, one thing which came out strongly was the desire for a more formalised way to encouraging people to produce food locally and reduce food miles.

EAW have been working with the Westray Heritage Trust, who currently own South Hammer, an old croft house in the Westside of the island, to establish a community garden area in the extensive yard at the back. The funding will enable the establishment of two large poly tunnels, a shed, tools etc and also a project manager for the first year to take the project forward and set up the structure for the future running of the garden and local food growers group.

Sam Marcus, who works 2 days a week for Powerdown in Westray said “We are obviously very pleased that our application has been successful”. “It will let us begin to establish a means to encourage and support people to grow more food locally, by demonstrating to each other what can and cannot be done, encouraging growers to work together and also share things from plants and cutting to surplus produce, extending the growing season through the use of polytunnels and generally reducing reliance on imported produce which will also reduce carbon emissions”. “Although the area will be a space where we will encourage people to meet regularly, we intend to use the facility to encourage and support the community to grow more in their own garden rather than drive miles to collect their cabbage”

Anyone wanting to be involved in joining the growers group and using the Community Garden space, please contact Sam Marcus on 07703795812 or sam@care4energy.co.uk

The overgrown garden at the back of South Hammer



Scottish Government Press Release - Seventh Round Climate Challenge Fund

Local Food Westray - £15,650.00

Energy Action Westray intend to demonstrate how small scale production of food can be encouraged locally through facilitation and group activity.

Promoting and demonstrating such activity which is replicable in many similar areas will significantly reduce waste, food miles and greenhouse gasses, leading to a healthy sustainable community.