

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 271st Board Meeting
Via Zoom - Monday 14th September 2020

Meeting started at 7.30 pm

By Zoom: Sandy Brunton (SB), Rob MacManaway (RM) Sue Hawkes (SH), Barry Whenman (BW), Derek Crook (DC), Hayley Gray (HG), Joe Reade (JR), Heather Waller (HW).

Apologies: Apologies from Ian Jones (IJ)

In Attendance: Moray Finch (MF), Mairi Greig (MG)

Notes from directors not present: Notification received from IJ to advise he had read all the board papers.

1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

Apologies noted.

Agreed that we need to formally accept and note the Garfield Weston Grant, MG explained an application which Sian and Cally were working on and submitted 6 weeks ago towards core costs of our organisation. Received an email on 4th Sept, advising that our application had been successful. SB asked for this to be formally approved; RM approved and DC seconded.

Further good news, after MF met with a local landowner regarding MICT project developments, we have been advised that they through their charitable trust would like to support tree planting costs at Ardura.

AOBs –
Childcare
Kayaking club.

2. Approve Minutes – Monday 10th August 2020

Correction made, item 7 from reviews actions should have been RM, not JR.

Wording amended in 8.2.

8.5. wording amended.

Wording corrected in 9.1.

JR proposed and BW seconded.

• **Review actions from previous minutes**

Item 1 – MF confirmed a response has been received stating that this was being passed on to the new Executive Director, Kirsty Flanagan which MF will chase up.

Item 3 – Draft Risk Register on Agenda

Item 4 – MF has spoken to Contractor; Helen has prepared the Report from the survey which not surprisingly confirms there is significant demand for housing. What is surprising is its less so for 3 bed houses and more so for 2 and 1 bed houses, therefore now looking to amend the planned development.

Item 5 – MG confirmed an HR meeting scheduled for 6th October.

Item 7 – there is now a government initiative for training and DTAS is looking at combining a number of organisations for places to allow this to happen, and MICT has asked to be part of this scheme if it goes ahead. MF in discussions to arrange a Google Meet meeting on Thursday with Tobermory High, Oban High, Skills Development Scotland, Argyll College & University Highlands and Islands and Celia Compton from SWIMD. IJ will also be at this meeting. SH also agreed to be included.

Item 8 – JR confirmed letters had been sent out. JR explained the current situation with Calmac and would welcome some future support from MICT regarding the issue of Winter timetables. SB asked if everyone agreed to support the Ferry Committee which was unanimous.

• **Sign previous minutes (SB)**

3. Declarations of Interest and Register of Related Parties

SB reminded all if there are any changes to e-mail back to the office regarding Trustees' interest relating to the work of MICT.

4. Finance

Actions from Board Meeting

1. Keyworker accommodation – MF to chase up.
2. Arrange meeting to discuss feasibility for care home (MF) C/F
3. Draft Risk Register – see 8.3
4. HR meeting – 6th October arranged.
5. Fundraising Officer – MF and MG to prepare to prepare paper.
6. Childcare – meeting to arranged.
7. NP – MG to arrange water testing
8. Kayaking Club – MF to convene a discussion.

4.1 Finance Report

MG confirmed PV has covered everything in the report and highlighted any changes in the cashflow. MF also confirmed we are not aware of any adverse deviations and are actually noting improvements to the financial situation. Some changes to the details particularly in projects. There was a short discussion about having a separate report for just unrestricted funds which does not include restricted funds as this leads to a skewed overall picture of the finances.

4.2 Membership Numbers

Two new members noted. Donations list shared on screen showing several donations received as a result of the video prepared by BW. MG also confirmed an additional couple of donations received via Paypal Giving Fund, held by Paypal Giving before released to MICT on a monthly basis.

4.3 Finance Standing Committee

Revised date for Audit Closeout meeting of 20th October. Thanks noted to PV, MG and MF for working hard on audit preparation. SB asked that if this is delayed further, should the AGM be considered at a later time. Arrangements for AGM to go on next Agenda.

5 HR and Policies

5.1 Staff Reviews – Update

Nothing to add from the Report. Will speak with MF about which Reviews to be prioritised next.

5.2 Approval of Policies

No updates this month.

6 Strategy

6.1 Strategy Standing Committee

HG confirmed time was spent reviewing the strategy with MF explaining what he sees as MICT's purpose. She has shared a structure from another group, quite a simple structure with clear statements about what it is and trying to do practically. SB explained there was an online event happening over a week with islanders all over the world with talks, seminars etc. Over the period there were around 10,000 people involved. One discussion regarding data with a development organisation (off the east coast of America) was a data set generated has a huge impact on where they are trying to influence and to raise the profile etc. MICT may previously have had a strong amount of data, but now really difficult to get hold of this data. If MICT were able to get hold of this specifically for Mull and Iona to have data to back up cases we're trying to make.

7 Special Items

7.1 Resilience Committee

This is where Sian and Cally were applying for different grants, and as mentioned have been quite successful. Thanks to Sian and Cally for this success. MF and MG will prepare a paper for the October board meeting to create a new fund raising officer post.

8 Special Items

8.1 Recurring Actions List

Ulva Ferry houses septic tank has been emptied.

The loan repayments to the Quaker Housing Trust have been made.

Item 17 – Crown Estate Lease for Ulva Ferry Pontoon. Bidwells the agents for Crown Estate agreed that amount would be reduced this year due to Covid.

8.2 General Managers Report

IJ has passed on his gratitude via email prior to the meeting having been through the minutes and papers regarding Pennyghael School House, and SB re-iterated this, the work done to put together the proposal in such a short time and in current situation.

On Item 10, MF confirmed that working with Community Council, SWIMDT, NWMCW and Marketing Mull & Iona made a representation to the area committee meeting last week to Argyll & Bute Council to persuade the full council to open three public toilets, which are currently closed. Unlikely to achieve anything for the rest of this season.

MF provided an update on the Local Resilience Fund, which has some underspend.

8.3 Draft Risk Register

RM apologised but has not had time to look at this further this month. A updated risk register was provided to Wylie and Bisset as part of our audit process. This now requires other on the board to look at these papers. HG confirmed she has also worked in this area in the past and thinks this would be best dealt with a conversation with everyone rather than document led, and shared with staff having input into at what point would a project risk need to be escalated to a board level risk for consideration.

8.4 Approval of SLF Stage 2 Application, Pennyghael Schoolhouse

RM approved and JR seconded.

8.5 Telecom's Proposal

Preferred option of Telecom Networks. BW endorses this recommendation. JR also agrees this recommendation and far better than BT. SB wondered about future proofing given speed of change. There was a short discussion about the possibility of upgrading or downgrading should this be required in a couple of years time.

RM proposed and JR seconded.

9 Steering Group Reports

9.1 Ardura

Work ongoing with regard to scraping the old road, reinstate culverts where they have blocked or washed away, and reinstating the ditches along side the road. HW confirmed after a slow start, things are now happening but will not be able to put nesting boxes in at the moment, but people are becoming more aware of what's happening. Local headteacher has also been getting advice on what is currently possible in the woods. SB wondered whether it was worth doing something for Round & About with photos and MF will get on with this. MF provided an update re path section on neighbouring land, confirming that a Licence allowing the work to be carried out has been prepared.

9.2. Childcare project

Unfortunately our recent application to pursue out of school care options was unsuccessful. HG raised that a number of parents had commented on a facebook group regarding the lack of childcare for 0-3 years, pre school and out of school care and that this still needs to be a priority for MICT, not necessarily through direct service delivery. Full roll out of 1140 hours in all the island pre schools should help to address this age group, but childcare solutions are still needed for other age groups.

MF agreed there are other things we could be doing to help. SH thought the wrap-around care is the most achievable, before and after school. But the 0-3 years is a much bigger issue to do in one place and will only work if we persuade more people to become registered childminders. HG, HW, SH and MF to arrange meeting to discuss options further.

HW also thinks that a solution could link to the care home strategy as well.

9.3. Nonhebel Park, Tobermory (MG)

Report shows positive interest with two applications in for the final business unit. Environmental Health has been in touch needing some further tests to give a full analysis of the water supply, but can be used for drinking or used in food production provided it is boiled first. Tenants have been e-mailed. MG will arrange final samples and analysis.

9.4. MESS (HC)

Report by Hazel Cowe with the shop open. DC and JR are both now on this committee.

9.5. Ulva Ferry Housing (HMCD)

Report by Helen.

9.6. Ulva Ferry pontoon and shore facilities (CF)

Report by Cally with reduced scale building project.

9.7. Ulva Ferry Community Transport (MF/JM)

9.8. Ranger Service & Eagle Partnership (JD & EW)

A lot of work being done by Jan and Emily.

9.9. Key Workers Accommodation (BW/EF)

9.10. Friends of Calgary Bay (MF/JD)

9.11. 1000 Voices project (MF)

9.12. Lochdon Pavement (MF)

IJ via email prior to the meeting, would be keen this is adopted as soon as possible by the Council.

9.13. Mull & Iona Community Councils (SH & RMcM)

SH confirmed that within Mull Community Council there are elections coming up with 4/5 people coming off; from MICT's point of view SB would welcome SH's attendance as either a co-opted until AGM or as an elected at AGM member.

10 Discussion items

11 Any Other Business

Regarding the Kayak letter; they are asking for MICT to be the organisation to form a Kayaking club. A short discussion followed and SB thought it was a great idea but responsibility needs to be within the organisation itself. MF happy to convene a discussion with them. HG also had a concern that this could take up more of MF's time.

12 Members Forum

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

The next scheduled board meeting will be held on Monday 5th October 2020 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed

Name **Sandy Brunton**

Date
