

**Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 277th Board Meeting
Via Zoom - Monday 12th April 2021**

Meeting started at 7.30 pm

By Zoom: Sandy Brunton (SB), Rob MacManaway (RM), Sue Hawkes (SH), Ian Jones (IJ), Barry Whenman (BW), Derek Crook (DCr), Joe Reade (JR), Jane Griffith (JG), Gary Wiltshire (GW), John Innes (JI), David James Currie (DJC).

Apologies: Heather Waller (HW) and John Maughan (JM) who may attend later.

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

1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

MF reported on the good news that Joe and Chloe McFadden are expecting their second child and congratulations were offered by all present.

2. Approve Minutes – Monday 8th March 2021

SB confirmed minutes were more concise, it was agreed to amend the wording within item 7.6 slightly.

Pending the amended wording, RM proposed the minutes and seconded by JI.

2.1 Review actions from previous minutes

MF confirmed Care Home survey has been drafted by Annie Hall but has not had a chance to look at this yet.

MG has issued the full cost recovery spreadsheet. Thanks to those involved in preparing this.

Due Diligence Policy has been drafted and circulated, so work in progress.

Finance – JI has confirmed that the 130% is only eligible to companies that pay Corporation Tax. JI suggested we should ask DTAS and/or W&B to check this. MF confirmed we could ask them if there are any exclusions that we may be eligible for.

Hustings event has been arranged for 15th April.

2.2 Matters Arising from previous minutes

No matters arising.

3. Declarations of Interest and Register of Related Parties

SB asked for any changes to be sent to MF. A brief discussion followed re whether or not political party membership should be included, and it was concluded that unless a director was an employee of a political party or had some other influence, this was a personal interest only and not therefore relevant.

4. Finance

4.1 Standing Committee Report

PV confirmed that the financial situation has improved substantially since this time last year. SB asked that we continue to acknowledge that this is largely due to the government support funding which was agreed by all. GW has forwarded some information to PV with a number of notifications about the treatment of government support funding with quite complicated arrangements to deal with and how you disclose this. He included a list of contacts where you can get briefing papers etc. PV confirmed she is working on the accounts up to end of March, and this will include looking at all the grants and ensuring that these are recorded in line with government guidelines. Finance Committee will now only meet quarterly prior to issuing of quarterly financial report.

4.2 Membership Numbers and Donations

No new members but a Facebook fundraiser donation received. There will be another Facebook fundraiser but this is still running so no details yet.

DCr asked if there any way that we could increase our overseas membership? Agreed it would be better to initially focus on getting as many residents of Mull and Iona to become members. GW and Sian have been discussing building up the relationship and number of members (residents and associate members). JG -promote MICT membership at the Hustings as well - agreed. DCr requires membership forms for the MESS shop in Bunessan for the volunteers – MF to email.

5. HR and Policies

5.1 Staff Reviews – Update

MG confirmed update in report. Working through appraisals with dates being arranged for staff members.

Actions from Board Meeting

1. MF to look over Care Home survey drafted by Annie Hall.
2. MF to contact W&B re possible exclusions re 130% super write off.
3. MF to forward copy of membership form to DCr for the Bunessan shop volunteers.
4. MF to arrange pre hustings zoom
5. JI, GW, DCr and MF to look at draft Donations Policy wording.
6. Pennyghael School House – MF to share quotation of works to steering group.

5.2 Approval of revised MICT application pack

Already approved by the HR group. It was agreed for this to be e-mailed to the board with changes noted, response required by Wed 14th April.

5.3 Approval of Policies

No Policies to approve.

6. Strategy

6.1 Strategy Standing Committee

GW confirmed that a separate strategic priority for environmental projects has been integrated into a newer version of the document. Next is to include the Risk Register items. He has started a draft of a suggested structure for a more public view of the document. It was agreed a final draft to be prepared by 22nd April when Committee next meets.

7.0 Special Items

7.1 Recurring Actions List

No outstanding items apart from an action in March to check the spare chains at the Pontoon; these have now been brought across to Nonhebel Park.

7.2 General Manager's Report

JJ thought the proposal for the solar panels and back-up electricity supply at Ulva Ferry, as part of the Adapt and Thrive application sounds very interesting.

Re item 8 on GM report - JJ requests that it needs very careful consideration.

SH confirmed the Bunessan toilets have now been refurbished and painted. She went on to also point out regarding the water supply to any MICT property as landlord, that some mitigation is in place in case of drought or frozen supply in Pennyghael Schoolhouse as well as Ulva Ferry.

Item 7 – issue re small parking area adjacent to St Ernan's Church, which has been left post path construction. Request from factor to remove although it was requested by the local steering group.

MF asked if anyone would like to help in monitoring the Facebook chat on the Hustings night. He suggested they meet up for about 30 minutes in the afternoon first. JJ, BW, JM and DJC and SB volunteered. MF to arrange zoom call

Deputy General Manager's Report

Nothing to highlight. MG clarified that the tills in the shops are currently operating to Windows XP and cannot be updated to Windows 10. She is talking to other companies for comparison quotes for replacement tills.

7.3 Fund Raising Officer's Report

It was agreed by all that this was a good Report by Sian. No further comments.

7.4 Proposal to change of MICT's legal status to a Community benefit company

GW pointed out that with the increasing size of MICT we have to be mindful of a greater number of sources of aid are now no longer accessible due size of turnover. Further discussion followed resulting in MF suggesting a recommendation from the sub-group to the board, set the ball rolling to make this change or at least the process on how this should proceed. JJ asked whether there would be any financial or legal changes in responsibility to those who serve on the board and would this lead to a change of title. MF confirmed this would not be the case. All agreed this should continue to proceed.

7.5 Proposal to register as a good cause on Argyll Community Lottery

No questions raised. All agreed that we should register.

7.6 Dervaig Housing – Confidential Update

No questions raised.

7.7 Due Diligence for Donations Policy

Further work to be done on a draft Donations Policy looking at how we can show due diligence regarding more significant donations. The phraseology of the policy needs to be looked at further, together with the limits which are believed to be too low. JJ, GW, DCr and MF to take it to next draft ready to discuss at the next board meeting.

7.8 Approval of application to Supporting Communities Fund

No questions raised. JJ proposed and RM seconded.

8.0 Steering Group Reports submitted in advance, discussed as noted below;

8.1 Ardura

No questions raised.

8.2 Childcare project

MG confirmed there has been a few applications for the vacancy.

8.3 Nonhebel Park, Tobermory (MG)

MG confirmed she is waiting for a price to come back for an alternative means of power to the compound.

8.4 MESS (HC)

DCr has confirmed that a complete re-modelling of the Bunessan shop has taken place with a lot of work having been done by volunteers, resulting in about 1000 hours of community volunteer work so far. Main two spaces have been re-painted from floor to ceiling, old fittings

replaced with new modern fittings. Staff comfort zone for coffees has been refurbished. UPVC doors and windows in place of the old stable doors. Book shop has been remodelled. Aiming to open first week in May.

8.5 Pennyghael School House

SB confirmed that Pennyghael School House has now been transferred to the ownership of MICT. MF also confirmed he has received a quotation for refurbishment works; he will share this through the steering group once he has had a look through.

8.6 Ulva Ferry Housing (HMCD)

A number of directors enjoyed watching the lifting in of the last section of the last house. Very good comments from neighbours about the friendly attitude of the staff working on site.

8.7 Ulva Ferry pontoon and shore facilities (CF)

Cally still working on the shore facilities building.

8.8 Ulva Ferry Community Transport (MF/JM)

No questions raised.

8.9 Ranger Service & Eagle Partnership (JD & EW)

Jl asked if there still a financial gap to keep the Ranger Service going and any news about the video? MG confirmed an initial meeting about the video on Thursday 15th April. MF confirmed there is enough for 12 months ahead with opportunities to pursue other funds but with no guarantee.

8.10 Key Workers Accommodation (BW/EF)

Nothing to report.

8.11 Friends of Calgary Bay (MF/JD)

Well done to volunteers for refurbishing these. Still further external paintwork to be done.

8.12 Mull Community Council

Report sent to MF. There was a discussion about MICT's attendance at Community Council meetings with appreciation of this by MCC and being of mutual benefit to both MICT and MCC.

RM confirmed the Iona Community Hall is virtually finished. The Abbey plans to open for accommodation at the end of May.

9.0 Discussion items

10.0 Any Other Business

No other business.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

The next scheduled board meeting will be on Monday 10th May 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed

Name **Sandy Brunton**

Date
