

**Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 278th Board Meeting
Via Zoom - Monday 10th May 2021**

Meeting started at 7.30 pm

By Zoom: Sandy Brunton (SB), Rob MacManaway (RM), Sue Hawkes (SH), Barry Whenman (BW), Jane Griffiths (JG), Gary Wiltshire (GW), John Innes (JI), Heather Waller (HW), David James Currie (DJC).

Apologies: Ian Jones (IJ), John Maughan (JM)

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

1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

SB welcomed everyone and noted Joe Reade's resignation due to work commitments and thanked him for his hard work.

2. Approve Minutes – Monday 12th April 2021

SB confirmed minutes – JI asked if there could be a little more detail given in some of the points raised. After discussion, it was agreed that for the purposes of shared minutes, enough information was provided. No further comments or changes. JI proposed and BW seconded.

2.1 Review actions from previous minutes

MF has shared quote from a main contractor for Pennyghael School House. It was agreed to seek alternative quotes to make use of island based contractors.

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.

4. Finance

4.1 Standing Committee Report

Cashflow and finance summary issues in advance of meeting – no further questions. MF confirmed waiting for start date from the accountants for this year's audit and will invite the Finance Committee to that meeting. He went on to point out that a year ago we were uncertain and nervous about where we would be in May 2021 and acknowledged the efforts of the whole team in getting to the current healthy position. There was a brief discussion about when would be the right time to discuss longer term financial and investment strategy, debt management, mortgages etc. MF proposes a specific Finance Committee meeting to discuss these items. Meeting arranged for 28th May.

4.2 Membership Numbers and Donations

Three new members with a couple of donations to Calgary toilets.

5. HR and Policies

5.1 Staff Reviews – Update

MG confirmed update in report.

5.2 Approval of staff holiday and TOIL carry forward figures

MG proposed that any staff with TOIL can have this carried forward to July 2021, as was allowed in 2020. GW proposed and seconded by HW. Holidays can also be carried over to March 2022.

A secondary point was raised regarding how much staff time can be taken up when involved with external campaigning. This is usually assessed on a case by case basis, taking into account if there is a statutory organisation that is better placed to carry out this work or needs support. Agreed to add this to next months agenda to allow for further consideration and discussion.

6. Strategy

6.1 Strategy Standing Committee

GW confirmed following a meeting at end of April, significant alterations have been made to the source document which has gone out to staff for comment.

7.0 Special Items

7.1 Recurring Actions List

No outstanding items. MF has added a new recurring action to be completed by 17th March 2026 to report to Scottish Forestry on the felling and re-stocking at Ardura.

Actions from Board Meeting

1. MF to look over Care Home survey drafted by Annie Hall. C/F
2. MF to contact W&B re possible exclusions re 130% super write off. C/F
3. Pennyghael School House – MF to seek alternative quotes.
4. Investment strategy discussion – Finance Committee meeting on 28th May.
5. SB asked for MICT's role as a campaigning organisation to be added to June agenda.
6. MF to send Summer Newsletter to all 8 constituent MSPs with invitation to Mull.

7.2 General Manager's Report

No questions raised on MF's Report. MF explained the current situation re the car park at Ulva Ferry. GW confirmed he together with Sian Scott have found another source of funding which may be suitable for maintenance work at An Roth plus work on Pennyghael Schoolhouse.

Deputy General Manager's Report

Nothing to highlight other than Nonhebel Park is likely to have 100% occupancy by June.

7.3 Fund Raising Officer's Report

No questions raised.

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

No questions raised.

7.5 Due Diligence for Donations Policy

A draft has been prepared, and is a work in progress.

7.6 Board Director for MESS Steering Group and HR & Policies Standing Committee

MG explained the need for another Director on this group. JI agreed to join the MESS Steering group.

Likely to lose a director from the HR and Policies Standing Committee. SH not able to join without stepping down from an existing steering group.

MF suggested we actively seek out more people to join MICT as Directors, to help reduce the commitments of our existing directors. Wider appeal may be required after some direct approaches.

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

8.1 Ardura

No questions raised. MF confirmed a contractor may be on site very soon to start building the roadway. A contract is also about to be awarded for re-fencing.

8.2 Childcare project

No questions raised.

8.3 Nonhebel Park, Tobermory (MG)

No questions raised.

8.4 MESS (HC)

Castaways now open including the incredible new look shop at Bunessan.

8.5 Pennyghael School House

No questions raised.

8.6 Ulva Ferry Housing (HMCD)

No questions raised.

8.7 Ulva Ferry pontoon and shore facilities (CF)

No questions raised.

8.8 Ulva Ferry Community Transport (MF/JM)

Starting to collect passengers with donations coming in.

8.9 Ranger Service & Eagle Partnership (JD & EW)

No questions raised.

8.10 Key Workers Accommodation (BW/EF)

Nothing to report.

8.11 Friends of Calgary Bay (MF/JD)

Busy at the toilets with further donations received.

8.12 Mull Community Council

RM confirmed they have been writing to the election candidates asking them to support the petition regarding the free parking at lifeline ferry ports, with a good response received. There followed a brief discussion about changes of ministers following the election and the implications of this regarding Mull & Iona issues. There should be a new Islands Minister which may assist with the ferry situation.

9.0 Discussion items

No other items for discussion.

10.0 Any Other Business

No other business.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

The next scheduled board meeting will be on Monday 14th June 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

Signed

Name Sandy Brunton

Date
