

Mull and Iona Community Trust
Minutes for the 296th Board Meeting
Remotely Via Zoom - Monday 12th December 2022

Meeting started at 7.30 pm

Present (By Zoom): Barry Whenman (BW), Steve Blazye (StB), Rob McManaway (RM), Jane Griffiths (JG), Derek Crook (DCr), Robbie Cameron (RC), John Maughan (JM), John Innes (JI), Dave Currie (DJC), Mark Strevens (MS), and Sandy Brunton (SB)

In Attendance: Moray Finch (MF), Mairi Greig (MG), and Phil Rogers (PR), Donella Fernyhough (DF)

Apologies: Heather Waller (HW) and Sue Hawkes (SH)

1. Welcome, Apologies and AOB

SB welcomed.

All Board members introduced themselves to the new Trustees.

AOB: JI has questions re: Pennyghael Schoolhouse

MF would like to discuss format and date for January Board meeting

1.1 Appointment of Office Bearers

MF chaired this section of the meeting.

SB willing to continue on as Convenor for another year. Notes that succession planning should be a priority. No other nominations. RC nominated; BW seconded. All in favour. SB will continue as Convenor.

BW nominated HW to continue as Vice Chair; JM seconded. All in favour.

MF thinks that there needs to be second Vice Chair. SB nominated Jane Griffiths as second Vice Chair; RC seconded. All in favour.

RM nominated by JM for Treasurer; DCr seconded. All in favour.

BW nominated by JI for Company Secretary; StB seconded. All in favour.

SB continued as chair of the meeting.

DF co-opted as Board member. BW proposed; JM seconded.

Approve Minutes

2.1. Approval of minutes from interim board meeting – Thursday 10 November 2022

One typo noticed and corrected.

JI proposed; JG seconded.

2.2 Approval of previous minutes - Monday 10 October 2022

RM proposed; JG seconded.

2.3. Review actions and matters arising from previous minutes

Item 1; Gantry site and polytunnel discussion - Ongoing.

Item 2; Shared equity discussion with Housing steering group - Completed.

Item 3; Ranger steering group re otter sites - Completed.

Item 4; Director Code of Practise, posted out - Completed

Item 5; Director code of Practise returned - MG will check.

Item 6; MESS Volunteers Code of Practise - CF; ongoing, MG to check with MESS Manager.

Item 7; MESS Bunesan Volunteers Code of Practise - CF; ongoing.

Item 8; Protection of shared documents – Matrix have advise they can not be edited on server - Completed.

Item 9; How many months reserves - Completed.

Item 10; Notes from facilities meeting on 27th Sept circulated - Completed.

Item 11; Regular up on GM report re NWMCWC - Completed.

Item 12; MG, options re new Living Wage announcement – Completed.

Item 13; Chimney swept at Pennyghael SH - Completed.

3. Declarations of Interest and Register of Related Parties

SB reminded everyone that declarations of interest are attached to the agenda and if anyone has any change in circumstance to please let MF know; with loans being repaid this may be the case for some Board Members. MF asked new directors to speak directly with him with their interests to ensure protection in cases of possible conflict of interest.

4. Finance

4.1 Standing Committee Report (SB, RM, JI, MF, PR, MG)

No report this month.

Question re: secondary/subsidiary trading company doesn't seem to exist. Has this been considered?

SB answered that there was a trading company, An Roth Trading Ltd, but it was discovered that all activities could be operated through the charity itself, so this company was dissolved on the advice of the auditors.

Actions from Board Meeting

1. (CF) MESS Steering Group to discuss polytunnel at Gantry site and drainage improvements – needs to be widened to discuss whole Gantry site
2. MG to confirm that all directors' code of conduct papers have been received.
3. (CF) MG will follow up with Hazel Cowe to ensure that all MESS volunteers receive an induction
4. (CF) DCr will work with Hazel to ensure all Bunesan MESS volunteers sign the Code of Practice
5. Board to show appreciation to MESS for record sales and an email from SB to Hazel to distribute to the volunteers
6. MF and MG will prepare a paper before the meeting to help organise key tasks for January Board meeting

4.2 Finance Reporting & Designated Funds

Nothing to discuss

4.3 Membership numbers and donations

There were eight new members since the last meeting.

5.0 HR and Policies

5.1 Policy Reviews for approval

No policies for approval at this time.

6.0 This section intentionally left blank

7.0 Special Items

7.1 General and Deputy Managers' Reports (for information/discussion)

Item 3: Clarification of amount given to the Waterfall Fund from GEM.

Item 12: Ulva Ferry Shore Facilities update: Tenders received. Wednesday meeting to discuss them.

Item 16: Re water supply at Ulva Ferry, congratulations on an excellent investment that can benefit the school and others.

Item 16c: How does the cost compare to a domestic house/rate? MF took numbers of people in the school, hours in the school day, and estimated based on Council Tax discount usually allocated to a 3-bed house.

Item 18: Calgary Toilets: estimate was shocking. MF reiterated that there is no financial obligation from MICT.

Item 29: Discussion re how funded assets can be sold with appropriate permissions/conditions in place.

Item 11: Ulva Ferry Pontoon: Relay was fitted; typos clarified.

Item 6: Solar PV and Battery storage systems: BW, SB, MS, and DCr happy to volunteer.

Item 4: Mull School Campus, children from Ardnamurchan not likely to be attending Tobermory/Mull, since the new high school was built in Strontian.

Upcoming: Strategy Standing Committee meeting on 12 Jan 2023 – is it for everyone? BW and SB have been invited along with MS, StB, DF, and IJ will be invited as well. If anyone else would like to join they would be welcome.

Deputy Manager's Report

Noted: Appraisals are coming due again.

No questions raised.

7.2 Fundraising Officer's Report

No questions raised. Noted that it is a good report with a lot of detail.

7.3 Approval of Community Led Local Development (CLLD) grant for childcare feasibility study

Decision to accept £29,000 grant. JI proposed; JM seconded.

7.4 Approval of Inspiring Scotland Grant for Our Islands' Community Wellbeing Research & Development Project

Decision to accept £21,712.61 grant. DJC proposed; RC seconded.

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

8.1 Ardura (MF)

Question re: money raised from deer/venison sales. (Deer stalkers have been employed to protect the investment in recently planted trees). MF confirmed that a % of sales from venison goes back to the project.

One further project to be highlighted is the final recreation path to be constructed in the next financial year.

All timber has now gone other than one stack of saw/firewood logs (due to movement restrictions) that will be moved to West Ardu when possible.

8.2 Ardura Community Wellbeing Project (RF)

No report this month.

8.3 Childcare/Out of School Care project (MG)

Childcare Tender update. Feasibility study for a wraparound children's nursery in the new Craignure development. Funding has been secured and consultant has been appointed.

8.4 Nonhebel Park, Tobermory (MG)

Two additional compounds along with four new business units planned.

8.5 MESS

Clarification on acronym DRS = Deposit Return Scheme.

Financials are missing from the headings; they are available in other spreadsheets.

MF noted that figure stated for Craignure shop is a record figure.

DCr noted that local support for the charity shops is on the rise, which is very good news.

Appreciation for the record sales in Craignure requested to be minuted. Kudos for a job well done to the whole MESS team. Question about what more could the Board do to show appreciation. DCr suggested an email from the board could be sent to Hazel for distribution to the volunteers. RC suggested that something should be said to the public as well. SB suggested having a way to show how much has been raised for the charity. DF suggested using Social Media to make the public aware of the success of the shop.

~~8.6 Housing (HMCD)~~

No report due this month.

~~8.7 Ulva Ferry pontoon and shore facilities (CF)~~

No report due this month.

~~8.8 Ulva Ferry Community Transport (MF/JM)~~

No report due this month.

8.9 Ranger Service including Eagle Partnership & Friends of Calgary Bay (JD & EW)

Noted that report was from August; no questions or comments.

8.10 Data Research

No due report this month.

8.11 AMAZE Project

No due report this month.

8.12 Helipad

No due report this month.

8.13 Mull & Iona Community Councils (JM & RM)

No Mull Community Council meeting to report on. New Community Council members have been recruited.

No comments or questions on Iona Community Council minutes.

9.0 Discussion items

No discussion items.

10. Any other business

Quarterly meetings: January Meeting

MF suggested 23/01 for January meeting. This will be a daytime meeting.

Format: Board only items in the morning (agenda items 1 – 7), then lunch with staff, and Steering Group reports after lunch with staff involved.

SB noted that attendance will be much more important when meetings happen quarterly.

SB noted that all should be prepared to have interim Board meetings when necessary for decisions that need to be taken forward for governance purposes.

Each group will need to be populated, and decisions on terms of reference, chairing, reporting and membership of the groups will need to be decided before or during the January meeting; MF and MG will prepare a paper before the meeting to help organise these key tasks.

Pennyghael Schoolhouse: Tenants did not need to move out, advertising process concluded and applicants were notified. All rehabilitation work has been completed.

Meeting closed at 9.30 pm

The next scheduled board meeting will be Monday 23rd January in person with Zoom available.

Signed

Name **Sandy Brunton**

Date
