



Colonsay Community Development Company Board Meeting

Public Minutes

Saturday 17th December 2022

1. Attendance and apologies

Board members: Dannie Onn (DO), Sarah Hobhouse (SH), Willie Joll (WJ), Helen Mann (HM)

Board Members attending via remote link: Lesley MacInnes (LM), Andrew Abrahams (AA)

Project co-ordinator: Lizzie Keenaghan (LK)

Apologies: Callum Hay (CH), Darragh Keenaghan (DK)

2. Minutes and matters arising.

The minutes were accepted and signed by DO. There were no matters arising not covered in the agenda.

3. Declarations of interest

LK and HM (croft matters)

4. Director resignations and appointment

Since our last meeting, both Liam McNeill and Sue Dance have resigned from the board. They remain members of the company. The board wished to record its thanks for the efforts of Liam and Sue over the years. DO agreed to write to them to express our thanks.

There is space for another member director on the board, as well as the opportunity to co-opt a further non-member director. The board agreed to appoint Caitlin McNeill (CM) as a member director. This recognises that Caitlin continues to work on the community planning and crofting aspects of our work and that this is best done if she is on the board.

5. Briefing Note

The briefing note had been issued. There were no questions.

6. Scalasaig Report

The update report had been circulated.

In response to a question at the EGM, the board confirmed that the street name will be An Faire Mor, subject to a grammatical check, by CM.

7. Visitor Moorings Report

LK presented her report. She added that she had had no response yet from the local MOWI manager about looking after an additional two moorings. The response from Stephen MacIntyre from MOWI was support in principle, but it is not his decision to make. The board discussed the additional moorings. They noted that all moorings were in use for some weeks but recognised the uncertainty of whether they would lead to increased trade and for how many weeks. Viability remains the highest risk on the project risk register. They concluded that it would be helpful to see projections for the use of additional moorings. The moorings will be re-advertised in Welcome Anchorages. Copy will need to be submitted before the end of January.

LK also confirmed her suggestion that the prices should rise. There being time to consider this at the January Board, it was agreed to look at the proposal again with treasurer's input.

LK left the meeting

8. Island Profiling

The grant offer from the SG Islands Team was received yesterday and included in the information sent to directors, together with the draft work plan agreed with the Islands Team. DO proposed that we accept the grant and that he will lead on recruitment of someone to take up the work. The board agreed unanimously.

9. Community Plan

CM has finalised the community plan draft following the further presentation and consultation with the community. The board noted and approved the final version. This draft will now be sent to CCC and COHT for approval and support. DO will add a slightly amended version of the executive summary previously agreed by this board. The amendment will address the concern raised at the CCC that we should avoid the risk of alienating second home residents.

Subject to approval from CCC and COHT, we aim to publish the final plan in February, following on with the Action Plan and our immediate business strategy thereafter.

10. Community Council

WJ will report to us at each meeting on relevant matters discussed at council. We will set our next meeting mid-January so that relevant CCDC matters can be fed back to CCC at their next meeting on 24 January.

WJ reported that CCC had been approached by Dr Willets regarding the introduction of dentistry with the provision of a dental chair at a remodelled surgery or other suitable premises. Directors considered this to be a positive idea for the community and offered CCDC help where possible.

WJ told us that the Colonsay and Oransay Community Fund is in a temporary state of suspension. Will Young has been appointed as the paid administrator

11. Register of Members

DO has updated the register of members to better manage the requirements of our Articles of Association and to bring it online. We must keep former members on the register for 6 years. We also have some members who appear to no longer qualify for ordinary membership, so DO has written to them to ask if this is so and to let us know they would then like to continue as associate members. For information, we now have 79 Ordinary Members and 12 Associate Members. Our 3 staff cannot be members whilst they are employed by us.

One of our members explained that her husband no longer considers himself to be a member. I have no record of him withdrawing membership but have asked when the effective date was. At the same time, the question was raised whether others in the community also thought that they were no longer members because they had not paid their annual £1 fee. That is, of course, a misunderstanding of the Articles of Association. Nevertheless, and in the light of the constitutional changes at the General Meeting in November, the board agreed that we ask all our members to let us know if they wish to withdraw their membership.

Date of next meeting - Thursday 12.01.23 at 7pm