



Colonsay Community Development Company Board Meeting  
Public Minutes  
Thursday 21 September 2023

**1. Attendance and apologies**

Present: Dannie Onn (DO), Callum Hay (CH), Andrew Abrahams (AA), William Joll (WJ), Darragh Keenaghan (DK), Lesley McInnes (LM)

Apologies: Helen Mann (HM), Lindsay Chalmers (LC), Carrie Seymour (CS), Lizzie Keenaghan (LK)

**2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Minutes approved.

**3. Declarations of interest**

None.

**4. Briefing Note**

Circulated prior to the meeting. The DTAS visit is to take place 3-5 October. Training sessions are available but these are not to be taken up at this stage.

Lizzie's study tour report has been circulated to directors and will be made available on the website. It is not therefore included with the documents for this meeting.

There were no questions on the note.

**5. Scalasaig report**

CS report circulated prior to the meeting. Directors are aware that there are rumours circulating the island about contractors, money issues and a lack of drainage. The board noted that communication to the wider community needs to be improved. This will be looked at in October.

TSL contractors returning to site on 2 or 9 October. TSL have confirmed their intention to complete the contract. We await a revised programme, but hope for completion of the houses around March/April. Business units may be completed sooner.

DO to ask named tenants for the business units if they are OK having their names publicised. The board considered it to be too soon with lease arrangements still to be discussed. CH to remove names from the report before publication.

## **6. Old Manse report**

LK report and draft development brief circulated prior to the meeting. An Expression of Interest for the Foundation Scotland grant (£50,000) going in tomorrow. The future uses of the house and site were discussed, but these will be explored with the consultants funded by the grant. Until confirmation of money, no agreement or decisions can be made.

Jamie Leppard has been asked to price for the driveway, and Chris Jewell for the bathroom. These are essential repair/ improvements which need to be carried out and paid for, irrespective of the grant fund.

## **7. Approval of 2022/23 Annual Accounts**

CH report and draft accounts circulated prior to the meeting. Approval of the accounts has been delayed because of difficulties in getting an appointed auditor. Accounts will not be ready for approval until audited in the next 4-6 weeks' time. Draft accounts were summarised by CH, available for both CCDC and CTC, which will be taken forward to the AGM on Saturday, with an EGM having to follow to approve the accounts later in the year.

DO thanked CH for all his work and the work underway on budgeting.

## **8. Capacity Building Grants**

DO explained that he joined a DTAS webinar on the community capacity grants. This explained the constrained funds available and the severely limited scope for making new awards. We may be ineligible in any event because our funding through HIE comes from the same SG funding pot. We have been discouraged from applying. DK suggested that they put an application in anyway. CH added that the information gathered for the application will be

useful when looking for other funding. The board agreed that DO, CH and DK will make an application. The closing date is 29 September.

## **9. AGM arrangements**

Saturday at 11am, here in the village hall. To engage the community more, it has been decided to present the information through a PowerPoint presentation. Two board members are due to stand down and these will be selected in accordance with our Memorandum and Articles of Association. All those present are happy to continue as board members. Co-opted members must stand down, but they may be co-opted again by the new board. Light refreshments to be made available in the hall on Saturday.

## **10.AOCB**

- **Inverness advert for moorings**

LK asks if board would approve or not £150 for advertising in an Inverness yachting publication. In principle there were no objections, but advertising generally needs to be discussed and this will be done over the closed season.

- **Footpath from Queens Bay.**

Alex Howard is still saying 'no' to a license for a waymarked path. If he continues to say no, then an indicative route from the bay to the hotel may be made available on the website.

DO to discuss further with AH.

- **Campsite Planning**

There has been a positive response from the planning authority, although no permission as yet. It appears they are considering amendments to the road conditions which would minimise the work needed.

- **CCC**

The board has agreed that concerns over the estate's new land management initiatives should be channelled through CCC. They have repeatedly invited Alex Howard to their meetings with no success as yet. It is thought the estate may be awaiting results on their grant application for funding to carry out a study.

- **Website**

We have offered CCC the opportunity to publish their minutes through the CCDC website. There were no objections to the CCC using the CCDC site temporarily or permanently, with a contribution towards costs.

**DONM      Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

DRAFT