COLONSAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Board Meeting 30 April 2026

DRAFT Public Minute

Attendance: Dannie Onn (DO), William Joll (WJ), Liz Griffiths (EG), Callum Hay (CH), Steve Fay (SF), Linsay Chalmers (LC), Andrew Abrahams (AA)

Apologies: Helen Mann (HM), Carrie Seymour (CS), Lizzie Keenaghan (LK), Maggie Fay (MF)

M**inutes of Last meeting**.

The minutes from the meeting of 26 March 2026 were approved by all.

Matters arising:

The board agreed to postpone fencing work due to budget constraints and higher-than-expected quotes. The money is to be kept aside in the budget pending a better price or additional funding.

Declarations of Interest

None.

Scalasaig update

The majority of the trees under the Greening and Growing project have now been planted. Our thanks to the residents and volunteers who helped to do this. The Garden of Gratitude project was mentioned as a crowdfunding initiative to acknowledge donors, with Carrie designing the space on spare land where a sewage treatment plant was previously planned.

Machair Wind update

DO updated the board on the Machair Wind project, on behalf of the community group set up to engage with the developer. This included a recent meeting with Scottish Power Renewables' CEO, which seemed to achieve the ambition of impressing our special place and unique circumstances at the highest level.

The group has heard from Iona Community Council, which has conducted a survey showing strong opposition to the wind farm. CCC has circulated a report produced by Iona CC. There appear to be some errors in that report.

The Machair group will be holding a public meeting in the Village Hall on 2 May to explain the process, answer questions and hear any concerns. DO will report to the board at our next meeting.

Post Office

WJ updated the board on recent discussions around post office relocation. A number of options are being considered, each with their own issues and timescales. The lack of suitable and available locations is frustrating the search for suitable applicants.

The challenge is finding suitable premises which meet Royal Mail's requirements for location with existing retail operations. CH advised that we push back on any such restrictions due to the particular difficulties on Colonsay. LK suggested that pressure from local MP Brendan O'Hara could help address unrealistic requests.

WJ to progress with CCC and PO staff and report back at the next board.

Other business

DTAS support: There has been some positive response from DTAS about support for our transition from project priorities to asset management. Advise and specialist support are available to CS in terms of finance and LK in terms of policy work. DO to continue to pursue DTAS recovery and resilience program support for additional resources including salary support.

IT: The board discussed whether changing to MS Teams for meetings and transcription tools. These are available through our subscription. As time allows, directors and staff might look into this again. Previously there were issues with the functionality of Teams.

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DONM Thursday July 2026 at 7pm