MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LCT – WEDNESDAY 13th May 2026
7PM IN THE HERITAGE CENTRE

1. **Present**. Andrew Livingstone (AL) Chairman, Anita Bachuil (AB) Secretary, Bobbi Forgrieve (BF) Treasurer, Anna Stewart (AS), Kate McLuskie (KM)

2. **Apologies**: Seona MacDonald

3. **Minutes of the last meeting**. These were proposed as a true record of the meeting by AS, 2nd by AL.

4. **Matters arising**. No matters arising.

5. **Shop**

a) **Financial report**.

Overview

- A small loss of £137 in the month, compared to an £844 profit last year. Mainly attributable to a 13% drop in sales revenue, and a slightly lower gross margin percentage.
- This is the first month since February when sales have been lower than last year and it appears to be a 'blip' as sales up to 12 May are higher than in the same period last year.

Performance v Last Year

	MONTH			YEAR TO DATE	
	Apr-26	Apr-25		Apr-26	Apr-25
Interest Income	-	-		-	-
PO/other Income	1,499	1,931		1,499	1,931
Sales	15,075	17,250		15,075	17,250
Total Income	16,574	19,181		16,574	19,181
Stock Purchase	11,493	12,985		11,493	12,985
Expenses	5,218	5,352		5,218	5,352
Profit/ -Loss	- 137	844		- 137	844
GM	24%	25%		24%	25%
Sales v LYA	87%			87%	

b) **Staffing**. We were told it was proving difficult to find anyone to work in the shop, despite extensive advertising. AL said that he thought that the shop really needed a Manager but that this person could do quite a lot of the work remotely. Jane McCluskey had indicated the shop could afford someone working 6-7 hrs pw on this basis. AL suggested he ask Alison Carpenter if she would be prepared to take up this

role. AL proposed we engage Alison Carpenter for 6 hrs pw for 3 months. Seconded by BF. Carried unanimously.

6. **LCT financial report and banking update**. BF told the meeting that we had £12,857.85 in the bank.

7. **Project funding.** KM said that she had nothing to report. AL said that Julia Faygruen had reported that we were now at Stage 2 for the RIHF funding.

8. **Affordable housing – Report from David Logie.**
Role so far:

- Regular team meetings (and meetings with individual team members) for progress reporting, encouragement and sharing/collating.
- Working on RIHF application documentation.
- Grant funding research, applications & communication.
- Approaching various contractors and building companies of various size for the build. When possible, in person.
- Liaising between contractors to establish particular roles within the build.
- Establishing relationship with MAKAR, including a visit to their Inverness headquarters where they have built an example affordable home to full, real specification.
- Communication with Government, regional divisions, Council and various bodies, often out of frustration due to lengthy process and uncertainty.
- Services/infrastructure advance planning.
- Supplier meetings.
- Regular meetings with Islands Housing Group, Scottish Islands Federation and more recently a presentation with Andy and Kate to Community Planning Partnership at Corran Halls, as well as other islands who also wish to use a modular-based build system for affordable homes.

9. **Shop/hall future premises.** Still awaiting kick off meeting.

10. **Island plan.** Seona MacDonald had been away and there was nothing to report.

11. **Kiosk leaflets.** AB said that she had been approached by Catherine Davis regarding the leaflets. They were fast running out. The Heritage Centre has also run out. When we last looked at getting 10,000 printed Print Mhor had quoted £1216 and Digital Kangaroo was £775. We didn't have the money then and we were hoping to go with download-able QR codes, but this hasn't happened. We will discuss again at the next meeting.

12. **AOB.** Nothing was raised.

AL thanked everyone for attending and there being no other business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.