



# LISMORE COMMUNITY TRUST

Purpose: to maximise the potential social, economic and environmental well-being of the whole community of the Isle of Lismore

## **Directors report for accounts April 2022-2023**

### **Governance**

Roxanne McColl was appointed a director bringing the Board composition to 10, including 2 co-opted members) Laura Savill is the appointed Treasurer and Anita Bachuil the Secretary. Andy Hough is the Chair (Convenor). Regular quorate meetings have been held to make decisions and discuss projects and ideas. Agendas and minutes continue to be posted on the Lismore website. There is capacity for 12 board members.

There have been some challenges associated with transferring the formal financial arrangements, (bank signatories etc) but thanks are due to previous post holders in helping sort these out.

The Board members willingly volunteer their time to attend meetings and undertake tasks associated with bringing improvements to the island. Given the range of other groups, all requiring governance, on the island the concept of “volunteer fatigue” is very real. It is hoped the signs of the Board delivering will encourage more positive participation.

### **Projects**

The creation of two 3-bedroom affordable homes at the end of Newfield Terrace has progressed positively all-be-it slowly. The Wee House Company have been appointed to design and build the houses and Julia has been appointed as a part-time assistant project manager to help ensure we get genuinely affordable quality homes. There remain some challenges, not least the water arrangements and funding support but as the posters and website attest, it is hoped to have them completed and occupied by next summer.

The e-bikes, for community use only, purchased through a grant from Cycling Scotland are in place with pick up and drop off points at the ferry and Heritage Centre. There has not been a great take up but with more promotion, greater recognition of the benefits of cycling to health and well-being along with good weather will hopefully change this.

The pier at Achnacroish has been a feature of the island many have just grown used to. It is however a structure that will continue to deteriorate. Argyll and Bute, who own it, have no use for it and therefore don't maintain it. Many enjoy fishing from it as well as using it as a vantage point to see the specular views to Ben Nevis, Ben Cruachan and the Garvellachs. The Trust have acquired grant funding to explore what options there are and will be consulting when more specific information about the piers condition is known.



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## Conclusion

The Trust work is dependent on volunteer time and grant funding, there are very few community enterprises that can “pump prime” development. We do get a very small income from the kiosks but other funders are keen to see a “plan”. The Trust is therefore starting to develop an Island Plan. This can only be done through community engagement and it is important that people feel they can have their say and express a view.