



# LISMORE COMMUNITY TRUST

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

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2023 – 7PM IN LISMORE PUBLIC HALL

### 1. **Welcome, present, apologies and declarations of interest.**

The Chairman, Andy Hough (AH) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Present were: Anna Stewart (AS), Archie Macgillivray (AM), Julia Faygruen (JF) Seonaid MacDonald (SM).

Apologies were received from Roxanne MacColl, Peter MacDougall, Calum MacGillivray, Laura Savill and Kate McLuskie.

There were no declarations of interest.

### 2. **Minutes of the Meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 & Matters Arising.**

AS proposed that they be taken as a true record of the meeting and this was passed unanimously.

The issue of the barge at Achnacroish being removed was discussed. Mr Quinn said he would not do it for £500. SM said that she thought the beach at Achnacroish was unusable with all the rusting barge there.

### 3. **Finance**

LS had sent in a report. She said that the Treasurer and Chair were now signatories on the account and online banking was due shortly.

The accounts for 01.05.22 – 30.04.23 have now gone to the accountant and should be ready for the AGM on 23.06.2023.

The Trust have been reimbursed for the housing training course that AH did in December. The current bank balance is £8353.26.

### 4. **Housing.**

JF showed the poster she had designed to illustrate progress and it was agreed that they should go up around the island and ferries. She had been working on getting the design ready to go to the council for pre-planning and there was some discussion re the plans. She had spent a lot of time talking with people on this. The houses were being built to passive house standard.

The reply from Highwater had been sent to Norma Gillespie and Duncan Maclean as reps of the water group at Achnacroish for them to consider.

### 5. **Pier at Achnacroish and SLF award.**

AH told the meeting that we had been awarded £14,066k by the Scottish Land Fund. This was going to be used for a structural survey of the area and options appraisal, community consultation, pre-planning advice, knowledge exchange and a valuation survey. AH had approached several marine civil engineers and the Board agreed unanimously to go with Wallace Stone who were the company that gave us most clarity over their quote, had been recommended by Gigha & Raasay Trusts and N W Marine and the quote was lower than MBH and Cowal.



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## 6. Shop and Post Office.

The Board discussed community ownership and previous island wide surveys/questionnaires, dating back to 2008, have identified community ownership/social enterprise as desirable.

Other similar islands (eg Coll, Eigg and Gigha) have used it to create facilities and “pump prime” further development and activities eg sports hall, bunkhouse, pub, hotel, heritage centre.

There are evidenced based findings suggesting community ownership brings significant benefits to an area.

The Trust must confirm, (*for potential grant funding and support*), that the community feel the island needs a shop and PO and that community ownership is a possible route to securing it. AH was keen to test [Survey monkey](#) for this and this was agreed by the Board. If there is a positive survey result Trust Directors would agree to the creation of an interim Trading Arm Governance Group (4 or 5 people with relevant skills and capacity).

The governance group convened to review issues and draft a business plan. Including “Community Share” approach to find necessary funding.

Further community consultation including a ‘drop in’ at the AGM.

The Trust membership need to agree the way forward.

## 7. Church

AH told the meeting that there had been consultations and drop-in meetings held. A ballot had been held and it showed that there was agreement to have a business plan and lead group. No clear lead group combination had been identified. AM agreed to be the rep for the Community Trust on whatever group was formed.

## 8. AGM & AOB

The AGM was set as 23<sup>rd</sup> June and the date of the next meeting will be Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 7pm in the Hall.