

## Craignish Community Company

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 6:30pm in the Village Hall with Zoom option

Present:

Board: Vicki Burnett (Chair), Mark Hampton, Jamie Murray, Ken Taggart (Treasurer), Jane Smee (Secretary).

Visitor: Euan McMurdo, Kilmartin/Craignish Shinty Club

### Actions required

- Jane to invite the representatives of the Toddler Group, the First Responders and the wildlife group to the April meeting
- Ken to email Euan McMurdo to confirm that we are happy to deal with the transfer of funds
- Mark to continue to investigate the Roundhouse electricity supply and provide update for the auditors, and to arrange a key safe or coded padlock for the shed
- Jamie to report to the next meeting on funding for the CAP working group
- SCIO: Ken to speak to contact re legal advice; Vicki to investigate Development Trust Association membership; Jamie to contact Antonia Baird
- Vicki to email report for the 2024 accounts
- Noticeboards: Vicki to speak to Sue; Mark to get quote for installation
- GDPR and safeguarding: Vicki to investigate Development Trust Association; Mark to speak to Business Gateway
- Kilvaree Stones: Jamie to speak to Colin re land ownership; Mark to ask local maker about the information panels; Vicki to report to Sharon
- Vicki to share link to ABC Visitor Levy consultation

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Ben Weaser and Laura Leslie-Sherwood.
2. **Jamie Murray:** It was proposed by Vicki and seconded by Jane that Jamie should be co-opted as a director. This was agreed unanimously and Jamie was welcomed to the Board.
3. **Kilmartin/Craignish Shinty Club:** Euan was welcomed to the meeting. He explained that the Club (which has been established for about 5 years) had been offered a substantial donation - £3,980 by the Righ Trust - but that they had specified that this had to be paid to a registered charity, rather than straight into the bank account which Euan has set up for the Club and in which funds are kept. It is a small unincorporated organisation and Euan has tried to keep running it as simple as possible. He asked if C3 would be willing to receive the funds and transfer them to the Club account. He would provide a covering letter and confirmation of the bank account details. Ken advised that this would be very straightforward and could see no objection. Vicki asked if Euan would let us have a copy of the correspondence with the Righ Trust, and said that we would have a short discussion and get back to him in the next day or two.  
Euan was thanked for joining us and left the meeting.  
In the subsequent short discussion, Ken confirmed again that there should be no difficulties with this arrangement, and it was noted that this was within C3's purposes. It was agreed that Ken would let Euan know that we are happy to go ahead.
4. **Minutes of the meeting on 8th January 2025 were approved. Matters arising:**
  - Jane has invited the three groups we hold funds for to attend quarterly meetings and all have responded positively. She will remind them before the April meeting.
  - The money from the Toddler Group has been transferred and Ken has earmarked these as a separate fund. He has also reallocated the Healy Arts and Cromach funds.

- Mark's investigations into the Roundhouse electricity supply have had negative and no responses. He will continue to follow this up and will provide an update for the auditors. Ken confirmed that we have funds earmarked should an invoice arrive.
- CAP funding - the working group is meeting next week, and Jamie should be able to report to our April meeting on funding. Mark kindly offered to help with printing flyers etc.
- Talamh an Righ shed - Mark reported that this is now empty apart from some large items, tables and chairs, which would be better dealt with later in the year. He will look into providing a coded padlock or key safe which will make access easier than an ordinary padlock.

## 5. **Finance:**

- **Treasurer's report:** Ken had circulated a report before the meeting. There were no queries raised. He confirmed that the quarterly management accounts would be ready for the April meeting.
- **SCIO:** Ken proposed that C3 as a charity consider ceasing to be also a company, and instead become a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation). The primary advantage was cost saving, as the disclosures required would be less detailed than under company law, so it was likely that the examination fee could be reduced. He felt that we needed some in-depth advice, but that nothing would be lost in at least investigating. It was agreed that we should go ahead with this. Ken has a contact who might give legal advice, and will sound them out. Vicki will look again at membership of the Development Trust Association (which we allowed to lapse) as the availability of advice from them might outweigh the cost of membership. Jamie thought that Antonia Baird might have helpful advice and will contact her.
- **Chair's report for the 2024 accounts:** Vicki has prepared this; she outlined it and will email the complete report to the board members.

6. **Noticeboards:** Vicki reported that she had met Jan Brown, who has very kindly agreed to fund-raise for these and does not think there would be much difficulty in securing the amount needed, which is about £1500 for each board. These would be the same size as the one outside the shop, but single-sided. Three boards are needed: to replace the ones at the Ardfern road end and the one in the car park at Craobh, and a new one for Lunga where the side of the skip is the only place to post notices at present. There would also be the cost of installation, with concrete fixings, and Mark will seek a quote for this. Johanna Carse has confirmed that she is happy for one to be installed at Lunga, as long as the skip lorry still has room to manoeuvre. The location of the Craobh one will need careful consideration, and may possibly need to be of a different design, and Vicki will ask Sue for advice.

7. **GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) and safeguarding:** this has been a concern for a while, especially in relation to the CAP, and Mark now has a specific proposal to address this. C3 and the whole community would benefit from some specific knowledge about the Regulations and safeguarding, which are complex; and the latter are due to change in April and become even more stringent. We should look into funding a public event where advice could be given. It was agreed that we should do this, but that it was important that it was pitched at an appropriate level so that it did not seem so complex that it was discouraging. Vicki will see if the Development Trust Association might help here, and Mark will speak to Business Gateway.

8. **Talamh an Righ and the Roundhouse:** Mark is still working on trying to secure repair of the shed windows. He confirmed again that the shed is now clear, except for some chairs and other large items which are better dealt with when the weather improves. Mark was thanked for all the work he has put into this.

9. **Kilvaree Stones:** Following Sharon Webb's visit to our January meeting, she has prepared a short plan for the installation of information boards and has agreed to manage the project. It was agreed that the plan seemed reasonable but the question of costs needed to be addressed and we would ask Sharon to help us go on to the next stage, which was

establishing these and whether we would need to raise any more funds. The ownership of the land is still in question; Jamie will ask Colin Lindsay MacDougall if he has retained ownership. Mark will ask a local maker for an estimate of the cost of information boards based on what was done at Keills Chapel.

10. **Communal Emergency Phone:** Jane explained that the Community Council were considering the installation of a satellite phone or similar for general use, following the recent power cut when many residents were left without any means of outside communication. It was suggested that C3 might help with the funding for this. It was felt that this was unnecessarily expensive, especially as satellite connection for mobile phones was on the horizon. It was agreed that further investigation might show that better methods of resilience might be available, and that this was an obvious topic for the CAP.
11. **Visitor Levy:** This had also arisen at the February Community Council meeting which Jane attended. The business community are opposed to the levy and the Council were keen that as much effort as possible should be made to make this clear to ABC via their consultation. It was agreed that we should share the link to this (it runs until 10th April) but that the views expressed were entirely up to individuals.
12. **AOB:**
  - Jamie asked for some more information about the Roundhouse and the cost implications. Vicki outlined the history of C3's fund-raising, and explained that we will have to consider fund-raising again eventually. There was a brief discussion about ways to use the space that could generate income, with the proviso that the neighbouring properties and planning considerations would need to be borne in mind.
  - Succession planning: Vicki reminded the meeting of the need to recruit more board members and particularly a new chair, as she will have to step down in July.
13. **Date of next meeting:** This was noted to be 9th April 2025 at 6:30pm at the Village Hall.
14. The meeting ended at 8.05 pm and Vicki thanked everyone for attending.

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Chair

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Date