



## **Minutes of the AGM of the Isle of Canna Community Development Trust, held in the Shearing Shed on August 15th 2017**

**Present:** Gerry Mackinnon (GM), Murdo Jack (MJ), Martin Merrick (MM), Donald Mackenzie (DM), Fiona Mackenzie (FM), Pete Holden (PH), Liz Holden (LH), Winnie Mackinnon (WM), Isebail Mackinnon (IM), Chris Deplano (CD), Anna Deplano (AD), Caroline Mackinnon (CM), Craig Martin (CrM)

**1. Apologies:** None received

**2. Minutes of the last AGM:** The minutes were tabled and accepted by the meeting. Proposed DM, seconded PH

### **3. Annual reports**

**3.1. Chairperson:** GM thanked everybody for coming to the AGM and for their support throughout the previous twelve months. She noted that several households were leaving the island and that sadly, the school would be closing for the time being. She asked that everybody think about attracting new people to the community. GM reported on the progress of several big projects currently active on Canna including the CREE. She thanked everybody for helping to make the shop such a success this year; the moorings have been busier than ever and the Shearing Shed will receive further attention this winter. The contractor for the new, non-tidal road on Sanday is expected out at the end of September. An expression of interest has been lodged with Leader for a Development Officer.

**3.2. Treasurer:** DM also thanked everybody for their support with the CREE project and running the community shop since Stewart Connor and Julie Macabe left Canna last summer. The CREE stalled for a time as the new board assessed the project and its finances. In May 2017 meetings were set up with the main contractors and it became clear that further funding was required both for the project and to cover for the employment of a project manager. The latter funding was raised and Community Energy Scotland (CES) in the shape of Jamie Adam (JA) was appointed as project manager. The project is moving forward again and seeking to make up the funding before signing contracts. The community hall project is currently on hold and NTS proposals for derelict buildings have been delayed by the NTS restructuring process.

The previous year (2015-16) accounts were not available at the 2016 AGM and were tabled for approval. These accounts were approved: proposed LH seconded GM. The accounts for 2016-17 are still at the accountants and will need to be signed off by the new board of directors and then approved by an EGM or the next AGM. DM tabled a summary of the year end balances for each account held by the IoCCDT.

CD asked whether a register to record declarations of interest by director's was held. It was agreed that this could be kept and any interests declared in future accounts.

**4. Special resolution to amend Articles of Association:** the special resolution was unanimously passed at the meeting subject to changing wording in the title - replace 'shares' with 'guarantee'. Proposed GM, seconded WM.



## 5. Election of Directors / Officers

**5.1. Directors / co-opted directors:** the following were proposed and accepted by the meeting, subject to the membership of some being accepted by the next Director's meeting, as new -  
Directors

- Gerry Mackinnon proposed CD seconded DM
- Liz Holden proposed GM seconded DM
- Pete Holden proposed GM seconded MJ
- Winnie Mackinnon proposed LH seconded GM
- Craig Martin proposed CD seconded PH
- Anna Deplano proposed LH seconded DM
- Isebail Mackinnon proposed DM seconded MJ

Co-opted directors

- Chris Deplano proposed LH seconded DM

**5.2. Chairperson:** Gerry Mackinnon proposed CD seconded IM

**5.3. Treasurer:** to be decided at the next director's meeting

**5.4. Secretary:** Liz Holden proposed CD seconded DM

**5.5. Retiring directors:** Donald Mackenzie retired as director and treasurer

**6. NTS management structure for Canna:** PH briefly explained the existing structure and that the NTS is currently in a position to be reviewing their management structure for Canna. It is important that the views of the community are taken into account and this was opened for discussion. In brief those present felt that both an off island dedicated property manager and a 'go to' on island contact either in a ranger or administrator capacity would be important. All agreed that more 'rangering' would be good for Canna and its visitors. LH agreed to summarise the views and put them into a letter to go to Iain Turnbull / Chris Cassels / Dominic Driver. A draft of the letter would go the wider community.

**A.P. LH to summarise views and circulate a draft letter to all.**

**7. Marine Harvest:** MJ asked for an update and CD explained the recent email from Chris Reid that had been circulated to the community. Marine Harvest (MH) were offering to come across with their MD to help present the proposal. The meeting agreed that they would like to see, and have the opportunity to comment on, a development plan, before further visits by MH to answer questions.

**A.P. CD agree to pass this decision back to MH.**

## 8. Any other business:

**8.1.** FM asked what contingency had been built into the CREE project to counter the implications of population fluctuations on the island. This could impact both on the cost of electricity to the island and also on the number of people available for maintenance. All agreed that these were important considerations. There is a 10 year maintenance contract in place and it would be possible to buy in specialist expertise if Canna felt that it did not have that capability. CES and other advisors are aware of the fragility of communities such as Canna and Polly Chapman (of Hisez, a financial advice company that BIG are funding to support us) is currently updating our business plan. JA is coming to Canna on Friday August 18th and community members have already been invited to come along and ask questions.

**8.2.** PH told the meeting that he would be retiring from his job in November 2017.

**8.3.** CD proposed a big thanks to MM for all the support that he has given to the community through the school and other island events.