

Morvern Community Council meeting 10th June 2025, Lochaline Village Hall 7pm

Present: Henriette Laidlaw (HL), Rob Capell (RC), Jenni Hodgson (JH), Miles Welsh (MW)

Apologies: Helen Jones, Terra Grier, Clara Montgomery, Douglas Taylor

Quorate: yes

Members of public: Annabel Lawrence (CAOLAS), Calum Wilson(Iggesund) and 7 others

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Approval of minutes of previous AGM: proposed by MW, seconded by JH
3. Chairperson's annual report. No questions from the floor.
Main initiatives this year: Local Place Plan (LPP), housing/planning applications, village tidy (incl. verge maintenance and litter pick), Christmas tree, Remembrance Day wreath, VE Day event, youth councillors, health & social care (incl. surgery survey), exploring childcare options, village speed limits, fish farm accident and collaboration between MCC and Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC). Many thanks to all those who have contributed.
4. Treasurer's submission of financial statement was proposed by HL, seconded by MW. Both accounts were amalgamated in financial overview and all agree for JH to merge the 2 accounts from now on, to limit the cost of the new bank charges for community group accounts.
5. Election of office bearers:
 - a. Chair: HL, proposed by JH, seconded by MW
 - b. Treasurer: JH, proposed by HL, seconded by MW
 - c. Secretary: MW, proposed by JH, seconded by HL (DT to continue taking care of planning applications)
 - d. Welcome to new youth member: Becky Jones
6. Provisional date for next AGM: 9th June 2026
AGM closed at 7.25pm

MCC meeting

1. Welcome, apologies, no declarations of interest
2. AOB requests: conference about renewables.
3. Minutes of last meeting were approved by email.

4. West Pier update by Calum Wilson (CW) from Iggesund: slides to be circulated to councillors after meeting. CW outlined Iggesund's phased plans for the repair of the West Pier and discussion was had. Community members expressed concerns regarding the safety of the site, overfishing and antisocial behaviour by visiting fishermen, lack of access for local walkers and the damaging effect of the increasing numbers of logging lorries on our road surfaces. CW/Iggesund welcomes dialogue on how to deal with any of these issues. Important to MCC to be kept informed about developments and for the local community to have a say. CW will speak to West Pier working group about how the community can be represented on it (e.g. through CAOLAS?). **Action: HL will write to Iggesund to confirm what was agreed.**
5. Telephone box issues: solar panel can't be attached to BT pole, so need to find another solution to power the telephone box. Small wind turbine or a separate pole next to it with a solar panel? **Action: HL to let telephone box group know MCC are happy for them to put up a small additional pole (less than 5m).**
6. Corran Ferry pedestrian prices: decision now delayed. **Action: HL to write letter to our elected members to oppose pedestrian prices.** All in agreement. There is also a petition that individuals can sign.
7. Japanese knotweed: been reported to Highland Council (HC), who have not acted to remove it yet. **Action: HL to write to HC on behalf of MCC and ask them to remove it, like they have done before.**
8. Roads: HL has written to HC, but no improvements yet.
 - a. Drimnin Road potholes
 - b. Dropped pavements Torr Na Faire
 - c. Kirk Brae
 - d. Rahoy Road (**Action: HL to ask local author to write a compelling piece about the need for road repairs**)
9. Care homes/Dail Mhor update: No news. MCC continue to liaise with HC and NHS.
10. Planning applications: 14th May ATV forestry track for restocking, at Savary. No objections.
11. MCDC update: nothing to report.
12. Treasurer's report: 2 items of expenditure: hall rental and bookkeeping fees. General account: £1157.50, Common Good Fund: £8984.05. All agree to merge both accounts and close Common Good Fund. HL has written to MP re banking fees for community groups.

13. Other correspondence/AOB:

- Regional transformational opportunities in Highlands & Islands conference this Saturday. MCC has been invited and MW will attend via Zoom.
- Petrol pumps empty yesterday: could this have been avoided? **Action: HL to pass that question on to MCTC.**

14. Date of next meeting: 12th August at Drimnin Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.30pm