	MCDC Board Meeting Minutes APPROVED	
	Date:	Tuesday 3 rd June 2025
	Time:	7.00PM
	Location:	Village Hall
	Public/Board Only	Public
Directors Attending:	<i>Angus Robertson (AR) (Chair)</i> <i>Miles Welsh (MW)</i> <i>Henriette Laidlaw (HL)</i>	
Staff attending:	<i>Suzanne Pender (SP), Gill Hart (GH), Isla Robertson (IR), Lilia Dobrokhodova (LD)</i>	
Apologies:	<i>Susan Taylor (ST), Keith Laidlaw (KwL), also absent: Bob Jones (BJ)</i>	
Chaired by:	<i>Angus Robertson</i>	
Minutes by:	<i>Aukje Delnooz</i>	
Meeting is quorate:	<i>(Minimum 3 directors, and majority are elected directors)</i>	
Declaration of Interests	<i>None</i>	
Members of public attending	<i>3</i>	


Agenda Points	Summary/Discussion/Feedback	Actions/Decisions	Person responsible	Due
1. Welcome & declarations of interest				
2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Minutes were approved by email. Training session with DTAS has taken place. Info about fuel pumps still needs to be put into newsletter. AR to resend previous infographic. Annabel from CAOLAS attended last month's meeting and suggested setting up a forum group of local committees/groups to share resources, policies	Action: AR to send fuel pump infographic to Isla (for newsletter)	AR	asap

	<p>and insurance etc. Board still to approve provisional plan that SP is putting together. Parameters needed. Isla would like to be involved.</p>			
<p>3. Operations Report (SP)</p>	<p>1. Café - In the last few days we have moved to a position of daily profit, although we will be running at a deficit overall. Well done to the hard-working team - and the extra staff and volunteers; Sam, Aukje, Lucy and both Jennies. We will be opening on Sundays in July and August and will take on some additional staff to support this; Caroline and Iona.</p> <p>2. Harbour – harbour masters have the marina looking amazing; thank you both. The sauna is quite busy, just waiting to see May's figures. Premises application has gone into the Highland Council, so we can sell beer, wine and soft drinks from 4 to 7pm. New seasonal harbour master is joining the team on Sundays.</p> <p>3. Housing project - Lilia and Isla are working really hard and everything is positive. At the end of June we will need to make a decision to stop or go and for 8 or 14 homes. This will depend on confirmed housing demand and on confirmation of government funding.</p> <p>4. The Shed is being rebuilt at the Harbour.</p> <p>5. The Hydro has been quieter in drier weather, we are soon to do the Piggling (pipe cleaning) exercise and we are working on a large maintenance/resilience project (ABC Generator), so less money available.</p> <p>6. We still have a lot of work to do on Health and Safety.</p> <p>7. Thank you to Adeline for all the end-of-year finance work. The new MCTC budget is on Xero- with performance indicators. The Morvolts budget is approved and MCDC budget nearly there.</p> <p>8. Isla and SP are working on Childcare options</p>			

	<p>9. Katy, Henriette and SP are working on the Community Woodlands with support of the Woodlands Trust</p> <p>10. SP has also provided some support to the Watersports Club with their safety audit and to the Morvern Community Woodlands group with their woodland croft project</p>			
4. Housing update (LD)	<p>This is a very big project for a small community/team. Tenders are out for infrastructure and modular build, with replies expected by 12th June. Decision regarding number of houses will depend on financial contribution from Scottish Gov. LD still busy securing funding from different sources (incl. individual donors).</p> <p>Waiting to hear from Foundation Scotland regarding £250K from Social Investment Fund (25% grant 75% loan).</p> <p>Kate Forbes to meet MCDC 5th August. GH will help with marketing for the housing project.</p> <p>Important to demonstrate the need for housing, so asking individuals and local businesses to fill in housing need forms (e.g. for jobs they can't fill due to lack of housing). Aim: repopulation, rather than new housing for current residents.</p> <p>LD/IR to check how long funding lasts for IR.</p>	<p>Action: IR to speak to Urram about demonstrating the need for (housing for) carers</p> <p>Action: LD/IR to check how long IR's post is still funded for</p>	<p>IR</p> <p>LD/IR</p>	<p>asap</p> <p>5/8/25</p>
5. Finances	Treasurer's report: MCTC and MorVolts budgets are done and will be discussed by MCDC on 4/6/25.			
6. West Pier action plan and formation of subgroup	The West Pier has not been usable for a long time and the community is concerned that Iggesund are not showing signs of repairing it. Proposal to create a subgroup (MCDC and CAOLAS) to investigate what we can do regarding the West Pier for the benefit of the community (for example Right to Buy, get the Waverley to stop in Lochaline?).	Decision: all happy to form subcommittee. SP, AR, HL (from MCC), KwL, Sarah Jones and Annabel		
7. Mem & Arts	Nearly ready with mem & arts review, but may have to rewrite some of it again to comply with Scottish Land Fund requirements (for woodland crofts, community land transfers). Aiming to approve them at next AGM (7/10/25).			
8. Stakeholder engagement &	Update re communications with the community. How do we get community involved/engaged? Creating strategy/structure for communication, so			

communications (Gill & Isla)	<p>impact will be bigger. GH and IR are making comprehensive plan (month, 3-months, 6 months, long term etc.). Aim is to bring plan to next meeting (or email it to everyone before August).</p> <p>Dialogue needed about how to share our many activities with the community. Community calendar, shared communication with other groups? Algorithms work on engagement, but public meetings don't get much engagement on FB, so all directors should like the posts. Think of different channels, e.g. café, shop, surgery. More targeted advertising (e.g. yachties, holiday businesses, MGGW). Ardtornish has been very helpful advertising the sauna. IR happy to print out posters if people want one.</p> <p>Website: Morvern website not user-friendly. Suggestion: create a taskgroup, consisting of 2 members of staff plus 1 director from each board. Thank you to IR for all her work on communications done already.</p>	<p>Action: AD to add "communications with stakeholders" to end of each agenda</p> <p>Action: MCDC, MCTC and MorVolts to discuss which directors would be part of communications taskgroup</p>	<p>AD</p> <p>All directors from MCDC, MCTC, MorVolts</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>5/8/25</p>
9. AOB	-			
Date of next meetings	<p>5th August – Hub</p> <p>7th October – Village Hall, AGM</p> <p>2nd December – Hub</p>			
Communications with stakeholders:	IR to communicate update on housing project and express importance of filling in the housing need forms. Affordable rents; show the actual figures to create excitement.	Action: IR to share housing project info with community	IR	asap

Meeting closed at 20.30

Next Meeting	Date	5/8/25	Time:	7pm
	Location	Hub	Public/Board Only	Board only
Minutes approved	18/06/25		ANGUS ROBERTSON (Chair)	