



**Minutes for MCDC Board meeting held in public  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026, 7pm**

**APPROVED**

Minutes

Present:

Directors: Angus Robertson, Miles Welsh, Brian Rendall, Susan Taylor, Henriette Laidlaw (on Teams).

Staff: Suzanne Pender, Lilia Dobrokhodova (minutes)

Members of the public: Sam Firth, Hugh Morris, Annie Tordoff.

Apologies: Keith Laidlaw.

1. Welcome and declarations of interest

AR and ST declared an interest both having family members working for MCDC

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising (AR)

Minutes of the last meeting of the 17<sup>th</sup> February were approved by the board on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**Action – recover the mailing list from Live Life Morvern in order to send information updates to people.  
Isla Robertson.**

3. Any agenda items that wish to be raised by the Community for AOB

None.

4. Affordable Housing Project update (LD/SP)

The team are working hard to ensure all tender financial paperwork is in order, compiling a list of updated drawings to accompany the contract with our preferred contractor TSL.

There is a MCDC meeting pencilled in for 30<sup>th</sup> April, this is to share the final documents and approve the contract signing.

Risk register has been shared with the board. Once the contract is awarded, there will be still some outstanding items:

- Scottish Water approvals
- Planning conditions discharge
- Stage 1 and 2 building warrant amendments

Funding is secured overall, but there are some additional design team fee costs and VAT on those to be considered.

Allocations policy is being developed. Have several template policies that would form the base of the MCDC one. Criteria and scoring system will be essential for fair and transparent allocations process. MCDC is considering taking on management of new properties in house.

## 5. Operations

### 5.1 Operations Report (SP)

MCDC – thank you to MW for work with ombudsman and high electricity costs in the hub. Downgrading the supply is ongoing and will make electricity cheaper, backdated to November 2025. Will move to Octopus, Harbour already with Octopus which reduced the price.

Latest newsletter out.

10 applications for volunteering with A Firth.

Samantha Stuart will cover Isla's maternity leave.

CAOLAS want to be part of community coalition for insurance etc.

MCTC – café open Wed – Saturday, plus Thursday night, 6500 transactions last year. Urram lunches continue. 20 local crafters sell through the hub with no commission to MCDC. Gym open at the harbour, membership growing. 4 musters booked. Bar open. Circular economy is preferred supply option for the company. 2 new e – bikes purchased.

MorVolts – high voltage inspection completed. Task list ongoing.

### 5.2 Charge place Scotland update (MW)

EV charge point moved from Charge Place Scotland to Voltshare, it is a flexible system, and they will install their own software with QR code for customers to access to use the service. Voltshare will take 15% of the price with MCDC keeping 85%. Funding is available for fast chargers potentially in the village, being explored.

### 5.3 SSE Grant Application for Resilience at the Community Hub (SP)

Application submitted to SSE resilience fund for £15K for a generator for the hub that would serve the fuel pumps and potentially the shop in case of emergency, also will allow us to have a Starlink system to run the pumps payment system.

## 6. MCDC Budget update (SP/T)

MCDC draft budget is ready, need to wait for housing project contract signing and payment schedule to add to the budget, it can then be approved by the board.

## 7. New Director(s) co-opt (SP)

Advertised for new directors. Had 2 applications, one withdrew.

Sam Firth has been unanimously co – opted onto the board, meaning she would need to stand down at the next AGM and stand again then if she wishes.

## 8. AOB

For information - There is an informal group to look into voltage drops by SSE. Perhaps the MCC could take this on with SSE.

Hope to progress the tidy up of bin stores at Calmac ferry pier, by screening the bins, the cost is £1800 split between MDCDC, the Highland Council and Calmac. To be in place within the next couple of months.

Rates – the company apply for rates relief for all their businesses; the largest one is Barr for which the bill this year is over £135K but can apply for 60% relief. The company is considering appealing against such rates for community.

9. Next Meeting information - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 7pm

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 20.20.

Minutes Approved	23-04-2026		Angus Robertson (chair)
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