



**Minutes for MDCD Board meeting
Tuesday 17th February 2026 6pm**

APPROVED

Minutes
<p>1. Welcome and declarations of interest AR and ST declared an interest both having family members working for MDCD</p>
<p>2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising (AR) Minutes of the urgent meeting of the 2nd February were approved</p>
<p>3. Housing – Stage 2 Tender report and Housing go/no decision (LD) LD presented her report on the stage 2 housing tender results. This information is commercially sensitive, so not shared in the minutes. LD also set out the key risks that the Housing Project presented to the organisation, these were reputational, finance and some concerns regarding our current professional support. Resolved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) MDCD Directors considered the Lochaline Affordable Housing Project at a total cost of £4,760,355.00. However, Directors felt they could not proceed until they had confirmation of Scottish Government funding for the current budget gap of £363,805. This conversation will take place on the 23rd Feb 2026 and Directors will need to reconvene after this. </p>
<p>4. Operations Report (SP) SP presented a detailed update on the operations this month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) MDCD focus is Housing Project, both construction and a review of the current allocation policy ii) MCTC focus is preparing for the café and harbour season ahead. New chef Robert Yeoman arrives 22.2.26. Community Gym to open before the end of the month, all health safety risk work has been completed iii) Movolts focus is operational management, lots of small tasks and maintenance have been completed </p>
<p>5. Project Initiation Documents these were reviewed by the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) West Pier (SP/LD) The aim of this project would be to ensure the greatest community benefit is achieved by the future operations of the West Pier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber off the Morvern Roads • Community access to Pier for recreation • Visit access to Pier for fishing • Increased range of vessels into the Lochaline Harbour, to support economic development, such as Calmac, Waverley or Cruise ship </p>
<p>RESOLVED: Proceed Through stage 1 before further board review. This includes these next steps:</p>

- Formalise a MCDC subgroup to work with others including MCC, Caolas and other community members,
- Development of an outline business plan for West Pier
- Exploration of community buy out and other options including partnering with FLS.
- Prepare funding applications through SLF (target from 1st April 2026). Research other funding opportunities for SLF shortfall.

ii) Lochaline toilet re-development (LD)

This initiative looks to create much-improved facilities around the Fishnish Ferry terminal in Lochaline.

- Targets include improved, cleaner, more welcoming and accessible toilet facilities.
- The improvements would encourage visitors to Lochaline

The aim of this project would be to carry out options assessment and feasibility study with a result of producing a masterplan for the area that would be achievable, affordable and fit for purpose. The masterplan will be presented to the MCDC board when ready.

RESOLVED: It was agreed this project can proceed but with restricted MCDC input while we favour the housing project this year.

iii) Community Alliance (SP)

The aim of this project is to consider what services could be provided by the MCDC team to other community groups such as:

- Insurance cover
- Zoom/Teams
- Better Room hire and hot desking
- Better Pontoon access
- Health and safety fundamentals support
- Strategic planning support
- Grant finding support
- Library of everything useful at the Hub
- Grant applications
- Access to Step HR
- Access to EQ Accountants
- Access to Clarity Safety
- Access to Digital Support via Apprentice Store

RESOLVED: This project was also approved and felt to be beneficial to the community. Next steps: to explore options, confirm with providers, share with the community groups for comment, prepare a Development/Business plan for presentation to the board

iv) Renewable Energy (Movolts) (SP)

this is a project to

- Assess the options for distributions of Barr electricity locally and also options for a community wind project for Movern.
- Explore and set out how best the Morvern community could benefit from a wind project, whether community or externally led

RESOLVED: this project was agreed to be taken forward by Movolts, working with CARES

6. MCDC Subgroup membership and terms of reference

- i) Subgroup terms or reference and members were agreed, see Appendix A attached to these minutes.

ii)RESOLVED: Members of all subgroups will be asked to follow MCDCs code of conduct and, all subgroup membership will be reviewed and re confirmed by the board annually at or around each AGM.

iii)Rem Comm – minute confirmation – this approved, not published here as it relates to the pay, salaries and conditions of MCDC staff.

iv)HL asked, regarding the RSPB community engagement group – SP to find out more

7. MCDC Budget update (SP)

It was noted that the MCTC budget had been prepared, the MCDC and Morvolts budgets would be drafted by the end of the Month, all coming back to board for approval, hopefully before the end of March

8. New Director application/co-opt (SP)

As we have potentially three Director vacancies on the MCDC Board, it was agreed that an advert should be posted to the community asking for expressions of interest in being co-opted. with a view to making appointments from the start of the new financial year.


9. Live Life Morvern Plan update (HL)

Following a meeting of the chairs of MCDC, MCC and MCT, HL is coordinating a progress update relating to the actions in Live Life Morvern aiming to complete by May 2026, with the update provided to the community in the form of a newsletter. The board agreed that it would be good if MCDC could help with the admin around this newsletter.

10. AOB

Grass-cutting – request for financial contribution. This was considered and will be responded to asap when the budgets have been drafted, at the end of Feb 26. SP also offered to assist HL with a voluntary scheme, if ongoing funding could not be found.

11. There being no further business the meeting was closed.

Minutes and Appendix A items Approved	28-02-2026		Angus Robertson (chair)
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Appendix A Terms of Reference

MCDC Subgroups and Appointments to External Bodies

MCDC Article	
Article 52	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board may delegate any of its powers to sub-committees, each consisting of not less than one Director and such other person or persons as it thinks fit or which it delegates to the sub-committee to appoint. Any sub-committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any remit and regulations imposed on it by the Board. The meetings and proceedings of any such sub-committee shall be governed by the provisions of these Articles for regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board so far as applicable and so far as the same shall not be superseded by any regulations made by the Board. Such sub-committee shall regularly and promptly circulate, or ensure the regular and prompt circulation of, the minutes of its meetings to all Directors

Subgroups:

Group	Terms of Reference	Staff Lead	Members (must be at least 1 Director)	Date appointed (max 3 years)
Housing Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocation of properties in Miners Court Development of revised allocation policy for new homes No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	LD	Susan Taylor (Director) Brian Rendall (Director) Sarah Jones Jennie Robertson	Confirmed 17.2.26
Housing Project Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversight of Housing Construction project to time, cost and quality expectations No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	LD/SP	Angus Robertson (Director) Keith Laidlow (Director) Brian Rendall (Director)	Confirmed 17.2.26
Toilets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masterplan for Ferry Pier area including toilet refurbishment No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	LD	Sarah Jones Henriette Laidlow (MCC Appointed Director)	17.2.26
Remcom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay and Grading for MCDC and associated companies No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 		Miles Welsh (Director) Keith Laidlow (Director) Dave Mealand (MCTC Director) Annie Tordoff (MCTC Director)	17.2.26
West Pier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an outline business plan for West Pier Exploration of community buyout and other options including partnering FLS No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	SP/LD	Angus Robertson (Director) Henriette Laidlow (Director) Sarah Jones Annabel Lawrence (Caolas)	17.2.26

Renewable Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a wind plan for Morvern - Options for local access to electricity generated by Barr Hydro - No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC/Morvolts 	N/A	Morvolts Board	17.2.26
Community Coalition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Umbrella organisation for Community Groups in Morvern - No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	SP	Annabel Lawrence Susan Taylor (Director) Katy Donnelly Sam Frith Henriette Laidlow ((MCC Appointed Director)	17.2.26

Appointments to outside bodies

Community Group	Terms of Reference	MCDC Representative	Date appointed
Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of community resilience plan for Morvern - No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	Brian Rendall (Director)	
Woodland Crofts Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop plan to purchase land for Woodland Crofts - No delegated powers – reports back to MCDC 	Suzanne Pender (Executive Director)	
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Minutes and Appendix A items Approved	28-02-2026		Angus Robertson (chair)
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