

Minutes

Sunart Community Council

Thursday 11th June 2026, 7.30 pm Village Hall

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Attending: J Jones (Chair), A Gainsford (Treasurer), J Millar-Craig (Secretary), C Hunter (Vice Chair), P Adams, A Evans, M Stewart

Apologies: A Herrman

2. Acceptance of previous minutes (inc. amendments)

No amendments

Proposed: J Jones Seconded: C Hunter

3. Matters Arising

- a. Bridge on Fairies Road / HF Holidays Pathways Fund Charity – The funding for the new bridge is now in place. ACT will make the bridge offsite and will be responsible for the installation. It is hoped that this will be by the end of July (to be confirmed). The bridge will ultimately be owned by the Community Company. Thanks go to HFL Holidays for their substantial contribution towards this project. Thanks also go to all contributors and especially to A Gainsford for all her work on this.
- b. Public Toilet at Shops – ongoing **JJ to action**
- c. Trees at Parking Area Surgery/ Village Hall – task completed.
- d. Join Rural Watch Scotland – now in place
- e. Laudale felled trees – ongoing **JJ to action**
- f. Laudale Estate Woodland Plans 2025 – ongoing **JJ to action**
- g. Extra / Larger bins for village centre – the promised bins have still not been delivered **JJ to action**
- h. FLS- lack of Funds for Maintenance of Visitor Facilities – AG has been in touch with RL, awaiting a reply. **AG to action**
- i. On Shore Renewable Energy (Community Support) – ongoing **AG to action**
- j. Electronic 'Ferry' Sign – PA has written to the Chief Executive of Highland Council. Awaiting a reply. **PA to action**
- k. Dog Waste – more poo bags have been purchased. Another dispenser to be purchased. **JJ to action** PA to make signs asking people to pick up after their dogs. The posters are to be placed at popular dog walking sites. **PA to action.**
- l. State of A861 Jetty to Resipole - some tree felling is yet to take place. It is unlikely that any road repairs will be carried out before this happens. **JJ to action**
- m. Wet Course, British Divers – noted
- n. Consultation re RSPB Glencripesdale Reserve LTFP – this request had been received with a very short turnaround time. No response had been made.
- o. Funding Request from Feisean Lochaber Ceilidh Trail – the meeting had agreed to provide some funding towards this event in Fort William. **AG to action**
- p. Local Transport facilities – a request had been made as to whether it was possible to provide connecting ongoing transport between the ferry and Strontian, with a particular view to this being provided e.g. for those returning from college, employment in Fort William in the early evening. This could be in the form of a minibus, taxi etc. **JJ and AH to action**

4. Police Matters – (notice received just after the meeting)

The intention is to shortly carry out regular speed checks. In addition, the summer drink driving campaign will be commencing soon. Unfortunately, there has been an increase in drink and drug drivers being caught within the area.

5. **Planning Matters** – 26/01147/FUL Replacement septic tank and soak away, Craiginnes, Upper Scotstown - noted.

6. Correspondence.

- a. Martyn's Law Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 – this document outlines new legal duties for Scottish premises. The act calls for improved security measures and emergency response procedures. This is with a view to mitigating the risk and impact of terrorist attacks. Public protection procedures such as evacuation, invacuation, lock down and communication protocols must be addressed, the actual requirements depending on the capacity of the event. Premises have to identify the person 'in control' of a venue and effectively 'the buck stops' with this named person. The document was discussed and concern was expressed by it's expectations and implications. It was decide to share the document with a number of committees and relevant individuals within the community, to ensure that they are aware of it's contents.
- b. E mail from Community member – this issue was discussed but it was decided that it was not something with which the Community Council could engage with/ resolve.
- c. Support for Ardnamurchan Mod 100th Anniversary - the meeting agreed to grant £500 to the local Mod. **AG to action.**
- d. Craft Hub Update – (JJ and AG declared an interest in this item) a request had been received from the Craft Hub for a grant to pay for the labour needed to erect a sloping roof above the Craft Hub cabin. Funding for the materials had already been sourced. The meeting decided that, in the first instance, it was necessary to be provided with some quotes for the work. **JJ to contact AH.**

7. **Dail Mhor-** JJ had sent out a number of E mails to relevant individuals asking for an update on where things currently stand with Dail Mhor. Unfortunately, he is still waiting for replies. If there is no reply by next meeting then further actions will have to be taken such as contacting local councillors, the media etc. **JJ to action**

8. Old Primary School

Grass cutting – grass is now cut.

9. Corran Ferry

Stakeholder Meeting 12/5/2026

Insurance claims for 'ramp' damage to cars. – process going very slowly, people waiting months to hear back from Highland Council or being told claims rejected due to lack of proof or down to driver error or simply 'nothing wrong with ramps'. There is a copy of Naval architect's report on the Maid's ramps available on the Corran Ferry Website, under The Stakeholders Group heading, minutes and documents.

The community councils had pushed for pre inspection reports on the vessels to be undertaken before they go to the yard for refit. This was in order to highlight any work needing to be carried out before the vessel went away so that parts could be preordered and the refit process then go quicker. CC representatives demanded assurance that these were being done and the reports be shared.

New online ticketing – still to be standard tickets available which would be at full price, drive up and pay by cash or card. To get discounted tickets however, people will have to register online with a user account and pay by card. The purchaser would then have a 'bundle' of online tickets. These would be scanned by purser on board. It will still be several months before the system will be set up, trialled and working.

Highland Council has agreed that work is to be carried out on the A861. Further passing places are to be put in and additional signage and lineage. This is to be done between Ardgour and Trislaig which is to be welcomed however, there is a greater need for this work to be done from Trislaig

going North as this stretch hadn't been touched in the improvement works programme carried out when the ferry was out of action for several months.

There is a need for an increase to the marshalling area at the Ardgour side both now and when the new ferry is operating. A temporary area is currently set up. The use of this area is to be looked into.

Next meeting 11th August 2026

Corran Ferry Update 18th May (latest received update)

The Maid of Glencoul's refit which commenced Monday 20 April 2026 and includes superstructure repairs, rewiring, hull patching and ramp flap improvements, is currently progressing to schedule to allow her anticipated return home to Ardgour in July.

Parking at the New Slipways.

There are still issues to be resolved with the inclusion of 'general' parking at the new slipway in Ardgour. At this point in time, discussions are ongoing.

10. Treasurer's Report

Deposit Account: £3,237.42 Current Account: £18,515.50

We have received two years funding from SSE Renewables. On approval of the accounts, an application will be submitted for the 25/26 grant.

The year end accounts were now completed. Thanks were given to Kirsty for auditing the accounts.

11. Any Other Business

- a. Phemie's Wood Walk – Unfortunately, the board walk in Phemie's Wood has been broken. It may be that FLS will repair it but otherwise the Community Council will have to look into the necessary repair work. **JJ and AG to action.**
- b. Entertainment Licence for Fireworks Display. The meeting felt that it would be desirable to hold the Firework display again this year. However, the entertainment licence needs to be renewed. This could be done through the Show Ground Committee or some other 'named person/group' route. Issue to be investigated. **AG to make enquiries.**

Date of Next Meeting- Thursday 13th August 2026 7.00 pm, Strontian Village Hall