

Plockton & District Community Trust

Urras Coimhearsnachd Sgìre a' Phluic

Minute of Trustees' Meeting: 3 October 2023 held at Duirinish Oaks

Present: Mary Jane Campbell, Catherine Will, Bill Taylor, John Maclean, Alexander Mackenzie, Sandra Holmes, Alasdair Mackenzie and Matt Jones

1. **Apologies:**, David Skilling
2. **Conflicts of Interest:** No conflicts of interest declared.
3. **Election/AGM** – Office Bearers for 2023-24

The following were elected unanimously:

- a. Chair: Bill Taylor
- b. Secretary: David Skilling
- c. Treasurer: John Maclean

4. **Previous Minutes:** approved unanimously.
5. **Actions:** The Action List updated and circulated.
6. **Membership:** Ordinary membership down slightly from people moving away.
7. **Correspondence:** Apologies for missing the AGM were received from Douglas Hamilton and Siobhan Barker
8. **Short Term Letting:** Nothing to report.
9. **Collaboration:** Kate Forbes to meet Lochalsh Collaboration on Zoom. Kyle & Lochalsh Trust has received funding for a consultant to create a "Lochalsh Place Plan". Bill Taylor will keep us up to date with this.
10. **Old Post Office:** Nothing to report
11. **Fund Raising:**
 - a. The last disco took in £782. Many thanks to all who attended and helped at this event especially Neil Macrae and Jane Stevenson who are not currently involved with the Trust. Thanks also to Euan Bruce for providing the music again.
 - b. Fund raising group to meet to plan next event

- c. The plan to screen the Wickerman in the hall to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its release is progressing. The hall is booked for the 6th of December. There will be a bar.
- d. It is estimated that we will have to raise between £5,000 and £6,000 for the first phase of the Old PO project.

AGM:

Please find the annual Trustees report online at

<https://plockton.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/DRAFT-Trustees-Annual-Report-to-31-July-2023-Google-Docs.pdf>

We have two new board members this year: Bill Taylor and Matt Jones

Margaret Ann Matheson stood down from the Board this year

Membership up slightly this year with 103 ordinary members and 31 associate members

Efforts to purchase and develop the old post office building are progressing. The Trust has so far been granted £15,800 to pay for a feasibility study and architects drawings. We submitted an application to the Scottish Land Fund for funds to purchase the building.

A new Plockton and District Phonebook was completed in November 2022

The community lunch at the Plockton Hotel was restarted in March 2023.

Discussions are ongoing with the new owners of the Paddock

Work with the Community Council and Highland Council is ongoing with regards traffic management and parking. It has been agreed that the Community Council will focus on traffic management and the Trust will focus on visitor facilities which may include improvements to the Plockton car park

The Trust has continued making representations to Highland Council for Plockton and District to be made a control area for short term lets. It has been agreed that the Community Council will focus on traffic management and the Trust will focus on visitor facilities which may include improvements to the Plockton car park.

We submitted a response in July 2023, supporting proposals to allow council's to charge higher council tax for second and empty homes

In July 2023 we submitted an Expression of Interest to Highland Council with respect to possible community use/lease/ownership of Plockton Airstrip.

The Trust's bank balance as of 31/07/2023 is **5910.00** which includes restricted funds

12. Plockton Inn Staff Accommodation: General disappointment with the lack of consultation between the Plockton Inn/North Coast Hotel Group and the community in Plockton regarding their plans for the revised extension to the rear of the Inn.

13. Plockton Primary School: The decision by Highland Council to condemn the Plockton Primary school canteen building was noted. It seems likely that primary classes will move from the current buildings in the village up to the high school buildings. It is hoped this will be a temporary measure while plans are made to replace the canteen and the Gaelic medium classrooms.

14. AOB:

Airstrip: John Maclean has submitted an EOI to the Highland Council for the airstrip in Plockton. A list of potential ideas for the community use of the airstrip should be compiled.

Paddock: Ongoing – lease still to be agreed. Gate and risk assessment required before public use.

15. **Next Meeting:** Next meeting will be on Tuesday 7th November.

16. **Notetaker:** David Skilling

