

# BERNERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Bernera Community Centre  
Breaclete  
Great Bernera  
Isle of Lewis  
HS2 9LT

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2025

**CHAIR:** Norma Macleod  
**TREASURER:** Iso Macdonald (Co-opted)  
**MINUTE SECRETARY:** Carolyn Prosser  
**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Callum, Catherine Chrissie, Detta, Ella, Glynis, Jess, Jo, John, Karina, Matt and Zoe

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Norma, Iso, Carolyn, Callum, Catherine, Glynis, John, Karina and Vic (BCA Administrator).

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Chrissie, Detta, Ella, Jess, Jo, Matt and Zoe.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes from the BCA Meeting dated 11 June 2025 were approved (proposed by Karina and seconded by Catherine).

### 3. REPORTS

Copies of Vic's Admin Report had previously been distributed.

- (a) **TESCO COMMUNITY GRANT:** It had previously been suggested and agreed to use this money (£500) for the Toddler Area at the Play Park along with the £1,500 Ward Fund which will go towards the ground work for the new play park equipment. Vic reported that the monies received from Tesco would need to be utilised by December 2025. Norma agreed to speak to Richard.
- (b) **COOKER HOOD:** The cooker hood has been completed. Calum to check the fire wall in the roof space.
- (c) **DISHWASHER:** Repair and/or replacement to be sought from Holm Appliances.
- (d) **RUNNING & CROSS FIT MACHINES:** As previously agreed, John and Callum to examine the gym machines that were currently out of action to establish what was required in order for these to be repaired. On-going.
- (e) **EV POINT:** Callum had agreed to view an associated "Webinar" and report back. On-going.
- (f) **SECURITY CAMERAS FOR COMMUNITY HALL:** Vic had previously reported that these cameras would need to be linked to two mobile phones and it had been suggested that a "stand alone" pay-as-you-go mobile phone would be of use. Norma advised that she had passed a mobile phone to the Association and all that was now required was a SIM card. Need to link camera to mobile phone. On-going.
- (g) **BATTERY STORAGE UNIT:** This unit was now in Stornoway and delivery to Bernera was awaited.
- (h) **HAND TOWEL USAGE:** Richard had previously reported that the use of paper green towels in the Centre's bathrooms was contributing to blockages. In the interim, it was decided to purchase flushable towels for the top toilets.

### 4. FINANCE

Iso updated the meeting on the current BCA Accounts.

## 5. FUNDING

- (a) **TSI Fund:** A grant of £1,750 had been received. It was suggested that this be allocated as follows: £250 towards the Soup Stop, £500 towards the Polytunnels and £1,000 towards Community Activities/Craft Day Workshops.
- (b) **CLLD Grant:** The Committee discussed the current status of this grant. Via her February report, Vic advised that £6,000 had been given in principle (which is less than the £8,000 applied for). The cost of Battery Units is £7,613 and agreement to purchase one battery unit was agreed in principle. On-going.
- (c) **WIDT – Alleviation of Fuel Poverty fund.** Vic reported that an application enquiry to the Western Isles Development Trust for £10,000 (this being their maximum award) had been made. To-date a reply was awaited.

## 6. BERNERA BULLETIN/FUTURE EVENT ARRANGEMENTS

Where applicable, flyers will be distributed and all upcoming events will be listed on the BCA Facebook Page and published in the Bernera Bulletin. These to include:

- **FEAST FROM THE EAST:** A suitable date for this event remains outstanding
- **BIG BREAKFAST: Saturday 16 August** – 10.00 am to 1.00 pm
- **TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: Saturday 13 September** – details to follow
- **MUSIC EVENING: Saturday 18 October** – details to follow
- **GUY FAWKES/FIREWORK NIGHT: Saturday 8 November** – details to follow
- **CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR: Saturday 22 November** – details to follow
- **OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Saturday 20 December** – details to follow
- **HOGMANAY: Wednesday 31 December** – details to follow

## 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**WINDOW:** The window in the toilet area outside the Museum needs to be replaced. The Extractor Fan also needs attention.

**BACK DROP MURAL FOR THE LARGE HALL:** Karina had previously suggested that photos (kindly donated by Sandie Maciver) from the 2024 Bernera Riot Commemorative Walk be turned into a mural to decorate the back wall of the large hall. This suggestion was welcomed and Stuart Sutherland would be asked to quote for such print work. On-going – it was agreed to revisit this in the winter months.

**DRAINS:** This would be reviewed at the end of the summer.

**BOILER:** A new boiler for the Community Centre was required. A quotation from Lewis Builders to remove the old boiler, and then supply/install/test and commission a new one had been received at a cost of £8,700.00 plus VAT. This item of expenditure was approved.

**BCA ADMINISTRATOR/HANDYMAN POSTS:** Vic will be taking maternity leave effective 30 September 2025 and Richard had tendered his resignation. It was agreed to hold off advertising for the role of Handyman for the time being.

**DEFIBRILLATORS:** It was agreed to seek the services of a member of the community who would be willing to regularly check the two defibrillators to ensure the batteries were fully charged. A suitable notice to be put into the next edition of the Bernera Bulletin, whilst also making clear that these items of equipment were not the responsibility of the BCA.

**COMMUNITY POLYCRUB:** Funds can be taken out of TSI funding.

*Meeting finished at 8.30 pm. Next meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm on Wednesday 13 August 2025.*