

# BERNERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER 2025

<b>CHAIR:</b>	Norma Macleod
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Iso Macdonald (Co-opted)
<b>MINUTE SECRETARY:</b>	Carolyn Prosser
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</b>	Callum Macaulay, Catherine Macaulay, Chrissie Macdonald, Detta Macleod, Ella Macaulay Fraser, Glynis Davis, Jess Macaulay, Jo George, John Latimir, Karina Macaulay, Matt Locke and Zoe Macinnes
<b>BCA ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Victoria Rudge
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Norma, Callum, Carolyn, Catherine, Detta, Glynis, Jo, Karina, Vic and local resident, Helen Strong

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Chrissie, Ella, Iso, Jess, John, Matt and Zoe.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the BCA Meeting dated 10 September 2025 were approved (proposed by Glynis and seconded by Detta).

### 3. HANDYMAN POST

To-date, no applications had been received. It was agreed to re-advertise this post.

### 4. FINANCE

In Iso's absence, Norma summarised the current BCA accounts and the latest P&L analysis. It was pleasing to note that the Café had made a gross profit in excess of £8k for the period ending 30 September 2025. Particularly thanks were paid to Catherine and Glynis for all their hard work in achieving this result.

### 5. FUNDING

(a) **TSI Fund:** A previous minute agreed to allocate £250 to Soup Stop, £500 to Polytunnels and £1,000 towards Community Activities/Craft Day Workshops. Having been awarded a grant of £1,750, Vic is completing a TSI evaluation to show how the fund has been spent.

(b) **CLLD Grant:** On-going. Vic is waiting on a few committee address details then will apply.

(c) **WIDT – Alleviation of Fuel Poverty Fund:** Vic reported that an application for £1,500 had not been successful.

(d) **TESCO Groundworks:** Vic had previously reported that we came third in the Tesco Counter Fund and have now received a total of £500.

### 6. REPORTS

There was no written report for tonight's meeting.

(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 had previously reported that the monies received from Tesco would need to be utilised by December 2025. It was decided to check which items at the playpark could be removed to make room for the newer items.

- (b) **DISHWASHER:** Holm Appliances had advised that they would be unable to supply a new machine as this was deemed a “commercial” unit as opposed to a domestic one. Vic to cost a similar one and Jo to possibly source a replacement. On-going.
- (c) **RUNNING & CROSS FIT MACHINES:** John had previously reported that the two cross trainers were now working. However, one running machine required PAT Testing before it could be put back into service. Jo to check the current status.
- (d) **EV POINT:** A new commercial supplier needs to be chosen before May 2026.
- (e) **SECURITY CAMERAS FOR COMMUNITY HALL:** Norma had previously advised that she had passed a mobile phone to the Association and all that was now required was a SIM card. A decision regarding cameras is awaited and who will be responsible. On-going.
- (f) **BATTERY STORAGE UNIT:** Although this had been fitted, it was not yet operational.

#### 7. SIGNS FOR TOILETS/DONATIONS/ELECTONIC DONATIONS

It had previously been agreed that more prominent signage was required to encourage visitors to the Centre to make a donation for using the bathroom facilities. The use of a “Q” code to be looked at. On-going.

- 8. **HEBRIDES INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:** This year’s film festival had taken place from 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September – Callum reported that the screenings at the hall had not been well attended.

#### 9. 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
- **MUSIC EVENING “BERNERA HAS TALENT”** – This event is scheduled to take place on 25 October
- **THE BIG QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 14 November** (7.00pm to 9.00 pm) in aid of the Tear Fund
- **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

**GUY FAWKES/FIREWORK NIGHT:** It was agreed to reschedule this event for **Wednesday 5 November**. Bacon Rolls, Teas and Coffees would be served in the hall from 6.30 pm with the bonfire and fireworks to commence at 7.00 pm.

#### 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**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 quotation from Lewis Builders to remove the old boiler, and then supply/install/test and commission a new one had previously been received at a cost of £8,700.00 plus VAT. This item of expenditure was approved. Norma agreed to call Lewis Builders with a view to expediting its installation.

**DEFIBRILLATORS:** A local resident had offered to make regular checks on the defibrillator located at the school to ensure the batteries were fully charged.

**GREAT BERNERA AND TIR MOR WEBSITE:** Helen updated the meeting on the current progress of the new website which was currently under construction. Committee Members were asked to contribute ideas on what they would like to see included under the BCA section.

**SEPTIC TANK:** On-going issues. Richard will endeavour to fix these before he moves to the mainland.

**SIGN AT ROAD END:** Glynis to speak to Stuart to change the times for the winter season.

**TEAPOTS:** Catherine is arranging for new stock to be purchased.

**OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** It was hoped that £500 from the Ward Fund be allocated to the cost of this event.

**CALENDARS FOR 2026:** Helen presented a draft of the proposed 2026 calendar she had been working on. The first batch of calendars should be ready to go on sale in time for the Christmas Craft Fair on 22 November.

**BCA/BCC/GREAT BERNERA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST:** A date for a combined meeting to be agreed.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The BCA AGM is scheduled to take place at 7.30 pm on Monday 27 October. Arrangements are in hand.

Tonight's meeting concluded at 8.55 pm.

*Next BCA meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm on Wednesday 12 November 2025*