

BERNERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2025

CHAIR:	Norma Macleod
TREASURER:	To be appointed
MINUTE SECRETARY:	Carolyn Prosser
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Callum Macaulay, Catherine Macaulay, Chrissie Macdonald, Detta Macleod, Ella Macaulay Fraser, Glynis Davis, Jess Macaulay, Joanna George, John Latimir, Karina Macaulay, Matt Locke and Zoe Macinnes
BCA ADMINISTRATORS	Joanna George and Victoria Rudge (currently on maternity leave)
IN ATTENDANCE:	Norma, Callum, Catherine, Detta, Jo, John, Karina and local resident, Helen Strong

Tonight's minutes were taken by Karina, in Carolyn's absence.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Carolyn, Chrissie, Ella, Glynis, Jess and Matt

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the BCA Meeting dated 10 October 2025 were approved (proposed by Catherine and seconded by Callum).

3. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICE BEARERS

Chair: Norma Macleod – proposed by John and seconded by Catherine

Minute Secretary: Carolyn Prosser – proposed by Karina and seconded by Norma

Treasurer – It was hoped that Isobel Macdonald could be co-opted back onto the Committee and that she will agree to be Treasurer.

4. HANDYMAN POST

One application had been received, which will be reviewed next week. Norma is preparing a job list (Norma/Jo).

5. FINANCE

An update will be presented at the next meeting as Kath and Iso were unable to be here this evening.

6. FUNDING

(a) **TSI Fund:** It had been previously 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 was completing a TSI evaluation to show how the fund has been spent. Although not available for this meeting it should be for the next.

(b) **CLLD Grant:** On-going.

(c) **TESCO Groundworks:** Vic had previously reported that we came third in the Tesco Counter Fund and had now received a total of £500. It was agreed to purchase a bench for the play area (Jo).

7. 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 groundwork 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:** Utility dishwasher issues are on-going. John advised that he might be able to get parts for the broken button on the kitchen dishwasher.
- (c) **Oven:** A small part on oven is broken. John offered to look at.
- (d) **GYM CROSS FIT MACHINES:** One cross trainer requires PAT Testing. On-going. (Jo)
- (e) **EV POINT:** A new commercial supplier needs to be chosen before May 2026. Callum reported that EVOLT quoted £350 per year to run the point and deal with finance. It was agreed to go ahead with this arrangement. Jo will send on to Kath for her to accept by agreement by email. (Jo/Kath)
- (f) **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.
- (g) **BATTERY STORAGE UNIT:** This is now up and running. Gaslight is the current supplier, but we may need to change suppliers to get a smart meter fitted and to start selling electricity. Jo to speak to Kath.

8. 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.

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
- **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**
- **OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH: Saturday 20 December** – details to follow
- **HOGMANAY: Wednesday 31 December** – details to follow.

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.

DRAINS: This would be reviewed at the end of the summer. On-going.

BOILER: This has now been installed and paid for.

DEFIBRILLATORS: A local Breaclete resident (Steve Hancock) has agreed 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 and advised that some funding would be required. It was suggested that all three Community Groups (BCA, BCC and the Trust) jointly donate £75.00 each. Helen will speak to both the BCC and Trust.

SEPTIC TANK: On-going issues.

SIGN AT ROAD END: Winter times to be added. Detta will speak to Stuart.

TEAPOTS: These have arrived.

OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH: It was hoped that £500 from the Ward Fund can allocated to the cost of this event. A meeting to organise food etc will take place on Monday 17 November.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER: It was agreed to do this again for the Big Breakfast. Careen prepared a previous list of items for Committee Members to donate so Karina will ask her to do this again.

SOCIAL NIGHT/FAREWELL TO RICHARD AND KATIE BOOTH: Need to find out from Richard the starting time. Gifts for family ready.

NEW YEAR'S EVE: It was suggested we ask John Porteous and Gina Dootson-Scott to play and sing on the night. Helen said she had been speaking to Gina regarding this and also to organise Christmas Carols for the Senior Citizens' Lunch.

CALENDARS FOR 2026: Helen to go ahead with the order for the Calendar. She will order a small amount initially and they will be available at the Christmas Fayre and orders will be taken.

FILM NIGHT: Agreed to have the next one in January – folk to let Callum know suggestions for films.

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

Tonight's meeting concluded at 8.45 pm.

Next BCA meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm on Wednesday 10 December 2025