

CARRADALE COMMUNITY TRUST

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (under the auspices of the new Constitution)

Wednesday 1 September 2021 7pm, Village Hall

In Attendance: Tony Leighton (Chair); Malcolm Trott (Treasurer); Alasdair Bennett; Johnny Durnan; Jean Campbell; Jenn Lee; Alan Walker; Ian McGhie; Ian (Neenie) MacDougall; Margaret Leighton; Eleanor Bennett; Shelagh Cameron; Kim Norton; Bruce MacQuarrie; Alan Milstead; Mary Macalister Hall; Carol Abernethy; Brian Gee; Catriona Trott; Tony Ryan; Trish Hurst; Marjory McKinven; James McKinven; Karen Parr; Roy Martine; Margaret Richardson (Minute Secretary)

1. Apologies: Hamish Hunter

2. Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on 26th November 2020, were agreed to be accurate and were proposed by Johnny Durnan and seconded by Catriona Trott.

3. Chair's Report: Tony Leighton (TL) read out his report highlighting how much effort had been expended by the trustees, members of the CCT and volunteers to the benefit of the people of East Kintyre. In particular, the success of the development of the permanent shop and Post Office and the work which went on behind the scenes to secure funding to make it all possible. He also reported that as a result of the Treasurer, Malcolm Trott, attending a Post Office Training Course, the CCT could take over the role of Postmaster, thus ensuring the continuation of a Post Office in Carradale for the future.

He went on to address other successes such as the Heritage Centre's new displays and the considerable work which went in to making a successful exhibition. Dottie's Cafe has been trading since May and has thrived during the holiday season.

Seneval Composting project which had started up in the Spring has been temporarily closed due to a lack of volunteers.

Carradale Harbour Enterprises Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the CCT, are continuing their efforts to try to straighten the alignment of the slipway.

He thanked all the people who had so tirelessly given up their time and energy in pursuit of these activities acknowledging that so much can be achieved when the community pulls together.

The Chair reported that because there is a new Constitution, the community will have access to future funding which will help to manage and develop more complex projects identified in the Local Development Plan. This will allow access to professional legal, financial and tax advice, making sure that legal requirements are met, including the responsibilities of an employer. The real strength of the CCT continues to be the involvement of so many people who have been prepared to work and volunteer for the betterment of the community and whatever the contribution, large or small, the Chair thanked all those involved.

The Chair thanked Alan Walker for his commitment and effective leadership as Chair over a number of years, as he had had to stand down earlier to undertake another role with Argyll Presbytery.

The Chair then opened up the floor for questions

a) A member wanted to have an update about Bikes and Buggies. The Chair clarified that the business operator is self-employed and that it is not run for the CCT. It was confirmed that the lease would terminate at the end of September and the Bikes and Buggies would revert back to the CCT, who will decide what will be done with them after that. Another member hoped that they would continue to be available for holiday makers, believing that they are an asset to the village.

b) A member asked about the future use of Seneval and whether it would re-open. It is hoped that it will start up again when some volunteers come forward. Tony Ryan volunteered his services to help with Seneval and pointed out that the amount of garden refuse would lessen in the winter months. Another member suggested the site is opened only on set times.

4. Approval of the Annual Accounts: Treasurer, MT provided every member with a summary of the accounts from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020. He pointed out that some of the funding received had not been spent until this year - purchasing and refurbishing the shop in particular.

A question was asked about the Supporting Communities Fund. This was Government funding to help rural and isolated communities specifically during the COVID pandemic.

Alan Walker proposed the approval of the Accounts and Alan Milstead seconded them.

5. Election of Trustees:

The Chair explained that with the new Constitution a maximum of 7 Trustees were required to run the CCT. The CCT has overall management responsibility for all the sub committees which report back to the CCT. He also emphasised that all the newly elected Trustees would have a collective responsibility for all matters pertaining to the Board and would be required to undertake a training course which has already been organised. The Board would help to identify the regeneration needs of the East Kintyre area, and oversee and encourage the sub committees.

The nominations for the new Board of Trustees were - Tony Leighton, Malcolm Trott, Alasdair Bennett, Hamish Hunter, Ian McGhie, Roy Martine and Jenn Lee.

TL asked for any other nominations. Johnny Durnan nominated Jean Campbell and Jean Campbell nominated Johnny Durnan. This brought the number of nominees to 9 so it needed to be put to a vote. There was some discussion about how Trustees had been co-opted in the past. AB explained how it worked then and why it needed to change following the adoption of the new Constitution. Previously the maximum number of Trustees was 18 and as this number had never been reached there had never been a need for a vote. There was further discussion about having a voice, having recognition and influence in the various sub committees.

One member thought that the way forward for the new CCT Board was to be as transparent as possible, so that any decisions made were in the public domain. Meetings should be published and Minutes available from every meeting. They emphasised that whatever role each person had, they were all working for the good of the village.

AB pointed out that the Minutes of CCT meetings are available on the website for the public to view. He stated that the thrust of CCT should be to be open and transparent, but that good governance had to be in place. Each trustee is responsible for statutory rules and regulations, as well as for supporting a sub-committee, thereby providing a direct conduit to CCT Board. Before a vote could be taken, both JC and JD decided to withdraw their names.

As there were no other nominees, the seven names were automatically elected to the Board. TL asked Roy Martine who is new to Carradale to briefly summarise his background to the members. Roy gave a short outline of his previous corporate management experience, his chartered accountancy experience and the various companies he had responsibility for in South Africa.

6. Re-appointment of Independent Examiner (Hannah Fawcett): This was unanimous and was proposed by Alasdair Bennett and seconded by Ian McGhie.

7. AOB - There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1945