

Carradale Community Trust AGM 23 September 2024 Meeting Room, Village Hall
7.30pm.

1. Apologies: Keith & Karen Parr, Jennifer Lee Lane, Bruce MacQuarrie, Kim Norton, Douglas Reid, Christine Ritchie.

Those participating: Phil Royal (Chair); Russell Kay (Treasurer); Sophie Semple; Emma Macalister Hall; Jane Dunbar; Lynsay McGeachy; Zofija Sloan (Finance and Admin officer); Carol Abernethy; John Adams; Elaine Batchelor; Alasdair Bennett; Eleanor Bennett; Shelagh Cameron; Jennifer Conley; Tony Leighton; Niall Macalister Hall; Josie McKinnon; Roy Martine; Marjory McKinven; Cameron McNair; Margaret Richardson; Eleanor Sloan; Tim Wragg; Philip Prince; Elinor Prince.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM held on 21st September 2023. These were agreed as correct. They will now be forwarded to Russ Baum for inclusion on the East Kintyre Website.

3. Chairmans Report:

I am pleased to report on a positive year for the Trust with a completely new Board of Trustees. The previous Trustees left the Trust in very good condition and the primary task of the new Board was to stabilise and develop this, as well as looking for new ways to bring benefit to the community. I would like to record my thanks to all my fellow new Trustees for their constructive and thoughtful contributions, to our excellent part-time Administrator, Zofija Sloan, and to Trustee Russel Kay, who has given of his time and accounting expertise very generously including dealing with the accounts for the Shop and Post Office. Our principal activity, the Shop and Post Office, has gone from strength to strength and is now fully established as an important fixture in village life. Many thanks are due to our Manager, Eleanor Sloan, our Post Office staff, Tim Wragg and Trish Collins, and most importantly to the very many volunteers who give up their time entirely free of charge to make all this possible.

The Network Centre has also had a good year. The Blackbird Café is very popular with visitors and locals alike, the Old Schoolhouse Gallery continues to draw in visitors and locals with their artwork, pottery and photography and The Heritage Centre remains a hub of local interesting artifacts and information. Many thanks are due to the volunteers who donate their time to this site.

The Carradale Composting Centre at Seneval continues to recover well post-Covid and many thanks are due to the voluntary leadership of Phil Moorcroft, who stood down during the course of the year, and Philip Prince who kindly took on this role. As with the Shop, the massive contribution made by volunteers is invaluable and key to the success of Seneval. Upgraded shredder equipment was purchased this year enabling Seneval to process the larger quantities of garden waste that is being brought to the site by local people.

The ownership of the Network Centre site was shared with the University of Stirling from the time it was first acquired. During the course of the year, the agreement of the University to transfer full title to the Trust was obtained and the

transfer is now in the hands of lawyers. This will make the future development of the site much less complicated.

A new Local Development Plan for 2026-2030 is needed and we are working with the Community Council in planning how to carry this out with full community consultation so that as many people as possible have the chance to be involved in planning and developing future projects for our village and surrounding areas. During the year, the Board received representations from the Kintyre Rainforest Alliance to which we offered moral support, and we look forward to supporting this project which should lead to the future sustainability of our natural environment and bring some employment opportunities.

Finally, I would like to reiterate our thanks to everybody who has contributed to the success of the Trust's enterprises. The magnificent contribution of volunteers, willing to give of their time and energy, is the very heart of The Carradale Community Trust. Please do make contact if you are new to volunteering and would like to get involved.

We will continue to look for ways to benefit the community and please participate in the forthcoming consultation on the new Local Development Plan. I have been honoured to serve as Chair of the Trust over the past year.

Phil Royal

4. Approval of the Annual Accounts. These were approved.
5. Election of Trustees: The existing Trustees agreed to re-stand and all were duly enrolled on to the Board. Philip Prince agreed to be nominated and was elected on to the Board. The Board now has 7 members:
Phil Royal (Chair), Russell Kay (Treasurer), Emma Macalister Hall (Secretary), Jane Dunbar, Lynsay McGeachy, Sophie Semple, Philip Prince.
6. Appointment of Independent Examiner; it was agreed that Ian Webster would take on this role.
7. AOB: RM asked for clarification on a number of points relating to the funds held by the CCT. EB raised concerns regarding paths and access for disabled, it should be included in the Local Development Plan (LDP). SS, EMH noted that they are in discussion with Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust (IGHT) regarding the role of a ranger in the area. SC noted that Upkeep of Paths is within the remit of the Community Council (EKCC), maintenance is carried out annually, local handyman carries out the work. The importance of the Planning Group (in producing the new LDP) was discussed and that the two groups EKCC & CCT work together on this. PR highlighted the importance of working together on such projects. An open day is planned to gauge public opinion on the LDP and what it contains. SC & KR discussed the need for a good relationship between CCT & EKCC, attending meetings, better transparency and communication. AB highlighted the work involved in organising information gathering for the LDP, suggested employing a coordinator. JC raised the topic of MOWI and the Harbour, what is happening with the project, SC noted that she corresponds with them on behalf of the EKCC. AB confirmed the amount that MOWI contribute to the East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF) annually and suggested that 1 or 2 members of the community join the MOWI Liaison Group. PR & AB discussed what the community could expect to receive and to continue to argue the point

with MOWI. AB suggested the need for good projects going forward. EB pointed out that the Harbour isn't attractive. EB told the CCT to "think Big", to push forward a clear vision and project, she focused on the Network Centre and its possibilities. PC agreed that the NC is a focus of the CCT now that the University of Stirling are handing over their ownership to the CCT. Redevelopment of the site is foremost in the plans of the CCT. AB suggested that the CCT should look at employing a Project Manager to manage projects going forward. EB agreed that this would be a good plan and encouraged the CCT to move forward with this. TL reminded all that having professional help reduces the workload on the CC members. RK highlighted the need for better communication between Members and the Board, how to go about this? Facebook? Open meetings? East Kintyre website? SC agreed that joint open meetings between the CCT and EKCC would be a good idea – 2 times a year, and would help engage better with the community. TW asked for better publicising of actions, via website and Facebook. PR suggested that holding more open meetings would result in better communication with the community.

8. SC gave a heartfelt vote of thanks for the work carried out by the CCT.

Meeting closed at 20.25