

BERNERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH 2026

- CHAIR:** Norma Macleod
- TREASURER:** Iso Macdonald (Co-opted)
- MINUTE SECRETARY:** Carolyn Prosser
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Callum Macaulay, Careen MacLennan (co-opted), Catherine Macaulay, Chrissie Macdonald, Detta Macleod, Ella Macaulay Fraser, Glynis Davis, Jess Macaulay, Joanna George, John Latimir, Karina Macaulay and Matt Locke
- BCA ADMINISTRATOR** Victoria Rudge
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Norma, Callum, Carolyn, Catherine, Chrissie, Detta, Glynis, Karina. Also in attendance were Mark Jones and Victoria Rudge.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Careen, Ella, Iso, Jess, Jo, John and Matt.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the BCA Meeting dated 11 February 2026 were approved (proposed by Glynis and seconded by Detta).

3. FINANCE

There was no Financial Report available for tonight's meeting.

4. FUNDING

- (a) **THE ROBERTSON TRUST:** Norma had previously reported that an application was being made to the Robertson Trust which, if successful, would be used to support the cost of utilities. On-going.
- (b) **NHS CAPITAL GRANT:** As previously reported, NHS Western Isles had invited island-based organisations to apply for capital grant funding to support projects that will benefit health and wellbeing within the community. Following an application made by local resident, Brenda Jones, the BCA have been awarded a grant for the purchase of new gym equipment.

5. REPORTS

Norma welcomed Vic back from maternity leave. Vic then gave a verbal update on the areas she is currently engaged in.

- (a) **DISHWASHERS:** One machine has now been installed and Callum and Mark to liaise regarding the installation of the other.
- (b) **PIER WASHING MACHINES:** Callum reported that these machines have now been delivered and are currently being tested.

(c) **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.

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:

- **SOCIAL NIGHT:** Saturday 11 April
- **BIG BREAKFAST:** Saturday 18 April
- **SOUP & PUDDING:** Saturday 9 May
- **MUSIC NIGHT:** Saturday 16 May
- **RACE NIGHT:** Saturday 20 June
- **MEAL NIGHT:** Saturday 25 July
- **GUY FAWKES/FIREWORKS:** Thursday 5 November
- **BIG BREAKFAST:** Saturday 21 November
- **OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** Saturday 19 December
- **HOGMANNAY:** Thursday 31 December

7. 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.

FUEL PUMP: Agreed there was a need to have a phone contact for the fuel pumps. Need to set up a mobile phone and a rota system for those who can be contacted in case of issues. Callum will look at putting a USB plug in both the café and office for phone charging. Need to check if café/shop volunteers will be happy to man the phone during café/shop opening hours. Fuel pump training £45.00 plus VAT. Mark is going to do the training and organise reimbursement of this cost from Kath. On-going.

PLAYPARK EQUIPMENT: Mark to review and check the safety and viability of existing playpark equipment. Vic to ascertain from those parents who attend the Little Fishes Group how the new equipment should be best utilised for future use.

YOUTH CLUB ROOM: It was agreed to have this room painted and tidied before deciding how much more refurbishment is required.

MAINTENANCE: Mark reported on his current maintenance task list, which included: Relocating the pull cord in the men's shower block, relocating the smoke sensor in the café, alarm system checks, Pat Testing (including the fuel pump) and putting together an annual check list.

POLY TUNNEL: Mark Adams to be contacted with a view to having the Poly Tunnel prepared for the coming growing season.

BERNERA WEBSITE: As previously reported, the new website is due to be launched at the end of March.

ELECTRIC BIKES: It was agreed to purchase a fireproof safety bag for each of the E-bike's lithium batteries when not in use.

COMMUNITY HALL LEAFLET: Karina (in Jess's absence) put forward a suggestion for the creation of a leaflet which detailed the rich and varied history of the Community Hall. This was approved unanimously.

COMMUNITY FIRE APPLIANCE: Callum sought permission for the use of a substitute electrical hook-up for the Community Fire Appliance should its main station become unusable. It was unanimously agreed for the fuel pumping station to be used, should this become necessary.

PIOTSA: The BCA had been contacted by mobile “pop-up” Pizza Company, Piotsa, with a view to organising a visit (or visits) to Bernera. This idea was welcomed and further information will be forthcoming once a date has been agreed.

Tonight’s meeting concluded at 8.48 pm

Next meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm on Wednesday 8 April 2026