

BERNERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 10 JULY 2026

CHAIR:	Norma Macleod
TREASURER:	Position Vacant
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, John Latimir, Karina Macaulay and Matt Locke
BCA ADMINISTRATOR	Victoria Rudge
IN ATTENDANCE:	Norma, Carolyn, Catherine, Glynis and Karina. Also in attendance was Victoria Rudge.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Callum, Careen, Chrissie, Detta, Ella, Jess, John and Matt.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the BCA Meeting dated 10 June 2026 were approved (proposed by Glynis and seconded by Karina).

3. FINANCE

Norma updated the meeting on the current financial position.

4. WRIT

Norma updated the meeting on the current status of the Writ.

5. FUNDING

- (a) **THE ROBERTSON TRUST:** Norma had previously reported that an application had been made to the Robertson Trust which, if successful, would be used to support the cost of utilities. On-going.
- (b) **CROWN ESTATE:** Norma had previously reported that following a meeting with the GBCDT on Thursday 16 April, when a proposal for further Crown Estate Funding to cover the on-going support costs for the positions of BCA Administrator and Maintenance/Handy Person was discussed, an application has now been made. If successful, this will cover circa 75% of costs. On-going.
- (c) **GIFT AID:** An application for the BCA to be registered with Gift Aid has been made. This has a six-week lead time. On-going.

- (d) **COMMUNITY-LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (CLLD):** An application for the current round of funding is being prepared. On-going.
- (e) **LOGANAIR - GREENSKIES COMMUNITY FUND:** Local Resident, Brenda Jones, has made an application on behalf of the BCA. On-going.
- (f) **HITRANS COMMUNITY CYCLE PARKING GRANT:** Norma was pleased to report that four new bike stands had now been installed at the Community Hall. Thanks were paid to both Brenda Jones and Kath MacDonald for their work on securing these grant monies.
- (g) **PRIDE IN PLACE:** Norma (who had recently been appointed to the Lewis Board as a Committee Member) summarised this 10-year UK Government initiative which is aimed at regenerating disadvantaged neighbourhoods thus empowering local residents to shape their own communities. It was suggested that the BCA, BCC and GBCDT work together to establish a list of requirements to put forward for funding and development.

6. REPORTS

- (a) **SECURITY CAMERAS FOR COMMUNITY HALL:** Mark to oversee the installation of the "ring-bell" systems at the front and rear back doors. A further system (capable of two-way communication) to be installed at the fuel pumping station. Norma agreed to check upon any Data Protection implications. A SIM card with Giff Gaff to allow this to become operational was agreed to.
- (b) **POLY TUNNEL:** Preparation works still required before the new sheeting can be put on. On-going.
- (c) **PLAYPARK EQUIPMENT:** Work continues on the removal of old equipment coupled with the installation of new items.

7. 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:

- **MUSIC NIGHT:** Saturday 11 July: Bluegrass/Old Time Country and Blues Band, Sociograss
- **MEAL NIGHT:** Saturday 25 July
- **BIG BREAKFAST:** Saturday 1 August (10.00 am to 12.00 noon)
- **SUMMER MUSIC EVENT:** Saturday 1 August
- **RACE NIGHT:** TBA
- **MUSIC NIGHT WITH STEVE CRAWFORD & SPIDER MACKENZIE:** Saturday 22 August (from 7.15pm)
- **GUY FAWKES/FIREWORKS:** Thursday 5 November
- **BIG BREAKFAST:** Saturday 21 November
- **OVER 60'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** Saturday 19 December
- **HOGMANNAY:** Thursday 31 December

8. 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: As previously reported, it was 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 has completed the training. On-going – Mark and Callum to liaise.

QR CODES: Work continues on the installation of QR Codes (which would, when operational, hopefully encourage more visitors to make donations towards the running and maintenance of the Community Centre).

ELECTRIC BIKES: As these bikes can no longer be insured, they are to be returned to the GBCDT.

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. On-going.

GYM: New equipment is due for delivery shortly. A community announcement for help with the removal of old equipment and installation of new to be made.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARDS: It was agreed that these need to be updated/replaced. Chrissie to bring up at the next BCC Meeting. On-going.

PROMOTIONAL FLYER: After discussion, it was agreed to have a promotional flyer drawn up for distribution to each local household. On-going.

Next meeting scheduled for 7.30 pm on Wednesday 5 August 2026