

BERNERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD ON

Thursday 13 July 2023
Berner Community Centre, 7.30pm

In attendance. Madeleine Macaulay (Chair, MM), Calum Richings (Treasurer, CR), Robert Mackenzie (RM), Cllr Norman Macdonald (MMD), Chrissie Macdonald (CM), Rhiannon Teather (Secretary, RT), Alice Murray (CnES), Joanna George.

Apologies. Neil James Macaulay, John Porteous (GBCDT Chair).

1. Welcome

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Calum Richings and seconded by Robert Mackenzie.

3. Matters Arising

- *RBS Mobile Bank.* Notice on FB. Details to be forwarded to RT as not on FB.
- *BCA Event.* Bike Events to be held locally and organised by BCA. Saturday 19th August, 12-3pm at Bernera Community Centre.
- *Bin Collections.* MMD reports complaints that bins not being collected, to follow up. Extra bins needed for Community Centre.
- *Signs.* MM to order ‘funeral in progress signs’; RM arranging to put up those received from GBCDT in the coming week. MM to get a price for purchasing a notice board to be placed at the bridge.

4. Finance Update

The current balance is £19,479; RT wages paid for 2022 and 2023. BCA have been in touch to indicate that they are placing orders for Challenge Fund 2023; details to be forwarded to CR. CR still to order a form for a card for the account. Wages for toilets to be paid.

5. BCC Letter & Local Opinions Survey

It was discussed that we received a significant volume of correspondence/communication from residents regarding the GBCDT hatchery proposals and funding in between this meeting and June’s meeting; it was decided that we produce a survey to gauge the views of residents so that we can better represent the views of the community and facilitate a positive way forward.

6. Great Bernera Community Development Trust / The Hatchery

GBCDT Trust Chair sent in apologies for the meeting due to personal commitments. MM provided an update and noted she had passed questions/issues regarding the hatchery and the Trust raised by the community via e-mail. The proposal by the Trust that chairs of all three committees meet one-on-one was discussed but BCC agreed the preference is that the whole committee is involved in any meeting. MM has also requested a public meeting to be held with

the whole community and all noted that the need for a meeting has been raised by multiple residents recently. All reiterated that the goal of the survey is not to undermine anyone else and BCC want to put on record that we all recognise that the Trust has done good work and to be commended for achieving funding, however there are serious problems with communication in recent times and the Trust need to ensure their projects have widespread support. GBCDT is answerable to the community and do need to take feedback on board. It was noted that residents have been in contact with us to report the Hatchery business plan has been difficult to access and the updating of the website has been patchy.

The ongoing issue with the community electric bikes, currently being held in Kirkibost, was discussed. It is our understanding that the GBCDT have agreed to share the bikes and distribute half to the Community Centre but this still has not happened and without an explanation.

7. Joint Committee Meeting Update / Bosta Works Update

To be taken forward, pending future meeting with Trust.

8. Bernera Bridge – Safety Changes

MMD still chasing for a reply regarding changing the give way sign at the Bridge; he will continue to chase. The mesh is now installed on the bridge.

9. Petrol Pumps Shelter

To be taken forward.

10. Challenge Fund & Current Funding Projects

To be taken forward.

11. Graveyards

To be taken forward.

12. AOCB

- *Facebook*. The account has been dormant since Joan passed away. MM to set up a new posting page so that we can circulate information more efficiently going forward.
- *BCC Bernera Opinions Survey & Cover Letter*. Approved and to be distributed to all households this coming week.

Please contact: berneracomcouncil@gmail.com to make suggestions or raise any issues. The minutes from previous meetings, dating back to 2012, can be found at: [Community Associations \(e-sgire.org\)](http://CommunityAssociations(e-sgire.org)). Great Bernera is currently listed under Ward 6: <https://e-sgire.org/communities/ward6/community-associations/>