

## **Minutes of Board Meeting**

**Held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**At Fort Augustus Village Hall**

<b>Board Directors present</b>	Catriona Watson (CW) – Chair, Patrick Ungless (PU) – Vice chair, Helen Clay (HC), Chris Nelson (CN), Michael Alvey Anderson (MA), Frances Mansell (FMM), Kelvin Hill (KH), Paul McIntosh (PM)
<b>Apologies</b>	Lorn MacKay (LM), Fiona MacCormick (FM), Karen Edwards (KE), Operations Manager
<b>Also in attendance</b>	
<b>Minute Taker</b>	Simon Canning (SC) – Admin Officer

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> CW opened the meeting and presented apologies from KE, LN and FM.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025</b> These were agreed as a true and accurate representation. Proposed by HC and seconded by MAA.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters arising from minutes not on the agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CW asked the Board for their decision on whether the Community Company should continue with acquiring Memorial Hall. The Board voted in majority of continuing with it. CW explained that Karen Edwards will approach an Architect Technician, then a Quantity Surveyor, establish a cost for the proposed changes and then seek funding.</li> <li>SC confirmed the proposed Escape Rooms date at Fort Augustus Village Hall as 1<sup>st</sup> November, therefore not clashing with the Heritage Officer's Halloween event.</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Update from Community Council</b> CL provided the update reporting that the Community Police Officer attended the meeting to discuss various matters including anti-social behaviour. Representatives of the Men's Shed were also in attendance to confirm their interest in obtaining a premises for their group. The SCIO and Community Council websites are now live. The Community Council met with MSP Kate Forbes and representatives from BEAR Scotland to discuss traffic management in Invermoriston. Various proposals are being considered including a push button traffic light control. As a result of the meeting, BEAR Scotland are looking at installing a pelican crossing in Invermoriston.	

5.	<b>Finance - approval of year end accounts</b> The year end accounts are in the process of completion, delayed by operational difficulties faced by the auditors.																
6.	<b>6 Abertarff Place – Opportunity to buy</b> CW raised concern that purchase may block a first-time buyer. The Board agreed the Vendor should obtain a home report and suggested they look first for a member of the community to buy the property. If that does not prove fruitful then the Board would be interested, pending a good home report and available funding.																
7.	<b>Grants</b> <table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="3">Lee Cox</td></tr> <tr> <th>Grant Ref</th><th>Requested</th><th>Decision</th></tr> <tr> <td>CB-038-2025</td><td>£753</td><td>Approved</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>For:</b> To run a Halloween themed Escape Room.</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Conditions:</b> Applicant must provide PVG certificate. A list of volunteers is provided before the event.</td></tr> </table> <b>Bowler mats and winder</b> A representative from the bowling club has confirmed they do not want new mats. SC clarified that the proposed new mats and electro winder are essential for the plan to create adequate storage at Fort Augustus Village Hall. The Board agreed the bowling club should be approached again to explain that they would not be expected to contribute in any way to this new equipment.	Lee Cox			Grant Ref	Requested	Decision	CB-038-2025	£753	Approved	<b>For:</b> To run a Halloween themed Escape Room.			<b>Conditions:</b> Applicant must provide PVG certificate. A list of volunteers is provided before the event.			SC
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8.	<b>AGM – 19<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>Directors standing down and re-standing</b> CN and FMM confirmed their intention to stand down and stand for re-election at the AGM. One more Board member is required. FM was suggested as the potential third member.																
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AOCB</b></li> <li>• SC asked the Board for guidance on the Community Council's enquiry for their proposed grant application for solicitor fees. The Board asked for further information before they could offer further guidance.</li> <li>• SC presented several member applications. The Board approved all as residents.</li> <li>• SC updated the Board on Fort Augustus Golf Club's grant application for the car park; the Club have withdrawn their application as they are now investigating alternative solutions.</li> <li>• SC advised the Board that the proposed new Children's Christmas party committee have stood down. However, the previous committee have confirmed they will stand for one last season.</li> <li>• SC was approached by a representative from Kilchuimen Academy to discuss public transport which would benefit the community and help the pupils attend their college courses on Friday afternoons. SC has advised they approach the Community Council for discussion.</li> </ul>																

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CN asked for an update on the progression with the Glentarff transfer. CW confirmed the small piece of land is agreed to be transferred to the adjacent property. The solicitors are dealing with this urgently to prevent the need for the funds being returned to SLF.</li> <li>• HC expressed concern that the Tai Chi class may clash with the clearing up schedule of the Soup and Sandwiches. SC will approach the Tai Chi instructor to ask if they can hold their class slightly later.</li> <li>• HC reminded the Board of the Community Council's wish for the Community Company to manage the public toilets.</li> <li>• FMM suggested the coach companies visiting the village could be charged more to use the carpark. The Board agreed this is a discussion for the Community Council.</li> <li>• CL suggested measures are taken to prevent parking directly outside Tarff Trading. SC will look into this and report back.</li> <li>• CW advised the Board, ahead of the structure meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October, that KE has submitted an expression of interest on a three-year funding programme for a strategic management role.</li> </ul>	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b> Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October – 6pm in FA Village Hall Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October – 7pm in Millennium Hall, Invermoriston	