

**Minutes of Board Meeting
Held on Wednesday 15th April 2026
At Millennium Hall, Invermoriston**

Board Directors present	Catriona Watson (CW) – Chair, Patrick Ungless (PU) – Vice chair, Helen Clay (HC), Clare Levings (CL), Michael Alvey Anderson (MAA), Kelvin Hill (KH), Paul McIntosh (PM), Mike Anderson (MA), Jenny Findlay (JF), Chris Nelson (CN), Fiona MacCormick (FM)
Apologies	Lorn MacKay (LM)
Also in attendance	Karen Edwards (KE) - Operations Manager
Minute Taker	Simon Canning (SC) – Operations Supervisor

Item	Minute	Action
1.	Welcome and Apologies CW opened the meeting and presented apologies from LM.	
2.	Minutes of the meetings held on 18th March 2026 These were agreed as a true and accurate representation of the meeting. Proposed by HC, seconded by FM.	
3.	Matters arising from minutes and Operations Manager report not on the agenda PM presented questions raised from the Operations Manager report. KE addressed all queries.	
4.	Update from Community Council CL presented an update from the Community Council and reported a successful visitors and road safety meeting. CW asked CL to outline the expected outcomes from this and the forthcoming meetings for this and resilience planning. CL reported that progress on the Road Safety and Visitor Management planning is awaiting stakeholders confirming budgets, expected around mid-May; budget confirmation will be followed by Transport Scotland decisions on appropriate action. The Community Council will present resilience planning outcomes after the next meeting, date TBA.	
5.	Review of maximum grant values and possible new grant types The Board discussed the proposed changes. After discussing some potential operational challenges the Board agreed in principle. KE will approach the funders for approval. Once approved the documentation will be amended and applicants updated. A new grant was proposed to support the cost of Driving Lessons The Board agreed on a maximum one-off grant value of £400, one . This grant scheme will be reviewed after a one-year trial period.	

	KE clarified the criteria will be that applicants must be residents of the area, hold a provisional driving licence, and the driving instructor will be paid directly. Documentation to be drawn up once approval received from funders.	KE																																								
6.	<p>Discussion on proposed strategy for the purchase of property on the open market</p> <p>The Board approved the policy, subject to removing the value restriction and property size restriction. KE will update the policy accordingly.</p> <p>The Board agreed that the Housing Sub-Group would initially be involved and then make recommendations to the Board.</p> <p>The Board asked that investigation be pursued into other housing options for the future such as a new build project, Co-housing and Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs).</p>	KE KE																																								
7.	<p>Grants</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Fort Augustus Senior Citizens Association</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Ref</td> <td>Requested</td> <td>Decision</td> <td>Value approved</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G-247-2026</td> <td>£3,234.98</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>£3,234.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">For: Continued support of the Low Impact Exercise Class</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Conditions: Standard</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Highland Wildfire Response</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant Ref</td> <td>Requested</td> <td>Decision</td> <td>Value approved</td> </tr> <tr> <td>G-249-2026</td> <td>£25,000</td> <td>Deferred pending further information being provided.</td> <td>N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">For: To support purchase of specialist wildfire fighting equipment</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">Conditions:</td> </tr> </table> <p>Grants approved by email since last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G-242-2025 Silver Surfers Excursions £3,120 – to support summer excursions. • CB-043-2026 Sarah McPhee Basket Weaving Workshops up to £986. • G-250-2026 Friends of Kilchuimen Academy Teen weightlifting class – the Board agreed to KE’s suggestion that this grant is discussed via email due to the urgency. 	Fort Augustus Senior Citizens Association				Grant Ref	Requested	Decision	Value approved	G-247-2026	£3,234.98	Approved	£3,234.98	For: Continued support of the Low Impact Exercise Class				Conditions: Standard				Highland Wildfire Response				Grant Ref	Requested	Decision	Value approved	G-249-2026	£25,000	Deferred pending further information being provided.	N/A	For: To support purchase of specialist wildfire fighting equipment				Conditions:				
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8.	<p>AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KE provided an update on the recruitment of an Operations Manager, confirming that a candidate has accepted the position with a proposed start date of mid to late May. • KE advised the Board of the A82 road closure will clash with the June meeting. The Board agreed to re-schedule the meeting to 8th July 2026. KE will re-arrange the venue. • PU asked about the eligibility criteria for membership of the Silver Surfers group. KH confirmed that membership is open to Invermoriston residents aged 60 and over. The 	KE																																								

	<p>Board discussed concerns regarding inclusivity, noting that residents of Fort Augustus are largely excluded. KH will raise this with the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CN asked the Board to consider allowing him to oversee the insulation work at Glentarff House. However, it was agreed that as we will be employing experienced contractors it may impact the warranties and relationship. • HC reminded the Board of the Community Council's interest in the Community Company taking ownership of the public toilets. • MAA suggested the Board consider providing the hall free of charge to local clubs and groups. KE explained that the hall operates on its own budget and requires income to cover running costs and future improvements. • CW asked the Board to be mindful of the transition period while KE prepares a handover to the incoming Operations Manager. • The Board approved SC's proposal to support the costs of the minibus to provide community transport to the Glengarry Games. SC will email the list of MIDAS qualified volunteer drivers to ask for volunteers for the day. • SC reminded the Board they are invited to Fort Augustus Senior Citizens Association's AGM on 20th April 2026. • SC reported that the Community Larder has been cleaned and tidied. However, fire safety concerns were identified following the discovery of burnt matches and cigarette butts. The Board agreed the Larder should revert to closing at 8pm. SC requested volunteers to support management of the Larder. SC, FM and HC confirmed their availability. SC will prepare a rota to share the workload for this and will notify the staff at Tarff Trading as they will be required to open the Larder in the mornings. 	<p>SC</p> <p>SC</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting 7pm, Wednesday 20th May 2026 The Hub, Dalchreichart</p>	