

Minutes of EE Directors Meeting

Date: 19 August 2025 **Time:** 7 pm

Present: Samantha Payn (SP), Kyle (KM), Hannah Bailey-Thomas (HBT)

Apologies: Jhennia Leipert, Jackie Inch

1. Approval of Previous Minutes

- **June 24 Minutes:** SP confirmed KM was not in attendance and could not verify the minutes.
- **July 17 Minutes:** KM proposed the minutes. HBT seconded the minutes.

2. Matters Arising & Hall Use Policy

- **Invoicing:** SP reported invoicing Colin McPherson for seven hours (£210), noting his request to pay for only three hours despite booking the hall for three days as a “wet weather shelter”.
- **Hall Hire Fees:** Discussion held on Hall Hire Fees:
 - HBT asserted that a fair rate should be charged, arguing that the hall should be hired or not hired at all.
 - KM advised against aiming to match Seil Hall’s fee structure.
 - Consensus was to differentiate between island residents using the hall for non-commercial purposes (e.g., table tennis) who may pay a small donation (e.g., £2 per person) and commercial users. SP noted the defining factor should be whether they are making money from the particular activity.

3. Hall Updates

- **Cleaning:**
 - Lisa agreed to handle the cleaning for the season.
 - HBT negotiated the maximum payment to 3 hours (£60) per clean, down from the initial 5 hours Lisa had charged.
 - Paige is also a potential candidate for future cleaning.
 - The need for a winter cleaner hinges on the requirement to clean the toilets for the ferrymen.
 - KM proposed hiring an outside commercial cleaner once a month for difficult jobs.
- **Maintenance:**
 - The women’s toilet has been fixed by Josh.
 - Main issues needing attention are the exposed front windows (half-sanded and painted) and a missed slate causing a leak in the main hall roof.
 - Andy Haddon has offered to work on a day-rate basis.
 - SP suggested HBT ascertain Andy’s day rate, check for flexibility due to the charity status, and approach him with a set of tasks that would equal a day’s work.
- **Kitchen:**
 - The Kitchen Committee (Jackie and Rob Gregg) is planning to propose three options for kitchen equipment: (1) full commercial catering, (2) outdoor events catering, and (3) a dedicated tea and coffee station. This will be presented to the community.
 - HBT suggested replacing the “big old water heating urn” for a safer, more modern option.

4. Events

- **Event Logistical *Aide Memoire*:** SP suggested drafting a detailed list of responsibilities for running events (e.g., cash box handling, safe deposits) to ensure all tasks are completed by the appropriate person. HBT confirmed this already exists.
- **Future Events:**
 - Upcoming planned events include Creel, Halloween Party (Amy), Burns Night, and a Valentine’s talk/recipe event.
 - **New Year’s Day Ceilidh:** SP has arranged acts and secured Alan McFadden as MC, with Lee being eased in as the behind-the-scenes acts liaison.
 - **Winter Ceilidhs:** SP, Alastair Robertson, and Lee have started a Ceilidh band and proposed a monthly community Ceilidh on the last Friday. It was agreed to cover heating costs with bar money and collect donations for the musicians.

5. Harbour Updates (SP)

- SP confirmed that all harbour use invoices are issued, including a 4% increase for Safari.
- SP plans to encourage the Harbour Committee to develop a policy to proactively contact tourist boat firms to point out the charity status.
- SP will send a holding response to Tony's email regarding Mike McKenzie's boat and confirm it will be discussed at the next Harbour Committee meeting.
- SP to draft letter to send to ABC regarding revised prices for ferry landing lease.

6. Substation

- A notice for a power outage on September 17-19 was received. SP believes this is the agreed date for the substation replacement, and will double-check with the contractor.

7. Stone Skimming Update (K)

- **Volunteers:** Brit is managing the on-the-day volunteers. Approximately 35 people have signed up.
- **Bar & Merchandise:**
 - Barney is supplying about 8 kegs (half going to Seil).
 - KM agreed to sell 40 T-shirts featuring Barney's beer and split the profit. They will purchase 10 shirts for bar staff.
 - HBT suggested selling the official cups at the merchandise table.
 - There will be no sponsored crisps or soft drinks this year.
- Date of next meeting – 21/10/2025