

Minute of Loch Melfort and Kilninver Company (LMKC) AGM on 19 February 2025 at Kilmelford Village Hall from 8.30pm.

Attendees: Directors LM, SC, DF, AT, DW and 27 LMKC members.

Apologies: Georgina Dalton, Rosemary Power, Jane Smee (Associate member), Julia Dall (DTAS), Arabella Files.

1. **Attendance:** a quorum was present, with 32 members in attendance. Apologies as above were read out by LM.
2. **SC presented the Chair's report** highlighting that this was the first LMKC AGM and encompassed 7 months of work by the previous Steering Group prior to the formation of LMKC in September 2024. A copy is attached to the minute. Since incorporation as a company limited by guarantee on 3 September, we have had three Board meetings and have 75 members. SC noted the success of recent fund-raising events, the Table Top Sale and Christmas Fair in November and December. The need for an independent auditor was mentioned. SC mentioned projects of interest to LMKC. The Cuilfail Hotel has not been completely ruled out but may be a few years down the line. The shop is a priority and there is increasing interest in purchasing the field by the Village Hall. SC thanked attendees for their input at the public meeting and emphasised that LMKC needed volunteers and new directors. SC invited the company secretary LM to clarify details about LMKC membership.
3. **LM explained that the steering group had decided that membership of LMKC would run for 12 months from March each year, regardless of when members joined during the year.** LM emphasised that LMKC is a volunteer organisation and does not have the manpower to allow memberships to run for 12 calendar months, as this would mean a lot of administration. Many other groups have fees with these rules, that if you join part way through a year, you do not get a fee reduction, nor a refund if you resign part way through a year. The Group decided to charge a £10 fee for standard membership when LMKC was set up because the new company has expenses to cover and no other source of income other than what it raises, donations and grants. One example of our expenses is the high cost of electricity to heat the hall during the public meeting and AGM. In addition, LMKC wishes to join Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS) and other groups to get access to information and support. Membership of these will cost several £100 per year. The fact that LMKC has fee paying members demonstrates the extent of community commitment and support which is a benefit when applying to funding bodies for grants. LM asked attendees to renew their membership either with Alex Tweedly (Treasurer) at the meeting or on the LMKC website.
4. **AT presented the Treasurer's report, explaining that it had been decided that the first proper accounts would run for a full year to the end of August.** There are no actual full accounts to present to the meeting but he had prepared a summary, which included an overview of income from donations, membership fees and fund-raising events, also expenditure on items such as the design of the LMKC logo and the launch events. The current funds balance, including total cash in hand, is £2,268.45.
5. **LMKC Member Jane Rentoul asked for clarification on length of membership.** This was confirmed as 12 months running from March each year. LM noted that LMKC may not always ask for membership fees, these could be waived in some years.
6. **DW gave a further example of LMKC expenses, saying that he had contacted the Planning Department for advice on the possibility of building a shop on the land at the bus stop.** The Planning Department had replied that he would need to put his

question to the department in a letter and there would be a fee of £125 just to consider the letter.

- 7. SC explained that no special resolutions had been intimated for the AGM.**
- 8. SC asked LM to detail the process for election of LMKC Directors. LM explained that the LMKC Articles of Association stipulate that only Ordinary Members may vote for member Directors at the AGM. Only Ordinary members can be Member Directors. The minimum number of Directors is 4, of which the majority should be Member Directors. The maximum number of Member Directors is 10. One of the current Directors, Drhue Forbes, was standing down at the AGM. LMKC would therefore be at the minimum number of Directors unless people put themselves forward to be voted for. LM asked that members consider doing so now, as the company cannot not move forward with insufficient Directors. LM also noted that the company articles stipulate that one third of the Member Directors must stand down each year at the AGM. This quota was met by the retirement of Drhue Forbes, who does not wish to stand again, plus Alex Tweedly has agreed to resign and stand for re-election.**
- 9. Members Ross MacKay, Sandi Chaitrim and Antoinette Mitchell all indicated they would be willing to stand for election as LMKC Member Directors.**
- 10. Jim Russell volunteered to act as an independent auditor for LMKC.**
- 11. SC noted that LMKC requires advice on financial planning and asked anyone who could contribute to this or in any other way to LMKC to get in touch with him or LM after the AGM.**
- 12. Alex Tweedly, Ross MacKay, Sandi Chaitrim and Antionette Mitchell were unanimously each elected as Directors by shows of hands.**
- 13. AOB - no other business.**
- 14. SC thanked attendees and all previous Steering Group and Board Members.**