

LISMORE

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



A Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Charity Number SCO30469

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
24th March 2022 at 4pm in the Hall

This is the approved minutes but I can't remove the watermark

1. Apologies:

Liz Buckle, Jeremy Gilchrist, Niall and Anita Bachuil, Valerie Livingstone, Pauline Dowling, Freda Drysdale, Clare Howarth, Noelle Odling

2. Present:

Julian Wormleighton, Douglas Thorburn, Maureen Mitchell, Margaret Bell, Stuart Ross, Barbara McDougall, Dot Hay, Duncan Drysdale, Gilly Dixon-Spain, Roger Dixon-Spain, Carol Wormleighton, Ian Mackinnon, Katy Crossan, Archie McGillivray, Amy Bowman, Mary MacDougall

3. Minutes of AGM held on 24th March 2021 on Zoom

Minutes proposed by Julian Wormleighton
Seconded by Dot Hay

4. Matters Arising

Ongoing need for discussion on how to increase usage and funding for the Community Bus.

5. Chairman's report

See appendix 1

6. Treasurer's report

Once again we have a deficit this year, £881 compared with £558 the previous year. Again Covid has led to a reduced service along with the sad fact that our client base has reduced and got older. We only did 19 runs on Lismore and 21 runs to Oban this year

We still have a reasonably healthy bank balance with £2,067 in our ordinary account and £12,407 in the car replacement fund.

I applied to Glensanda and CalMac for grants but to date we have been unsuccessful with Glensanda. CalMac has come good and we received £2,000 in February 2022. This will cover the main big costs of insurance and the annual car service and MOT. I will try another application to Glensanda next year. We have been unable to hold any fund raising events ourselves due to Covid. We have had generous donations from our members amounting to £438 this year. We will

need to raise some funds and do some fundraising ourselves next year Covid permitting.

Many thanks to the trustees for all their hard work and to all the volunteer drivers who keep the show on the road.

Duncan J Drysdale

Treasurer

7. **Subscription rates:** It was agreed that there continue to be no charge for membership. This was proposed by Duncan Drysdale and seconded by Ian Mackinnon.

8. **Election/re-election of charity trustees**

All current trustees stood down from office and presented themselves for re-election for another year. In addition, Amy Bowman, Duncan Thorburn and Clare Howarth volunteered to become trustees for the following year. All three were proposed by Julian Wormleighton and seconded by Mary MacDougall.

The office bearers remain as:

Chair Gilly Dixon-Spain, Treasurer Duncan Drysdale, Minute Secretary Dot Hay, Co-ordinator of the monthly Schedule Carol Wormleighton.

Other Trustees are Mary Macdougall, Roger Dixon-Spain

AOCB

-New members/potential users of the community bus:

To date there has been a lot of interest in the opening up of membership/use of the vehicle to anyone over 16 in the community. So far there are 18 new members but none of these people has yet used the service.

Julian Wormleighton asked how drivers would know if a potential passenger was a member. Gilly and Roger D-S hold a record of names so can be asked.

Dot Hay raised the question of parents with under school age children being eligible as passengers on the Community Bus. A lengthy discussion followed. Under section 19 of the permit rules/insurance policy members 16 and over are eligible to travel. However, there are various complications if small children were to be included. For example, would it be necessary for the organisation to buy/install compliance checked child seat belts, booster seats and babyseats at considerable expense? Pushchairs take up a lot of room and the boot capacity of the vehicle is small. No definite decision was made. JW suggested we find out if our current section 19 license allows for children to be carried at all.

-Request from the Community Trust

The Lismore Community Trust has approached the Trustees with a request that a letter of support for the proposed building of two new houses at Achnacroish could be sent to help their application for funding. The proposed affordable houses would be for low rent only, and the aim is to provide housing for those in need of accommodation on the island. At present 40% of Lismore houses are either unoccupied, holiday homes or short term lets only. There was some debate as to whether Lismore community transport would support the affordable housing funding application and the majority decided a letter of support should be sent.

The meeting closed at 17.15 with tea and home baking

Appendix 1

Chairman's report

After last March AGM we were still under covid restrictions with one passenger per journey until the summer, however since then it has eased off and as long as we have good ventilation we can carry a couple of folk, wearing masks of course.

We have held full wheelchair training for all the drivers and have been able to help Karin and Tony go to Oban for shopping and various appointments – visiting friends in sheltered accommodation and even attending matinee films put on by Lumiere.

Nonetheless the vehicle is not being used to capacity and some of this is due to the restrictions and some to the dwindling number of our regular over 75's

We looked at ways to move forward. Asking the questions.

- Do we need the service at all?
- Can we obtain further donations?
- Could we attract further users?
- Should we continue to use our capital savings (for a replacement vehicle) to keep it going?

We decided that along with seeking further funding we would keep the service going but would open it up to all the adult residents of Lismore who might need transport. Keeping to the schedule as we always have . Tuesdays and Fridays to the shop or other on island activities,

Thursday to the surgery and usually a weekly trip to Oban on a Wednesday. With a request at good notice, we can usually accommodate Hospital visits outside these days.

So far, we have had 15 new members and interest from existing members but only one actual booking, I expect that to increase when the plague is over

We did obtain a £2000 donation from CalMac Community fund for which we are very grateful. Duncan will of course give a breakdown of other kind donations.

It costs £31.10 to do a return journey to Oban.

When we were carrying 4 or 5 passengers and able to use the disabled badge, we not only paid the fare in full at £6 per head but made a little extra and kind folk often made a wee donation in the past too. So, you can see we don't want to be doing too many trips with just one non blue badge holder at a loss of £25.10.! not to mention the cost of fuel.

Our section 19 operator's license only allows us to carry members – not the general public and because our vehicle is under 9 passengers we wouldn't be eligible for a section 22 license to carry others. Along with it requiring a further fee.

We will run a fundraiser this year if allowed as that is how we pay the insurance and service costs.

This Year on applying for insurance renewal some companies required us to have a safeguarding policy in place, we have now come up with our own tailor made one with the help of Jenny Wormleighton whose job it is to write such things and confirmed that we do not require PVG certification.

We will also be working on a Health and safety policy as that too is now being requested by some insurance companies.

I would love to thank all the drivers who although not getting that many opportunities to drive passengers around have been there in the background ready to volunteer.

I expect this year we will be using the community bus a great deal more, at least I do hope so.

I would also like to thank all of you for your continued support and thank my fellow trustees for their hard work.

Thank you

DRAFT