



KILCHRENAN
VILLAGE
HALL

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 23rd September 2025

Present: Brian Burnett (Chair), Chris Goldsmith (Treasurer), Tina Goldsmith, Flora Winter, Rhona Knox, Lindsay McGowan (Minutes)

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 24th June 2025
4. Matters Arising
5. Treasurer's Report – Chris
6. Report from Property and Maintenance
7. Report from Events/ Events Feedback- Tina
8. Report from the Funding Group- Janice
9. AKCH
10. Social Media, Website and Promotion
11. Risk Assessment and Health and Safety
12. Trustee Recruitment
13. AOB
14. Date of Next Meeting

1. Apologies for absence

Janice MacEachen, Alice Sherbrook, Talia Carmichael, Karen Taylor

2. Declarations of Interest

Brian: AKCH - Treasurer, Avich and Kilchrenan Community Council member, Kilchrenan and Dalavich Church elder and treasurer, Muckairn Church Treasurer

Chris: AKCH Board Chair and Kilchrenan & Dalavich Church Elder, MTM Hospitality Director and Shareholder

Rhona: Kilchrenan Inn employee, AKCH Board member

Tina: Kilchrenan Inn employee, AKCH Board member, MTM Hospitality Director and Shareholder

Flora: Bridge Club member, Art Club member

Karen: Kilchrenan Inn employee

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting – 24th June 2025

Proposed by Lindsay and seconded by Chris.

4. Matters Arising

There was clarification sought by Flora regarding a misunderstanding about the hall tables: Flora believed they were being given to Taynuilt Primary School, while in fact Issy Grant had only requested to borrow them for one day.

5. Treasurer's Report - Chris

Accounts

- Year-to-date operating deficit: £73.
- Overall deficit (including capital grants): £73 compared with £699 surplus last year.
- Adjusted deficit after bar stock: £64 (last year: £570 surplus).
- Shed costs have been fully written to stock without allowance for removal of the old shed.

Performance Drivers

- Events generated £3,949 surplus (last year: £4,407) – a £458 decline year-on-year.
- Hall rentals increased by £500 to £3,250, helped by the September wedding.
- 50:50 net surplus at £1,143, down £474 from £1,617 last year.

Cash Position (19 Sept 2025)

- Total cash at bank: £19,402.93 (down £4,790 since 23 June 2025).
- Restricted/allocated funds: (£4,038) net (reflecting soffits/facias overspend and Timber Girl play balance).
- Unrestricted/unallocated funds: £23,440.93.

Running Costs

- £9,115 year-to-date (last year: £5,785).
- Adjusted for extraordinary spend, increase is £389 (7%) over last year.
- Increase in recent electricity usage has been solved and the heater in the loft that was the root cause has now been switched off.

Funding Updates

- 50:50 raised £1,670 so far this year (cf. £2,075 at year-end Oct 2024).
- Prize money reinvested: £176. Membership renewals largely completed, but income is down approx. £200 (c.13 annual tickets).
- Ongoing project funding (shed, soffits/facias) largely covered by grants. AV system application pending.

Financial Outcomes & Projections

- Current trajectory shows a marginal annual deficit, likely to persist or increase slightly once old shed costs are written off.
- Exterior decoration (£2,950) funded from reserves – now completed.
- Soffits/facias project overspent grant by £411 – completed and paid.
- Replacement shed grant (£5,962) expected to balance with minimal shortfall.
- AV project anticipated to be fully grant-funded. Other projects postponed.

Administration

- Electricity contract with Octopus ends 1 October.
- Recommended switch: dual-rate tariff (27p day / 20.44p night, 74.34p daily standing charge). Although marginally higher than current flat rate (27.20p/kWh, no standing charge), this is more favourable than other options available.
 - All agreed.

The Board thanks Roddy and Peter for removing the old shed and disposing of it and acknowledges that this was a challenging task. It was agreed that a gift should be purchased for them as a thank you, as well as their costs be reimbursed.

The treasurer's report was proposed by Chris and seconded by Flora.

6. Report from Property and Maintenance

• Fencing

- a. Names of contractors still to be passed to Karen.
- b. Discussion on safety concerns regarding existing fencing.
- c. Quote received from MacKenzie Welding: £5,700 (incl. VAT) for stainless steel fence.
- d. Suggestion to consider a solid metal non-climb safety rail for long-term durability.
- e. Agreement to seek Angus's opinion with a view to spend next year as part of a wider project to include tarmacking of the driveway.

7. Events Feedback

• 12 July – The Timber Girl

A play by *The Three Wee Crows*, in collaboration with Dalavich Art Group. Funded by a £500 micro grant through DIG. £400 paid to professional actors, with £100 offered back to DIG (awaiting response). 78 people attended (£5 per ticket). Proceeds of £390 will support the next collaborative event on 1 November in Kilchrenan.

• 15 August – Visit from Jenni Minto, MSP

A well-attended and engaged afternoon session. Ms Minto has undertaken to investigate several local issues raised.

• 12–14 September – Wedding

Sam & Maria held a humanist wedding at the hall. Catering was provided by Karina using the hall kitchen. The couple expressed their delight and have promised to share photographs.

Ongoing & Regular Bookings (2025)

- **Art Group** – weekly sessions on Wednesday afternoons.
- **Bridge Group** – 13 sessions booked but delayed due to low numbers.
- **Wellness Day** – discussions ongoing with yoga instructor Tearlach although his availability for 2025 is limited.
- **Kids Holiday Club** – pilot programme delivered by Alice over the summer was a success. Plans to continue during October half term and Christmas holidays, though not necessarily hosted in the hall.
- **Community Library** – held first Saturday of every month, often supported by Cromka and Gilberts. Attendance increasing, with families and visitors participating.

Upcoming Events (Sept–Dec 2025)

- **27 September** – Coffee Morning fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer (target: £1,000+).
- **4 October** – Launch of Community Housing Assessment Tool (CHAT) with Argyll & Bute Council, linked to the Community Action Plan.

- **5 October** – *Memories Café* with AKCH: sharing photos, cine films, and stories; aim to involve younger community members in recording.
- **19 October** – Community Poem Workshop with Clare Bryden, exploring local identity. Final work to be performed at *The Remembering* and shared with AKCH.
- **25 October** – Quiz Night hosted by Flora.
- **1 November – The Remembering**
Begins at the Kirk with short stories in the graveyard, followed by storytelling, music, and poetry in the hall. Licensed bar and open mic session included.
- **29 November – Kilchrenan Does Christmas**
One stall already booked; planning of stands and promotion to follow. Stall holders have asked that it goes on a little longer than two hours- suggested 12noon to 4pm.
- **6 December – Hoolie at the Hall**
Music by Gregor Lowrie's 4-piece band. Format simplified: two ceilidh sessions, bar from 6pm, snacks during interval. Lower ticket price. Large gazebo to be set up outside, weather permitting.
- **Children's Christmas Party** – planned, but possibly at an alternative venue.

Pottery workshop: Potential for 17th/ 18th January and 24th/25th January. Lindsay is liaising with Tyndrum Pottery to make sure the venue is suitable for them. Facebook has been used to gather an idea of interest, which was high. Tyndrum Pottery have confirmed they will come out to Kilchrenan for a discussion about the best way to organise the class.

Touring Network: A well-established rural touring network that brings professional theatre, music and arts events to community venues such as village halls. It helps local groups access high-quality performances that might not otherwise reach smaller communities, often supported by grant funding and local partnerships. This network enables collaboration between touring companies and local organisers, strengthening cultural life in rural areas. Rhona proposes we join. The cost is £150 a year with a £1,000 grant awarded each year to pay the artists or their travel expenses. All agreed we should join the network.

8. Report from the Funding Group

- **Green Power (Carraig Ghael) Funding:**
 - £5,962.17 secured in January 2025 for replacement shed.
 - Expenditure to date: £5,727.03.
 - Balance remaining: £235.14.
 - Items purchased: Shed, storage boxes, paint, PIR lights (not required due to AV grant covering electrics).
- **Future Purchases:**
 - Proposal to purchase 35L clear storage boxes with lids (£38 for 3 from Argos).
 - Agreed to organise a spring work party to prime and paint the new and old sheds.
- **Pending Applications:**
 - Application submitted July 2025 to Carraig Ghael for an AV system (£6,991.76). Awaiting outcome by end of September.
- **Missed Opportunities:**
 - Argyll and Bute Council funding (£7–10K) had a short deadline; not pursued.
 - Ideas discussed for future applications:

- Community training courses (e.g. IT Fraud awareness).
- Upgrading website to allow ecommerce/payment options.

4. Future Funding Priorities

- Members invited to submit ideas for next Carraig Ghael funding round.
- Possible focus: improved fencing/safety rail for front of hall.

9. AKCH

Samhain Event (1 November): Rhona noted that candles will be used in one of the performances and advised that a risk assessment should be carried out.

Memorandum of Understanding with AKCH: A draft Memorandum of Understanding is being prepared to ensure clarity on the types of events most suitable for all venues, with the aim of complementing one another and maintaining mutual benefit. Regular and open communication between the venues will be central to this. AKCH will send the draft to KVH for review and approval.

Website: AKCH are developing a community website, which will be linked to the KVH website, and vice versa, to improve accessibility and information sharing.

10. Social Media, Website and Advertising

Leaflet drop: Agreed we need to do this for those who are not engaged with email or social media. Lindsay to draft and we can have it included in the next Church newsletter drop (Rhona to facilitate).

Website: The [events page](#) is continually updated with new events.

11. Risk Assessment and Health and Safety

This needs to be done annually. Ivan may be open to doing this. Brian to invite him to the next meeting.

12. Trustee Requirement

None.

13. AOB

It was discussed the AGM would be due in January 2026 - 20th January 2026 was proposed as the date.

14. Date of Next Meeting

25th November 2024 7pm