

252nd Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sleat Community Trust

On: Monday 27th of April 2026

In: Board Room & via [Teams](#)

MINUTES

1. Attendance:
 - a. In Person: Duncan MacInnes (DMI), Donaidh MacDonald (DMD, SCT Chair), John MacDonald (JMD), Ruud van Ruitenbeek (RvR, SCTCL Chair), Eilidh Grant (EG), MML (Office Admin)
 - b. Via Teams: Gillian Munro (GM, SMO), Paddy McKay (PM)
 - c. Apologies: Sophia Lockley (SL), Andy Williamson (AW), Garry Noakes (GN, SRL Director)
 - d. The board is quorate.

2. Items for AOB:

3. Declarations of interest:
 - a. DMI Sleat Community Council
 - b. MML for Shop, Balmacara Community Trust
 - c. PM for Hydro

4. Minutes of the last meeting, matters arising:
 - a. Proposed: RvR, Seconded: DMI
 - b. See action items below

An Crubh applied for a 70% Grant from SSE for a generator for their building. They are still awaiting reply if they have been successful. DMD will get in touch with the person who applied for the grant on behalf of An Crubh.

The marquee can now be hired for a donation to the Trust. Set Up takes about 3-4 hours and DMD can help with this. SNG can be informed by MML that they can hire the marquee for the Nature Festival in July and there will be no charge.

Parking Issues were discussed at the last SCTCL meeting. There is no space for additional spaces however the little pointy part with shrubs next to parking spaces can be paved with the stones that are outside the shop to avoid people stepping into mud when they exit their cars. EG did point out that staff and directors who come for a meeting during the day can park in Pier Road around the corner.

5. Finance:

AS circulated the latest Cashflow Report ahead of the meeting but is now no longer Finance Director for SCT. Nothing was discussed.
6. Finance Subgroup Report (PM):
 - a.) Recruitment – Community Development Officer

PM reported that the Group had not met up this month but there will be a report ahead of the next SCT meeting.

The job description for CDO has been sent around for feedback. DMI will get feedback on this from BDO's at a meeting in Broadford this week. MML will contact Balmacara Community Trust to circulate their job description for comparison. There is an opportunity to redirect the funding until a BDO is in place. This has also been done at the Balmacara Community Trust.

The board wanted to know from AW if laptop and relocation costs can be covered in the grant.
7. SRL (Renewables): General update

No one from SRL was available for an update.
8. Tormore Community Group (DMI):

DMI updated the board about recent developments. DMI spoke to MacGregors about ordering big items for Tormore where a discount can be applied. This can be ordered under SCT's name and account.

The question will be if VAT can be reclaimed if this was under SRL's name instead. DMI to contact Andy Cumming at Mann Judd to check. The money for Tormore is currently being held in the SCT account.

DMI sent out an email to the SRL board about purchases for Tormore but has had no feedback on this.

Any new items purchased for the forest can be included in the Insurance.

DMI and Polly MacInnes will be part of a meeting on Thursday in Broadford on behalf of the Trust and Forest.

Kate Rawlinson sent an email to remind everyone of the current fire risk and to put up signs. DMI will speak to Kate and check where the signs in Tormore are and if they need replacing. SCT's responsibility for signage is only in Tormore not the whole of Sleat.
9. SCTCL (Trading): General update

RvR updated the board on Trading.

The turnover for the Shop has been down over the last month compared to previous years which is due to the ferry situation which is impacting footfall. However, this drop is no reason for concern.

The bank balance at the last SCTCL meeting was high however at the time neither the Payroll nor the regular invoices had been paid due to MML being on holiday.

RvR took part in a meeting about the Generator. Martin MacGillivray and JD MacInnes as well as Catherine de Vries took part in this.

The shop received a quote for a generator and Martin has applied for funding with the Highland Council. There will be funds raised with the community. There is already some money that has been raised and RvR is to thank those people who have contributed.

The quote for the generator is for around £19,000. RvR will also contact Jamie Graham for another quote.

Martin will also apply to the SSEN Fund which is open for applications until the 25th of May.

A Go Fund Me page will be set up to raise funds. RvR has already drafted the wording for this but it needs to be reviewed.

RvR is also interested in getting the Trust to be able to use Gift Aid. RvR will speak to MML on Friday afternoon about this.

There is a way to save on the cost for a generator if it can be offloaded by someone in the community. Pete at the Boatyard or John Rawlinson at Tormore could possibly be asked for help with this. However, the board needs to make sure the insurance would cover this.

10. Strategy, governance and management:

11. IT Matters (PM):

No update.

12. Ferry Group Update (PM):

PM has been circulating updates in regards to the ferry situations. A ferry was due to be back but broke down on the way back.

Once the situation with Calmac has settled, there will be a campaign and survey to review the impact of the ferry situation.

13. Networking Event follow up (PM):

The Networking Event was well received with about 30 people from 18 different businesses attending. These were tourist as well as non tourist businesses.

To build on this there is the possibility to start a Sleat Business Forum to share ideas and talk. It would be similar to what the Chamber of Commerce does but for free and under the umbrella of the Trust.

DMD who also attended the event pointed out that it helps to coalesce all the business in Sleat as of now people don't know what everyone else is doing. The local food network could also feed into this.

Thanks to Armadale Estate for hosting this event.

14. Old Pier Update (DMD):

DMD has had some information from Lucilla Noble who would like to gift the old pier to the Trust. The paperwork for this is currently being dealt with and more details will follow on what exactly is being gifted and how the access would work.

This information is to be kept in confidence of the board for now and will not be put in the public minutes on the website.

The Old Pier could be a good project for the new CDO.

DMD will also connect with the Moorings Association about this.

15. AOB- from items given in 2 above

a.) There is a meeting on the 1/6 where the Trust can do a 10-minute presentation. DMD will join this. MML to resend information.

b.) The Board would like to express their congrats on SMO receiving the £4 million to update their buildings.

c.) JMD informed the board that Plot C is still ongoing. There will likely be conditions placed on the planning permission. JMD is awaiting further information.

d.) DMI has received a request from private individuals to include an advert in the next Newsletter. This is possible but they would have to pay for this.

e.) EG pointed out that the meetings sent via outlook are still in a different time zone. PM to check this.

The meeting concluded at 18:21 pm and the next meeting is on Monday, 25th of May 2026 in the Boardroom.

ACTION ITEMS

	ACTION POINT	RESPONSIBLE	OUTCOME
1	Go ahead with amending or getting new Shop sign and show to Trust, get SCT Offices Sign	RvR, PM	In process
2	Review List of potential projects	All Board Members	In process
3	Pull together proposal for new PCs, laptop	PM	In process
4	Quarterly Risk Register Review due	All Board Members	To be put on next months Agenda
5	Find out how to give RvR access to Bank Accounts	MML	In process
6	Get back in touch with Voltshare about Minibus Chargers	MML	In process
7	Speak to person who applied for Generator Grant on behalf of An Crubh	DMD	
8	Reply to SNG about Marquee use for Festival	MML	Done 28/04/26
9	Speak to BDO's about Job Description	DMI	

10	Contact BCT about their job description	MML	Done 28/04/26, await reply
11	Check if Laptop & Relocation Costs included in funding	AW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptop costs are included. Relocation isn't. However, the funding is April-March and has to be used in that year. Obviously, we won't have hired someone for quarter 1 so there is the potential to use some of the funding to support relocation (at our discretion and with the approval of the funder - I would not be advertising this).
12	Contact Mann Judd Accountants about VAT reclaim for buying SRL items	DMI	
13	Email Kate R. About fire risk and signs	DMI	Done, 28/4/26
14	Contact Jamie Graham for another generator quote	RvR	
15	Thank people who already have contributed to Generator Fund	RvR	
16	Open Go Fund Me Page for Generator	RvR	
17	Speak to MML about setting up Gift Aid	RvR	
18	Speak to Pete at Boatyard about offloading Generator	PM	
19	Resend information on meeting 1/6 to DMD	MML	Done 28/04/2026
20	Check Time Zones for Meeting Requests	PM	