

Urram Board Meeting Notes 23rd October 2025 7.30pm

		Action
1	<p>Welcome and apologies</p> <p>Present: , Gill Calver, Elizabeth Carmichael, Jenni Hodgson, Ali Upton, James Campbell, Sally Semple</p> <p>Apologies: Karen-Anne Wilson, Sandra Lawton, Catriona Hunter, James Hilder, Tracy Cameron and Peter Winnington- Ingram.</p> <p>The meeting was chaired by Gill, in James' absence.</p> <p>Gill opened the meeting noting our condolences to Sandy, at the loss of Liz Macdonald. Her calm and cheerful authority will be sorely missed by many.</p>	Louise
2	<p>Minutes of the last Meeting : proposed Elizabeth and seconded Sally. AGM 2024 minutes proposed Elizabeth and seconded Sally.</p> <p>Election of office bearers:</p> <p>Chair : James Hilder Proposed Gill, seconded Elizabeth</p> <p>Vice Chair: James Campbell proposed Gill, Seconded Sally</p> <p>Treasurer: Jenni Hodgson Proposed Gill, seconded James</p> <p>Secretary: Gill Calver. Proposed Sally, seconded Jenni.</p> <p>Matters arising:</p> <p>Ali noted that Janie Mitchell from the coalition of carers would be very happy to meet and share experiences. Whilst the National Care Service is no longer active the Care Reform Act still applies, and within that holds the legislative right to short breaks for carers, and therefore the funds to enable that to happen still be available</p> <p>Annual report is now on our website.</p>	
3	<p>Finance</p> <p>Current Bank account at £111576</p> <p>The Savings account with Hampshire savings is now open and Jennie has transferred £40,000.</p> <p>Today we had £2,500 in from PACT.</p> <p>Funding</p> <p>The vehicle associated with the Plugged in Communities fund has been ordered.</p> <p>The CRF application is nearly complete- for the Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle.</p> <p>Summary of project balances.</p> <p>Louise gave an overview of the project balance sheet. Most of the projects are running to cost as expected. The SiRD is underspent, and requires some diligence from Louise and Tracy in the next 6 months. The lottery money also needs to be monitored- especially for the activities, to ensure it is spent according to schedule.</p> <p>Jenni asked for the 'profit' to be changed to ongoing balance.</p>	Louise
4	Services update	

	<p>The update paper was helpful and the board agreed to go ahead with Tracy's suggestion of a webpage for the PA's. This will help change the conversation to assist in finding and accessing care.</p> <p>Louise will recirculate the transport subsidiary service paper to the Board to be discussed by email. Gill reminded the team that the board are also available to take cars to the garage etc, to reduce the burden on staff if volunteers are not available.</p> <p>Gill suggested holding some training sessions or car club open days to encourage EV use. Louise/Tracy/Janice to move forward.</p>	<p>Louise</p> <p>Louise/Tracy/Janice</p>
5	<p>Projects</p> <p>Local care model-Louise had a brief conversation with Ian, and the paper regarding the closure of the respite service and termination of lease was going to the executive committee next week. HC would give Urram a short lease going forwards, but would not be conducting any ongoing repairs. Ian is well aware that Urram do not have the funds to run the building and is making that clear. Gill highlighted that any lease would have to be accompanied by an income stream to allow for repairs, staffing etc.</p> <p>Childcare</p> <p>Progressing on two fronts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To organise the work/play groups where parents can work and a play leader will run children's activities for a few hours. 2) Exploring if there is a financial model that would work in Strontian, if there was a third party running Early Learning Childcare services. <p>Gill noted that room hire should be free for community groups and will speak with Michael Foxley.</p> <p>SiRD- noted that the word is getting out there and Tracy is busy with people getting in touch and asking for support.</p>	
6	<p>Dail Mhor House- update from KAW</p> <p>Similar to Ian's update, the papers are still working their way through NHS Highland procedures.</p> <p>Community appointment days for those on physiotherapy and other waiting lists were held in Fort William recently. These appear to have been successful, but full feedback is still to be gathered. Karen-Anne hopes that the community appointment days would be able to be delivered in smaller communities across Lochaber.</p>	
7	<p>Staffing</p> <p>Nothing to report. Shonah Wood starts 27th October.</p>	
8	<p>A.O.B</p> <p>Revision of Constitution :</p> <p>Gill to speak to James regarding the wording for proposed constitution change. Louise/Sarah to write to all members with notice of EGM, at the volunteer Christmas gathering.</p> <p>It was noted that Ali, Denise and Gill were attending the Highland Care Conference- hosted by Angus MacDonald the following day.</p>	<p>Louise/Sarah</p> <p>Ali/Denise/Gill</p> <p>Sarah/Ali ?</p>

	<p>Sarah is attending the Lochaber Community partnership event on the 12th of November and Ali may be able to pop in for support on her way home. The 18th of November is the NHS annual review in Aviemore for those that are interested.</p>	
10	<p>Date of next Board meeting –</p> <p>4th December 9.30am 15th January 7.30pm 26th February 9.30am 2nd April 7.30pm</p>	