

Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Members Meeting

Thursday 29th January 2026

Gigha Village Hall at 7pm

Present from IGHT: Jane Clements (JC) – Director; Tim Lister (TL) – Director; Adam Murphy (AM) - Director; Ian Wilson (IW) - Director; Jane Macintyre (JM) – Senior Manager/Company Secretary

Apologies from IGHT: Fergus Christie; Gordon Watson

Members in attendance: 40

Minutes: JM

1. Welcome

AM welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. General Update

The board made the decision to terminate the employment of the Hotel Managers during their probationary period review. Anna Lannigan is acting as Interim Hotel Manager until the new position is recruited. The position will be advertised shortly with same salary package as previously of £30,000 plus profit share or performance bonus.

Interviews will be carried out by directors, staff and possibly an independent professional. Previously Bellochantuy Hotel assisted.

Priority is to have kitchen operational. Adam Wool is now in post as Head Chef. The team are aiming to have food available from end of March however this is largely dependent on satisfying Environmental Health assessments.

Adam Wool's kitchen at home is compliant with Environmental Health (as needed for his pizza business), therefore in the interim to accommodate necessary functions, Adam can prepare food at home which can then be served in the hotel.

Funding to renovate the hotel is in progress. There was previously a budget of approximately £30k which IGHT allocated to hotel works. This has been spent on windows, kitchen upgrades and re-wiring works.

The previous Hotel Managers were not given a budget for decorations etc. They were to operate on a shoe-string budget and identify costs, and any possible funding would be a bonus. The Hotel can operate without the funding; funding would just elevate the standards and appearance within the Hotel.

A member proposed the suspension of the Community Fund to assist with the Trust's financial position. The board will consider this.

A member asked if the community could have a walk around the hotel. This is not currently possible due on going works which would create safety hazards. It will be possible to share photos and videos in the interim.

A member suggested a volunteer session to assist with the tidying up and other works. This will be considered by the team. Volunteer assistance will be greatly appreciated but the correct tasks should be identified and risk assessed.

3. Communications

The key to improving communications will be by creating opportunities for a discussion rather than IGHT only providing information on decisions made. Some solutions to investigate include:

- IGHT members online page or forum for more regular discussion points.
- More members meetings and setting dates for the rest of the year so plenty of notice.
- Written communications submitted via directors' email inbox (directors@gigha.org.uk) or via letter box at Trust office for discussion at board meetings.
- Better use of the notice board at the shop.

- Formal monthly Trust memo in addition to community newsletter.
- Setting up of in-person meeting sessions with directors (surgeries). There should be dedicated time for discussions rather than directors/staff being approached at any time.

There is a process involved in drafting and issuing formal communications which can be timely. We also need to be considerate of staff and director capacity.

Confidentiality needs to be considered, and all members need access to the same level of information.

Ideally there would be a dedicated communications person within the Trust.

A member suggested that actions should be recorded within the minutes, with an update on actions recorded the following month. Actions are minuted, however these have been redacted from members copies of board minutes.

4. AOB

The Community Action Plan was published in 2025. The board are to review this as part of setting aims for 2026.

Co-option vacancies were advertised. Gordon Watson approached the board. No other interest was expressed.

The roads policy was raised. This has not been reviewed in recent years. The condition of Gallochoille road was raised. This has been reported and a quote for repairs is being sought.

There is funding in place for Keill Road works. It was raised there is a private shared maintenance responsibility for part of Keill Road (main road – mast). Members felt the private owner should be approached and asked for a contribution. The board agreed to review this.

Storm damage insurance funds were raised. £36,000 was claimed from IGHT for storm damage from January 2025. This included a number of agricultural sheds and Achamore Gardens. Some of the repairs have been completed. The insurance only paid out on what they could deem as storm damage. Some of the sheds were damaged prior to the storm, meaning repairs will likely cost more than what insurance has been claimed. The maintenance team have done scope of works and external contractors still need to be approached to quote for works.

A mailshot was sent recently regarding preservation of Kilchattan gravestones. The conservation volunteer group that works with the Ranger Service have been conserving the gravestones at Kilchattan. The group would like to find a way to safeguard these gravestones. An Archaeologist suggested moving and displaying them (within Kilchattan) to protect them rather than risking them becoming lost to vegetation. The community are to give their feedback and opinions to Ranger service for consideration.

The Navigation Buoy is now working thanks to support from Bakkafrost who purchased and installed new lights. This took longer than anticipated due to issues with the original lights ordered and weather disruption.

Meeting closed: 8.20pm