

[MULL & IONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE](#)

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2007 in Craignure Hall

PRESENT: Sandy Brunton, Michael Ackerley, Alan Parker, Tom Bettely, Georgia O'Neill, John Cable, Derek Crook

APOLOGIES: Jo Currie

Minutes of the January 2007: Acceptance proposed by Michael Ackerley, seconded by Tom Bettely. Passed nem con.

Matters arising from the January Minutes. 1 Caravans/travellers at unlicensed sites. A & B Council are still following up this matter but it is legally difficult for the police to remove unauthorised occupation of public areas. Raised barriers would provide some answer but maintenance of the barriers would be costly which is why large boulders have now been placed across entrances to such sites as the one in Glen Mor. Unfortunately this means that short stops for viewing by tourists are also prevented. Not a help to the tourist trade.

2 Marine Park Questionnaire. John Cable has submitted the Chamber's response to the questionnaire and this response has been largely endorsed by Holiday Mull. The Chamber's response will be put on its website.

3 Transport strategy Sandy has sent the Chamber's response to Hitrans and has received acknowledgement. This document is also to go on the Chamber's website. The document is also the Chamber's response to Argyll & Bute Council's document "Moving Forward. Local transport Strategy" and will be emailed to Nicola Debenham at A&B Council and also forwarded to our MP and MSP and to Keep Mull Moving. Holiday Mull is to be asked if they will endorse this because of its importance and to promote joint action by both bodies where it is appropriate. John Cable reported that that Councillor McGaskill has replied to John's email asking why A&B Council have not asked The Scottish Executive to grant derogation on the matter of weight-restrictions on Mull roads to the effect that he has now instructed the relevant officers to deal with the matter immediately. Georgia O'Neill has produced for the Chamber an amusing animated web item on driving on single-track roads. It was agreed that Alan Parker contact Calmac to see if the ferry company would agree to using it on their large screen displays and to bring the item to the attention of Councillor Gillies on Tiree. This item is also to be on the Chamber's website

AGM and Annual Dinner. Jo Currie had agreed to organise this event for the 16th/17th March at Highland Cottage, Tobermory. The dates and venues are to be posted to members. All Board members are to check the membership list to see who could be approached to agree to be nominated for the Board. It was felt that the Board needed new members. Derek and Michael would analyse patterns in the membership list. Tom announced that he would not be seeking re-election and by acclaim he was heartily thanked for all the work that he had done as Treasurer for so many years.

Treasurer's report. A balance of £3752.76 was reported and the accounts had been sent for audit. Michael was thanked for his help in the preparation of these accounts.

President's Report. A great deal of circular mail had been received but much of it was in the form of invitations from various organisations on the mainland and attendance was not considered economic or convenient. Where opportunity arose mainland organisations would be invited to hold some of their events on Mull and Iona.

Travel Expo 07 The total cost, to be shared equally between the Chamber and Holiday Mull, was £1410. It was agreed the Chamber's contribution be paid.

AOB. Derek was thanked for offering to take minutes at future meetings. These would be forwarded to Georgia for dissemination to the membership and entry on our website. Derek would also forward to Georgia a less formal account drawn from the minutes for similar dissemination.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 5th March 2007

