

The Road To The Isles Facilities Group
Notes of the meeting of Trustees held at 7.30 pm on
Tuesday 11th November 2025
at Mallaig and Morar Community Centre

Present: Stuart Griffin (Chair), Nick Murray (Treasurer), Niki Robertson, Valerie Stuart and Dave Newnham (Secretary)

Apologies: Jacqueline McDonnell, Eilidh Henderson and Catherine Young.

Notes of last meeting: Notes of the last Trustees meeting held on Tuesday 30 September 2025 were received by the Trustees.

Matters Arising not on Agenda: None

Mallaig Toilets: The Nymax machine for the Capervan Service Point isn't working. We can't approach Nymax directly so Stuart raised the problem with Healthmatic three weeks ago but the issue has yet to be resolved. There are a couple of possible reasons for the damage, it could possibly have sustained the damage during the last storm or may have been caused by the repeated banging of the door, so it was suggested we look at the feasibility of moving it.

Cat is in contact with David Smith about other electrical issues. Cat to seek David's advice about moving the machine.

The benches have taken a bit of a battering and Stephen McCaig has removed them and is in the process of repairing and reinforcing them. He is not charging for this.

Chris Pritchard has strimmed the area around the toilet block.

The problems associated with poor ventilation will be addressed as part of the group's winter projects.

Traigh Toilets: The doors have "swollen". ***Stuart to ask Chris to have a look. New signage is needed Stuart to take lead on providing new signage.***

Tougal Car Park & Toilets: The male and female toilets are now closed for the winter. Chris is going to replace the temporary fencing erected by the Rangers.

Path To The Beach: Chris has cleared a fallen tree and ***Stuart is to approach him regarding drainage.***

Mallaig Circular Walk: The report of the survey has now been posted on Facebook.

In addition to the £8,000 we have agreed and the £8,000 Mallaig Community Council have pledged, we have been encouraged to apply to the Highland Council's CRF for a significant contribution towards the cost of completing the third and final phase of the circular walk. Donald Kennedy has been providing advice and support and we have received an initial estimate of £54,000 from Cairngorm Wilderness who have an impressive track record in this regard, A second estimate is currently being assessed.

Finance: Nick talked the Trustees through the draft 2024-25 end of year accounts which he had previously circulated. These were agreed and he will now submit them to our Accountants once Stuart has completed the Chair's report. We plan to hold the 2024-25 AGM prior to the Trustees meeting on 17 March 2026.

Morar Playing Field: Planning was refused for a number of reasons but most significantly the size of the visibility splays at the entrance. This has been redesigned, resubmitted and we await the outcome of the application which will determine whether a second application to the SSE fund is made in December.

Local Place Plan: Tiina Heinonen has agreed to be the local lead and is hoping to provide local people with information by piggy backing local events. To this end RIFG have agreed to provide circa £2,000 to enable Tiina to design and purchase presentation materials including interpretation boards.

Winter Projects: The following small scale projects have been identified:

- New bins at the Bandstand in Mallaig.
- Replacing/repairing the coping stones in a section of West Bay Car Park's wall.
- Fencing and edging at Tougal Car Park
- Improvements to the interior of the Mallaig Toilet block (splash backs etc)
- Improving ventilation in the Mallaig toilets.
- Signage for the circular walk.
- Fencing at Traigh.
- Bin Store for Arisaig

In addition ***Dave will write to the Chairs of the three Community Councils to see if there are any small scale projects they would like us to undertake.***

Any other business:

Dave to ensure Winter Projects and Local Place Plan are standing agenda items, circulate 2026 meeting dates and book the Community Centre.

Date and Time Of Next Meeting: The meeting scheduled to take place on 23 December is cancelled and the next meeting will therefore take place at 19.30 on 3 February 2026.