

RCA Meeting 19 April 2026

Present – Jennifer Thompson (Chair/minutes), Jinty Crocket (Treasurer), Lesley Watt, Stuart McKie, Kim Taylor, Debbie Chabluk, Neil Boyd, Elle Hutchinson, Bernie Ryan, Aisling Calvert-Hewison, Ross Watt

Apologies - Sareth Brown, Hywel Lewis, Fliss Fraser, Sylvia Stirling, Sean Morris, Ali Morris

Updates on current business:

1. Nominations – no nominations received for secretary. Current committee to set up dates for rest of years meetings and ask for volunteers to take minutes.
2. New bank account up and running – has online banking functions. Hebnet will gift free internet if the original bank account is closed/standing order cancelled. Purchased since last meeting: gas key for kitchen, bolts for toilet doors, darts and defib pad.
3. Funding to be sought for front/back door of hall from Highland Local Action Group.
4. IRCT to re-instate Public Liability insurance for the hall. RCA still hasn't received funds from the old bank account into the new and the insurance reinstatement is a priority.

Farmhouse

There was a fair amount of history as to how Farmhouse came be to for sale on the open market, unfortunately this was shared before the official meeting had started and no minutes were being taken.

What the Community would like: Farmhouse block should remain in community ownership

All twelve attending members agreed Farmhouse block should remain in community ownership and not be sold. A majority of the attendees agreed it should only be retained if there is a clear plan for its repair, maintenance and use. Catherine Moody from Isle of Muck could be hired as a Project Manager to ensure an effective plan for Farmhouse. IRCT board member

attending advised that the multiple projects currently under discussion with IRCT were manageable if Farmhouse was to be taken on.

What the Community would like Farmhouse to be used for: A mix of office space and housing including that for young islanders to move into their own accommodation

Suggestions agreed by the majority:

1. Rangers Office
2. IRCT/development officer office
3. Work from home/hot desk space
4. NHS/Doctors office
5. Community accommodations lets for friends/family/contractors (not private holiday lets or second homes)
6. Start up/small accommodation for young islanders

One young person at the meeting expressed interest in Farmhouse being turned into accommodation so they can move out from the family home.

Community members were concerned about the current tenant in Farmhouse, IRCT Board member attending confirmed quotes are being sought for alternative accommodation for that tenant.

MOWI Update

Catherine Moody from Isle of Muck will negotiate the MOWI Fish Farm expansions deal, dates for her to meet the community are to be arranged.

Paul Davies (Co-Opt IRCT Board Director) and Catherine Moody had a meeting with MOWI on April 20th for initial discussions. The meeting will cover how the process of negotiations will take place, no actual negotiations will take place at this time. Paul Davies will update the community following this meeting.

Fliss Fraser has contacted Isle of Coll for information on their deal with a MOWI expansions and will report back.

Next RCA meeting - June 2026 TBC