

RCA meeting minutes – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

01/03/2026 – Updated 12/03/2026, 22/03/2026

Present - Lesley Watt (chair), Stuart McKie, Jennifer Thompson, Sean Morris, Ali Morris, Lauren Murphy, Aisling Calvert-Hewison, Neil Boyd, Elle Hutchinson, Jinty Crocket, Kate Bolas, Debbie Chabluk, Bernie Ryan

Apologies – Nick Murphy (treas), Sareth Brown (sec), Hywel Lewis, Coinneach Hutchinson, Rhiannon Ayley, Derek Thomson

Meeting minutes taken by LW.

Nominations

Chair – Jennifer Thompson nominated by Kate Bolas, seconded by Ian Bolas

Lesley Watt nominated by Lauren Murphy, seconded by Hywel Lewis

Secretary – Kate Bolas nominated by Stuart McKie, seconded by Jennifer Thompson

Treasurer – Jinty Crocket nominated by Jennifer Thompson, seconded by Kate Bolas

Lesley Watt voluntarily steps down as Chair. New RCA committee.

Chair – Jennifer Thompson

Secretary – Kate Bolas

Treasurer – Jinty Crocket

LM asks JT about making unbiased decisions as RCA.

JT acknowledges and responds. No conflict of interest recorded.

Funding discussion: £4249.20 currently in RCA bank account. Steady income of £40 per month from FF for rent, continuous donations from visitors.

Kerosene payments: No outstanding amounts.

Electricity payments: now paid by IRCT who are awaiting an invoice.

Bank: Current bank account is not online and requires two signatories. AP - New RCA committee to investigate obtaining a bank account with online availability.

Meeting minutes now taken by JT.

1. Small Isles Community Council Update (provided by only Rum representative Fliss Fraser)

Highland Council proposal that Mallaig carpark restrict parking to 24 hours is on hold until a public consultation is held. The majority of the Small Isles and Mallaig residents took part in written objections.

- a. Calmac planned ferry maintenance days will be on a Thursday as of the start of the summer timetable. There is no info on whether that will be the case in winter. AP – FF to ask for more info.
- b. Meeting with Fiona Hyslop (cab sec) went well discussing all transport and parking issues.
- c. Looking into more community first aid for adults and children for greater resilience.
 - KB advises school will also be arranging such training this year, LW advises NatureScot (NS) will be arranging such training this year – possibility to combine?
- d. The games are on Saturday, 8th August, on Eigg. The ferry timetable has been amended to facilitate island travel on Saturday and Sunday.
 - Islanders should be able to travel to and from on Saturday or leave on Sunday

2. MOWI Expansion

Little movement on this topic since meeting with Mowi in community hall (26Nov25). Community had voted through IRCT to explore further options for expansion, community feedback on an acceptable deal is needed before IRCT board proposes deal to Mowi.

Agreed methods on collecting feedback:

- Paper to be pinned up in hall, community writes on their thoughts (week commencing 02Mar26)
- Email community asking for thoughts (week commencing 02Mar26)
- A community meeting on March 22nd in hall

A suggestion was made on asking for a % share of Mowi profits, its likely this is not legal or is complicated, some members remember Mowi saying this was not an option.

Suggestions given of what community wants in an acceptable deal:

Road repair/maintenance

Improved defense of fish farm barriers

Support with power supply

Prevention of seawall disintegration

Housing maintenance and repair

3. Tea Room

Expression of interest has been submitted by Aisling Calvert-Hewison

Proposal: Sell tea and coffee, soup and cakes

To be open every Saturday during April 2026, Saturday's and Wednesdays May, June and July.

ACH is expecting to hire kitchen for preparation and baking the night before tea room is open.

A rate needs to be agreed; kitchen hire is currently £10 per hour. It was suggested the hall not be hired for tea room to allow for all residents and visitors to use hall at the same time as tea room.

AP - ACH to forward a proposal to new RCA personnel for agreeing a rate and potential contract. Meeting set with ACH for 15Mar26.

4. Comfort Scheme

RCA successfully obtained Comfort Scheme Grant for another year. Signature and return of documents still needs to take place.

Grant is £200 per month and is split between campsite toilets and hall toilets. Any person employed to carry out this work will need to provide own supplies.

AP – advertise job opportunity to community

5. Emergency Planning Document

IRCT AGM (Feb26) raised the need for a document to be created and distributed to residents with contact details for emergencies.

AP – KB to investigate neighboring areas (Eigg, Muck, Canna, Knoydart) similar documents for use on Rum.

6. RCA Constitution

The current RCA Constitution was adopted in 2000, update to the purposes and objectives has been suggested.

A copy of the current constitution is included with these minutes and a hard copy will be posted on the notice board in the porch area of the hall. All residents are encouraged to share feedback and suggestions on any potential updates. New RCA committee will review this feedback Quarter 3 or 4 of 2026.

7. Road Charges

IRCT board obtained a quote of £300k from NS contractor which includes all village network (pier to shop) for importing materials and laying a road which should last 10 years without needing maintenance. IRCT would like the community to revisit the idea of road charges and asks for suggestions on how £300k, or smaller amounts for ongoing maintenance, can be achieved.

Please address your thoughts and suggestions irctboard@gmail.com or if you would prefer RCA to forward on your suggestions please write to me at jenniferjuly@outlook.com

Suggestions on how to raise this money given at the back of these minutes in appendix 1.

8. Farmhouse Block Sale

Farmhouse block is still up for sale as one unit but has had no interest for quite some time. IRCT board are looking for suggestions from community members on how we can move the sale forward, an RCA meeting has been planned for Saturday 19Apr26.

Please address your thoughts and suggestions irctboard@gmail.com or if you would prefer RCA to forward on your suggestions please write to me at jenniferjuly@outlook.com

Suggestions on how to move the sale forward at the back of these minutes in appendix 2.

AOB

Playpark at back of hall – IRCT has funding for this, an agreement has been made with local joiner Nev Oldroyde who is expecting materials to arrive in the next few weeks.

Action points:

FF to ask for more info on Calmac maintenance days in winter timetable. Ie. What ferry coverage will be provided on Thursdays scheduled maintenance day.

ACH to forward a proposal to new RCA personnel for agreeing a rate and potential contract. Meeting set with ACH for 15Mar26.

RCA committee to advertise hall/toilet cleaning job opportunity to community.

KB to investigate neighboring areas (Eigg, Muck, Canna, Knoydart) similar documents for use on Rum.

New RCA committee to investigate obtaining a bank account with online availability.

Dates of note:

Community meeting for Mowi expansion – 22Mar26 Village Hall

Community meeting for Farmhouse block sale – 19Apr26

Revision notes, Rev 2:

- RCA ‘volunteers’ changed to RCA ‘committee’
- Included question at meeting from LM to JT
- Included text for minutes to updated at next meeting

Revision notes, Rev 3:

- Update header to show this is Annual General Meeting
- Update wording from LM to JT

Appendix 1: Suggestions for Road Charges made at the meeting

- NS to give £3 for every £1 raised by community – this may not stand after infrastructure agreement with NS is reviewed in the near future
- Moorings money taken by bunkhouse to be used for roads (EH advises ~£2.5k per year is raised from moorings payments)
- Mowi to be asked for full £300k to repair roads
- Re-instate previous charges of £20 per household for car, £2 per person for walking

Appendix 2:

- Sell each of 3 units of the block separately, IRCT board has confirmed this can be done
- Sell an individual unit and use money gained to fix a second unit
- Sell each at £1 with a contract for buyer and IRCT to have shared equity
- IRCT own the property with a contract for outside person to invest