

BERNERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Meeting held on

**Thursday 23 January 2025
Bernera Community Centre, 7.30pm**

In attendance. Madeleine Macaulay (Chair, MM), Robert Mackenzie (RM), Chrissie Macdonald (CM), Cllr Misty Macdonald, Rhiannon Teather (Secretary, RT), Calum Richings (Treasurer, CR).

Apologies. Alice Murray (CnES), Cllr Ranald Fraser, Neil James Macaulay.

1. Welcome & Previous Minutes

The previous minutes of the AGM meeting held on Thursday 12 December 2024 were approved by Robert Mackenzie and seconded by Calum Richings.

2. Matters Arising

- Chaser e-mail from CnES that our annual accounts need to be filed by 31 January 2025; CR aware of it and working on them.
- Draft meeting schedule for year – Month off in April since RT away; otherwise approved for distribution.

3. Finance Update

CM & CR update. Current balance is £16,414.23.

Paid for soil and digger for Bosta; Wages paid re Bosta toilets; Tax re Bosta £1688.40 paid; MM paid £900 to cover wages for cleaning the toilets (up to August 2024).

4. Joan's Bench & Garden

Ongoing project for when the weather is better.

5. Bosta Works / Toilets Update

New septic tank and pipes now covered with soil. Ditches drained.

Paint and toilet seat still to be purchased but otherwise we have everything we need to finish the job.

6. Crown Estate Fund

No update as early in the year for the next round.

7. Bernera Bridge – Safety Changes

No update re meeting as yet. To be taken forward. ND to follow up.

The issue of sheep on the bridge was discussed; reiterated fence and gate will need to be stockproof.

8. Graveyards / Little Bernera

MM e-mailed CnES archaeologist; awaiting a response. It was noted many people are not paying for their graveyard plots and this will need to be addressed by parties, especially due to the maintenance cost of the existing graveyard.

9. AOCB

- **Art Sculpture.** Request from Bernera Museum for this to be located at the bridge; agreed no issue; installation to be organised once Joan's bench and garden in place.
- **Coaches at Bosta.** We received an e-mail requesting input as there is a training session for WITGA guides coming up; we confirmed in our response that only space for 2 coaches at time due to restricted space for turning etc. There are two areas marked out for large coaches, although these are not policed so camper vans tend to park there.
- **Lithium Batteries Safety Campaign.** We have been contacted by Ron Bailey, assistant to Lord Foster, at UK Parliament requesting support for his campaign on the safety of Lithium-ion batteries 'designed to save lives and cut down on fires and save damage to property'. We support in principle; MM to read into it further.
- **War Memorial.** MM to approach CnES about taking this forward.

No meeting in February. Our next scheduled meeting is 13 March 2025.

Please contact: berneracomcouncil@gmail.com to make suggestions or raise any issues.

Bernera Community Council minutes can be found on the new CnES website at:
<https://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/council-and-committees/bernera-community-council>