



Lochgoil Community Trust

Minutes of a meeting on **Wednesday 3rd June 2026 at 19:00**

1. Welcome and apologies

Lochgoil Community Trust is regulated by OSCR. Our aims and objectives are defined within our Articles of Association, and our priorities are informed by the extant Community Plan (currently the Local Place Plan). Our primary activities involve the acquisition and charitable distribution of funds and working on a voluntary basis on community projects. Membership of the Trust is open to all in the community. The appointment of the Board of Trustees is by election at our Annual General Meeting. Up to 9 elected and 3 co-opted Trustees can serve on the Board.

Present: Sheron Hambly (SH) (Chair), Lorraine Drew (LD), Tim King (TK), Roger Brooks (RB) representing Lochgoil Energy Ltd.

Apologies: Neil Robson (NR), John Hawkins (JH).

Minute-taker – LD

Declarations of interest: TK is a director and Chair of Lochgoil Energy Ltd, a Director and Treasurer of the Argyll Fisheries Trust, and Treasurer of the River Gail Angling Club.

2. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting:

Proposed by LD seconded by TK

3. LEL AGM

The LEL annual general meeting formed the first part of the meeting.

Minutes are attached in Appendix 1.

The LEL annual accounts, as submitted to Companies House on 2nd April 2026, had been circulated to the board in advance of the meeting.

RB reminded the meeting that LEL owned a 20% share of the Hydro, with the shareholders of LEL being the Trust Board. The accounts showed that LEL profits for the 8th year of operation were £61,742.80.

The accounts were approved by the Board. RB also confirmed that the LEL Directors were still liaising with RBS to replace the late Elizabeth Bain as signatory. The LCT Board approved the payment of the outstanding bill for the audit and accounting fee of £708 from Trust reserves, to be reimbursed by LEL once their bank account was accessible.

TK advised that the projection for year 9 would be lower due to changes in energy prices and is expected to be around £14k.

The LEL Board is actively seeking a third Director to replace EB.

4. Action List from previous meeting (as per minutes)

LD had update with D Prescott with regards to heritage projects. She will continue to support him but requested that this be removed from actions as there is no imminent application expected. Complete.

SH to contact DTAS and FLS about playpark. Complete.

SH to contact School with request for more information. Complete.

SH to contact Arrochar Mountain Rescue. Complete.

SH to contact hall trustees about application decision. Complete.

SH to contact Gordon re Carrick jetty application decision. Complete.



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SH to submit funding application to SSEN for generator. Complete.

TK to submit funding application to LLTNPA to take forward the second phase of the River Goil project. Complete.

SH community team from LLTNPA contacted us to arrange attendance at online or in person meeting. Teams meeting 2/6/26. Complete

5. Treasurer's report:

Old Account - £17,834.77

New account - £135,643.54

Total: £153,478.31

Funds available for distribution – Approx £100,000

Community Transport Account - £ 40,351.55

TK and SH have contacted RBS for the various bank accounts. Process of updating contacts continues.

6. Community project updates

Community Transport – JH – spoke with Chair of CC some time ago regarding a CC representative, so far no one has stepped forward. He went to meet with Carrick Trust, but on arrival at the venue was advised that they'd changed the meeting date to the week before and this had not been passed on to him. The Trust approved the payment of the Strachur minibus hire to allow Carrick residents to attend a social event.

The board discussed the option of purchasing Optimise software to enable a volunteer driver pool to be set up initially.

Further enquiries will also be made with LLTNP with regards to their 2026/7 transport initiatives.

Playpark – LD contacted Andrea Finkel Gates who has been appointed as the CC lead to arrange meeting. LD and AFG chased up the enquiry made to AB council in March by SH.

SH confirmed with FLS that the adjacent open space is included in the transfer. DTAS can provide some legal support with asset acquisition, but they normally advise Development Trusts not to take on responsibility for playparks due to the maintenance and insurance issues.

A funding application is likely to be made by LD and AFG in response to the quote for repairs and removal of unsafe equipment and for the legal fees arising from any land transfer. It was agreed that a communication to the community to update on the actions being taken would be appropriate – LD to draft with AFG at their upcoming meeting.



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Community Gardens TK - the planning application to enable car parking on the curling rink has been approved with conditions including installation of additional (already planned) signage, to include notification of flood risk, restrictions on overnight parking and donation details.

The Trust planted a cherry tree in memory of Elizabeth.

LCT Hall Hire SH – the fund has been used for the music and sewing groups, craft nights, chiropody clinic, fundraisers, coffee mornings, gala meetings and a range of Xmas events. It's likely to be repeated next year but having proved the concept, we will provide the funding direct to the hall to reduce administration.

The funding was intended to support standalone events which might otherwise be unsustainable due to small numbers attending. It was planned for the winter months, but some of the new activities lend themselves to year-round funding. SH received an enquiry about using it for the gala day craft fayre but this did not meet the criteria as it is part of a larger, well-attended event. Fees from stall holders have traditionally helped the gala raise money for the community but if the situation has changed and subsidies are needed, funding could be applied for. SH suggested that rather than making one location free, it would be more consistent to consider removing fees for all local or non-commercial stalls, including those in the car park.

Invasive non-native species – JH no update.

7. Funding applications

Application from Ardroy/Primary School for £5000 for John Muir award. More information had been requested however the response only partly addressed some of the questions asked. The board did not feel the proposal represented value for money for the community, for what is essentially a free activity which could be supported by teachers, parents and volunteers.

After discussion, given time constraints, and with the end of term falling at the end of June, a one-off grant of £2500 was awarded in recognition of the anticipated benefits to the children involved, and to avoid disappointment where expectations appeared already to have been raised.

Application from the Bowling Club for £4450 for path repairs. Approved prior to meeting. SH notified Bowling Club and transferred funds.

Application from Lochgoilhead Parent Council for £3000 of funding for transport for school trips for two years. The last application was March 2024. SH proposed reducing the amount to £1500 to cover the next 12 months. This would then allow the school and parent council to make a single joint application in 2027 to include the usual individual funding applications for trips, panto, swimming lessons etc.

Wild Goilers will be applying for repeat funding for acoustic monitoring. Also applying to the National Park for the match funding – SH forwarded their request to Dom Hall.

Resilience. The Emergency group will submit an application to the Trust for £1500 match funding for the SSEN application submitted by SH on their behalf, plus other costs for running an emergency hub. Processes and communications will need to be agreed – SH shared the SSEN application with the EG and Hall.

8. Communications/Letters received

None.



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9. Any other business

SH had Teams meeting with Hannah from LLTNPA – provided a summary of update on Trust LPP progress since March 2026:

- Applied for SSEN funding to support the Village Hall and Emergency Group
- Unsuccessful EOI for CLLD funding for Shorefront redesign
- Distributed funding for seawall survey and Carrick jetty to support the Village Hall and CCT in progressing those objectives
- Secured HIEF funding for joint INNS removal project
- Applied for NRF funding for Phase 2 of the River Goil flood mitigation
- Community transport – LLTNPA may be able to offer advice and support
- Playpark - Hannah will follow up our enquiry to Argyll and Bute Council.

Passed on contact details for Carrick Trust who had expressed an interest in meeting with Hannah.

10. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 1st July 2026 @ 7.00pm by Zoom.



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Appendix 1

Lochgoil Energy Limited Minutes of AGM 3 June 2026

Attendees: All directors of LEL were present; Tim King (Chair), Roger Brook. Board Members of LochGoil Community Trust (LCT): Sheron Hambly (SH), Lorraine Drew.(LD).

Declaration of Interest:

No directors have a beneficial or financial interest to declare. Tim reported on the actions of the Board of LEL - meetings and decisions. The sad death of our third director, Elizabeth Bain, has led to the need to refresh our banking procedures.

Finance:

Our accounts were agreed and submitted to Companies House on 2nd April 2026. A copy was forwarded to the shareholders and the accounts were approved by SH and LD.

Proceeds from the 8th year Donich Hydro generation were: £61,000.00 (compared to an originally projected £14,000). This is still much higher than budgeted as for 3 months of the year, we were still benefitting from inflated contract prices secured at the commencement of the Ukraine conflict.

Our actions to pay off our Scottish Investment Bank (SIB) loan are helping to keep profits high.

The residual £742.80 profits were retained in the LEL bank account in order to cover company expenses.

The RPI-adjusted community benefit payment (which was paid directly to the Trust), was £10,388.72

Following Elizabeth's passing, we are currently dealing with bank account access and online account setup but currently have an outstanding accountant's invoice of £708 which we cannot currently pay. The directors of LCT agreed to pay this outstanding invoice - to be repaid by LEL once the banking arrangements have been reorganised.

Going forwards, we would like to operate the LEL bank account in a similar way to LCT, i.e. with a single, full-power signing authority to better support online banking and the swift transfer of funds to the Trust. This was approved by the shareholders.

An updated CAPEX projection from Broadlands (Donich) Ltd has been requested to give us all a better indication of our likely income profile now that our main loan has been repaid. We will update this board with the details in order to support forward planning.

As no directors of Lochgoil Community Trust are willing to become directors of LEL, it was agreed that the current two directors would remain. If a suitable third director can be found, the board of LCT will be approached for their approval.