



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

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Minute of Meeting held via Microsoft Teams, on
Wednesday 23 June 2021 at 5.00pm.

PRESENT

Mr Norman A MacDonald (Convener)	Mr Alasdair Macleod
Mr Roddie Mackay (Leader)	Mr Finlay M Stewart
Mr Calum Macmillan	Mr Keith Dodson
Mr Iain Archie MacNeil	Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Donald Manford	Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Paul F Steele	Mr Charlie Nicolson
Mr Roddy Mackay	Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Iain M Macleod	Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Uisdean Robertson	Mr John A Maciver
Mr Grant Fulton	Mr Calum Maclean
Mr Paul Finnegan	Mr John Mackay
Mr John G Mitchell	Mr John N Macleod
Mr Ranald Fraser	Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Angus Morrison	Mr Kenny John Macleod
Mr Norman MacDonald	

APOLOGIES

Mr Gordon Murray

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr	Mr Murdo Morrison
Mr William MacDonald	Mr Tim Langley
Mr Calum Iain Maciver	Mr Derek Mackay
Mr Norman MacDonald	Mrs Marina Macaulay

Tribute: Finlay and
Ruth Macleod

The Convener paid tribute to Finlay and Ruth Macleod, both Comhairle employees, following the tragic death of their infant son.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Finlay, Ruth and their extended families.

Tribute: Michael
Erikson

The Convener referred to Michael Erickson, who had passed away suddenly on Friday 4 June 2021. Michael had been employed with the Comhairle in a variety of roles since 2013 and was employed latterly as the Caretaker in the Council Offices and as a cleaner in the Town Hall.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Mike's widow Marion and the family and to all friends and colleagues at this time.

Tribute: 100th
Birthday, Mrs Mary
Evans

The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Mary Evans, Dun Berisay Care Home, who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended best wishes to Mary at this time.

Tribute: 100th
Birthday, Mrs
Catherine
Macdonald

The Convener paid tribute to Mrs Catherine Macdonald, Dun Eisdean Care Home, who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended best wishes to Catherine at this time.

Tribute: Queen's
Birthday Honours,
Catherine
Campbell, OBE

The Convener paid tribute to Catherine Campbell, who had been awarded an OBE for Services to the Harris Tweed Industry and the Economy of the Isle of Harris. The Convener stated that Catherine, from Plocrapol in Harris, comes from a family who are ambassadors for Harris Tweed and Catherine follows in the footsteps of her Great Aunt Marion who had been awarded a British Empire Medal in the 1985 Queen's New Year Honours list for her service to the industry.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Catherine on her award.

Tribute: Queen's
Birthday Honours,
Major Norman
Macleod, MBE

The Convener paid tribute to Major Norman Macleod, Commanding Officer of the Western Isles Company, Army Cadet Force, who had been awarded an MBE for his years of dedicated and outstanding service to the young people of the Western Isles. The Convener stated that Major Macleod had been working with the Cadets as part of the 1st Battalion, the Highlands Army Cadet Force, for more that 42 years.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Major Norman Macleod on his award.

Tribute: Major
Colin Campbell

The Convener paid tribute to Major Colin Campbell, who had passed away on 23 May 2021, aged 87. Major Campbell was a Councillor for the Benbecula Ward from 1994 until 1999 and he had been an active participant in all of the Comhairle's processes.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Major Campbell's family at this time.

Tribute: The Laird
Dance Academy
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The Convener referred to the Laird Dance Academy dancers from Benbecula who had once again shone on the world and European stage after amassing a total of ten world medals, 2 international medals and 62 European championship medals at the world Irish dance championships. The Convener stated that this was a phenomenal achievement for small dance school from the Hebrides against a field of over 2500 dancers from all over the globe and very dancer who had qualified to take part at the Championships had won at least one medal, which was an incredible achievement at this level of competition.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated the Laird Dance Academy and wished them continued success in the future.

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded with prayer, led by Mr Charlie Nicolson.

MINUTES

Minute of Meeting 1
of 9 June 2021

The Minute of Meeting of 9 June 2021 was approved.

Declaration of 2
Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

QUESTIONS

Written Questions 3
to the Convener
and Chairmen of
Committees

There were no written questions.

Committee 4
Decision Reports

The following Committee Decision Reports were approved:

(a) Communities and Housing Committee: 15 June 2021

- (b) Education, Sport and Children’s Services Committee – 15 June 2021
- (c) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – 16 June 2021
- (d) Sustainable Development Committee – 16 June 2021
- (e) Audit and Scrutiny Committee – 22 June 2021
- (f) Policy and Resources Committee – 23 June 2021

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion was submitted by Mr Roddie Mackay, seconded by Mr Paul Steele:

The Comhairle notes:

- Scottish Government plans to begin legislating for a National Care Service by autumn 2021;
- The significant investment that the Comhairle and our partners have made in provision of care services in our community over decades, and the dedicated and committed staff delivering these crucial front line services;
- That to improve outcomes, reform is often necessary. However, a move towards a National Care Service should not be merely accepted as the only means of reform without proper consideration of its scope, resourcing and implications for local decision making;
- That the Western Isles’ model of care and strong partnership working has been developed and modified as local needs have changed, and is significantly different to many areas of Scotland.
- That the Comhairle has previously expressed its commitment to the greater integration of public services, community empowerment and local democracy and is concerned that some versions of the National Care Service proposal could diminish, rather than enhance, the community, fiscal and functional empowerment we seek.
- That as a matter of priority, and as required by the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018, the Comhairle will write to the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care seeking confirmation that a full Island Communities Impact Assessment will be undertaken before any legislation is drafted.

The Comhairle agreed the terms of the Notice of Motion.