

IGHT Board Meeting

Thursday 18th August 2026 at 1pm

Trust Office

Present: Ian Wilson (IW) – Director; Fergus Christie (FC) – Director; Jane Clements (JC) by phone – Director; Tim Lister (TL) – Director; Gordon Watson (GW) – Director; Andy York (AY) – Director; Louise Braithwaite (LB) – Office Administrator

Minutes: LB

1. Welcome & Apologies

IW welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Actions from previous meeting

3. Minutes from previous meeting

30th July 2026 – approved by AY and seconded by TL.

4. Conflicts of Interest

TL in relation to Achamore and path maintenance, AY in relation to Holiday Lets.

5. Monthly Management Report

PLAYPARKS – we may be able to apply for funding in future. To date this has not been investigated. Argyll and Bute new build with CalMac re. Ardmish development may support a Playpark. There are new regulations in place regarding playpark provision.

DEBTORS were of concern in the report.

○ Staffing: Maintenance Operative –

Maintenance Operative Vacancy:

Two candidates to be interviewed, with at least one Director. Consideration was given to appointing a second person for labourer support, grass cutting etc. in due course.

○ Holiday Cottages lease – There have been 12 returned Register of Interest forms and 17 enquiries.

○ Craft Workshop 3 – A business plan is needed for all applicants.

○ Path maintenance – cost estimates and excavator quote reviewed.

○ Gigha Archaeological Festival – noted for information only Board members suggested that 'shoulder season' would be preferable times if this can be arranged with the University.

6. Sub Committees –

– HR CLARIFICATION

FC and GW are happy for CMP to approach them and discuss how to proceed with HR responsibilities to avoid duplication of actions, and to share past history.

Gigha Hotel proprietors are aware that CMP is now their line manager.

IGHT Directors and members are Stakeholders in the Hotel investment and hands-on approach from the Board is considered appropriate. The Hotel's figures are central to IGHT's balance sheet. The proprietors need to be cognisant of the Hotel figures in conjunction with CMP. The Directors intend to be closely involved in management due to significant financial investment, grants, and the need for returns for IGHT.

– Gardens John is undertaking good work and the Board notes this with pleasure. John has made recommendations to the Board including advertising for his own replacement, as he plans to step down in Spring 2027. Optimal timing for gardener recruitment is to advertise in November-December 2026. A suggested salary figure has been recommended based on industry standards. John recommends a handover period with his successor.

– ENTRY TICKETING systems were discussed. More visitors could be encouraged to pay if advised that their ticket 'may be requested' by staff. The current arrangement is for a charge of £8 per adult, plus donation if desired. IGHT does not want to exclude those who would find it hard to pay.

Craft Workshop 1, Isle of Gigha, PA41 7AA Tel: 01583 505 390

The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Ltd is a company registered in Scotland (registered number: SC224141) and a Registered Scottish Charity (charity number: SCO 32302)

- Archway in walled garden - A complaint has been received from an IGHT member about an archway in the walled garden. It is not dangerous but is not considered attractive.

- **Farming**

Andrew Thompson, Bell Ingram, meeting held earlier in the day.

- **Finance**

IGHT Profit and Loss sheet (July 2026) was examined.

SAGE coordination of information needs review and reorganisation.

The budget needs to work properly with the categories of SAGE.

Board members agree with the principle and see benefits to member communication about Finance.

Accountancy fees are considered to be high. Query whether in person visit should be included. Complex regulation wise for Charity accounts. 2027 brings changes to Charity Accounting requirements.

To enquire with OSCR on what the expected % of turnover fees for accountancy would be- benchmark.

- **Communications Forum** – The Forum had been raised at a recent Members' Meeting. No adverse comments had been received and there is no obvious usage at present. Recommendation to shut down the Forum to save money. A memo seems to be the preferred option for members.

7. Correspondence

- o Request for fields 5 & 6 –There is no natural water. Fencing is poor. Advertise the lease.
- o Members meeting – Memorandum and Articles quorate clause. Phone call received from member concerning number of members present. Where not quorate, the title of the meeting could be amended to either Community Meeting or Members' Meeting. Strategic non-attendance was discussed. 24 people (20% of Membership) are needed to be quorate. Members meetings take place quarterly with a view to effective communication.
- o Asked for an increase in the number of defibrillators, especially at the Hotel. There are others at the fire station and the ferry when in. The Community's proposal to obtain and install a defibrillator at Hotel is welcomed. An independent fundraiser is underway. Pads can be replaced through the Community Fund budget. The Community Fund can be used to top up fundraising if required.
- o Flagged that assistance alarms still need to be fitted in the Accessible toilets at the Hotel and Village Hall.
- o Suitability of the track to Gallochoille for emergency vehicles needs to be examined. A recent medical emergency demonstrated the problem when the ambulance and Nurse car struggled with access due to the poor surface.
- o Suggest changes which might enable IGHT staff to stand for election to the Board. The Board considers that conflicts of interest are a concern. Under-representation of women on the Board is an issue. Allowing staff to stand for election is a Constitutional matter and would require a 75% turnout to vote on any change. The Board felt this turnout would not be achieved.

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8. **AOB:** The island is untidy. A range of scrap metal, vehicles and building materials need to be cleared from public view. Historic methods of disposal are understood but not satisfactory for Gigha in the present day.

9. Future meeting dates

- o Board meeting Monday September 14th 1.00pm
- o Turbines meeting with CMP Tuesday 1st September 1.00pm
- o HIE TBC
- o Directors Surgery Monday 21st September
- o Members Meeting Thursday 29th October

MEETING ENDED 15:01