

Carradale Community Trust
AGM 28th September, 2026, Village Hall Meeting Room, 6.30pm.

Apologies: Sophie Semple, Karen & Keith Parr, Helen & Iain Wright, Joy Bidmead.

Those participating: Emma Macalister Hall (secretary), Russell Kay (Treasurer), Hayley Gale, Aylish Prince, Alan Milstead. Zofija Sloan (finance/admin).
Helen Rowlands, Brian & Audrey Gee, Margo Kennedy, Bruce McQuarrie, Kim Norton, A, Willan, E. Prince, Trish Collins, Niall Macalister Hall, Johnny Durnan, Elaine Batchelor, Simon Frankum, Eleanor Bennett, Alasdair Bennett, Mary Macalister Hall, Carol Abernethy, Jose Mackinnon, Trish Hurst, Margaret Campbell, Rennee Robertson, Eilidh Neilson, Jean Campbell, Jenn Lee, Eleanor Sloan, Sarah Moorcroft, Margaret Richardson, Mike Richardson.

Emma Macalister Hall welcomed all to the meeting. Approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM held on 30th July, 2025 were agreed as correct. Proposed by Jenn Lee and seconded by Eleanor Sloan. The Minutes will be available on www.eastkintyre.org/Carradale-Community-Trust-Minutes.

Chairpersons Report:

The principal activity of the trust is the running of the Community Shop & Post Office as a community asset. The continued success of the Shop enabled the Management Committee to reflect on the cost of living challenges for residents and introduce a policy of pricing a range of key staple products at affordable prices and from July 2025 to roll-out a loyalty card scheme.

The Shop has become a hub of information for both permanent residents and visitors alike and seeks to promote local businesses and their products. Trustees recognise that the success of Shop is due to the leadership of the manager Eleanor Sloan with the support of Trish Collins, Tim Wragg and Margaret Elliot and in particular all the volunteers who get involved with the Shop and the Management Committee. Many thanks are due to the volunteers who donate their time to support the Shop on behalf of the community

The enterprises at the Network Centre have also continued to thrive despite the considerable storm damage from December 24 and January 25 and which resulted in the partial restricted access of the area. It has been frustrating with the delay in obtaining insurance approval to commence the remedial work. The scale of the costs meant that it was necessary to ensure approval prior to work being initiated.

We were pleased despite these issues that the leases of both Blackbird Tearooms and Old Schoolhouse Gallery were renewed this year. Blackbird remains popular with visitors and locals alike, and the Old Schoolhouse Gallery continues to draw in visitors and locals with their artwork, pottery and photography.

The Heritage Centre remains a hub of local interesting artifacts and information. The flooding from the storms caused significant impact on the Heritage Centre and the trustees were highly appreciative of the work of Alan Milstead, Kim Norton and Bruce

McQuarrie who as volunteers rescued and stored the museum collection and subsequently led the reopening of the centre.

The Garden Composting Centre at Seneval continues to operate well. The new chipping machine which was purchased following grant funding has significantly improved the efficiency of the waste recycling. The operation of the site throughout the year was led by a committed and enthusiastic team of community volunteers. We must also thank Torrisdale Castle for their support and help in turning over the compost bins. Free compost is available to the community.

The ownership of the Network Centre site has been shared with the University of Stirling from the time it was first acquired. The terms of the transfer of the full title has been agreed and remains in the hands of lawyers. We are assured that the process is advancing well and should be concluded in the near future.

Work continued with the Community Council to develop a new Local Development Plan for 2026-2030 and following the public consultation which took place the new LDP was published in May 2026. A special thank you to the members of the Local Planning Group who consolidated the priorities and views of the community and the CCT will now focus on the implementation of that plan.

The Board has sought to build on the existing relationships with the local grant funding partners which has proved vital in sustaining community projects and developing the assets of the trust throughout the year. In particular these were the East Kintyre Community Fund, East Kintyre Windfarm Trust, Cour and Foundation Scotland and we are most grateful to them for their support.

The strength of the CCT continues to be the involvement of so many people who are prepared to willingly give of their time and energy to work and volunteer for the betterment of the community and have thus contributed to the success of the Trust's activities.

I would like to thank my fellow Trustees for their voluntary service and the contributions they have made during the year.

I have been honoured to serve as Chair of the Trust over the past eighteen months however I will now be stepping down and I wish the new Board and its new Chair every success for the future.

Approval of Accounts;

These had previously been circulated. Proposed by Margaret Richardson and seconded by Mike Richardson.

Russell gave a overview of the years accounts.

Shop sales grew.

Post Office income grew.

Reduction in grants applied for as fewer projects taken on in this year.

Reserve policy was discussed. Reserves ringfenced for work to Network Centre and Legal Fees relating to transfer of title from University of Stirling to the CCT. Leaves, at the year end, a surplus of £15, 000.

A vote of thanks for the work that Russell has done was offered by the Members.

Iain Webster appointed as independent examiner.

The Trustees stepped down. The election of Trustees were as follows:

Russell Kay (treasurer), Emma Macalister Hall (Secretary), Hayley Gale, Aylish Prince & Alan Milstead.

The CCT would like to welcome 2 more Trustees to the CCT. If you would like to find out more please email office@carradalect.org for more details.

AGM closed at 7pm.