Holy Loch Sailing Club SCIO
Sandbank, Dunoon, Firth of Clyde

BOARD MEETING MONDAY 9th March 2026, 7pm
AGENDA

1. **Welcome, Apologies and Board Interests**

Apologies: Ruth Lee, Bill Aitchieson, Alisdair Clements.
Online: Alasdair McLean

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approved: Stuart Brown
Seconded: Neil Towart

3. **Matters Arising and actions still to be closed**

These will be discussed as we go through the meeting.

4. **Commodore's Report 9th March 2026**

The St Ayles skiff turning over ceremony was a great success and the coverage in the local paper was amazing, thank you to Marion Bowen for organising both the event and the coverage.
The Treasurer and I had a meeting in February and have managed to resolve issues with access to PayPal (not an easy task!) and our onmicrosoft and Teams environment.
Changing rooms
The project was slightly delayed while waiting for the vinyl floor fitter to confirm availability, unfortunately this became increasingly uncertain. As a team we eventually agreed on an alternative option which was to paint the floors with a very durable and high-end two-part epoxy floor paint, this should last for many years and will certainly make a difference in terms of aesthetics. [redacted] are applying this the first week in March and it will take time to cure and harden, therefore we have closed off the changing rooms until further notice, hoping that we will have at least one of the toilet areas (probably the men's) available by the third week in March.
Our costs are currently well under budget even with the addition of the flooring which was never originally planned but definitely worthwhile. The changing rooms have all been stripped out and the ceilings painted and holes filled ([redacted], [redacted] and I did this on Tuesday 24/2/26), Gibson's have moved the shower switch in the ladies but are returning to move the water heater. Most materials have now been ordered. See estimated budget and up to date spend below. Items in green have been ordered, received and paid for.

Item	Description	Cost
Benches	Refurbish	
Ceiling painting	White silk paint, Black matt paint, cutting in brush, wood paint,2 paint rollers, 2 trays	98.89
Ceiling painting	Paint and Caulking	21.48
Ceiling painting	Cutting in brush	5.49
Ceiling painting	Returned paint credit	- 17.99
Ceiling painting	Masking tape, cleaner & turpentine	7.00
Cubicles	Coat/towel hook - 2 Packs of 5	13.70
Cubicles	Cubicle feet - 2 off	30.38
Cubicles	Ladies Cubicles & Mens extended partition panels & 2 vanity units	1,000.00
Cubicles	Pacific Hinge 19mm - SAA - Washroom Warehouse 6 off	133.85
Cubicles	Latches - pack of 5	35.99
Cubicles	Wall mounted seats - we need 5 (3 ladies - 2 Men)	120.94
Electrics	Shower switch & water heater moves -Move shower switch in ladies & water heater	251.52
Floor	Flexxible concrete - Filler for cracks in both changing rooms	59.12
Floor	Epoxy anti slip paint - 5 tins	474.75
Floor	Floor primer - 2 tins	159.90
Floor	Delivery charge	70.00
Floor	Hazard tape	6.25
Floor	spiked shoes for painting - 2 pairs	19.98
Floor	Paint rollers and brushes	42.94
Toilets	Flexible waste replacement & cistern pipe in gents -needs replaced in ladies and gents	25.95
Vanity Unit - Mens	Sink Mens	85.00
Vanity Unit - Mens	sink taps and fittings	100.00
Vanity unit - Ladies	Sink - Milano Dalton Modern white	99.99
Vanity unit - Ladies	sink taps and fittings	100.00
Contingency		500.00
	Total	3,445.13

Storage/Car Parking co-ordinator
Craig Wilson resigned from this role and the secretary has approached a member who may be interested in volunteering for this role. The secretary will update the Board on this.

Safety boats
Neil Towart to confirm training days for Power boat refresher course and safety boat training, Alasdair McLean to confirm members for both. Neil Towart suggesting that the Power Boat refresher course is run the weekend of the opening regatta. The course taking place in the morning.

I will be asking the secretary to put out a volunteer's email for safety boats this week and will start creating a rota based on replies early April, hoping that we will be able to spread the load more fairly this year.

Funding
Roberta Brown has submitted a separate report on this.
I have sent a letter to Western Ferries for their Spring sponsorship programme which I circulated to the Board.

PVG Checks
Joyce needs certain documents for the new board members but can proceed with [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted]. Need 2 forms of identification. Neil Towart has agreed to check documents.

Events
What about getting a license for the first (or all) Scotland world cup game and making an event out of it? It was agreed to look into this.

I have had a few members request that we consider another wine event.

SCIO Reporting
All new Trustees have been updated to OSCR by the Treasurer, Constitutional changes have been made and Treasurer will update the board on whether this has been submitted to OSCR.

I have started working on the narrative for the annual reporting and I hope to find time to complete this in March, but it is important that the Vice Commodore and secretary get involved in this for transition next year. Treasurer to confirm with Hendersons accountants that they are happy to continue as our examiners.

Long Term Infrastructure Sub-committee
I circulated a Terms of reference document (TOR) to the Board on 9 February 2026, if the Board are happy with this then the Vice Commodore can set up the first meeting with the volunteers preferably in April/May. I suggest that he invites Roberta Brown to the first meeting so she can give an insight into funding opportunities for the future. A McLean to supply KB with a date early in April so an email can be sent out to members of this committee.

Volunteer Awards
I have some ideas for this year awards and will discuss these at the meeting. If any board members have nominations, please let me know.
KB would like to nominate the maintenance Team and the Skiff Team for the Argyll and Bute Volunteer Awards.

Other information
@HLSC.co.uk emails, I contacted Ken coley at Samtec to tidy up our email access as I was still being forwarded secretary incoming emails and I wanted to ensure that previous board members no longer had forwarding or access. Ken has confirmed that this has been done.

5. Treasurer

Treasurers Report February 2026 Prepared by John Harrison

Overview

Receipts	£1,398.49

Payments	£2,291.19
Bank Accounts Closing Balance	£40,276.81
Restricted Funds	£4,010.02
Available unrestricted funds	£36,266.79

Utilities

Water

Awaiting result of our appeal under the Scottish Government scheme. Expected to be in place by 1st April 2026 via the Business Stream Website.

Electricity

Meter readings now made manually. Meter read on 4/03/2026. Period 1/02/2026 to 4/03/2026 charged at £128.15. Meter reading to check again on 31/03/2026, as part of the review to see if it is functioning accurately.

Membership renewals

Early renewals starting to come in around £800 together with £550 in ticket sales for the Skiff turnover celebration.

Changing room project

£1,442.48 paid out in February for the refurbishment and improvement of the changing rooms with more expenditure due/paid in March. Well below budget so far.

Outstanding Balances owed to HLSC

Invoices remain outstanding for handbook adverts:

[redacted]	£40
[redacted]	£40
[redacted]	£40
[redacted]	£40
[redacted]	£40

Additional support for the Skiff Project has been pledged by Shearwater Marine and Marine Blast in the meantime.

KB asked if the invoice for the first aid training had been received.

A donation for £250 has been received for the Skiff.

KB noted that the SUMUP needs to be transitioned over to John Harrison from Andrew Leech.

SCIO Report

KB and JH to start preparing the SCIO report. JH to contact Henderson's to ensure that they are happy to review the accounts.

A Clements got a quote from DM Hall to do a valuation of the land and clubhouse. The Board agreed to go ahead with this quote. CC to notify A Clements to give DM Hall the goahead.

6. Secretary

Argyll and Bute Council – Lease for Playpark.

Have tried calling the new solicitor several times and left messages. Hopefully I will have a response before the meeting tomorrow.

Documents added to shared drive.

Have been adding documents to the shared drive, as and when. Finding the system frustrating but will continue.

Laptop Policy Documents

Signed copies scanned and uploaded to web.

Website

Had a meeting with Marion and Chris re website. There are a number of issues that make adding documents to the website a laborious task. Recommend that we look at a new website package. Will have further discussion with Chris and produce a proposal for future meeting. In the meantime Chris is adding documents when he can.

CC to send out an email to members looking for a volunteer to help with the website in the interm – taking on adding information and updating.

Car Park Co-ordinator

Following the resignation of Craig Have emailed Douglas Peddie re the role of Car Park/Storage Co-ordinator – first response is positive. Will chase up this week.

RYA Affiliation

Currently working through the online process.

Club Year Book

We are compiling the information/ contents and reviewing the advertisers.

KB raised the question do we actually need a handbook? There was some discussion and it was agreed to go ahead with the handbook.

KB asked where we were with Bidwells re the outstanding invoices due for the past years. CC had received an email from Bidwells this week asking for confirmation of no of moorings. Hopefully they will be able to issue the invoices once they have received the required information.

Pat Testing – CC to establish when we are required to do pat testing again.

Fire Extinguishers – CC to check when the fire extinguishers are due to be tested.

KB noted that the RYA are attending the Argyll and the Isles Strategic Tourism Partnership Summit at the Queen's Hall on Thursday 19th March 2026.

7. **Membership Secretary**

Membership Report March 2026

Totally renewals as of 07/03/2026:-

- Full Membership - 12
- Social Member - 3
- Family Membership - 1
- Intermediate Member - 1
- Cadets - 1
- Race Fees - 2
- Moorings - 9
- Parking - 7

New Full Member Application - 1

New Cadet Member Applications - 2

Donation to Callum McLachlan Fund - 1

Admin Jobs Completed

- 2nd email sent to members re Subscription Fees reminder
- Stats Form has been added to Subscriptions Form
- Tender parking has been added to Boat Form
- New Member letter has been updated

Still to do

- Create a new form for SUP and Kayak storage (if required)

Individuals on Sallie's to do list

I am still making my way through this list. A couple of issues have been sorted.

Ruth Lee
Membership Secretary

8. Events

Social Coordinator Report – March 9th, 2026

Socials –

Skiff turning over celebration- over 57 people attended the Oakbank. We had a very successful afternoon, with many new faces from the community. Interest for the skiff was very positive and at least 3 people were looking to join the club once we have the skiff afloat.

We raised for skiff funds - £30:00 from naming the boat (which will be on going until after the Spring Tea).

£62.11 from the spot raffle of guessing where the coin is in her keel.

£27.50 for club projects.

Everyone enjoyed their fish and chips from Anselmo's.

Kilmun Hall Spring Fair- we had a lot of people stop by to look at the slideshow of photos of all we do at HLSC, some mentioned they had seen all about the skiff in the paper, and a potential member who said he was at the skiff event enquired further how to join.

The treasure hunt – where's the skiff in the loch raised £30.00, less the £5.00 for the table, £25:00. The prize, an easter egg was won by [redacted]!

Further socials – quiz 11th April, venue needs to be confirmed.

Skiff –

Build is progressing well, with the gunwales now going on and lots of sanding in the inside. The rudder is nearly ready to paint. Chasing our oar builder.

£100.00 float spending to date – £46.64

£7.22 paint scraper

£7.61 band saw tyres

£22.82 epoxy

£8.99 brushes

This weekend Ali has purchased more ' West' £155.75

The following skiff convenors off to Royal Gourock Tuesday the 10th for some classroom training – [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted].

The skiff building frames that were lent to us by Bute SC are now in the clubhouse. The build team wish to hold onto them for now, in case they decide to build another skiff. Where can we store them?

Beginning of the season-

Chris and I are away until mid May– so we need a volunteer to do-

The paper report and photos (make sure photos are taken) for the first week of sailing, Wednesday 29th April 6th May and the Saturday 2nd May opening regatta. KB suggested asking [redacted] to do it. Marion will contact her.

Cat has volunteered to do any Facebook posts for this time.

Website, Facebook and Coms

We had a meeting with Cat to discuss this.

Chris and I will continue to post upcoming events, weekly coverage, skiff etc on Facebook. [redacted], [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] also have access to post as required.

We will put up events on the website and a what's on. We will add documents i.e. redacted minutes, sailing programme etc.

BUT - we need someone else to take over the running of the website as we are finding we have more than enough to do and the website is not easy to use, and time consuming. There also maybe the need to create a website that is more user friendly, can be maintained by more than one person at a time and can be added to 'in the moment'.

For example, the blog is very fiddly and time consuming, especially when adding photos, they need to be added one at a time, then you need to pull them out onto the webpage, before re uploading the website again. A typical post with lots of photos that takes less than a minute to post on Facebook takes around 15 minutes to post on the blog.

For one of the skiff updates the blog had 8 views and in the same amount of time 2500 people had clicked on the post on Facebook, and over 6000 had it appear on their screen!

Marion asked if the frame for the skiff could be stored in the loft. It was agreed that this would happen.

Saturday April 11th – Quiz Night in the Clubhouse

CC to apply for a licence. Andy and Lucy are compiling the questions and Mr Iain will compere the evening. There was some discussion about food but was agreed that if we start at 7.30pm then people will have eaten. Snack will be provided.

Spring Tea

Marion will convene the Team before she leaves. CC to organise a licence.

Polaris

Jamie Mullholland has agreed to do the food again. The 'Urban Folkers' are available to play – it was agreed that KB to book them.

9. Cadet Report

There are currently 8 on the waiting list to join cadets. Neil asked that Ruth email him at hlsccadets@gmail.com with any cadet memberships so he can confirm if they are existing members or on the waiting list. Neil will email Ruth with a list of current cadets and those on the waiting list.

Harris's instructor course will go ahead probably with Tighnabruaich sailing school in the summer.

Kit Swap – Neil will arrange a kit swap on the first night of cadets. Kit that can be swapped is sailing gear in sizes appropriate for cadets. NB: buoyancy aids cannot be swapped. CC will send out an email to members.

10. Sailing Secretary

All the paperwork for the coming season's racing is practically ready, and the work is about to begin on readying the Race Marks for deploying.

It was asked if Bill could remove the cost of the BBQs from his sailing instructions.

11. AGM 2025

Minutes from the AGM were approve by the Board at the last meeting. The secretary was asked to ensure that all slides from the AGM are included in the minutes before publication.

a. Cadet issues raised at the AGM have all been resolved.

12. **Long Term Infrastructure Committee** (AMcL)

AMcL to provide a date for the first meeting of this group, ideally early April. An email will be sent inviting members of the committee to attend.

13. **Projects and Funding**
    a. Funding

Funding Report

Update on Possible Grant Support
March 2026
Having now been involved with identifying possible support funding for the various HLSC projects for almost a year now, I would like to provide the following update and views.

There are now over 30 possible funding organisations listed that may be a possible for one or more of our projects. I have tried to separate the ones who look at large amounts (in excess of £20k) and those who provide smaller amounts.

The large national funders all require considerable information to be provided which at present is an issue for us. The main requirement is trading for over 2 years and 2 years accounts. This is understandable, but as we are a new SCIO we do not currently have these. They also require full professionally prepared plans and full, accurate quotations for costings.

All at all levels possible funders ask for up to date bank statements and, although we obviously have these, if we are asking for in the region of £5k, our bank statements clearly show we could fund this amount ourselves.

For the lower cost projects our only success has been with Western Ferries who only require a letter as they aim to support the local community from their own funds.
Going forward my suggestions would be –

1. For smaller projects we continue to apply to community and employer led support where less information needs to be provided but we can clearly show community benefit. If any member is working for an organisation that provides this support, we could consider applying. Ones we are aware of – Western Ferries, Wm Grant, Arnold Clark, Robertson Trust but there must be other local employers who may have similar schemes.

2. For the larger projects, in excess of £20k, the sub committee should continue to build relationships with possible funders and we apply when we have a clear, costed plan. The only exception to this may be the installation of an accessible toilet as there is funding currently available for this but it is only available this year

I am happy to continue to collate information on possible support but realise that I do not have the current knowledge of the sector, club needs, member needs, young person legislation or health and safety legislation to actually complete any application. I suggest this would be undertaken by the Board member with responsibility for the project with support from other members.

There is a 'projects' email address where all correspondence is stored although most information is also on the OneDrive.

Despite so little success in external fundraising, it is fabulous to see 3 major projects coming to fruition this year through the hard work and determination of the Board.

If there is anything I can do to help, just let me know.

Roberta Brown

Projects@HolyLochSailingClub.onmicrosoft.com

b. **Slipway** Stuart Brown updated us on what is happening with the slipway. Work is due to start on the 1st of April (McNees). In the meantime Jim Hoey will power wash the slipway this week.

   The Thursday Club is due to have it's first meeting on Thursday 16th April, with the intention of doing a general tidy before the start of the season. CC to add to members' email.

   KB thanked SB for all his work tidying up the loft. It was noted that the printer has been brought downstairs and will be kept on top of the cadet cupboards.

c. **Changing Room** – previously discussed.
d. Skiff Build – previously discussed.
e. Training – Harris's Instructor's Training going ahead. Will be looking at training more safety boat crew and also doing further first aid training later in the year.

14. A.O.C.B

a. Safety Boats – KB asked if Safety Boats could be added to the agenda as a standing item.

   KB will prepare an email to send out re safety boats..

The smaller safety boat needs servicing. Swordfish are aware. There is a flat tire on the trailer – Aladair McVicar is going to sort the flat tire and let Swordfish know when the boat is available to be collected/ or delivered to Swordfish.

PB2 refresher course for 4 people will be carried out the weekend of the opening regatta. Probably two sessions one on each morning.

A McLean is to let Neil and Alasdair McVicar know what needs to be done to the safety boats.

b. As two non-flag officers are required to step down at the next AGM, KB wondered if anyone was thinking of stepping down if they could let her know in due course.

15. Date of next meeting – Monday 13th April 2026

Seredunt

SEDERUNT 2026 No of meetings since AGM 03							
	Present	On-line	Apologies		Present	On-line	Apologies
Kirsty Brown	2	1	0	Bill Aitchieson			3
Alasdair McLean		1	2	Harris Munns	2		1
John Harrison	3			Marion Bowen	3		
Catriona Craig	3			Stuart Brown	2	1	
Ruth Lee	2		1	Alisdair Clements	1		2
Neil Towart	3			Alasdair MacVicar	3		