

		Notes/Discussion/Decision
1	WELCOME, ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES:	Your Council members are: Steph Lowe, Sarah Jones, Ronnie Forbes, Peter Tosh, Eddie Thornton, Alan Hoar, Alex Burton, Dot Dahl, Tommy McQuade. Apologies from Ronnie Forbes
2	CLUB BUSINESS	
2.1	Minutes & matters arising	16 TH October Minutes - Proposed: Dot Dahl Seconded: Alex Burton
2.2	President's update – Steph Lowe	<p>We recently ran a young chef competition at Oban High School which was a great success. There were 6 entrants and the standard was fantastic, with the winner being Beinn Grey. Thanks must go to Jennifer Purdie, the Oban High Home Economics teacher, who's enthusiasm was the catalyst the Oban Rotary Club needed to reintroduce the young chef competition after a number of years. Big thanks to Alan Hoar for his excellent work in pulling it all together.</p> <p>The Clubs 76th Charter evening is on Friday 21st November at the Royal Hotel, our guest speaker is Andrew McDowall, who is the Head of Integrity and Compliance for Cricket Scotland, it would be great to have a good turn out again this year.</p> <p>We have a busy run up to Christmas is anticipated, the Rotary Christmas Card Competition is underway, and we'll be assisting the organisers of the Reindeer Parade and the Winter Woods festival as usual. We also have the Rotary Carol concert at the Corran Hall, the Rotary tree decoration at St Conans church, The Oban Lorn District Seniors (OLDS) Christmas lunch and the Rotary Partners Christmas lunch on the 16th December at the Royal Hotel.</p> <p>Please give your time as freely as possible.</p>

2.3	Treasurer's update - Ronnie Forbes	<p>Last report balances as at 13/10, latest balance as at today 9/11.</p> <p>Charities Last report 23,145.02 Manor House Tea 200.00</p> <p>Donations: Rockfield Primary 750.00 Park Primary 960.00 Oban Cam 1000.00 Tracey's Trek 250.00</p> <p>Less expenses re charitable works: Glowsticks 93.98 Bank charges 6.50 Young Chef apron 14.88 Apron letters 10.00</p> <p>Balance 20,259.66</p> <p>Ring fenced OLDS 4814.69</p> <p>Committed Feis 500.00 St Columba's 1470.00 Girl Guides 500.00 (see below)</p> <p>Available 12,974.97</p> <p>Club Last report 2987.17</p> <p>Charter night receipts 805.00 Clothing receipts 122.94 Web site photos 42.00</p> <p>Balance 3873.11</p> <p>Meals Last report 563.72</p> <p>Charges 6.80 To hotel 796.50 From members 1633.80 From guests 55.00</p> <p>Balance 1449.22</p> <p>Sports No movement.</p> <p>Ronnie Forbes 9/11/25</p>
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	Clearance of Annual Report and Accounts – for submission to 9th December Special General Meeting	----- Council agreed the report subject to some additions and amendments to reflect that the period covered is 2024/25. Examiners would now be asked to approve the accounts. The report would be presented to members at the SGM and also as a prototype for a wider audience to promote our work.
2.4	Secretary's update - Sarah Jones	A very busy month for me. Observation: Rotary Year seems to require a timetable of meetings and decisions too early in advance. The Club should be flexible and proportionate in adopting the Secretary's Handbook guidance. Nomination of Officers-elect for 2025/26 – for 9th December SGM. [Call for nominations now issued.]
3	FUNDING REQUESTS	
3.1	HomeStart-Lorn/Christmas Toybox Appeal	Christmas Toybox is supported by Rotary. Council agreed to donate £300.
3.2	Shelterbox appeal for regions affected by Hurricane Melissa	Council agreed to donate £650 being the cost of one shelter.
3.3	Girl Guides – residential trip costs towards transport	Council has agreed £500 in principle. Retrospective. Application form still awaited. Council agreed to wait another month before removing this item and commitment from the agenda.
3.4	Taynuilt Pipe Band	Newly established band. Sent form for completion.
4	CORRESPONDENCE	
4.1	Oban Camanachd (Shinty) Club	Thanks for donation – photo op and Oban Times coverage
4.2	Rockfield Primary School - P7 residential trip to Dalguise	Thanks for donation.
4.3	Reindeer Parade (request from David Finlayson)	David confirmed glowsticks purchased are much better for the environment.
4.4	Stirling Rotary Centenary Dinner – April 2026	Guests attending our meeting on 18 th Nov
4.5	Idee einer internationalen Club-Partnerschaft	Proposed partnership with the Rotary Club Hückeswagen - Radevormwald The President will pick this up again in the New Year subject to discussion with the International Committee on the commitment involved.
5	COMMITTEE UPDATES (full list for completeness)	
5.1	Membership - President Steph Lowe	The four presidents will meet in the new year to discuss an initiative with our sponsors.

5.2	Community & Vocational – Ciorsti Baxter	<p>Work on the Christmas Carol Concert is moving at pace and there are a number of schools and groups signed up.</p> <p>Council thanked Douglas Small for his work on this event.</p> <p>Council agreed to modify the suggested wording for the programme on taking photographs of children – after re-examining the guidance which suggests a total ban is unnecessary.</p> <p>A big thank you to Rotarians who have volunteered to support the Winter Woods and the Reindeer Parade and to John Strettle for organising the WW rota this year.</p> <p>A report will be available for the next Council meeting on the Classic Car Tour project for consideration and approval by Council.</p> <p>Council agreed to consider and approve this in correspondence as the next meeting is not until January.</p>
5.3	Foundation & International - Ken Oxland & David Finlayson	<p>Preparations are under way for the fundraising concert in the Argyllshire Gathering on February 27. Oban Gaelic Choir and Oban Strathspey and Reel Society. Additional artistes will also participate.</p> <p>The Secretary to submit an article for the District Newsletter idc.</p> <p>The recent typhoons in Jamaica and Philippines have caused massive destruction, Shelterbox will be assisting in both countries, Oban Rotary Club have assisted Shelterbox on a regular basis and may consider assisting once more. A Shelterbox costs £650 which will provide shelter and essential equipment, but any donation would be most welcome. See donation approved, above.</p>
5.4	Sports & Social – Lachie Beaton	Curry lunch planned for 15/11
5.5	Youth Services – Dot Dahl	<p>Youth Services</p> <p>Young Chef Competition 2025/26</p> <p>A very successful Young Chef Competition local heat involved 6 young people ranging from 12 to 16 years of age at Oban High School. Colin Felgate of the Olive Garden Restaurant was the professional judge. He had kindly arranged for the young people to be mentored by his two chefs. Beinn Grey was the winner on the day. He goes on, in the New Year, to compete at the next level</p>

		<p>of the competition.</p> <p>Many thanks to Alan Hoar for liaising with the school, especially with home economics teacher, Jennifer Purdie. Putting the competition on required cooperation and commitment by other members of staff. We are indebted to the High School for its support.</p> <p>Council noted that the winner's apron and certificates were in preparation.</p> <p>Christmas Card Competition Theme 'The night before Christmas'. A number of local primary schools are involved, the closing date being 14th November. Thanks to Alex for bringing the public's attention to this via social media. We look forward to the winners participating in the opening parade and Christmas Lights switch on later in the month.</p> <p>Council noted the swift turnaround for judging the winners before the Parade.</p> <p>Young Photographer Competition 2025/26 Theme 'Happiness in Nature'. Closing date 28th November. Again thank you to Alex for highlighting it on social media.</p> <p>Council noted 2 entries so far.</p> <p>ADG reported that the range of the Club's activity with young people had been commended across the District. Council congratulated Dot.</p> <p>Outward Bound had offered 6 x 'golden' and 'silver' tickets to Oban and Lochaber Clubs for their summer course 2026. Council welcomed this generous offer. Convenors would meet to discuss how best to target these opportunities to benefit young people.</p> <p>Homestart support for families in need at Christmas. Dot will outline to Council how we may add our support to the charity's Christmas appeal.</p> <p>Donation approved, as above.</p>
5.6	PR & Reputation – Alex Burton	<p>Posts on our social media channels were made for:</p> <p>Outward Bound at Loch Eil</p> <p>World Polio Day</p>

		<p>Young Chef Competition OLDS Luncheon Christmas Card Competition Remembrance Day Instagram has 10 new followers and 509 new views in the last month On Facebook we have a total of 139 followers, an increase of 6%, although we did lose 8 followers. Posts reached 39,276 views. Additionally a piece sharing the donation for the Oban Camanachd mini bus was published by the Oban Times, with thanks for Iain MacIntyre for taking the lead.</p> <p>Council noted that Alex was working with Ronnie Forbes on the Rotary entry for the St Conan's Christmas Tree competition again this year.</p>
5.7	Am-Am – Alan Hoar	Nothing to report.
5.8	OLDS – David Mudie	To clarify OLDS status and all future Club funding contributions – Council agreed that it should become an Oban Rotary event with OLDS forming a sub-committee reporting to Council. The President would confirm this with the OLDS Committee Convenor.
5.9	Club Service – Eddie Thornton	Nothing to report.
5.10	Safeguarding – Douglas Small	<p>Council agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thank Douglas and Ken for their 11/11 presentation - Ask Douglas to convene a Safeguarding Sub-Committee with clear terms of reference based on District guidance. - Appoint Ken and Ciorsti as members
5.11	Inventory Controller – Iain MacKinnon	Peter, Iain and Sarah still to arrange golf club visit.
6	SPEAKERS UPDATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moira Newiss confirmed for 2nd December evening meeting date to speak about her work in health and nutrition. • Andrew MacDougall Scottish Sea Farms – evening 6th January • Cara Bowden, CHAS, 10th March • Potential District Environment lead to speak – Ciorsti to follow up
7	DISTRICT UPDATE	<p>Nominated Ciorsti Baxter for Asst District Governor</p> <p>District Governor event coming up District Council and voting for 2026 Governor and possibly Assistants if there is competition on 29th November. President to cast Club vote.</p>

8	ATTENDANCE REPORT for weekly lunch/dinner	Month: October 2025 No of Meetings: 4 Attendance Rate: 64.3% Members with 100% Attendance over the month: Lachie Beaton, Dot Dahl, Ken Moncrieff, Ronnie Neil, Eddie Thornton
9	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	Final Charter Dinner arrangements (President) Late notice of District representative discussed. Agreed to invite. Christmas (partners') lunch on 16th December – attendance list to be circulated at 25th November lunch. £20.95 for 3 courses.
10	NEXT MEETING:	8th January 2026, 6pm – in person or by Teams