



Our Island Home

The Columba Centre, Fionnphort, Isle of Mull. PA66 6BH.

8th January 2018

Colin Morrison

Chair

North West Mull Community Woodland Company

Dear Colin Morrison:

Over the past year, Our Island Home have been working with North West Mull Community Woodland Company on investigating and demonstrating housing need in the Dervaig area of Mull.

The effects of unmet housing need on an area's population can be seen throughout rural Scotland with declining resident numbers; the young and working aged in particular. We see the Community Buy Out of the Island of Ulva and its potential for growing its population as a fantastic opportunity that will strengthen the communities of the North West of Mull and benefit the Island of Mull as a whole.

Our Island Home is in full support of North West Mull Community Woodland Company pursuing a Community Buy Out and are confident that NWMCWC will approach this in a reasonable and robust way.

Sincerely,

Cameron Anson

Development Officer,

Our Island Home cameron@ruralhousingscotland.org

Subject: proposed Ulva buyout
Date: Sat, 6 Jan 2018 16:54:12 -0000
From: Martin Keivers
<info@mullcharters.com>
To: colin@nwmullwoodland.co.uk

Hi Colin

Just a quick line following our recent conversation.

I would just like to add my support to your cause and wish you every success. Since moving to Mull 20 years ago much of my working time seems to have been spent around Ulva Ferry working as a commercial fisherman, fish farm employee and working for both Ulva and Gometra estates and latterly as a wildlife watching tour boat operator. It has greatly saddened me to see the general air of decline increase in that time to the point where the whole area needs to be brought back to life and made fit for purpose.

As a wildlife watching tour operator running daily trips from Ulva Ferry it is important to set the right tone when our guests arrive to board our vessel. Although the local community trust have worked hard to provide the new pontoons which have been so successful the general area is something of a let-down and could be improved greatly which is something I know you are keen to progress.

Good luck with your plans.

Martin Keivers
Owner/Skipper Mull Charters

David Munro
MFV Silver Star
21 Bentalla Crescent
Salen
Isle of Mull

09/01/18

To NWMCWC Ltd,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed community buyout of the Isle of Ulva.

My family lived on the island for more than twenty years, with my parents farming it, and I would like to see the land worked once again.

As a creel boat owner fishing out of Ulva Ferry, it is essential for myself and the fleet that both of the piers be under ownership of someone willing to not only continue access for the fishermen, but also invest in the infrastructure to insure they are safe and fit for purpose. I believe this is only assured under community ownership.

I very much hope the NWMCWC is successful in this venture.

Yours sincerely,

David Munro
Skipper, MFV Silver Star

22 December, 2018

Colin J Morrison
Chair of Board
North West Mull Community Woodland Company Ltd

Dear Colin

Proposed Community Buy Out of Island of Ulva

I'm writing on behalf of the Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS), in response to your request for our views on the proposed community buy out of Ulva. DTAS is an organisation which represents over 250 community-led organisations throughout Scotland, and on a day to day basis we witness what motivated, creative and enterprising communities can achieve.

DTAS has always supported the principle (and practice) of community ownership, and we have no hesitation in adding our support for the proposed Ulva and Mull community buy-out of Ulva. We appreciate that the current population of Ulva is very small, but believe it is important to take into account both the historical reasons for this situation arising, and perhaps even more importantly, the potential to build a vibrant and sustainable community going forward and the further develop the relationship between Ulva and Mull.

Time after time, rural communities throughout Scotland have demonstrated what can be achieved through the community ownership of land, and this wealth of post-acquisition experience, reinforces our belief that the community ownership of Ulva should be the preferred way forward. Increasingly Scottish Government legislation and policy around asset acquisition (and in particular various community rights) make a presumption in favour of the community, and we see no reason why this should not apply to Ulva.

DTAS therefore wishes you every success in your efforts and will be happy to provide any support which we can.

Yours Sincerely


✓ Ian Cooke

Director

Kilbrennan Farm

Ulva Ferry

Isle of Mull

PA73 6LT

To whom it may concern

I am writing in support of the proposal for a community buyout of the island of Ulva. Kilbrennan Farm looks across to the lovely island of Ulva, and so, for the visitors who come here for Bed and Breakfast, the island's future is important. Most of our guests spend at least one day of their visit on Ulva, a visit to the Boathouse Restaurant being a highlight of their holiday.

I am aware of the hope that the current owners of Ulva have that a private buyer would ensure that access to the island, and security for the Boathouse, was safeguarded. However, with the greatest respect, having been involved, through the local community association (USCA) with the local affordable housing project, I am aware that once land is sold to a private individual, the seller simply has no way of enforcing any promises as to future use. This is one reason why I see the community buyout as a real opportunity for the island of Ulva, with its beauty, wildlife, agricultural and other economic potentials, to continue to be appreciated by visitors.

In addition, something which, I think, is not often understood by those outside the area is the fact that the wildlife for which Mull and Ulva are famed, is here because of the sustainable ways in which people have farmed and fished over many generations. If the buyout goes ahead, the island of Ulva would pass into the hands of those who have the experience and the passion to take up the work of the farmers and fisherman of the recent and far past, and to give a lead to others who wish to use the land and the seas around it in sustainable and fruitful ways.

There are of course, lots of other things to be said for the proposal, but from the point of view of what we offer to visitors, the above are perhaps of significance.

Kindest Regards,

Anna Hogan



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East Lothian, EH41 3HA
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8th January 2018

Colin Morrison
Chair
North West Mull Community Woodland Company
Penmore Mill,
Dervaig,
Isle of Mull,
Argyll,
PA75 6QS

Dear Colin

Isle of Ulva

I write to give our full support to the proposed community purchase of the Isle of Ulva by North West Mull Community Woodland Company.

We have worked with NWMCCW in recent years to seek to develop affordable housing in the local area and have been impressed by the professionalism of the organisation and your willingness to explore new and innovative solutions to deliver rural regeneration.

I am confident that you will bring energy and creativity to the challenge of regenerating the Isle of Ulva and hope that we can be of assistance to this task.

Best wishes

Derek Logie
Chief Executive