QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | NOVEMBER 2026

Update from

Morvern Community Development Company (MCDC)

Housing | West Pier | The Hub Café | Marina | Gym and Sauna | Renewable Energy | Resilience



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Housing

Firstly, working with our contractor TSL, we are now in month 6 of the construction of 14 affordable family homes on the housing site opposite Lochaline Primary School. We are about 40% through the programme; so far so good we are on time and on budget. Groundworks are completed and the structures are progressing. These two- and three-bedroom homes will be available for affordable rent from the Summer of 2027 for families and key workers, we are currently working on the allocation policy. If you would like to express an interest in one of the homes, please email development@morvern.org.



West Pier



MCDC have secured funds from the Scottish Land Fund, Stage 1, for a feasibility study and business case for a potential West Pier community buyout. Following a successful tender process we have appointed McGregor Solutions and Wallace Stone to undertake the Study. We will be submitting an application for Community Right to Buy in November. We are working with local stakeholders including Forestry Land Scotland, Calmac, Lochaline Sand Mine, Community reps, Estates and Commercial Boat owners to consider options. We are expecting the Business Case and Feasibility Study in February 2027.

AT THE HARBOUR AND THE HUB

Hub Café

The Hub Café winter opening is Thursday to Saturday, 10am-3pm offering delicious homemade food and barista coffee. We will also be open on Friday evenings from 5.30-8.30pm for evening meals and a selection of local beers, wine, seasonal cocktails and soft drinks.

We held a successful Halloween evening on Saturday 31st October, thank you to everyone who came along. Jennie Rennie and friends will be playing a broad range of Celtic music on the evening of Saturday 21st November.

Keep an eye on The Hub Café Lochaline social media. Please let us know any feedback or things you would like to see in the café over the winter. We are now catering regularly for local events please do get in touch if you would like to find out more operations@morvern.org.





Dates for your diary

Thursday 19 November, 12.00-14.00 MCDC monthly drop in at The Hub Café

Saturday 21 November, 9.30am Loch Run from Lochaline Harbour

Saturday 21 November, evening Celtic music with Jennie Rennie and friends at The Hub Café

Saturday 19 December, 9.30am Loch Run from Lochaline Harbour

Marina

Our Marina and HarBar have closed for the winter. We would like to thank everyone who made it such a fantastic season. Loch Run will run once a month in the winter, the third Saturday of the month, so the next ones are 21st November and 19th December. We set off at 9.30am from Lochaline Harbour and all are very welcome to attend no matter how fast you walk or run. Buggies and dogs also welcome to participate and all those who join in receive a 10% off voucher for The Hub Café.

We are looking at grant funded opportunities to improve our marina this winter, in particular to create an inside seating area for our customers and for the use of the CAOLAS native oyster project and the Watersports Club.









Gym and Sauna

Our community gym at Lochaline Harbour has proved very popular since its opening in March. The gym is open every day from 6am to 10pm for members with no booking required. Membership is available for £25/month or £120/six months. Membership for a young person (14-21) is £20 per month. All gym members are required to book a short induction with a qualified instructor. There is no charge for this session which can be arranged at mutual convenience.

Our Finnish standard wood fired sauna is also back into winter season hours and is now available to book Monday to Friday 11am-5pm with the last available booking at 4pm. To book either a seat in the sauna or a private sauna please email info@lochalineharbour.co.uk or call 07583 800500.

We also have our fantastic local winter sauna club running, unlimited self-service saunas for £25 a month or £140 for 6 months. Light your own sauna and enjoy!

Full information including our sauna guidelines can be found on our website www.lochalineharbour.co.uk/sauna







POWER AND RESILIENCE

Renewable Energy

Our hydro has performed slightly better than expected this year. We are working hard on achieving optimal operational performance through a robust maintenance schedule. We will be going through a market tender process this month to secure energy prices for the next year.

We have also secured £20k funding for a feasibility study for solar and battery power at Knock Park. We have appointed Civic as our contractor with a scope of work to be delivered by February 2027.





Resilience



We have received a grant for £15k from SSE for Community Resilience, we will be purchasing a generator and a fallback satellite system for the Hub, so we can open, provide warmth, hot food, coffee, charging facilities and WIFI and we will be able to operate the fuel pumps.

ABOUT MCDC

MCDC is a community led development company committed to enabling a vibrant, inclusive, resilient and sustainable Morvern for present and future generations. MCDC works alongside two subsidiary companies, each with its own board: MorVolts who manage Barr Hydro and Morvern Community Trading Company who manage Lochaline Harbour, The Hub Café, Miner's Court and Lochaline Fuel Pumps.

If you have any questions or would like to speak to anyone from MCDC, MCTC or MorVolts, please contact our Operations Manager, Suzanne Pender, on operations@morvern.org or come along to MCDC's monthly drop ins in The Hub Café. The next drop in will be on Thursday 19th November 12.00-14.00, come along and join us for a coffee and find out more.

MCDC is a membership organisation and we would love more local people to join us. Becoming a member is a great way to have your say in Morvern's future. To find out more and join, visit www.morvern.org/membership.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

For quick updates, look for **Morvern Community Development Company**, **Lochaline Harbour** and **The Hub Café Lochaline**.

To get this newsletter by email, contact admin@morvern.org.