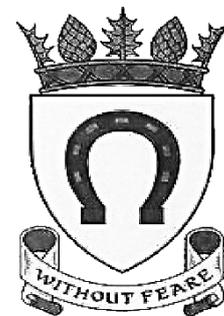


**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER, 7PM
VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**



PRESENT

Patrick Murray – Chair - PM
Graeme Ross – Vice Chair - GR
Jerry Bishop – Treasurer – JB
Jimmy Melville – JM
Genevieve Duhigg – GD
Lucy Dixon - LD

IN ATTENDANCE

Lou Rollason – Minutes – LR
Jim McGillivray – Cllr – JMc
Caroline McMorran – Northern Times

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies received from Davie McBeath and Leslie Strang.	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST PM stated that he is a member of the Royal Dornoch Golf Club (RDGC).	
3.	ADOPTION & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (21/10/20) The minutes were proposed by JB as a true account of the meeting and seconded by GD.	LR
4.	MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN AGENDA)	
	<p>TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE In progress.</p> <p>GUEST SPEAKERS – PUBLIC TOILETS A meeting of the Public Toilets subcommittee was held with Highland Council (HC) following the last DACC meeting. The contents of a new specification were agreed and HC will cost this new specification and revert.</p> <p>OBJECTIONS PUT IN - 20/04179/FUL ERECTION OF 8 APARTMENTS AND ASSOCIATED PARKING LAND 40M NE OF UNIT 5 DORNOCH RETAIL PARK DORNOCH DACC's objections had been duly lodged by JB.</p> <p>CONSIDERATIONS NEEDED - 20/04345/FUL SITING OF 8 STORAGE UNITS COUNCIL GARAGE MEADOWS PARK ROAD DORNOCH.</p> <p>DACC's comments had been duly lodged. JB noted that the applicants have now submitted revised plans including a drainage plan and increased screening in the form of wooden fencing (including the gates).</p> <p>FORMAL OBJECTION TO A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF HIGHLAND COUNCILLORS DACC's objection had been duly lodged by PM.</p>	LR

	<p>CHRISTMAS LIGHTS Completed and PM noted how wonderful they looked. He extended his thanks to the volunteers and commented that they will need to be taken down in January – volunteers will be required then too.</p>	
ITEMS FOR DECISION		
5.	PLANNING & LICENCING	
a.	<p>20/04795/S75D DISCHARGE OF SECTION 75 PLANNING OBLIGATION IN RELATION TO 19/00916/FUL & 07/00086/FULSU LAND 60M SE OF 4 JANET HORNE SQUARE DORNOCH</p> <p>JB sought clarification of Section 75 orders. He stated he believed they are monetary deposits placed by developers against the planning application and held by the council to allow for remedial work. JB thought that the application was not clear, and it was agreed he contact the case officer for more information.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JB TO FIND MORE INFORMATION</p>	JB
b.	<p>20/04625/PNO TEA PROCESSING BUILDING LAND 50M SE OF CYDERHALL FARM COTTAGES DORNOCH</p> <p>Members agreed the proposed building would be small, unseen, and good for the area regarding employment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO COMMENTS</p>	
c.	<p>20/04557/RCC NEW ROADS AND , DORNOCH PHASE 2 LAND NORTH OF STATION SQUARE DORNOCH</p> <p>GD noted that refuse bins must be dragged down the road from the estate. JB noted that this is likely a temporary measure until the road is adopted by Highland Council.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO COMMENTS</p>	
6.	<p>RDGC Lease</p> <p>Members unanimously supported the draft consultation document which was to be released to the public the following day (17th December). (<i>The approval was subject to a reservation by GR that a small strip of land by the road between the town and the caravan site be excluded from the lease in case utilities need to be installed; it was confirmed after the meeting that this strip had indeed been correctly excluded.</i>)</p> <p>GR suggested printed copies of the consultation for shops. JB offered to do this, but noted it was a substantial document and he suggested an alternative of posters that would state where the document could be viewed. PM added that he understood that HC had already prepared measures to ensure adequate distribution, so it was agreed that DACC had time to take any extra measures as it is a 12-week consultation ending 12th March 2021.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DACC APPROVED THE TERMS OF THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT</p>	

7.	<p>PROTOCOL FOR TIMING OF AGENDA AND PAPERS</p> <p>Following an issue raised by LD a protocol drafted by PM was formally approved with agreement that it will be published on the DACC website.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">APPROVED</p>	JB
ITEMS FOR NOTING & DISCUSSION		
8.	<p>FINANCIAL UPDATE</p> <p>No changes this month. Responding to a query from PM JB confirmed that the Common Good Fund's cash flow forecast is updated regularly and always available via the link on the monthly cash statement.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NO COMMENTS</p>	
9.	<p>PROGRESS REPORTS & UPDATES</p>	
a.	<p>MUNICIPAL PROJECTS UPDATE (JB)</p> <p>PM will move November tree planting to February – due to COVID-19 restrictions making trees difficult to get. Screening of the Show's warehouse by more trees at the airfield was added to the list, subject to a satisfactory cost estimate. GR asked for a native mix of trees. PM stated that the purpose is primarily to hide the warehouse, so he suggested pines but some silver birch (native) in front of one corner to soften them as much as possible and GR accepted this.</p> <p>JM asked about renovation for the Town Information sign opposite the library. It was agreed that this should be added to the project list and that JB source quotations for same.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	PM & JB
b.	<p>AWAITING HC ACTIONS (JMC)</p> <p>JMc gave an update on the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair Gap Between Railing and Bridge Wall: On track for Spring. • Bishopfield: Currently doing ground clearance. JMc suggested a weekly site meeting to monitor. JMc also spoke to Bespoke Hotels to see if there could be an improvement to the Grange Road/Stafford Road junction. Any progress will be dependent on Bespoke Hotels. JMc to send through further information • No through road sign on Church Street: Replacement sign being sourced • Town 20mph Sign: Longer term project – no update • Shore Road Potholes: The HC have added it to Spring 2021 programme • Station Road White Lines: The HC have added it to Spring 2021 programme • Industrial Units: HIE have said their priority is now Golspie – on hold. GD questioned the original sites behind Station Square and what happened to them. JMc to follow up. • Dornoch Burn Clean: Started on the 11th of December • Campervan Waste Disposal at Beach Toilets: JMc would now be happier if the caravan site would take these on. JB added that the caravan park will be doubling their capacity next summer which should help reduce irresponsible disposal of waste from 'wild campervans'. • Carnaig Street speed restriction: Had been progressed and the hope is for a 20mph limit for the whole area towards the beach. 	JMc

	<p>GD asked JMc (due to his call on Friday morning) if Bespoke hotels are planning on doing anything about the Dornoch Hotel. JMc said he would ask the question.</p> <p>JMc noted that Brian Fraser (HC Roads Dept) had been extremely helpful with advice and action on a number of issued noted above.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	
10.	<p>OTHER PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORTS</p> <p>COVID-19: The Dornoch Firth Group may require some volunteers to help with the Food Bank bag packing.</p> <p>Dornoch Skip: It is hoped that extended hours may become available in 2021.</p> <p>Dornoch Trust & Bishopfield Site: PM noted that The Dornoch Trust will be struck off shortly. Discussions continue with Ronnie Macrae, Dornoch & District Community Association (DADCA) & HC regarding Bishopfield Site.</p> <p>Beach Development: Minutes of meeting held 27th. November were circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>Planning Seminar: Preliminary meeting tomorrow (Thursday 17th. December) to arrange seminar date in January 2021. GD to forward information to LD.</p> <p>Earls Cross & Station Road Wood: For information only: several members had visited several community woodlands. The next step would be to see if people would support taking this area into community ownership. GD met with the regional manager for Forestry Scotland and they will inform of any works that come up in the Skelbo woods. They are keen to restart the orienteering course at Camore (paid for by them) and they are excited about working together to make areas into community assets (and not for overnight camping/wild caravanning). GD will forward correspondence. JM stated that the areas of overgrowth used to be taken care of by quarry dust to make footpaths (Evelix Road to the Esker) and GD said she would take this up with Forestry Scotland</p> <p>Former Sutherland Show Shed: DM spoke to Alan Munro. The Show will hopefully vacate the shed by end of March 2021. PM will research who owns the building with HC.</p> <p>Litter: PM noted that a worsening problem of litter around town. However nothing much can be done during Covid-19 but it was agreed to purchase more 'no litter' signs in the meantime.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GD</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DM, PM</p>
11.	<p>TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BISHOPFIELD DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Discussed above.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	
12.	<p>DOG FOULING</p> <p>DB not present, so postponed until January meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">POSTPONED</p>	DB
13.	<p>SUGGESTION FOR A NEW POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PM had distributed a draft template to obtain more usable data. Members stated that contacting a particular officer would be more useful than asking for a different type of report. DACC members understood that the Police are busy but felt there might be opportunities for DACC to help the officers if there greater communication.</p>	

	PM suggested JMc to reach out to James Rice. LD to be the point of contact on this.	JMc LD
14.	<p style="text-align: center;">CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20MPH AT ENTRANCE TO MACKAY ROAD</p> <p>Request to emulate Allan Gardens' 20mph sign. JB questioned the legal enforceability of the signs at Allan Gardens as to the best of his knowledge, there were no legally enforceable 20mph signs in Dornoch. (<i>Subsequent to the meeting JB checked and ascertained that the 20mph sign is indeed enforceable and was part of the original planning consent.</i>)</p> <p>JMc said that instituting a new legally enforceable 20mph sign may be difficult but Edderton had succeeded in installing advisory '20's plenty' signs. JMc will speak to safety for school officer. Cost is about £100. To be discussed next meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A949 EVELIX ROAD - BLIND SUMMIT - RISKS TO CYCLISTS</p> <p>JMc stated that the roads department are coming back to the issue again and reinvestigating.</p>	
15.	<p style="text-align: center;">ROADS AND PATHWAYS</p> <p>JM commented that the state of the kerbs in Littleton were a disgrace. JMc stated he would add it to the list.</p>	JMc
16.	<p style="text-align: center;">AOCB</p> <p>GR wished to state he was happy to walk around the forest areas with other members to show the locations where issues had been raised in the past. (reference to point 10).</p> <p>Discussions included the plaque of the former Provosts and DACC Chairs – this has already been added to the municipal projects list by JB.</p> <p>LD questioned the beach meeting & JB clarified that the meeting was for those actively involved in the beach (BRIG, Caravan Park, ESRA etc). There will eventually be a public consultation on the matter.</p>	
MEETING CLOSED AT: 20:51		
With no further business to discuss, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at the above time and the date of next meeting is stated below.		
DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 20TH JANUARY, 2021, AT 7PM VIA ZOOM		