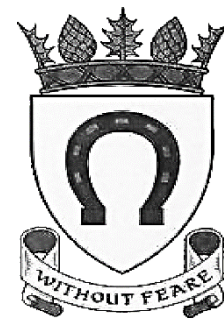


**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)
HELD ON MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER, 7PM
VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**



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

ABSENT

Davie McBeath – DM
Lesley Strang – LS

VISITORS

Caroline McMorran – Northern Times
Debbie Sutton – Amenities Manager
Phil Tomalin – Ward Manager (PT)

1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Davie McBeath – DM	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST None received.	
3.	ADOPTION & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (21/10/20) Amendment of title from HELD ON MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER, 7PM to HELD ON MONDAY 19 TH OCTOBER, 7PM. The minutes were then proposed by JB as a true account of the meeting and seconded by GR. ITEMS TO BE AMENDED	LR
4.	MATTERS ARISING	
	“NO THROUGH ROAD” SIGN ON CHURCH STREET BETWEEN NO. 8 AND KERRISDALE Roads team notified JODIE ROSS VISIT: LR to circulate past plans for Dornoch CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS DACC warmly welcomed GD & LD STREET NAMING REQUEST Croft Pedde Court was suggested and adopted in lieu of Bishopfield Court.	LR

	<p>DORNOCH BURN CLEAN PM asked PT about the burn clean and PT stated that the period he had been given was December.</p> <p>TELEPHONE BOXES AT DORNOCH SQUARE No change for the moment.</p>	
GUEST SPEAKERS		
	<p>N/B: Guest Speakers were addressed first in the meeting. PM welcomed Debbie Sutton & Phil Tomalin to speak regarding the Dornoch Public Toilets renovation. PT gave a brief overview for the new members. JB added more details and stressed that it was a 'facelift' that would be required by DACC. PM handed over to Debbie Sutton (DS) who explained her role as amenities manager (cleaning etc), not part of the property team which put together the proposal. DS believed there were some elements of the proposal that could be reduced and not included. It was their suggestion that CCTV would be provided but the price could be reduced. DS stated that it was difficult to get a full accurate quote as that comes when they go out to tender. DS (and later PT) reiterated that the estimates provided were not quotes, just indicative charges as a tabletop exercise before putting them out to tender. DS stated that although there were issues, there had been a handful of properties that had gone from Highland Council (HC) to communities. PT stated that the bottom line was that if HC retains the toilets then they would do the work. PT suggested that with the experience around the table, the way forward would be to continue discussions and see where costs could be reduced. PT stated he was happy to go back and speak to the QS & Project Manager to look at reducing the cost. However, he noted that this would entail more expenditure on professional fees – already amounting to around £1,000. JMc suggested that the gents and ladies could be split into two projects to put them under the £25k requirement that requires three tenders to go out. GD brought up how important the toilets are for Dornoch as was shown by meetings with over 60 businesses in Dornoch. GD suggested a meeting (digitally) between JB and whoever made up the costings. PT will ask and would like DS & PT to be involved as well. He did warn that auditors will see through splitting projects into smaller projects. JB reiterated that it is the walls and floors that really needed upgrading and asked PT & DS to ask about local solutions. PT asked what figures they were looking at and JB said ideally £25k for the procurement process and stated that DACC had approved a budget of £30k although there might be potential to go up to £35k. PT stated that there could be a way to look at just walls and floor.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	<p>PT, PM, JB</p>
ITEMS FOR DECISION		
5.	PLANNING & LICENCING	
	<p>a. The following applications were discussed in the order below: C - 20/04240/PIP Change of use from caravan site to 2 no house plots and upland heath meadow Land 95M East of Kearn Hilton Dornoch</p> <p>A - 20/04241/PIP Demolition of agricultural buildings and erection of two houses Land 90M NW Of Seaview Caravan Park Hilton Dornoch &</p>	

	<p>GR stated that A was dependent on C an which d objected to the change of use of C as the land was more valuable to the Community as a caravan site than building more houses for staycations.</p> <p>PM agreed adding that he understood there was a shortage of camping and caravanning areas in the Highlands.</p> <p>However other DACC members did not support the proposed objection.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DACC WILL NOT OBJECT</p>	
b.	<p>20/04179/FUL Erection of 8 apartments and associated parking Land 40M NE Of Unit 5 Dornoch Retail Park Dornoch</p> <p>JB stated that the land was zoned for light industrial use and as there was a plethora of houses which were either going through or had already completed planning, proposed an objection which was agree.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DACC TO OBJECT</p>	JB
c.	<p>20/04345/FUL Siting of 8 storage units Council Garage Meadows Park Road Dornoch.</p> <p>Email received from members of the public who realise they cannot object as there is no change of use. However they would like the following three constraints:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new site should be substantially enclosed by a close boarded timber fence. This should match the existing northern boundary 2.1 m fence in the immediate proximity of the containers. Security fencing could be inside if still required. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ REASON: This area of Dornoch has moved away from being primarily industrial to primarily residential and as such a wooden external appearance would not only be more visually sympathetic and in keeping, but would stabilise the remaining northern fence and more closely resemble the previous building. • The building removed had rainwater drained away, so arrangements should be made to drain water from the surface stance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ REASON: To prevent excessive drainage into neighbouring properties. • The site should be cleared of all rubbish. <p>DACC agreed with these constraints.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DACC TO COMMENT AS ABOVE</p>	PM
6.	<p>Does DACC officially object to the move to reduce our Highland Council representation as follows: ‘The reduction in Sutherland members from 6 to 4 will create a stressed democratic situation in which the political parties will be the only winners and there will be no place for the independent voice. The situation could arise in which all 4 members will be resident on the east coast and that is completely undesirable in a county this size – in fact all 4 people elected could indeed be residents of only KW9 and KW10 leaving IV25 without a voice which has local knowledge and interaction’</p> <p>PM asked if DACC were happy with the wording he had chosen for the objection. No changes required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DACC WILL OBJECT AS ABOVE</p>	PM

ITEMS FOR NOTING & DISCUSSION		
7.	<p>FINANCE UPDATE</p> <p>JB circulated an update on finance showing income received from the grant for the municipal projects, some from the toilets and the expenditure on the beach.</p>	
8.	<p>CHRISTMAS LIGHTS</p> <p>Lights were checked and the next step would be to put them up. PM asked for volunteers. The volunteers are: GR – Tuesday morning JM – Tuesday afternoon GD – Wednesday morning JB – Wednesday afternoon PM – All the hours above</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	<p>PM, GR, JM, GD, JB</p>
9.	PROGRESS REPORTS & UPDATES	
a.	<p>MUNICIPAL PROJECTS UPDATE (JB)</p> <p>No comments received – all happy with progress.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	
b.	COVID-19	
	NO COMMENTS RECEIVED	
c.	<p>DORNOCH SKIP</p> <p>A new recycling bank and for small electrical items has been provided beside the glass recycling facility.</p> <p>The Highland Council representative has not yet assessed the abattoir site but will do so.</p> <p>More than 100 responses have been received to the survey which showed small electrical recycling as the most popular request for additional provision. JB reported that from Friday (20th) there will be a large blue bin at the site for recycling of cardboard, plastic bottles, paper, cans, etc. He believed that DACC had an opportunity to do something ‘better’ than what now exists and suggested that in the new year DACC look for funding for more sustainable options to the current arrangements.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	<p>JB</p>
d.	<p>DORNOCH TRUST & BISHOPFIELD SITE</p> <p>The Trust will shortly be dissolved.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	
e.	<p>BEACH DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING TIMBER DIVIDERS AT THE BEACH CAR PARK</p> <p>See below</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IN PROGRESS</p>	
f.	<p>DORNOCH PLANNING SEMINAR</p> <p>Angela Simpson (HIE) will be looking at gathering the various bodies together to come up with a plan for the whole town, including the beach, shortly.</p>	<p>PM</p>

	PM will circulate documentation regarding this & discussions with Shane Manning.	
	IN PROGRESS	
g.	EARLS CROSS AND STATION ROAD WOODLAND Belongs to Sutherland Estates & DACC has no claim. GD interested to get involved – will discuss with PM.	GD, PM
	PM ASKED FOR OPINIONS GOING FORWARD BY MAIL	
h.	NEW MARKINGS AT DORNOCH SQUARE	
	IN PROGRESS	
i.	LITTER	
	NOT TO DISCUSS UNTIL POST COVID-19	
10.	CORRESPONDENCE INCLUDING ANY SUBMISSION FROM POLICE (SECRETARY)	
a.	POLICE REPORT Received. PM to ask for a more comprehensive report in future.	PM
	IN PROGRESS	
b.	TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE PM & JB attended a Zoom meeting with Maree Todd, MSP & the community councils in the area to put together a tourism plan for 2021. JB stated that many issues are similar to other community councils. GD stated that she thinks it is imperative that everyone knows of all the moving parts and that they are all put together in a comprehensive plan.	
	IN PROGRESS	
c.	SPIRIT OF THE HIGHLANDS Discussed but agreed no action for the moment.	
	NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN	
d.	CHALETS ON EMBO ROAD PM asked JMc to talk on this as an Embo resident. JMc had already asked for a mobile smiling machine and for a police presence to help reduce the speeds. He also suggested that the settlement be given a name and that a name sign upon entry would remind drivers that they are entering a settlement and hence should drive slowly and carefully. JMc thought that this decision should be made by local residents and agreed to speak to the roads departments regarding a formal naming. Regarding the problem with children running across the road, DACC suggested that the owners put up the fence that was previously taken down. – LR to draft this correspondence.	JMc & LR
e.	RUBBISH BINS AT BEACH To be discussed at the beach meeting scheduled for 27 th .November.	
	IN PROGRESS	
11.	ROADS AND PATHWAYS – NO NEW ADDITIONS TOWN 20MPH SIGNAGE – JMc to pursue with roads department	

	<p>SHORE ROAD POTHOLES – PM in discussion with Scottish Water</p> <p>STATION ROAD WHITE LINES - JMc to pursue with roads department</p> <p>STATION BRAE WHITE LINES - JMc to pursue with roads department</p> <p>CARNEGE STREET ‘SLOW’ SIGN - JMc to pursue with roads department</p>	JMc
12.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>JB: Referred to the submission of the planning application for the Historylinks Museum that is on Common Good land and asked if he had permission to submit it under DACC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AGREED.</p> <p>LD: Asked when the agenda would be finalised and if the cut-off could be Saturday. PM agreed that something along these lines may be possible.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">MEETING CLOSED AT: 21:03</p> <p>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.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 16TH DECEMBER, 2020, AT 7PM VIA ZOOM</p>	