MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH AUGUST VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON AT THE DORNOCH HUB

PRESENT

Patrick Murray – Chair – PM Jerry Bishop – Treasurer – JB Lesley Strang – LD (Zoom) Genevieve Duhigg – GD Jimmy Melville – JM Graeme Ross – GR (Zoom)

IN ATTENDANCE

Jim McGillivray – Cllr – JMc Kate Kenmure – NHS Highland District Manager – KK John Duhigg – Dornoch BID Steering Group – JD Christine Callingham – North Street resident – CC Caroline McMorran – Northern Times



PLEASE USE THE LINKS IN THE HEADINGS (WHERE APPLICABLE) TO ACCESS CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTATION.		
FULL DOCUMENTATIO	ON IS AVAILABLE here	T
1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Yvonne Macrae (YM)	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST PM indicated he was a Director of DACIC in whose name the BID Steering Group application was made but did not believe this was a material conflict of interest.	
3.	ADOPTION & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (20/7/22) The minutes of the last meeting here were proposed by GD as an accurate account of the meeting and seconded by JB.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN AGENDA – (NUMBERS RELATE TO THE LAST MEETING POINT)	
a.	Dornoch BID Steering Group (see item 7 below)	
b.	6(b) Planning Items: JB indicated that he had responded to the consultation requested for this Planning Application. 11(a) Maintenance Projects: it was noted that signage at the Beach to direct motorhomes was proceeding in conjunction with DACIC and HC Roads. There was a determination to resolve the issue of suitable signage for the Church Street cul-de-sac. PM stated that the new Xmas Lights had arrived, and JB added that the 20mph signs were being erected.	
C.	Footpath at North Street: PM declared an interest and he would speak but not vote. He stated that it was not for DACC to negotiate on behalf of residents and that it did not seem that HC were prepared to yield any ground on the Station Road option.	PM

GD noted that Springfield had attended the site meeting but that no Planning representative from Highland Council (HC) had been there. She stated that there were 3 proposals on the table and HC should have done further consultation. JB highlighted the revised plan from Springfield which he supported. PM stated his belief that Springfield had put forward a reasonable proposal on the basis of discussion with residents. He undertook to draft a response and circulate to DACC members for approval and would also emphasize the lack of consultation in the whole planning process. GR enquired whether the Springfield bond related to footpath upgrade was inflation proof. CC stated that local residents were very upset about the overall lack of consultation and asked that their views be respected.	
Parking at Co-op and Cathedral: postponed till next meeting.	
VISITORS	
KK spoke about the recent NHS consultation and the resulting strategy document. She mentioned the closure of the Migdale Ward due to Covid and asked for comments about general medical provision as regards outpatient treatment and vaccinations. GD asked how DACC might contribute and would it help to collate feedback on mental health services, waiting times, online appointments and pain management. KK indicated that she would receive feedback on such items and was keen to get the Migdale Ward open again. In response to further questions, she undertook to circulate the NHS Highland strategy document and conceded that technological solutions such as Near-Me were not being used as much as expected. JB suggested there was a lack of profile and that posters in Health Centres and Chemists might help. He also suggested that an NHS Dental Service at Migdale would be useful and would publicise NHS Near-Me option in the DACC Facebook page. KK raised the issue of patient transport as being a problem. PM asked who would undertake ongoing liaison with KK and GD and JB volunteered to do this.	GD, JB
ITEMS FOR DECISION	
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PLANNING & LICENSING APPLICATIONS here	
21/04031/FUL Footpath at North Street Dealt with under item 4(c)	
22/02780/FUL East Achinchanter DACC to submit an objection based on contravention of hinterland policy	JB
22/02874/PIP Cambusavie Farm After extensive discussion DACC to make no objection at this stage.	
22/03081/PNO Agricultural building Stoneyfield Evelix DACC to make no comment.	
22/03332/FUL Summer House and decking Reefton St Gilbert Street DACC to make no comment.	
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f.	22/03336/FUL Residential Unit 203 Lednabirichen DACC to make no comment	
7.	Dornoch Business Improvement District (BID) Steering Group application for Common Good Funding (continued from last meeting): JD described current activity around the BID process which was being delivered under the DACIC umbrella. He indicated that if the BID was ultimately voted in at the end of the development schedule, it would run for a period of 5 years before requiring renewal. He conceded one challenge would be the relatively small size of the IV25 area. In response to a question about benefits for non-businesspeople, he cited environmental improvement, increased security, improvements to parking and streetscape, and that Nairn provided a good example of a BID in action. JB indicated that the Chair of DACIC intended to stand down shortly after 10 years in office, and that the BID was needed to take DACIC projects forward, and that there was potential for everybody to benefit. GD stated the need for a mixed economy in the Dornoch area, and GR highlighted the need to attract light industry. PM asked if all present were still minded to support this application and this was agreed.	
8.	Dornoch Bowling Club application for Common Good Funding DACC Members were unanimously in favour of this award.	
9.	Street Naming at Dornoch West JM came forward with the suggestion of tree names and JB noted that the preference was for surnames in this area. PM proposed a sub-committee to deal with this and GR, JM and LS were nominated.	GR,JM,LS
	ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION	
10.	FINANCE UPDATE JB spoke to the attached report here . He explained that there is a balance of £1328 but with £2,000 to be returned from Dornoch Trust. There is also retro-funding of £600 to come from the completion of some projects but would prefer not to have to submit retrospective applications in the future.	
11.	PROJECTS UPDATE	
а	DACC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS JB indicated that sums of £1835 and £360 had been approved for works at the Beach, and purchase of rose bushes. Current status here .	JB
b	HIGHLAND COUNCIL PROJECTS – JMc submitted a report here from the Senior Roads Technician detailing the scheme of work across the County.	JMC
С	DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS – PM reported that the new disabled doors had been at last fitted and that the walls were to be re-done.	РМ
12.	PUBLIC TOILETS UPDATE As per 11(c) above.	

13.	ROADS AND PATHWAYS	
a.	Dornoch Traffic Management Plan GR stated that he could see the point of some of the suggestions put forward but wished it to be recorded that he was not in favour of most of the proposals on the table, and that these did not seem to address the problems in Church Street. JB stated that there were 4 main proposals to be considered and these were colour coded as blue, orange, green and red, and led the ensuing discussion thereafter. The agreed response to these preliminary proposals can be found here.	
14.	POLICE REPORT None received.	
15.	CORRESPONDENCE	
a.	LAIRG WINDFARM III GD stated that there was an active protest group in place. PM held the view that any development of this nature was up to the people most affected and would write accordingly to the Chairs of Lairg and Rogart Community Councils.	PN
16.	AOCB	
a.	HAVE YOUR SAY HIGHLAND GD to report back at the next meeting.	GE
b.	COLLEGE AMALGAMATION It was noted that the relevant consultation process was open to all and closes in October.	
C.	GR raised the issue of footpaths between the Pat Munro development and The Meadows, and that two paths had been "lost" here already. JMc undertook to check the situation with Planners.	JM
d.	JM asked about "boy racers" timing themselves around "the circuit". JMc to contact local Police for action.	JM
e.	In this context, GD asked that it be noted that there is fast traffic using the Lonemore Road and that she has received a number of complaints about this.	

THE MEETING CLOSED AT: 21:00

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, THE CHAIR EXTENDED HIS THANKS TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED AND CLOSED THE MEETING.

THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING IS STATED BELOW.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 21ST SEPTEMBER 2022 LOCATION: HYBRID: ZOOM & THE DORNOCH HUB