

**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF  
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 7PM  
VIA ONLINE CONFERENCE CALL**



**PRESENT**

Patrick Murray – Chair - PM  
Graeme Ross – Vice Chair - GR  
Jimmy Melville – JM  
David MacBeath – DM  
Genevieve Duhigg – GD  
Lucy Dixon – LD

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Lou Rollason – Minutes – LR  
Jim McGillivray – Cllr – JMc

<b>N/B: PLEASE USE THE LINKS IN THE HEADINGS (WHERE APPLICABLE) TO ACCESS CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTATION</b>		
<b>1.</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>  Apologies received from Jerry Bishop, Vonnie Macrae & Lesley Strang.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b>  None received	
<b>3.</b>	<b><u><a href="#">ADOPTION &amp; ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (17/3/21)</a></u></b>  The minutes were proposed by GD as a true account of the meeting and seconded by GR.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN AGENDA – NUMBERS RELATE TO THE LAST MEETING POINT)</b>	
<b>a.</b>	4c – Traffic at Elizabeth Crescent: JMc stated that this was still being investigated by roads. DM stated that he was told the problem was the bad weather but since then the weather had improved. JMc to follow up.	<b>JMC</b>
<b>b.</b>	4e – Still in progress. LD has not been able to get in contact due to annual leave and busy scheduling. JMc to pass on alternative details to LD.	<b>JMC &amp; LD</b>
<b>c.</b>	15 – Dog fouling. Signage has been placed but there does not appear to be much more that can be done. LD questioned the number of bins and their being emptied. DM confirmed that they were. However, an additional dog bag dispenser could improve the situation. GR added to tell the service point if the bins were full, and they would pass on the information to the relevant department. LD suggested that a poster be placed on the bins with the phone number of the service point so passers-by could inform them that the bins were full.  <b>TO ADD TO THE MUNICIPAL PROJECTS.</b>	<b>PM</b>
<b>d.</b>	18 – Free Church Cemetery wall is crumbling – PM asked DM if there was anything that could be done to fix/maintain the wall. DM & JM to investigate.	<b>JM &amp; DM</b>

ITEMS FOR DECISION		
5.		
	<b>PLANNING &amp; LICENSING APPLICATIONS</b>	
a.	<b>ERECTION OF AGRICULTURAL BUILDING – TORBOLL – <a href="#">LINK TO WEBPAGE</a></b>	
	<b>NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED</b>	
b.	<b>ERECTION OF TWO BLOCKS SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES (FORMER SITE) – CHURCH STREET – <a href="#">LINK TO WEBPAGE</a></b>	
	<b>NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED</b>	
c.	<b>APPLICATION FOR A GARAGE IN REARQUHAR – <a href="#">LINK TO WEBPAGE</a></b>	
	<b>NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED</b>	
6.	<b>PROPOSAL TO EXTEND PRONCYNAIN CEMETERY – JMC</b>  JMc will make the necessary arrangements. The proposal is to extend to the West and there appear to be no issues with this. Another plan would be to extend to the North as parking and access parking is currently an issue. JMc continued that he would prefer to start with the extension to the West to address the immediate shortage, but to pursue building on new land to the North for the longer term.	<b>JMC</b>
	<b>IN SUPPORT</b>	
7.	<b>PROPOSAL TO STREAMLINE ROUND ROBIN EMAILS – <a href="#">PROPOSAL FROM LD</a> &amp; <a href="#">PROPOSAL FROM LR</a></b>  LR to set up shared folder for 'round robin' emails to be downloaded on to One Drive and available for all DACC members to access it. PM suggested these are linked into each agenda. LR to do so. FYI correspondence of a sensitive nature and all FYC and FYA correspondence will continue to be e-mailed with LD's suggested subject codes.	<b>LR</b>
	<b>LR TO AMEND &amp; DISTRIBUTE LINK</b>	
8.	<b>SCIO PROPOSAL – <a href="#">PROPOSAL FROM PM &amp; JB</a></b>  PM briefly introduced the topic which was covered fully in the linked paper. GR pointed out an error in that the quorum was stated as 5 whereas the minimum number of members was 3. PM apologised and it was agreed to bring the two numbers in line.. GD brought up the use of the word "recreational". <b>PM</b> agree to amend this also, to allow for other projects – since toilets are not recreational.	<b>PM</b>
	<b>AGREED SUBJECT TO AMENDING DOCUMENT AS ABOVE</b>	
9.	<b>HOW TO CHOOSE WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY AWARD – <a href="#">PROPOSAL JB</a></b>  JB was absent. PM asked for any comments and the following were raised to require re-wording as follows: Proposal 1: 'To qualify for the Award the recipient must be normally resident and have been volunteering in the DACC area.' Proposal 2: Agreed	<b>PM &amp; LR</b>

	<p>Proposal 3: 'Following this, an online poll will be created for collating the nominees. DACC will shortlist this. The winners will be decided by the community using both online and offline avenues. An offline version would be available in public buildings which are open (such as the library). LR to set up. The award would be presented in June.'</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PM TO AMEND DOCUMENTATION. LR TO SET UP POLLS.</b></p>	
10.	<p><b>APPOINT SUBCOMMITTEE TO BRING DORNOCH VISITOR MANAGEMENT PLAN (VMP) TO FRUITION</b></p> <p>GR noted that he thought DACC was not the appropriate body to bring the VMP to fruition because its job was to seek out and represent the Community's views and to combine the two roles represented an unacceptable conflict of interest. GD stated that without DACC taking both roles, nothing would get done and PM stated that he believed DACC to be the best body for this as it works on behalf of the community.</p> <p>Other comments brought up included that it has already been agreed that a public consultation is a requirement of Phase 2 and 3 and that the document is not a proposal in itself but rather a collection of suggestions from as wide a group of people as possible within the community.</p> <p>The following compromise was agreed by all:  A subcommittee of PM, JMc, GD &amp; LD will be set up firstly to bring Phase 1 of the VMP to fruition excluding the proposal for the Airfield and Castle Street parking restrictions, and secondly to arrange a consultation on Phases 2 and 3 by as wide a section of the Community as feasible. Subject to Covid regulations, the latter will be held in September/October this year.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AGREED WITH PROVISOS AS PER ABOVE</b></p>	
11.	<p><b>DORNOCH WHISKY FESTIVAL – REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR FUNDING – <a href="#">LINK TO REQUEST</a></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>APPROVED</b></p>	
<b>ITEMS FOR NOTING &amp; DISCUSSION</b>		
12.	<p><b>FINANCIAL UPDATE – <a href="#">LINK TO PDF</a> &amp; <a href="#">LINK TO COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS</a></b></p> <p>JB was not present but PM suggested that there were no issues that could not wait till next meeting and this was agreed.</p>	
13.	<p><b>MUNICIPAL PROGRESS REPORTS &amp; UPDATES</b></p>	
a.	<p><b>DACC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (JB) – <a href="#">LINK</a></b></p> <p>JB not present. Once again it was agreed that there were no issues that could not wait until next meeting.</p> <p>DM requested the bus shelter being added to the projects. He continued that it had graffiti, broken roof tiles and needed to be tidied up in general. DM asked Kenny Martin for a price and was waiting to hear back. LD mentioned that he should be offered payment in full, but if he did not wish to take the money, then a charitable donation should be made by the common good fund on his behalf.</p>	<b>DM</b>



**JM:** Would like to know about the rumours regarding the Service Point being closed in two weeks. PM suggested waiting to find out more information and stated that the Service Point may move to the newly created Dornoch Hub. JMc will make urgent enquiries as he believed this was something that should have gone in front of the ward meeting.

**JMc:** Moray Firth Development Plan: JMc updated DACC on the movement of the change to Group Policy whereby a group of three or four houses can only be extended by a similar sized group of three or four houses and no more. Members discussed this, including the opinion of being against single houses popping up by themselves throughout Sutherland. Some were against the idea of developers doing this, however not against the idea of families doing so to create a home. Others felt that a change of policy would change the skyline of Dornoch and the community itself as the borders of Dornoch would become blurred with sprawl.

PM brought the discussion to the narrower point brought up just now by JMc: Do we want single houses, or should houses be in large groups and/or within existing towns? JMc agreed that the issue was about enlarging existing settlements versus sporadic single housing units.

**JMC**

**JMC TO SEND THROUGH THE E-MAIL TRAIL.**

**MEETING CLOSED AT: 20:58**

**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 – 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 2021, AT 7PM  
VIA ZOOM**