MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC) HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH 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



1.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Apologies received from Jerry Bishop, Vonnie Macrae & Lesley Strang.	
2.	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	
	None received	
3.	ADOPTION & ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (17/3/21)	
	The minutes were proposed by GD as a true account of the meeting and seconded by GR.	
4.	MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN AGENDA – NUMBERS RELATE TO THE LAST MEETING POINT)	
a.	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.	JM
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.	JMC 8
c.	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. TO ADD TO THE MUNICIPAL PROJECTS.	PN
٨	18 – Free Church Cemetery wall is crumbling – PM asked DM if there was	
d.	anything that could be done to fix/maintain the wall. DM & JM to investigate.	JM &

	ITEMS FOR DECISION	
5.	DI ANNINO S LIGENONO ADDI IGATIONO	
a.	PLANNING & LICENSING APPLICATIONS ERECTION OF AGRICULTURAL BUILDING – TORBOLL – LINK TO WEBPAGE	
b.	NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED ERECTION OF TWO BLOCKS SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES (FORMER	
	SITE) – CHURCH STREET – <u>LINK TO WEBPAGE</u>	
	NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED	
C.	APPLICATION FOR A GARAGE IN REARQUHAR – <u>LINK TO WEBPAGE</u> NO ADVERSE COMMENTS RAISED	
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6.	PROPOSAL TO EXTEND PRONCYNAIN CEMETERY – JMC	
	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.	JMC
	IN SUPPORT	
7.	PROPOSAL TO STREAMLINE ROUND ROBIN EMAILS – PROPOSAL FROM LD & PROPOSAL FROM LR 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. LR TO AMEND & DISTRIBUTE LINK	LR
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8.	PROPOSAL – PROPOSAL FROM PM & JB 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". PM agree to amend this also, to allow for other projects – since toilets are not recreational.	<mark>PM</mark>
	AGREED SUBJECT TO AMENDING DOCUMENT AS ABOVE	
9.	HOW TO CHOOSE WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY AWARD – PROPOSAL JB 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.'	PM & LR
	Proposal 2: Agreed	

10.	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.' PM TO AMEND DOCUMENTATION. LR TO SET UP POLLS. APPOINT SUBCOMMITTEE TO BRING DORNOCH VISITOR MANAGEMENT PLAN (VMP) TO FRUITION 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. 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. The following compromise was agreed by all: A subcommittee of PM, JMc, GD & 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. AGREED WITH PROVISOS AS PER ABOVE	
11.	DORNOCH WHISKY FESTIVAL – REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR FUNDING – LINK TO REQUEST	
	APPROVED	
	ITEMS FOR NOTING & DISCUSSION	
12.	FINANCIAL UPDATE – LINK TO PDF & LINK TO COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACCOUNTS	
	JB was not present but PM suggested that there were no issues that could not wait till next meeting and this was agreed.	
13.	MUNICIPAL PROGRESS REPORTS & UPDATES	
a.	DACC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (JB) – <u>LINK</u>	
	JB not present. Once again it was agreed that there were no issues that could not wait until next meeting.	
	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.	<mark>DМ</mark>

	APPROVED TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF DACC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS	
b.	AWAITING HC ACTIONS (JMC)	
	All projects still in progress. The burn had been partially cleared. The resurfacing of the road – done by Scottish Water – was commented as being wonderful. JMc stated that a lot of the Roads Budget was going to the Struie Road. Regarding the Dornoch Hotel corner; JMc had heard from Bespoke hotels and they would be meeting with him in the next 6 – 8 weeks.	JMC
	IN PROGRESS	
c.	DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (PM) – <u>LINK</u>	
	The Skip – Garden Waste is operational again & publicised on DACC website & social media.	
	LD asked if it would be possible to publicise that the beach toilets are actually toilets, as there is signage to them, but the building itself is not signed as a public convenience.	PM
	TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF DACC MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	
4.4	CORRECTIONS	
14.	Mr Whelton contacted LR wishing for an update on the A949 Evelix Road - Blind summit. JMc stated this was a work in progress.	LR
	Dillia Sammit. Give Stated this was a work in progress.	
15.	ROADS AND PATHWAYS	
	DM questioned the white lining on Station Road – JMc stated that it was on the list as was the white lining towards Embo, although the latter would have to wait until the re-surfacing had been done.	JMC
16.	AOCB	
	DM: asked JMc if there was any movement on the HIE business park units. JMc said HIE's limited resources in this instance had gone to Golspie instead.	
	DM questioned if Royal Dornoch Golf Club could put in passing places on the road down to the airfield which is causing issues due to long wait times for cars entering and exiting. LD pointed out that there are now children's golf lessons and thus RDGC could have a reason to include these passing places. PM & DM to speak to Neil Hampton regarding this.	PM & DM
	Lastly DM pointed out that the area near the children's play area required soakaways as the water was pooling. JM asked whether scalping from the quarry could be used. PM noted this is already a point of the Visitor Management Plan.	
	LD: A playpark off Ross Avenue is getting worn and muddy and should be looked into. JMc stated that it will be a Pat Munro playpark and out of the jurisdiction of DACC.	PM & JMC

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 boarders 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 TO SEND THROUGH THE E-MAIL TRAIL.

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.

MEETING CLOSED AT: 20:58

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 21ST APRIL, 2021, AT 7PM VIA ZOOM **JMC**