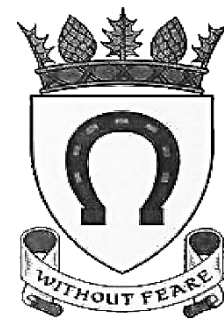


**MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF  
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 7 PM  
VIA ZOOM & IN PERSON AT THE DORNOCH HUB**



**PRESENT**

Patrick Murray – Chair – PM  
Jerry Bishop – Treasurer – JB  
Genevieve Duhigg – GD (Zoom)  
David MacBeth – DM  
Jimmy Melville – JM (telephone)  
Graeme Ross – GR (telephone)  
Lesley Strang – LS (Zoom)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Jim McGillivray – Cllr – JMc  
Caroline McMorran – Northern Times  
Amanda Coghill – North Highlands & Islands Climate Action (Visitor)

<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 were received from LD & YM, and also from the Minute Secretary	
<b>2.</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b> PM stated that he would not take part in any discussions involving the Springfield Development at Dornoch North	
<b>3.</b>	<b>ADOPTION &amp; ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (16/2/22)</b> The minutes of the last meeting were proposed by JB as an accurate account of the meeting and seconded by JM.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>MATTERS ARISING (NOT OTHERWISE COVERED IN AGENDA – (NUMBERS RELATE TO THE LAST MEETING POINT)</b>	
<b>a.</b>	Dornoch Burn – CC representatives inspected the burn with the Ward Manager but still waiting for an estimate from David Rutherford	<b>PM &amp; DM</b>
<b>b.</b>	Christmas Lights – specification passed by George Mackay as suitable and quote should be available for the next meeting.	<b>PM</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>PRESENTATION - NORTH HIGHLANDS &amp; ISLANDS CLIMATE ACTION</b> Ms. Coghill explained that she is one of 3 Development Officers funded by Scottish Government to help community groups with Climate Action projects to deal with bureaucratic obstacles, project planning, and also help with funding applications and even provide some small direct funding support to a maximum of £500. There is a wide range of activities within her remit all contributing to Net Zero by 2045.	
<b>ITEMS FOR DECISION</b>		

6.		
	<b>PLANNING &amp; LICENSING APPLICATIONS</b>	
a	<b>22/00886/FUL   Erection of house   Land 80M SW Of Shenavall Evelix Dornoch</b> CC to make no comment	
b	<b>22/00084/FUL   Installation of replacement antenna and ancillary works   Burghfield House Cnoc-an-lobht Dornoch IV25 3HW</b> CC to make no comment	
c	<b>22/00153/FUL   ERECTION OF HOUSE   LAND 95M EAST OF KEARN HILTON DORNOCH IV25 3PW – <a href="#">LINK</a></b> It was agreed to withdraw the objection submitted at the February meeting. It was also agreed that JB suggest 3 actions to Planners: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To press for a tree survey before construction starts.</li> <li>2. To seek a condition relevant to traffic management such that a 20mph limit be imposed for construction traffic during the building phase.</li> <li>3. That the Planning Authority be alerted to the lack of developer contribution towards road improvement and maintenance from an extended number of new builds at the western side of Embo Street, and that such contribution be sought, if possible, from the present developer for the road on the east side.</li> </ol>	<b>JB</b>
7.	<b>APPLICATION FOR PP FOR DADCA'S BISHOPFIELD PLOTS</b> The motion by PM such that the CC submit a planning application of behalf of DADCA for these plots was carried unanimously. In response to questions, PM agreed to circulate the rules of the Communities Housing Trust as regards allocation policy to the members of the Council	<b>PM</b>
8.	<b>20 MPH LIMIT</b> PM presented 3 options for the Council to consider, as previously circulated. Option 3 – “in favour of the proposals for immediate implementation, but with representations to consider in the future extending the limit further up each of the approach roads to Dornoch” – was carried unanimously.	<b>PM</b>
9.	<b>DORNOCH WOODLANDS</b> PM reminded the Council that the Dornoch Trust has obtained finance to buy the Woodland between the Station and Earls Cross for £25,000, provided DACC recommend the acceptance of the application to the Dornoch Common Good for £9,900 to cover initial maintenance and legal costs. JB provided further clarification on the matter. After discussion, the application to the Dornoch Common Good was unanimously recommended for acceptance. In addition, the work of Sir Gavin Gilbey in this initiative was highly commended, with PM, DM and GS also receiving commendation for the part they have played.	<b>PM,JB</b>
10.	<b>JUBILEE CELEBRATION</b> It was noted that the Cathedral were holding a commemorative event on Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> June. PM expressed a wish to see a general community event held on the 4 <sup>th</sup> June. It was suggested that a sub-committee would be needed in short order to make the first steps for any Saturday event. PM agreed to commence a scoping exercise to determine the scale of the Saturday event. JB undertook to establish a social media exercise to try to attract support from the community as a whole.	<b>PM,JB</b>
11.	<b>QUEEN'S CANOPY PROPOSAL</b>	

	This was held over till the next meeting.	
<b>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b>		
<b>12.</b>	<b>FINANCE UPDATE (JB) –</b> JB gave an overview of the above.	<b>JB</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS &amp; UPDATES</b>	
<b>a.</b>	<b>DACC MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (JB) – <a href="#">LINK</a> &amp; <a href="#">PDF</a></b> First 3 phases have been completed and focus now moves to Beach items. The drainage for the beach toilets is done and posts to regulate parking down by the beach are in the process of being installed (and indeed have since been completed). The Playpark carpark levelling is being held off due to the Roads Department working on road surfacing in the area.  IN PROGRESS	<b>JB</b>
<b>b.</b>	<b>HIGHLAND COUNCIL PROJECTS (JMc) -</b> JMc stated that the Cemetery Extension had received Planning Consent and work should start shortly. He asked the Council to note the extent of the Roads Capital Programme for Sutherland and sought the patience of Councillors for some of the minor works in and around Dornoch which had still not been attended to. He updated the Council on the progress of the RDGC funded MUGA at the Academy, and indicated that the new RDGC lease was still being inspected by RDGC solicitors. Finally he stated that he was pursuing CCTV to protect the Shore Street Public Toilets once open after refurbishment, and that his contact at the Dornoch Hotel had still not responded but he would continue to try to resume contact.  IN PROGRESS	<b>JMc</b>
<b>c.</b>	<b>DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (PM) - <a href="#">LINK TO PDF</a></b> PM referred the Council to the relevant papers submitted with the Agenda.  IN PROGRESS	<b>PM</b>
<b>d.</b>	<b>LOCAL PLACE PLAN (GD) - <a href="#">LINK</a></b> GD spoke to the report she had prepared after consultation with Highland Council Planning Officers and HIE staff. She sees the Place Plan as a base for future funding applications; as a means to integrate and co-ordinate main Dornoch stakeholders; to help identify main action groups for individual Plan component taking into account the opening up of the next Investing in Communities package; and finally to create a timeline for a programme of actions.  IN PROGRESS	<b>GD</b>
<b>e.</b>	<b>TREES (LD)</b> Held over in the absence of LD.  IN PROGRESS	<b>LD &amp; PM</b>
<b>f.</b>	<b>SEAGULLS</b> LS indicated that she had received 2 quotes and that Rentokill were 3 times her original quote. GR asked where the problem was and that money should be targeted where absolutely needed.	<b>LS</b>

	<p>LS indicated that the Dornoch Hub, nearby flats and the Dornoch Hotel were main sites. She suggested that one option was to go back to the businesses and residents for them to take ownership of the problem. JB stated that the level of Common Good support needed gave rise to a problematic timeline as regards County Committee dates and pending Highland Council elections.</p> <p>LS requested an off-line meeting to work out the best way forward, with information on the current status to be issued to the public and to businesses.</p>	
<b>g.</b>	<p><b>PROPOSAL RE DOG-WASTE (YM) – <a href="#">LINK</a></b>  The Airfield was identified as a main problem area and additional bins and signage to be requested from Highland Council. Bags were not deemed necessary as dog-owners should always carry a supply of these.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IN PROGRESS</b></p>	<b>YM, LS &amp; DM</b>
<b>14.</b>	<p><b>RECORD OF COMMON GOOD GRANTS</b>  A comprehensive list of these has been provided and will be circulated on the DACC website.</p>	<b>JB</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
<b>h.</b>	<p><b>FILES FROM ONLINE CORRESPONDENCE –</b>  There has been no correspondence received relevant to the attention of the meeting.</p>	<b>JB &amp; PM</b>
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>ROADS &amp; PATHWAYS – FROM FEBRUARY MEETING</b></p> <p><i>JM mentioned that the path between Elizabeth Crescent and Grange Road needs scalping's, and JMc will ask Matt Dent. LS pointed out that it may be a man-made path, and because of the dust and tree roots, it may need more than scalplings.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IN PROGRESS</b></p>	<b>JMc</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
<b>a.</b>	<p><b>LATE COMMON GOOD APPLICATIONS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An application for £1600 has been received from the group promoting the Beach enhancements. This was recommended for support by the members present.</li> <li>2. An application has been received from the newly formed Dornoch Cricket Club per Mr David Diracles for funding to allow the renovation of the existing cricket facility at The Meadows. The Council agreed in principle to recommend support for this application but asked that Mr Diracles attend the April meeting to provide further information.</li> </ol>	<b>PM</b>
<b>b.</b>	<p><b>FURTHER CONTRIBUTION</b>  DM brought 3 closing items to the Council's attention:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. He was fulsome in his praise for the work being done at Dornoch South by the contractor WM Donald</li> <li>2. Concerns have been raised by local residents about car parking around Elizabeth Crescent.</li> <li>3. There are also concerns about the quality of street lighting at the Retail Park.</li> </ol>	<b>JMc</b>

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT: 21:05**

**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 – 20TH APRIL 2022, AT 7 PM**

**LOCATION: HYBRID: ZOOM & THE DORNOCH HUB**