



1. Welcome & Apologies

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended her special thanks to JMc for his attendance this evening.

2. Declarations of Interest

(Any interests relating to items on this agenda)

None were declared.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a. Previous meeting minutes: [Link here](#)

The minutes were proposed by EDv and seconded by MH as a true account of the previous meeting.

4. Visitors

1. Steve Farquharson – Embo Resident

Mr Farquharson (SF) gave an insight to the Embo Street junction whereby the signage from the south is particularly bad and Embo residents are finding that there are issues with speeding along the main road and ignoring the 30mph sign. When speaking to the Highland Council they reported back that there was an average speed of 28mph, which SF disagrees with, he was also told that in early 26/27 financial year someone would do a traffic assessment. SF continued that there is a gross safety issue, especially since there is a bus stop which is used by children to get to school – parents do not trust the road due to the dangerous speeds. CM questioned if it is worse during the high tourism season to which SF said it would continue until the end of October. SF would like the Dornoch Area Community Council to give their backing. RG said he would speak to the relevant department about the Safe Routes to School.

Regarding the portacabin on the Airstrip – a generator has now been added and wants to know if this was part of the original plan. CF suggested that any questions requiring answers would need to be lodged officially by Dornoch Area Community Council. RG confirmed this is still on his list.

SF also noted that a shipping container had appeared next to the driving range and queried why these structures were increasing, and whether they were permitted. JMc confirmed that it is their land and as part of their lease. MH questioned if planning permission is required, RG confirmed it did, unless it was a temporary structure. CM will ask the questions to the leaseholders.

5. Matters Arising

(Actions or issues from the last meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

No items

6. Planning Applications

- a. 26/01361/CLP | Installation of 14no. solar panels and associated equipment | Oversteps Care Home, Earls Cross Road, Dornoch, IV25 3PJ – [Link Here](#)

No comments

- b. 26/01076/FUL | Alterations and extension, erection of 2no. apartment blocks for holiday letting, SPA building and associated site infrastructure (amended proposal 24/01700/FUL)| Ross House, Grange Road, Dornoch, IV25 3LE – [Link Here](#)

No comments

7. Funding Applications

(Common Good Fund & Beinn Tharsuinn):

- a. AH questioned if Tykes had put in an application. It was confirmed that no paperwork has been received.

8. Finance Update

(Current financial position, approvals, or notable changes)

Beinn Tharsuinn Fund - £1,300

Comon Good Fund - £35,000 available for grants but this may not take into account the £9,200 for the Wetlands Project.

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)
AT THE CARNEGIE BUILDING CHAMBER, DORNOCH**

AH submitted a funding enquiry for outgoings (Christmas trees, wreaths, insurance, etc) so AH will go through the figures and submit a Common Good Fund application. RG thinks the Wetlands Project money may have gone into last year's project. He then suggested that with the £110,000 from the Community Regeneration Fund will be drawn down when invoices are due. CF then questioned if the DACC would be able to employ the consultants, RG confirmed that DACC would not be able to. Dornoch Trust was suggested but concerns were raised as the landowner of the potential wetlands is the Chair of the Dornoch Trust, it was confirmed that as long as a declaration of interest was submitted it would be fine.

9. Highland Council Updates

(Updates from Highland Council members or officers: Yellow Lines)

JMc said he got on to the roads department but had not heard back. RG stated that he followed it up and found that the project would cost £12,000 which is not affordable. They suggested having a smaller area which will be cheaper. Regarding the 'off-street plan (CP0237), these are not so much changes, rather officialising the areas. In simple terms, this means that those violating parking can be reported to the Highland Council, rather than the police. CF questioned if the disabled parking spaces that are white can be painted to become 'official' in yellow. RG will investigate.

RG reported that Dornoch Caravan Park are looking to increase their lease length which is due to run out in the next 10 years and they wish to have a 50-year lease so they can make substantial investments. There was a discussion regarding opening hours and what investment would be. RG stated that the Highland Council (HC) have asked for the opinion of the DACC, supporting, objecting, time frame of 50 years, shorter etc. DACC can specify what they would like to see in the lease – RG highlighted that it may not be added, but it would be considered. LR will draft a letter for RG regarding this.

10. DACC Projects & Assets

(DACC-led projects, Scotland Beach Award, Wetlands, Airfield, LPP, A-boards, Christmas Trees)

Danfo came back with a quote for the electronic lock and it would be £10,000 as it would need new doors. AH questioned if Highland Larder have returned as they haven't started up in Dornoch yet. CF reported that he has two other locations and will be back soon. Dornoch Trust had commented that they want the entrance area upgraded and JMc confirmed that the owner had agreed to upgrading the area (chipping included).

CM will send through an email regarding the Beach Award.

The main consultant for the Wetlands Project is away however there are various forms, Paddy Murray (landowner) has signed a covenant and there are signatures required for Nature Scot. The consultancy company will do this so at the moment it is just a waiting game.

MH questioned if it would require a public consultation and although it does not, RG suggested that the public need to be aware. MH then asked who would deal with a public consultation, it is unknown at this stage. CF will discuss this with the consultancy company about how to discuss with the public.

11. Roads & Pathways

(Roads, pavements, paths, parking, access issues, and ongoing concerns)

Discussed above.

12. Local Issues & Community Matters

(Other community issues not covered above – Dornoch Cathedral Clock Face, MCA Embo)

EDv questioned if there was a plan for the toilets – AH reiterated

A meeting of the major Dornoch groups, chaired by Richard Gale, is planned. Chairs of each group will be invited to a closed meeting.

A meeting 28th of April on 7:30pm at the Dornoch Community Centre for the Dornoch Resilience Group. RG suggested that if this group can identify vulnerable individuals and a resilience plan by the winter, this can then become available for an emergency plan.

EDv will chase up about the Cathedral clock tower.

13. Police Report

(Attached via email to members)

14. Correspondence

(Items received since the last meeting requiring noting or discussion – in the OneDrive)

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE
DORNOCH AREA COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DACC)
AT THE CARNEGIE BUILDING CHAMBER, DORNOCH**

The quote from the consultants came back at £12,500. Discussions regarding this were taken on.

15. Any Other Competent Business

(Urgent items only – not for introducing major new topics)

MH questioned whether DACC would be open to inviting an associate member. Members confirmed that they would. Potential member will attend during the AGM in June.