



DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY TRUST

Committee Meeting Minutes: 05.03.24

Present: Jason Bold (JB), Mali Messent (MM), Philipa MacRae (PMr), Katy Lawrence (KL), Liza Cleland (LCL) . Leona Coull (LC),
Emma Jane Morrison (EJM) & Pamela (DTAS) on Zoom
Apologies: Paul MacAskill (PM)

1 DTAS

Pamela from DTAS joined us for the first ½ an hour of the meeting to go over the benefits of DCT becoming part of the DTAS. She then went through the checklist of eligibility and we tick all of the boxes to become a member.

2 Adoption of previous minutes:

PMr Propose, LCL Second

Actions: MM will upload to the website.

3 Financials

- All in attendance agreed that Leona Coull (LC) is given access to digital banking to be able to make grant payments as per her admin post. LC has already been set up as an account signatory.
- LC has been in touch with Daniel Wood at Wood Accountancy and asked him to progress with the 2023 accounts. She needs to hear back from him with what he needs. DW also noted that we will only need to produce 1 set of merged accounts and not 2 separate accounts for the old unincorporated trust and the new SCIO.

Actions: LC to chase this up

4 DO Update:

- MM suggested that we try to recruit some youth representatives onto the board. All agreed this was a good idea.
- MM suggested that we start to think about progressing with a Community Action Plan for our area. Struan has recently had one commissioned as well as Kyle & Lochalsh. Both very different visually, but equally important documents for each area. The Kyle CAP asked a total of 34 questions to the 2500 residents and had over 600 responses, which is a great return. They did require some help from a statistician to compile the results but they felt that this was worth it and is a document that they can refer to for the next few years. As this will be quite a large project, it is hoped that DCC may want to help out with this. It would also be worth speaking to DTAS for any help that they can offer.

Actions: MM to put out some comms looking for someone between 16 & 21 to join Trust.

5 Gaeltec

- The Scottish Land Fund application for Gaeltec should hopefully be getting reviewed this week, so we should hear in due course. This comes on the back of a really successful

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open afternoon at the hall to gain more community feedback on the preliminary plans for the space. LCL very kindly analysed the data from this. There were lots of folk looking to rent out commercial spaces, more than we currently have put in the plans. LCL asked whether we need to cost up the difference between having a childcare facility in the building as to not having one. Currently there would need to be substantial changes made to the existing layout to bring the space up to Care Commission standard. LCL mentioned that the space may even benefit from an extension as an option to provide a suitable setting. The outdoor space would need revamping and a secure entry system in place for having children in the building. The finances needed to successfully run a childcare establishment are huge and we need to make sure that we are going into this with our eyes fully open. MM has visited Fas Mor and agree that they are always financially speaking just hanging on. MM said they are supported by SMO staff in admin and the booking system. MM suggested that since it would be such an important resource locally, that DCT should also consider subsidising it. MM thinks the model Fas Mor employ - it's a non-profit run by a board - would be the most feasible model for Gaeltec- the DCT Committee does not have the capacity to run a childcare facility in house but a board of parents and reps from the Dunvegan Primary School Catchment area would make sense. MM mentioned that 2 parents at the open day said they would join a childcare board. LCL and JB suggested getting that firmed up but we're also aware that the building won't be ready to use for a while and don't want people to get committee fatigue before they've even started.

- KL met up with Fiona MacDonald from Skye Gym and had a good chat with her about all things Gym. All of their equipment is from Origin. MM has spoken to someone from Sports Scotland about funding and they thought a ballpark of 35k could potentially come from them, but the funding landscape is getting worse, not better. MM asked for a rough layout and plan of what we could have in our gym based on the equipment feedback, our population and the m2 of the space. KL mentioned that we have had some offers of second hand gym equipment to be given to us, but we would need to check out what the insurance would say about that before committing. MM suggested contacting Windfarm developers en masse for corporate sponsorship towards the gaeltec project and not the playpark as the playpark seems to be gaining momentum and getting donations in.

Actions: MM will upload the analysed feedback to the website & FB

6 Playpark

- We were delighted to find out that we were granted £37,500 from the Community Regeneration Fund from HC, with caveats attached. The following need to be secured by mid May:

Alternative quotes

All match funding secured

There is lots going on with the playpark at the moment. We have a further application into the UK Prosperity Fund for £40,000, a decision on this should be made by 27th March. Kompan has said that they will give us an updated quote, honoring as many aspects as he can, but some of these are out of his control and prices have gone up. His suggested timeline is to order in June and install in September in time for the October holidays. We have been offered a popcorn lease from HC for the land, this could be for up to 25 years or longer. This does not mean that we would be able to claim VAT on the project, but it would speed up the process. MM has sought advice from COSS about implications on whether this would harm or preclude an asset transfer in the future, and they do not think it would. There are a number of new fundraising efforts due to go live in the next while, an online raffle, a film afternoon/evening in conjunction with DMCC showing a new Disney

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Film and a fundraising dance. EJM noted that the cost of the band was due to be approximately £450 + travel expenses.

7 Cruachan

- We successfully received funding from SLF to cover the cost of a valuation of Cruachan Woodland and for a feasibility study to look at the creation of 2 or 3 woodland crofts. The draft report landed in the DCT inbox prior to the meeting. We have been informed that there is an invasive species of plant on the land, Salmonberry.

8 Minibus

- Following on from our last meeting, MM has sought the permission from surrounding local community councils for DCT to take over the running of the Dunvegan Community Minibus, as these other CC's all helped to fund the current vehicle. All were happy for DCT to take this over as a sub group.
- MM suggested that we become members of the Community Transport Association, this is a body which specialises in helping groups like ours to successfully and legally operate a minibus. All agreed that we join this asap.
- Tina Allan, who has been the sole responsible person for the minibus recently mentioned that the current insurance is due for renewal on the 13th MArch but that the company would like to know asap whether or not we are planning to continue using them. MM thought this a bit strange given that the policy was not actually due for another 10 days.
- MM mentioned that it would be good to set up a separate subgroup for the Minibus group under the umbrella of DCT. The day to day bookings etc would stay the same with Tina continuing her support but doing this. The transfer of assets between the old minibus group and DCT should be complete by the end of March.
- MM had mentioned that it might be worth us speaking to Just Enterprise to do a potential feasibility study for a shuttle bus that could go from the village down to the Coral Beach car park in Claigan. This would probably need to be a separate bus from the current community minibus, have a separate permit, but it would mean less cars on the roads meaning less emissions. If something like this came to fruition, it could possibly be used as a shuttle bus to help residents access the shops in the village from the outlying houses. A project like this could generate income from tourism and subsidise other community projects.

Actions: MM to register DCT for membership of CTA

9 Dunvegan Traders Association

- EJM, MM & LCL are planning to meet with members of the DTA on 7th March with regards to new and better signage in and around the village and see what can be done to help out.

10 Wind Farm Developments

- MM has emailed Erin at Renantis, but there has been no reply. We are unsure why. JB suggested that we try to contact the developers who are working on the potential new Quay at Caroy as we have not had contact from Renantis.

Actions: MM to contact Developers

11 Funding Applications

- LC mentioned that she had a brief conversation with Chris Cairns, who had successfully been granted £1000 to help set up a youth club along with Claire MacDonald, and he intimated that there were some issues with insurance to be able to run a club like this, so was waiting on confirmation on this before progressing.

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Actions: MM to contact Claire and see how this is getting on.

- PMR gave us a run down on all things DCC related. Here is a snapshot of what is going on.
- *They are hoping to co-opt John Laing back onto the DCC as an associate member*
- *They are looking to get some grit bins out and about in the community.*
- *Next year marks 25 years since the Millennium stone was erected, and the DCC would like to mark the occasion with some sort of event. More information to follow in due course.*
- *DCC will help Lets Make Dunvegan Beautiful by paying for bulbs and Pots for the village.*
- *A local resident let the DCC know that there is a substantial amount of Japanese Knotwood around the playpark and in her garden down by Lochside.*
- All agreed that the annual grant of £4,000 would be paid again to DCC. If the DCC have other specific projects that need some extra funding, they can always apply for more money.

12 AOB

- DCT along with Struan Trust and Edinbane Community Company are looking at the options for community shared ownership in the already consented development Ben Sca (Wind2). Quotes have been sought for legal advice to clarify exactly what would be involved and how to protect ourselves from any financial risk. Prior to any decision being made by DCT a full consultation of our members would take place.
- MM noted that one of the donations for the PP had been deposited into a savings account that DCT has and not the current account and had noted that in a very small timescale the £500 deposit had gained £1.37 in interest. It was suggested that we transfer out some of the community spend to the savings account to help it gain interest. All in agreement to transfer over a lump sum, leaving enough in the current account to be able to deal with any outgoings in the next while.

Action - MM to transfer lump sum out of current account.

Date of Next meeting:

- The meeting dates have been set for the coming year and are as follow:
- Tuesday 16th April
- Tuesday 21st May
- Tuesday 18th June
- Tuesday 20th August
- Tuesday 1st October
- Tuesday 19th November – AGM

Meeting came to a close at 9.10pm