

MINUTES OF DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 8TH MAY 2024

Present – Laura Shirley (LS), Donna Campbell (DC), Philippa MacRae (PM), Sarah MacAskill (SM), Sylvia Meyer (SY), Tim Wallis (TW), John Laing (JL)

Apologies – Councillor Drew Miller, Mandy Boswell.

Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a special welcome to John Laing.

1. **Minutes of last Meeting** – Proposed by TW and seconded by DC.
2. **Treasurers update** – DC updated everyone. Currently £5067.40 in the bank, we received £4K from DCT last month. The Corra funding is now available, **DC will put in an application for funding.**

The First Brigade have now been formed and are looking for a donation to help them get plates, cups etc, it was agreed that £300 would be given to them.

3. **Council update** – Councillor Miller was not at the meeting so no update available.

4. **DCT update** -

Update on Active Projects

- Playpark- The Park is fully funded! The grant acceptance letters have been issued and following a post funding meeting on Wed 15th of May, we should be able to order equipment. The park needs to be re-seeded and grass established in time for the installation in September, so dates have been set for 2 volunteer days on the 18th and 25th of May, with topsoil and grass seed ordered.
- Gaeltec - Following a successful Stage 2 application to the Scottish Land Fund the purchase of the Gaeltec Buildings is now in the hands of solicitors. We're working to a summer deadline for a large funding application towards renovation costs, but have alternatives lined up in case it is unsuccessful, or if there are delays with the purchase. Included in the SLF grant was also funding towards
- Cruachan Woodland- Following the release of the study into the feasibility of 2 woodland crofts at Cruachan and bringing Cnoc nan Craobh into community ownership, a community-wide survey was launched, which closed on the 29th of April. The results are being analysed and a anonymised summary will be available shortly.
- Community Minibus- The minibus has successfully come under the umbrella of DCT, and is taking bookings here: <https://dunvegantrust.co.uk/community-minibus/>, or via email at office@dunvegantrust.co.uk. The rate of 65p per mile has not been reviewed for many years, so this will be discussed at the next committee meeting.
- Youth representative- We're keen to co-opt someone between the age of 16-21 onto our board, to make sure the views of the next generation are being voiced, heard and included in our work. If you know of anyone in the DCC area who might be interested, please point them in our direction!
- Community Action Plan: We have contacted a list of local stakeholders, including representatives from:
 - Dunvegan Community Council
 - Dunvegan Primary
 - Dunvegan Primary Parent Council
 - Loch Dunvegan Moorings Association
 - Common grazings committees
 - Dunvegan Community Hall
 - Church of Scotland
 - DCF Community Cafe

- Dunvegan Medical Practice
- Dunvegan Traders Association
- North West Football Association
- DMCC
- Lets Make Dunvegan Beautiful again
- Senior Citizens Lunch Club
- Duirinish Free Church

We've received responses from a rep from DCC, the medical practice, and Dunvegan Community Hall. Initially we had hoped to have a steering group meeting this week commencing 13/5/24, but we hope to enlist a few more groups prior to beginning work writing the survey. This is more than just a pen-pushing exercise, and as we know statutory funding cuts are rife and other sources of funding are increasingly competitive. This is a way all the groups participating can not only attract more funding to the area but also make sure it's directed where people want and need it. Just as importantly it's an opportunity to take an overarching look at gaps in services and facilities in the area and highlight them, address them where we can and hold responsible statutory bodies to account where appropriate.

- Ben Sca- We successfully applied to CARES for funding towards legal advice on the potential opportunity of shared ownership in the consented Ben Sca Windfarm (WInd2) in conjunction with Edinbane and Struan. We've instructed and are awaiting the advice
- Signage- Dunvegan Traders Association have sent DCT the results of an in house audit they conducted with their members regarding signage problems and potential solutions - we would be keen to share this and discuss with DCC.
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- Jon Hollingdale was in touch with LS concerning the Cruachan Woodland project, he wants to know is DCC in favour of it. It was decided that we would support it but to be mindful of what has happened in the past.

5. **Signs on pavements – LS** is going to speak to some of the businesses in the village regarding the signs which are on the pavements preventing people in wheelchairs and people with pushchairs from getting passed. It is dangerous for people to have to take to the road and particularly if they're vulnerable.

6. **Generic email –** This was agreed to be working well and will be the email address for anyone in the community to use to get in touch with DCC. **MB and TW will deal with this.**

7. **AOCB –** The minutes of the meeting will now be prepared, sent out to members to be proposed + seconded, printed for the notice board and sent to DCT within a week.

It was noted that the lack of Ranger was a big loss, particularly over the summer months. SY will recommend to the Trust that this would be an excellent project to fund.

JL will continue with all things 'windfarm'. He will attend any meetings and keep up to date with all proposed division of funds etc.

All of the bottle banks in the car park are full. **LS** will ask the businesses if they are using them, they should have commercial disposal of glass and not the public banks.

SY informed us that Eliza MacDonald and Donald + Anne Fiona Gillies had paid for the treatment of the Japanese Knotweed in the field behind the hall. A card expressing our thanks will be sent to them. **PM to do this.**

AGM will be held on Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 7.30pm

8. **Date of Next Meeting –** Tuesday 28th May 7.30pm