



DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY TRUST

Committee Meeting Minutes: 29 September 2025

1 Welcome & Apologies:

Present: Jason Bold (JB), Sylvia Meyer (SY), Stuart Cullen (SC), Bryony Anderson (BA), Mali MacLennan (MM)

Present on Zoom: Katy Lawrence (KL)

Observer: Mandy Boswell (MB)

Apologies: Emma Jane Morrison (EJM)

JB welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Adoption of previous minutes: KL proposed, SY seconded

BA will upload minutes to the website

3 Conflicts of interest

- None

Actions:

4 Financial Update

- Year to 22 September 2025: income £233,372.18 (including some funding towards playpark equipment which has been accounted as an asset), total outgoings £46,242.75 direct (grants, staff) plus £56,825.82 administrative (all other project and organisation expenditure). Operating surplus for this year to 22 Sept is £50,624.30.
- Trustees voted to remain with RBS for now for the main account, to review next year
- MM to set up bankline with RBS for dual verification of BACS payments
- Now savings account with RBS is closed, MM to progress Insignis application to move some funds to other accounts for financial safety and better interest rates.

Actions:

5 Statutory inspections

- Community Park fence has fully fallen down in parts. One quote has been received for replacement (with November availability for work), MM waiting on others for comparison and will share with trustees
- Last minibus inspection has advisories, will ask the garage to review these at the next inspection (15 October) and get a quote to repair.

Actions: share fence replacement quotes MM

Contact garage about advisories and next inspection MM

6 Membership update

- Membership is standing at 75% full members.
- Five new full members since the last meeting. New members and those withdrawing membership were reviewed and approved by committee.

Dunvegan Community Trust SCIO (SC052078)

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- Agreed to contact associate members to ask if they want to renew their membership, offering 28 days to contact the trust to do so.

Actions: Encourage further membership from DCC area ALL
Contact associate membership BA

7 Budget

- Developed a budget to assess current year's spending and get an overview for the budget for 2026. Aim to update Xero with the budget for 2026 to allocate funds to spend against.
- One point to note was there is an added job role in next year's budget for the Orbost Woodland Project (part funded by SLF)
- Questions from funders on budgeting are usually on project specific budgets, sometimes on monthly financial reporting, and always something on reserves.
- Have looked at potential funds for future projects that have a potential to be taken up by DCT with contributions from reserves

Actions: Investigate adding budget to Xero BA

8 Project Officer update

- Corra has provided an update on the Gaeltec tenant lease. The seller doesn't have the original copy lease so this can't be registered alongside the lease variation (to add a plan of leased area). The lease issue is the only thing holding up the completion date, Corra looking into a solution that SLF will be happy with. DCT planning to have a discussion with the tenant and draft a new lease. There are two applications with October deadlines that require ownership of the buildings so speed essential at this point.
- Building warrant drawings are ready to be submitted. DCT have had an expression of interest in office space from Daniel Wood Accountants, have sent plans and will meet him on site on Monday 6 October. He would prefer more private access to the space, rather than access from a shared workspace, will discuss options and find out more about his needs.
- Funding - DTAS opened new cohort of Strengthening Communities Programme, 3yr revenue fund to support trusts to build capacity, has a focus on creating revenue streams and reducing reliance on grants. Needs to be supported by a recent CAP, which we are in a good position on. The EOI was based on the Gaeltec Buildings project as that seems to be in a good position and has income generating elements, and we've been invited to full application. All trustees supported an application being made. Now need to work on a specific plan for the 3yrs, need to be employers which DCT are working towards and the application needs to be made by a trustee (but in conjunction with staff). JB and KL available to meet to move forward with this, and JB will raise the Gaeltec project in a meeting with HIE coming up.

Actions: Work on lease issue BA

Meet Daniel Wood Accountants BA

Contact Rural Design about the shared workspace BA

Funding application to SCP BA, JB, KL

9 Development Officer update

- CAP - all content to graphic designer on Thursday including all texts, maps, images, diagrams, have permission to use some poems. She will return a draft in the 3rd week of October. Paul Ede has been commissioned to do the policy mapping (tying in the projects/aspirations to national/regional policy). On track to publish on the community press at Atlas Arts event at the end of November. In conjunction with Atlas Arts, having an artist work with the primary school children to produce a kids CAP over four sessions.
- Minibus CRF area fund paperwork signed and returned, next is a post-grant meeting, then can advertise for someone to do the driver training. A few people have been in touch about buying the old minibus, need to decide on the price.

- Funding has been approved by SLF to buy Orbost Farmhouse and Cruachan Woodland. Forms need to be signed digitally. SLF and HIE funding are both subsidies, some research needed into the specifics of this kind of funding. Check with accountant about the implications of subsidy funding. SLF stage 1, CHT was acting as lead consultant, MM has checked in about the role CHT take during stage 2 and received a quote for £5K until building stage where they then have a fee of 2% of project cost. Normally the architect would coordinate the design process, trustees feel they would need to further evaluate the quote. MM to tender for architect support, discussed starting the RIBA stages during conveyancing due to potential refurbishment funding coming up quite quickly.
- Constitutional changes have been discussed at the previous meeting, but need formalising today. One is a change to the DCT purposes (adding a purpose) which requires permission to be sought from OSCR.
 - Trustees have approved asking permission of OSCR to add: *“the provision of community transport options to those experiencing rural transport barriers in NW Skye”* to DCT purposes. If approved this would be taken to AGM to get voted on by members.
- The second is adding a new clause to define the length of a term
 - Trustees have approved taking the following clause to AGM to get voted on by members: *“Each Elected Charity Trustee shall serve a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment. Trustees may serve no more than two consecutive terms, after which they must retire for at least one year before being eligible for reappointment.”*
- Discussed postponing the AGM to January to allow for time to advertise for trustees, approved by trustees. November meeting changed to an ordinary meeting.

Actions: Tender for architect MM

Request permission for added constitutional purpose MM

Find January date for AGM BA

10 Funding Applications

- Dunvegan Primary School have enquired if we would continue the discretionary grant of £5000. They used the money last year to pay for half of their P7 trip to Raasay and for other school trips including the minibus, and state the funds make a huge difference to the school year. All trustees are happy to support this, split into two payments across the school year. MM to arrange payment dates with DPS.
- Education Grant to support a National 5 Maths course at Portree College from a local resident, all trustees happy to support this.

Actions: Arrange payment dates of Dunvegan Primary Discretionary Grant MM

Arrange payment of Educational Grant BA

11 Update from DCC

- The next meeting is tomorrow (30 September)
- 20mph speed limit through the village to be checked by the council using pressure strips on the road. THC looking for support paying for the radar LED speed signs, which was discussed in the last DCT meeting. KL in email with John Laing, Mackenzie Sutherland and others about this.
- Local ranger attending DCC meeting tomorrow.

Actions:

12 AOB

- MM helping with the Parent Council Halloween party for primary aged children, requested a small budget of £150 to cover the hall fees and some refreshments, which was agreed
- MM has arranged a temporary alcohol licence for the DCC dance on 29 November and will arrange an insurance policy for that date as well.

Actions:

Date of Next meeting: Tuesday 11 November 2025

Meeting closed at 8.30pm