

The Dornoch Area Community Interest Company (DACIC)

Minute of Annual General Meeting Held on Thursday 15th December 2022, 7pm

in person, at The Dornoch Hub

PRESENT: Attending the AGM (26), In Person 18/ Proxy 8

- **IN PERSON:** Joan Bishop (**JB**), Gordon Sutherland (**GS**), Jim McGillivray (**JMcG**), Paddy Murray (**PM**), Shona MacDougall (**SMacD**), Luke Watson (**LW**), Glen McGill (**GM**), Hilary Sutherland, Anne Coombs, Mary & Fergus Macleod, Donald Munro, Kate Robinson, Shona & John Padbury, Judi & William Sutherland, Jerry Bishop
- **Staff:** Paula White
- **BY PROXY:** Fiona Macdonald, Alison MacWilliam, Annie Macdonald, Dee & Nigel Hart, Lyn Gordon, Lisa Dickenson, Stuart Gardiner

APOLOGIES: Neil Hampton (**NH**), Joyce Everitt, Rose Matheson, Rosie & Mike Burgess, Betty Rutherford

1.	Welcome & Apologies	Joan Bishop (JB), Chair warmly welcomed all present.
2.	Previous Minutes	The Minute of the AGM of Thursday 9 th December 2021 was adopted.
3.	Matters Arising	None
4.	Chairperson's Report, Financial Year 2021/22 and progress to date in 22/23	<p>Visit Dornoch 2021-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Season opened in April and was very busy– Visit Dornoch Website was revamped– Discover Dornoch App was rewritten– Visitor Centre moved to the Hub– £18k Visit Scotland marketing aimed at staycation October-March, using influencers – 1.2 million video views– Restrictions introduced again December-February <p>Events 2021-22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Summer markets & Christmas Community Market were held– Festival Week(ends) but no Games Day or Sutherland Show– Whisky Festival – no grand tasting, some Zoom events– Street Party was cancelled– Fibre Fest returned in March 22 <p>Dornoch Hub, JB Passed to Paula White for Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Gym opened in May 21– All tenants in by August 21– Four-bedroom hostel full– Funders & community opening events September 21

- Lesley Strang returned to Events Management
- Paula White became Hub Manager in November 21
- 8 craft workshops & 11 youth club sessions to March 22
- (COVID cancellations December & January)

Dornoch South, Project Curlew – Phase 1 Car & Coach Park JB Passed to Gordon Sutherland for Presentation

- Funding package secured but with own funds and HOIL £65k loan (only £25k now required)
- WM Donald was appointed contractor
- Vehicle Park is Pay & Display run by THC
- Four destination electric vehicle chargers
- Space for six coaches
- Motorhome parking (not overnight)
- Work started January 22

Funded staff posts 2021-22

Catherine Moodie was appointed as Community Development Manager – Fundraising at 0.6 FTE in Jan 2019. She left in November 2021 having helped to securing £1.65m.

Lesley Strang was appointed as Assets Manager in Feb 21 and took the Hub from handover to full occupancy, leaving in November 21.

Paula White was appointed in November 21 and the balance of funding covered costs until March 22. Since then the Hub income has covered her salary.

RESULTS 2022-23, SO FAR

• Project Curlew – Phase 1

- Car & Coach Park opened in June
- Additional advanced signage added July
- But lack of ‘BUS STOP’ wording in the Square meant enforcement not possible (in place now)
- Four destination electric vehicle chargers still outstanding (THC) due for completion this month
- £2,200 income June – October
- Christmas Market held

• Project Curlew – Phase 2

- MUGA and Synthetic Ice Rink
- £50k from sport Scotland
- £50k from Pot 170 (Developer Contributions)
- £50k application to Common Good Fund
- £65k application to Community Regeneration Fund
- MUGA only in first instance (funding restrictions)
- Community Survey demonstrated support

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dornoch South & Dornoch Distillery explained by Gordon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plans for relocation to Dornoch South – Distillery Visitor Centre in Gasworks building – Consultation held in Hub & on-line – 8 full time, all year round, good quality jobs – Footpaths retained & enhanced – Community Cask £20k per annum (after year 5) – Attract visitors all year round (car park) – Planning application in January • Visit Dornoch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – First full season post pandemic – Golf course full – but mainly day visitors – Some accommodation empty in August – Short Term Let licencing regulations introduced – Return of all events – Games & Show – Very successful Dornoch Whisky Festival – Hogmanay Street Party returns! • Dornoch Hub <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 3 changes of tenants – Four-bedroom hostel has been full – Dawn Noble appointed in April Visitor Services & cleaner – Paula White appointed BID Coordinator November – Dawn then took on Activity Co-Ordinator role – 22 craft, 19 cookery & 44 youth club sessions – Community transport funding still being pursued – SURF award finalists • Dornoch BID <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Steering Group formed in May – Neil Hampton chair – Funding applications completed – Paula White appointed BID Coordinator November (0.6 FTE) – Business consultation starts in January – Webpage established Plans for 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – PV on Hub roof to reduce energy costs – Community Transport introduced (if funding secured) – MUGA build (if funding secured) – Dornoch Distillery lease in place (if planning secured) – BID Ballot (if successful new BID company) – New chair(s) – Joan Bishop retiring 12/23 – Partnership Plans for community building on Dornoch South (DADCA)
5 .	Financial Report, 2021/22	The annual accounts show a profit of £7827.

6.	Election of Directors	Gordon Sutherland is retiring from the board and was thanked by JB for all his work over the years. In particular he has led the negotiations with Police Scotland, Aberdeen & Northern Marts and Dornoch Distillery. All current directors introduced themselves to the meeting. Election of directors. One third of the directors retire by rotation being, Gordon Sutherland, Neil Hampton and Shona MacDougall. Gordon is standing down but Neil and Shona offer themselves for re-election. There are five other directors who remain on the board: Joan Bishop, Jim McGillivray, Angus Patrick Murray, Luke Watson and Glen McGill. No Nominations have been received for the four vacancies. Directors will appoint office bearers at their next meeting. However, as Gordon Sutherland is also Company Secretary JB proposed to appoint Paula White in his place. Paula accepted. JB thanked directors and staff members for their work during the year.
7.	Approval of Accounts	The Accounts were approved unanimously
8.	Reappointment of the Company's Accountants	The membership gave approval for the reappointment of MacKay and Co to prepare the 2022/23 accounts
9.	Authorisation of the Directors to set the remuneration of the accountants	The membership gave approval for Directors to set the remuneration of MacKay and Co to prepare the 2022/23 accounts.
10.	Any Other Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food larder. Question from Judi Sutherland. The 'foodbank' from COVID has developed into zero waste food larder. It is open Tuesday & Thursday 10-12. Better promotion is required, but this is run by the Dornoch Firth Group who lease the 'Hut' from DACIC. 2. Succession planning, question for William Sutherland, can we appoint directors during the year. Yes, we can co-opt at any time and most of our directors are recruited that way, coming to a number of meetings before being appointed.