

Minute of the meeting of **DACIC** board 16th June 2022

Present: Joan Bishop **JB** (Chair), Jim McGillivray **JM**, Paddy Murray **PM**, Luke Watson **LW**, Neil Hampton **NH**

In attendance: Paula White **PW**, Tessa Palmer **TP**

Apologies: Shona MacDougall **SM**, Gordon Sutherland **GS**, Glen McGill **GM**

1	Minutes of meeting of 26th May 2022	The minutes were proposed by JM and agreed by the Chair JB as no other director present had attended the last meeting
2	Matters Arising not covered elsewhere	<p>a. Discussion of Planning Application 22/01216/FUL Archery field at Lonemore. Amy Britton who owns Wester Lonemore self-catering joined by zoom to explain her objections to the archery field. The proposal includes development on either side of her property. The car park to the west would mean people walking in front of her property along the single track road to access the main entrance. She feels this proposal would badly affect her business as guests come for a quiet country holiday. She had not been contacted by Kurt & Elizabeth Connell to discuss their plans. She has submitted a detailed objection. It was agreed that the documents submitted did not give a clear indication of the layout and activities and it was not possible to determine what would be visible from the road for example. JB suggested that it would be helpful if dialogue could be established between the two parties.</p> <p>b. Kurt Connell came at 8.30pm to talk about his plans. The car park at the west end may not be necessary as Kurt is intending to transport his guests with only one family group at a time. The main activity is at the east entrance with the area nearest Wester Lonemore to be covered in trees and only used occasionally by more experienced archers. Kurt took on board that more detailed drawings and a design/business statement to explain the intended use in each area would enable an informed opinion to be given. He agreed to contact Amy Britton.</p> <p>c. Dornoch Airfield. Following on Highland Council's recent meeting of interested parties Hugh Urquhart put forward a proposal to work with a community group to take over the airfield. The DACIC board has no relevant experience and is unsure what the benefit would be of community ownership. It was decided to invite Hugh to our next meeting (JB action point)</p>

		d. New personal members: The application from Phil & Anne French St Ninian's, Evelix Road was approved.
3	Dornoch BID	a. Steering Group meeting 31 st May – minutes and adopted constitution have been circulated. There are 13 members representing a good variety of businesses. First task will be to appoint a BID coordinator. b. Project Plan - tbc
4	Dornoch Hub	a. Manager's report for June was noted b. Youth Club now fully booked, Coding Club will start in new term, Cookery Club running over the summer and bid in for summer youth club including lunch c. Tenancy update. Heaven Bikes may give up G9 & G10. One vacant room in the hostel. d. Retention update, still waiting to get heating fixed and keys to door before retention gets paid. e. Community transport – meeting with THC now scheduled
	Project Curlew	a. Bills from WM Donald (final), THC Pay & Display and first landscape Lawn Ranger. Grant claims processed, but income awaited before settling b. The car park opened on 9 th June and was well used for the free church event on 11 th June. We are awaiting change of text in yellow boxes in the Square to say BUS STOP. It will then be illegal for coaches to park there, and THC can issue immediate fines. In the meantime, persuasion is required, and JB spent a morning engaging with drivers with mixed reception – although the majority were supportive. THC Traffic Control Team have also been on site. There was a query about Motorhomes parking overnight outside the Jail. As this area is an unregulated area, it cannot be stopped. However, if car only spaces are marked out then it is illegal for a larger vehicle to park and fines can be issued. Double yellow lines in Shore Road are also awaited. c. Solicitor still working on lease for EV land- now waiting to get signed. Standard securities & deed of conditions in progress. d. Landscaping items –bins in place awaiting planters due in August. Lawn Ranger is waiting on a machine to remove overhanging branches around boundary with J & S Gunn. e. Information board in place f. Car park 'soft' opening 9th June. Plan for official opening awaiting EV chargers g. MUGA funding –RCGF bid – EOI submitted h. Potential partnership update. Dornoch Distillery has bought the old gas works building so is now our neighbour. They are still planning to start

		<p>the community consultation soon on their plans to lease some of Dornoch South from us. To satisfy the Scottish Land Fund, we need to prove the community will support their plans as an alternative to the driving range in our submitted business plan.</p>
6	Visit Dornoch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Visitor Centre – 240 visitors in May b. Royal Dornoch Mix & Match campaign complete – update from Lucy Williams c. New maps in circulation d. WorldHost – no update, NH wonders if being a member makes a difference, thinks we can do this ourselves by organising meetings between businesses. JB will request final feedback from businesses. e. Closure of the Courtroom due to staffing issues. PM has talked to Todd Warnock, who is looking to rent the Courtroom out on a long-term lease. PM will now return to Todd to see if we can help to identify interested parties. f. Cathedral open daily from 13 June, also Welcome Table Mon-Fr 10-3
7	Succession Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Upgrade to Quick Books now completed b. PW access to view bank statements – outstanding JB c. 12-month transition plan to handover main functions JB to PW - outstanding d. Identify new directors (GM in place) e. New chair at AGM at the latest to allow smooth transition at the latest to allow smooth transition
8	2022 Plan June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 19 cruise liner days b. Tractor Run 16th, Sutherland Show 23rd c. Identify new income streams for the Hub d. Markets 13 & 27 June e. BID – Appoint Project Co-Ordinator - outstanding f. Plan workshop funding for 2023 - outstanding g. Distillery Community Consultation - outstanding h. Community Transport - outstanding
9	Community Group Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Dornoch Community Council</u> Jubilee Party seemed to go well and be well received. Queen’s canopy free trees organised. New Christmas lights purchased. b. <u>DADCA</u> Community Markets restarted for another season. Flowers and Fairs up and running for another season. Social Club now back to pre-pandemic booking levels. Addressing various planning objections to the 6 new plots at Elizabeth Crescent which are intended to raise money for a new Community Centre. c. <u>Embo Trust</u> The current state of play is that the <u>Community Shop</u> has closed due to intense competition

		<p>from Tesco, Asda and Morrison's vans, and the café is ticking over comfortably.</p> <p>d. <u>UHI</u> Merger proposal making progress – if draft agreed by the three colleges, then this will go to public consultation on 8th August.</p> <p>e. <u>Historylinks</u> footfall down 25per cent on 2019, but income maintained due to higher spend.</p> <p>f. <u>RDGC</u> The golf club is running at full capacity every day and it is good to get back to the normal business that we are used to dealing with. The courses are in very good condition, and we are getting compliments every day. Apart from F&B every department has a full complement of staff. In F&B we are two chefs and two front of house short and continue to advertise for these positions. We are still able to offer a 7-day F&B service although the operating hours are not as long as we would like at this time of year. The Senior Amateur Championships start in just over a fortnight and that brings 288 golfers as well as friends, family and a large number of officials and volunteers. It will be a great event but will be a logistical challenge in many ways, but we feel that we have the plans in place to cope. It has just been announced that we will be hosting another major R&A event at the end of June next year which we are all delighted about.</p>
10	Financial Statements	<p>a. May Accounts with new Class Analysis. Directors pleased with new layout. Simple balance sheet next target.</p> <p>b. Accounts to 31 March 22 approved.</p>
11	AOCB	<p>a. SURF awards for community regeneration projects – recommended by HIE that we should apply, and they would provide a scribe – JB to progress</p> <p>b. Highland Patisserie 'pop-up' shop on Dornoch South (have street trader's licence – e.g. Sundays when cafes are closed). Agreed to trial £10 + VAT for four-hour session similar to market day,</p> <p>c. Common Good Consultation 8 Well Street, agreed to support. JB to action.</p>
12	DONM	Thursday July 21st at 7pm in the Hub PW on annual leave, GS taking minutes.