

Minute of the meeting of DACIC board 17th November 2022

Present: Joan Bishop **JB** (Chair), Neil Hampton **NH**, Glen McGill **GM**, Luke Watson **LW**, Jim McGillivray **JM**, Gordon Sutherland **GS**, Shona MacDougall **SM**

In attendance: Paula White **PW**

Guests: Nicola Drummond Ness Planning

Apologies: Tessa Palmer is on maternity leave, Paddy Murray **PM**

1	Presentation by Communities for Coul – Gordon Sutherland & Nicola Drummond	All areas have been reduced, to keep the footprint down. Very limited intervention. The golf course is created around the area available, so the need to develop the ground is a lot less than in the former plans. A tenth of the water will be needed, and the golf course will have both the money and staff to keep the dunes in good state. This could be a blueprint for golf courses in the future. A planning application will be submitted later this month. The board is pleased to see that attention has been given to addressing the environmental concerns identified in the previous application. A formal response will be given once the planning application is lodged.
2	Minutes of meeting of 27 th October 2022	The minutes were proposed by NH and seconded by GM
3	Matters Arising not covered elsewhere	None
4	New business group members	a. The Meadows & 5 Sorley Road – both self-catering (but trading prior to 1/10/22)
5	Dornoch BID	a. Steering Group meeting - NH agreed to circulate minutes b. Bid Co-Ordinator – Press Release due in the Northern Times this week, with follow up in Business Group email JB c. Bid Co-Ordinator - Project Plan – PW will be presenting at next Steering Group meeting
6	Dornoch Hub	a. Manager's report noted b. National Lottery update – agreed support for hostel loft insulation now completed (energy improvement) c. Heating update, new system will be installed on the 7 th of December d. Community transport update – EOI Regeneration Fund accepted – full bid by 25 November PW e. Tree surgery – initial Bat Survey rescheduled waiting on new date f. Solar PV update – JB to obtain second quote and check if EST 0% loan is available
7	Project Curlew	a. Income net of VAT & card handling to end October £2280 – billed & received

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. EVs – connections are working, waiting on meters to be put in. c. Solicitor. Standard Security ready to sign d. Full £65k of loan will be paid to us. We return what we don't need, and repayment schedule adjusted accordingly GM will look at options for the loan amount not immediately required to be invested e. Landscaping items outstanding (wrong time of year) f. Maintenance of SUDs basin & drainage system –LW has approached a local company awaiting response g. MUGA funding –160 responses from survey (see report). Updated quotes show only £2.7k increase. DOE Sports (working at Dornoch Campus) to visit site. DACC has supported £50k application to Common Good Fund. h. Dornoch Distillery. Formal request to lease 'subject to planning' awaited to submit to SLF, meeting with DD 2/12/22. i. Coach Friendly Town application – one eatery & two shops so far replied re driver refreshments.
8	Visit Dornoch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Short Term Lets Licencing – application opened 1/10/22. Only one business has got through to the stage of displaying the neighbourhood notification Three ex self-catering properties now for sale. b. Further email sent out with offer from Ruth Brown for floorplans, site plans, legionella RA etc. c. Further reminder on New Year Leaflet sent out d. Dawn Noble is resizing photos from Lloyd & Fifi suitable for the website e. Dawn now working as Activity Co-Ordinator for workshops but door open for visitors. f. NH reported that the Whisky Festival had been a great success – largest grand tasting yet! g. Visitor Centre – 134 visits in October h. NH reported plans well in hand for Hogmanay Street party. Fireworks and band are sorted, Highland Larder for food. Lou Rollason is co-ordinating event.
9	Succession Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Neil Hampton's application as extra signatory in progress b. 12-month transition plan to handover main functions JB to PW – VAT return was done in tandem this month c. Meet the Clubs 18th November 5-7 in Social Club. 36 organisations signed up. Leaflet drop – mixture of volunteers and Dornoch Academy. DACIC & Hub leaflets planned for our tables d. LW and GM considering joint Vice Chair role to allow smooth transition in Dec 2023 when JB steps down.

		e. AGM Thursday 15th December – Dinner for the board at the Eagle Hotel afterwards
10	2022 Plan Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identify new income streams for the Hub - outstanding b. Plan workshop funding for 2023 - outstanding c. Community Transport – outstanding d. New Year leaflet – information requested – working with Lou Rollason to produce. e. Update to new Real Living Wage £10.90ph will apply from 1st April. In November all staff will get £100 as a ‘one off’ cost of living payment. f. Dornoch 2023 leaflet. Agreed not to proceed, maybe QR code to information on the website instead.
11	Community Group Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>Dornoch Community Council</u> Planning issues on infill housing on Croft Pedde Court. Presentation from Communities for Coul. b. <u>DADCA</u> 4 new directors recruited. Of 5 ‘low cost’ one is progressing to sale. Planning permission has gone in for the 6 market value plots. c. <u>Embo Trust</u> The loss of the café means rates will be due. Transfer of café lease to Embo Trust trading being investigated. d. <u>UHI</u> merger is in with Scottish government. e. <u>Historylinks</u> closed f. <u>RDGC</u> Access road is about done. MUGA at the school is well underway. Bookings are very strong for next year.
11	Financial Statements	a. October Accounts notes
12	AOCB	The news that ‘Greens at the Courthouse’ will open in February following staff training in January was welcomed by the board.
13	DONM	a. The board will gather for dinner on Thursday December 15th in the Eagle Hotel - following AGM in the Hub. This will be GS ’s last meeting. Next board meeting 19 th January 2023.