

Minute of the meeting of DACIC board 19th January 2023

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

In attendance: Paula White **PW**

Apologies: Tessa Palmer is on maternity leave, Neil Hampton **NH**, Glen McGill **GM**, Shona MacDougall **SM**

1	Minutes of meeting of 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	The minutes were proposed by <b>LW</b> and seconded by <b>JM</b>
2	Minutes of AGM 15th December 2022	The minutes were noted
3	Matters Arising not covered elsewhere	<b>PW</b> registered as company Secretary and <b>GS</b> removed following his resignation at the AGM.
4	Appointment of Office Bearers:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair <b>JB</b></li> <li>• Vice chair <b>LW</b> and <b>GM</b></li> <li>• Treasurer <b>PM</b></li> </ul>
5	New personal members	Adele Gallagher IV25 3NH, Nan Gibb IV25 3PD, Rosie & Mike Burgess IV25 3HY, Lucy Moir IV25 3QW, Teresa Hadley IV25 3NS
6	Dornoch BID	<p>a. Steering Group meeting update <b>PM</b> worries noted that it will be difficult to keep businesses engaged with a longer lead time now ballot date moved to November (to align with THC meetings). <b>PW</b> confident she can keep them interested.</p> <p>b. BID Co-Ordinator update – three open sessions arranged &amp; next steps identified <b>PW</b></p>
7	Dornoch Hub	<p>a. Manager's report noted</p> <p>b. National Lottery update – funding will last to end March.</p> <p>c. Heating update – some thermostats exchanged; others awaited.</p> <p>d. Community transport update – bid outcome 24 January.</p> <p>e. Tree surgery –Bat Survey postponed until better weather.</p> <p>f. Solar PV update – visit from 2nd supplier for quote this week. EST report confirms savings &amp; eligibility for 0% loan.</p> <p>g. Hostel 2023 bookings 3 rooms booked, 1 available.</p>
8	Project Curlew	a. EVs –final commissioning awaited – bill received. THC will run under the lease arrangement.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Solicitor. Standard Security completed &amp; final bill received.</li> <li>c. Full £65k of loan received. No repayments until February. Return of £40k proposed before then. Review in light of grant outcomes next week. <b>PM</b> asked <b>JB</b> to check if funds returned were accessible again either by facility charge or full application.</li> <li>d. All outstanding invoices needed by 23 Jan for last claim RTIF. Retention invoice received. Tarring at sub-station, clearing overgrowth on boundary and filling planters awaited.</li> <li>e. Maintenance of SUDs basin – Drainage contractor appointed – Homeland Services Ltd. Planning Officer to be advised.</li> <li>f. MUGA funding – Regeneration Fund response – take phased approach – postpone skating – outcome 24 January. Dornoch Common Good application outcome also 24 January</li> <li>g. MUGA sub-committee – four interested of whom Lucy Moir has joined as a DACIC member.</li> <li>h. Dornoch Distillery. Formal request to lease ‘subject to planning’ was submitted to SLF. Planning application submitted. Call with SLF on Monday</li> <li>i. Coach Friendly Town application – free refreshments agreed. Now want meals! But will try to get agreement on refreshments only to get us started.</li> <li>j. Board thoughts on Summer House at the car park e.g. <a href="https://www.gardenbuildingsdirect.co.uk/log-cabins/tianna/30294">https://www.gardenbuildingsdirect.co.uk/log-cabins/tianna/30294</a> as a base for Ambassadors to welcome coaches (6 weeks lead time). All agree this looks like a good idea <b>LW</b> concerned that full height glass doors are vulnerable on the exposed site. <b>JB</b> to research again, email to board and then order. This to come of Visitor Centre reserve fund.</li> </ul>
9	Visit Dornoch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Short Term Lets Licencing – 6-month extension to deadline to 30 September. No licences issued yet. All properties will be visited by Licensing Standards Officer.</li> <li>b. Successful Street Party but lower numbers and income. Royal Golf Hotel &amp; Castle Hotel full.</li> <li>c. ESRA ran Loony Dook 150 swimmers £200 raised.</li> <li>d. Shortbread Showdown campaign with Visit Dornoch bake off in UHI Burghfield 27 February</li> </ul>
10	Succession Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Neil Hampton’s application successful as additional signatory, but test of online payments required.</li> <li>b. Meet the Clubs 18th November in Social Club successful. Well attended despite poor weather.</li> </ul>

		<p>4 new members for DACIC above, two of whom interested in being directors later in the year.</p> <p>c. Transition plan for new vice chairs to take over at 2023 AGM – sharing the load - specific roles for all directors to oversee areas of the business (e.g. policies, staff, building, community). Glen back from holiday at the weekend, so first meeting can be planned from the end of next week. Luke would like to take on staffing and HR. All agree splitting jobs sounds like a good idea.</p>
11	2023 Plan January/February	<p>a. Apply for workshop funding for 2023</p> <p>b. Leaflet drop</p> <p>c. Community Transport – progress or abandon</p> <p>d. Promote Conference / Training Room</p> <p>e. Promote vacant office</p> <p>f. Business Group Annual Data request</p> <p>g. Financial Plan for 2023-24</p> <p>h. Update event signs- Acorn Signs <b>LW</b></p>
12	Community Group Updates	<p>a. <u>Dornoch Community Council</u></p> <p><b>Royal Dornoch Golf Club has signed the new lease</b> of common good land it occupies. This will bring in £25,000 per year to the common good fund.</p> <p><b>Seagull management project</b> planned. A contractor will be round next week to check which nests need to be done urgently. Applying to common good for funding.</p> <p><b>Place plan;</b> Pulls different strands together including BID, jobs and economy, renewable energy, Nigg free port and energy hub employment opportunities, net zero, sustainable tourism, housing, community social &amp; recreational facilities,. Scottish Government initiative, that may be linked to future funding streams. But no funding to create the plan! <b>JB</b> queried whether light industrial units included (raised at earlier HIE Focus Group meetings)</p> <p><b>Traffic regulations consultation document</b> with new no parking or restricted parking areas (draft).</p> <p>b. <u>DADCA</u> 4 new directors, warm spaces working well, Cinema Club being resurrected. New community centre still longer term plan. Fibrefest 11 &amp; 12 March in Community Centre (Social Club), West Church</p>

		<p>Hall and the Hub, event planned to be even bigger than previous years.</p> <p>c. <u>Embo Trust</u> Stable and positive, warm hub operating weekly.</p> <p>d. <u>UHI</u> amalgamation continuing, looking at what partners have to offer and to share.</p> <p>e. <u>Historylinks</u> no news</p> <p>f. <u>RDGC</u> Busy season in prospect, recruitment has gone well in recent times so more like a full complement for this season. Work on the 8th hole is nearly complete and that is the end of any major works for the foreseeable. We are delighted with the signing of the new common good lease – thanks to all parties on both sides for an agreeable outcome. Potential for the twinning of Dornoch with Pinehurst following the successful Zoom meeting between both to celebrate the 150th birthday of Donald Ross</p>
13	Financial Statements	December Accounts noted
14	AOCB	<p>a. CAS delivery 2022 – doesn't note car park completed <b>JB</b> and <b>JM</b> to follow up</p> <p>b. Local Place Plans – see Community Council notes</p> <p>c. <a href="http://www.highland.gov.uk/stlcontrolarea">www.highland.gov.uk/stlcontrolarea</a> Consultation on proposed planning policies for Control Areas response due be 3rd Feb. This has implications in non-controlled areas too. <b>JB</b> to submit a response outlining our concerns.</p> <p>d. Lucy William's report noted</p>
13	DONM	Thursday February 16th 7pm in the Hub