



DORNOCH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES: MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Minutes of meeting of Dornoch & District Community Association (DADCA)
held at the Dornoch Community Centre (Social Club) on Monday, 8th September, at 7:30pm

MEMBERS OF THE DADCA BOARD:

Donald Goskirk – Chair – DG

Paddy Murray – Treasurer –
PM

Kim Tewnion – Secretary – KT

Bill Buchanan - BB
Bridget Goskirk - BG
Mike Grist – MG

Jerry Horack - JH
Jimmy Melville – JM
Jim McGillivray – JMc

Lucy Moir - LM
Jaen Rowland - JR

SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE	Gerald Holdsworth
BOARD	
MINUTES	Lou Rollason
VISITING	N/A

WELCOME & APOLOGIES		
1.	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
	MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING	
2.	Approval of Minutes – 11th August 2025 DG noted that LR had put the Shepards survey... *UPDATE*	
	VISITORS	
3.	Representative from: N/A	
i.		
	MATTERS ARISING (& THOSE CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MEETING, INCLUDING AOCB)	
4.		
i.	Bishopsfield Land: PM updated that there were 2 main plots and 2 affordable ones remaining. The affordable one for the RDGC should go through in the next couple of days. BG noted that the for-sale sign was missing again – PM stated he would put it up again. DG commented that there is unlikely to be another sale this year.	PM
ii.	Calendar of Events LR to hand over to BG & DG	BG & LR
5.	REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE	
i.	Available on Google Drive DADCA Policy – Data Protection DADCA Policy – Equal Opportunities DADCA Policy – Gaelic DADCA Policy – Groups – LR to ask for the groups to update if needed their policies and send through to DADCA. DADCA Policy – Mission Statement	LR
	FUNDING APPLICATIONS	
6.	Grants/Funding Opportunities: N/A Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) EOI Update: The CRF application has stalled for now as the New Community Centre is taking precedence. DG expects to hear from the CRF team this month for the next application opening in December. DG mentioned that by following through with the application now the cost savings may be minimal if the New Build plans go to plan. There may be the option to defer another three months for the applications in March. DG will remain in contact with the CFR fund team. External units for the heating: N/A Other funding: N/A	JMc
	MEMBERSHIP	
7.	Membership applications: N/A	
i.	Affiliated Group applications: N/A	

	CURRENT BUILDING	
8.	Dornoch Community Centre Update: AV Cupboard: In progress. Storage: DG reported that KM is asking when the space will be available for their own cupboard (aka, moving the blue chairs). Now that the pool table is dismantled this may be possible but JMc stated that both the academy and the college are full. The Thurso UHI have offered to take it, which if DADCA is happy with this, JMc will confirm this with them. This was approved. Disabled Parking Space: In progress. LR found that the line paint cost £29.98. This was agreed & LR will purchase. WiFi: LR awaiting call back from Highland Broadband. Vacuum Cleaner – No update. TV in Struie Room – To be installed at the end of this week on the mantle shelf. Wall plate & brackets installed already. Lawn & Grounds: Meeting set for outdoor tidy up on Saturday 20th September: 11am Survey of current building: Attached document. DG & PM were both disappointed about the valuation as it was lower than the previous than the last evaluation which was carried out 10 years ago. Originally it was £160,000 and now it is £185,000. DG has written to Shepards to ask for further details of why this may be. PM has employed Torrence to survey the building instead, although this is a residential survey rather than commercial. BB stated this could be deterioration and DG agreed and added that the fact it is not energy efficient which would cost more for a commercial build to get up to par. DG requested a Fire Assembly point sign – LR will get this. DG also mentioned the wall repair for the next-door neighbour will cost £700, so DADCA agreed to pay half. DG has purchased some new noticeboards for the hall. The cistern in the gents' toilets has mould in it due to it being concealed on the lady's side. KM thinks that it has been caused by a leak on the lady's side. The board approved KM to investigate this. New strip lightbulb for the main hall which has been requested by KM.	
	NEW BUILD: NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE	
9.	New Community Centre: PM updated on a Zoom conference call at 6pm on the 13th of October and will be an initial brief of results of the survey. The consultants DADCA are using will then be in a position to tell more and show what the story is. PM also stated that the estimate has increased to £1.7million instead of the original £1.5 million due to looking at a capacity of 180 seated. With a 180 capacity the building could host larger events but to get it back to £1.5 million this figure could be taken down to 140 or 120. The design has been agreed with a similar layout to the current building with lots of storage, a side room similar to the Struie Room and a seating area like the coffee lounge.	PM

	PM continued that the new plans are now going live and as such LR should publicise on social media and in the Northern Times. PM would like there to be a large leafletting campaign including posters and paper copies of the survey throughout the town. PM also spoke about Crowdfunding and LR confirmed that she knew about how to set up a crowdfunding campaign if one was required. PM asked the board for comments regarding the survey: DG thought this was very approachable LM commented on question 7 (about the seating capacity) that there was not much background on the question and perhaps it should be reworded – DADCA agreed and PM will do so.	
	FINANCE	
10.	Finance Update Finance Update: PM questioned LR regarding the balance of the New Build as it was lesser than expected. LR confirmed that this was likely the recent Gunn's build.	PM
	CARBOOT SALES	
11.	Update Recent carboot sale: The last carboot sale of the year.	JR & PR
	OUTDOOR COMMUNITY MARKET	
12.	Update Recent Community Markets: The last community market was cancelled due to the cutting down of trees in the Cathedral Green. One of the main stallholders is no longer attending.	PM
	BOOKINGS/EVENTS	
13.	Update on Bookings Scrabble Club Update: In progress	JM LR
	AOCB	
14.	DADCA Members Comments: BG requested a risk assessment for the storage cupboards due to there being children present in the building and chemicals being stored. DG & BG also mentioned that the Ben Bhraggie room has been used as a breakout room, which is not allowed. LR will update the booking confirmation.	
	CLOSING	
	The meeting was closed at: 20:16.	
Date of Next Meeting will be 13th October, 2025, at 7:30 PM at the Dornoch Community Centre (Social Club)		