



DORNOCH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MINUTES MONDAY 9TH JUNE 2025

Minutes of meeting of Dornoch & District Community Association (DADCA)
held at the Dornoch Community Centre (Social Club) on Monday, 9th June, 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

MINUTES

Lou Rollason

VISITING

N/A

WELCOME & APOLOGIES		
1.	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies were received but KT was not present.	
MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING		
2.	Approval of Minutes – 12th May 2025 Proposed by: JMc and seconded by DG	
VISITORS		
3.	Representative from: N/A	
i.		
MATTERS ARISING (& THOSE CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS MEETING, INCLUDING AOCB)		
4.		
i.	Bishopsfield Land: PM is not present but DG mentioned he had spoken to him, and he was hopeful that the fourth plot would be going ahead as a sale. Plots 2 & 3 payments have already gone through. The affordable plots are still as they were.	PM
ii.	Calendar of Events LR has created an A3 version for the year. BG & DG to laminate when handed over.	BG & LR
5.	REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE	
i.	Available on Google Drive DADCA Policies 7 7. Accessibility Acceptable.	LR
FUNDING APPLICATIONS		
6.	Grants/Funding Opportunities: N/A Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) EOI Outcome: JMc was to follow up. DG was to look into the Communities and Renewables Energy Scheme (CARE) & Local Energy Scotland (LES). DG has received an email for applying for the Sutherland Fund which closes in September – DG will progress this. DG mentioned it would be wise to submit a planning application for the external units for the heating which would cost approximately £500 (JMc). The board are agreed that this should go ahead as it would likely benefit the application for funding. JMc mentioned the Scottish Major National Fund which has an expression of interest closing on Friday. JMc suspects as a national programme it would be a large sum of number but it is based on capital fund. LR to pursue. DG has communications ongoing with several other funders but a lot of them require quotes as well, at this stage, DG is just asking questions and finding out as much information as possible.	JMc
MEMBERSHIP		
7.	Membership applications: N/A	
i.	Affiliated Group applications: N/A	

	CURRENT BUILDING	
8.	Dornoch Community Centre Update: Heating/Energy: In progress above (Point 6). LR will chase up about the EDF bill which has been expected but not yet arrived. AV Cupboard: In progress. Storage: The storage room is looking wonderful and the only thing left to move is the pool table. JMc will ask if Jerry has time towards the end of the week to get it moved. DG now wants to work on the upstairs storage areas. This has given us extra storage space for users including the new Martial Arts group on a Wednesday evening. Disabled Parking Space: LR to bring in the yellow paint – In progress. WiFi: LR managed to contact PlusNet ELABORATE here. Glass Cabinets: Are used by the Community Centre and their groups. They can not be sold as they were loaned to us by St Finnbarrs who requested if we no longer need them, then we return them. In use by St Andrew's Fair, Festival Week, Art Group when they do their exhibitions, other sales of works etc. Vacuum Cleaner – Out of stock but KM is waiting for them to come back in stock. TV in Struie Room – DG will be installing a new TV in the Struie Room which has been donated kindly by the church. This will also have a sound bar for better audio.	
	NEW BUILD: NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE	
9.	New Community Centre: PM was not present but sent the following via email: "I apologise for not being able to attend the Board meeting on Monday. I am still down south for a wedding. I should like to update the Board on some better than expected progress with the New Community Centre Project as follows: • On 27th.May a meeting was held with ○ Luke and Jim from DACIC, ○ David Anderson of the Football Club, ○ Craig Philips from the Squash Club, ○ Mathew Milward from the Cricket Club (?), ○ Willie Hook and Jim (in addition to representing DACIC) as Trustees of the Meadows, ○ Jerry Horak and myself from DADCA. • The following was agreed by all participants: ○ The requirements to expand Dornoch's sports facilities are complex and need a professional feasibility study on what should be done where, including possible developments at three locations: ▪ Meadows, ▪ At or near Dornoch Academy ▪ Dornoch South ○ Dornoch's need for a New Community Centre is real but different from any of its Sports needs, with the exception of Badminton and Indoor Bowling.	PM

	○ DADCA should proceed with its New Community Centre immediately and not wait for any possible decisions on Sports facilities because: ▪ These decisions will take considerable time ▪ A new Community Centre is unlikely materially to impact adversely the options for new sports facilities. • Following from this I have discussed with both Jerry and Joan Bishop, who have the most extensive recent experience of major building projects in Dornoch, and with Jimmy MacDonald who has designed and project-managed no less than 10 New Community Centres in the Highlands, including the recent Contin Community Centre on which our initial plans have been based, and both parties advise that the next step is to commission a feasibility study which will meet four requirements: ○ Detailed initial building plans by an architect; ○ Detailed costing by a Quantity Surveyor; ○ Community Consultation by a specialist (working with DADCA); ○ A list of potential funders, and subsequent help and advice on how to approach them. I therefore propose to the Board that: • Contrary to our decision last month, DADCA does NOT delay this project, but instead immediately takes steps to arrange a feasibility study which I believe will cost between £25,000 and £50,000. • The existing New Community Centre Subcommittee of Donald, Jim and myself will review and arrange the study subject to a maximum cost of £50,000. If the cost exceeds this, then the Subcommittee will revert to the Board for further consideration before committing to it. • The cost will be met out of the New Build Funds DADCA already has. (An alternative is to seek grant finance, but this is NOT recommended by the Subcommittee because: ○ This will delay the project materially ○ To go to funders at this stage may reduce the opportunity for a larger grant in the future.)” The board are in agreement although JM pointed out that DADCA have been through all this before when the application was rejected and lost money. There was discussion about getting the building valued as a commercial property. DG had got a quote in the realm of £1500 for a standard survey and will continue to collect a few more quotes over the next couple of weeks.	
	FINANCE	
10.	Finance Update Finance Update: LR has found anomalies in the cash flow sheet and has asked Lisa Dingwall to assist when she has the time. As such the transfers have not been done yet due to the bank not reconciling yet.	PM
	CARBOOT SALES	
11.	Update Recent carboot sale: Went well, good turn out with people from all over the place. There was a little bit extra this month but it was worth the try of having the extra but JR & JM agreed that it is better to sell out than have left over.	
	OUTDOOR COMMUNITY MARKET	
12.	Update Recent Community Markets: Have been going well and PM will be back in time to help put the equipment out and down again.	PM

	BOOKINGS/EVENTS	
13.	Update on Bookings Scrabble Club Update: JM bumped into Bruce Field who wants to join the club and several others, so it has now got some traction. Website Update: LR has asked groups to update their own webpages.	JM LR
	AOCB	
14.	DADCA Members Comments: PR & JR: The sign for the Carboot Sale has gone missing.	
	CLOSING	
	The meeting was closed at: 20:07	
Date of Next Meeting will be 14th July, 2025, at 7:30 PM at the Dornoch Community Centre (Social Club)		