

DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the AGM and meeting of Dunadd Community Council held on Thursday 25th May 2023 at 19.30 in the Ford Village Hall.

Present- David Smart (DS) (Chair), Hazel Fuller (HF), Di Roberts (DR), Sue Maclean (SM), Jo Cole (JC)

In attendance: Garret Corner (GC) (representing A&B Council), Richard Moody (RM) and Tom Lister (TR) (representing Kilmartin Museum), Louise MacPhail, Sarah Lavender, Willie Beattie, William Beattie, George Stewart, Tommy Stedman, Kevin Stedman, Mrs Stedman, Tim Forrester, Sue Creech, R. Middlemis.

DS opened the meeting and proposed that due to the turnout wishing to discuss agenda item, 11.1 we would change the agenda, and do the Kilmartin Museum Planning Application first. There was unanimous agreement. DS explained that as a point of precedence, DCC objected to Macleod's quarry's planning application two years ago due to the safety issues at the junction becoming more complicated and with the houses/ expansion would cause a further risk. DS explained that at the time DCC were made aware that the car park was proposed and DCC did highlight this as a cause for concern.

DS asked TL and RM to give an update. TL and RM both declared an interest in agenda item 11.1 as they were attending the meeting representing the museum.

TL advised the planning application is now live and people can make recommendations. It has been a long process and the museum had been hoping to be at this stage a long time ago – it is quite a difficult access to the Glebe field and hasn't been straight forward. TL explained that the planning application is based on advice and plans drawn up by engineers and architects – they have consulted the various bodies within the council that look after road safety and are currently reasonable satisfied, they are led to believe the council would have rejected the plans straight away if there were issues. The museum want to take the plans to the next stage which is where we now are. A question was asked as to why it took 4 months to change this. TL advised it was for minor admissions, they had to go back through the process, tweak the drawings. TL advised the overspill car park, when the museum went out to the village before the refurbishment was one of the things they made clear - most of the village supported the redevelopment – this has always been the way. With this application there has been quite a substantial amount of opposition. Currently the museum don't think that the current car park will cope with the number of visitors – the museum is a much bigger attraction to people all over the country and expect the number of visitors to increase significantly.

DS asked who had questions – the following questions and answers were captured.

Q. You asked people 10 years ago, and majority wanted it – have you gone back out and asked the people now if they want it? A. Good question. We have not but there is not enough parking for the number of visitors.

RM advised that he has been attending DCC meetings for the last year representing Kilmartin Museum and providing updates. RM advised that for the last year there have been issues with tradesmen van parking in and around the village – the application is a strategic thing that will resolve the issues – this is the first thing that they have been able to put forward, have been listening and this will resolve the issue – this is a solution on parking that, the museum are trying to get.

Question asked about why not have a meeting with the village and find out what the people of the village want – the planning process. A. There will be an option to express your concerns at the planning meeting.

Q- Parking at the time of development, why did you remove the plans at the time? A. The plans at the time were withdrawn, there were objections from Historic Scotland. Glebe field was picked out by the community 10 years ago as the preferred place for an overspill car park.

Q. Proposal 10 years ago that there would be car parking under the banking so if you were looking out you wouldn't see the cars – in these new plans the car park is on the field and you are right on that. A. Will be in the part of the field that is the least visible but take the point. It was pointed out that the village may have said that but it was based on what was proposed at that time is very different to what is proposed now.

DS – As a family we have been involved in this, my wife was part of the team that put through the proposals. My personal view and not my convener view is that there is history and stories that need to be told. Kilmartin Museum has always had issues with parking. People are inconsiderate and will abandon cars wherever – has been all the way through, concerns about parking. Reality is that when the museum opens, people are going to come in. A solution is required.

DS stated that every resident has an opportunity to comment on the planning application until the 31st May. DCC is a statutory body and needs to make a comment. DR advised that previously as stated, DCC have remained neutral, however upon checking there have been objections made to applications on the grounds of safety. Given the information that has come up especially with some of the previous work, to be neutral wouldn't be supporting local democracy. DR proposed that DCC take a view, given the results of the petition to consider objections.

DS proposed that DCC need to be specific in terms of the vote – who is in favour and who objects. It was noted that both DS and DR objected. SM advised that the documents had been sent today and she had not had a chance to look through them thoroughly. A

conversation took place and everyone agreed that an additional meeting would take place with the DCC Councillors to advise whether they were in support, object, neutral. **HF to organise meeting and submit decision by 31st.** (*minutes of meeting at bottom of page*)

It was noted that a survey has taken place and DCC need to be fair and equitable to both sides.

TL – advised that the museum is hoping to establish a better relationship with the garage and whatever the outcome of the application will ensure the business is treated respectfully.

RM advised that the museum is at the end of the 10 year project, it has been a pretty draining exercise, trying to fulfil commitment that was wanted. The cost of the car park development was approximately £450k. There is some of that money available for the car park but it is unlikely in the future the museum will revisit parking. Glebe field was the preferred choice by the community.

RM advised this meetings update – there is a slip on the artifact install. The museum got control of the building at the end of April, into the snagging process which has stopped the artefacts install. This needs to be rescheduled causing an approximate two month delay. This is in the process of getting set up. The museum are looking for a café operator. Will employ approximately 20 people once fully opened.

DS thanked everyone for their input and advised would now open the AGM and CC meeting.

1. Apologies

Jim Malcolm

2. Declaration of Interest

None for this part of the meeting.

3. Minutes of Previous AGM

DS proposed minutes as accurate and DR seconded

4. Co-option

Co-option forms received from Willie Beattie and George Stewart, proposed by DR. These were circulated prior to meeting. DS seconded the proposal and all other CC's voted in favour. DS welcomed Willie and George to DCC. Co-option formed received at the meeting which will be discussed at next meeting.

5. Convener's Annual Report

DS read through the report and thanked everyone for their support over the last few years.

6. Annual Statement of Accounts and Report -

DR advised the annual statement of accounts has been distributed and need these approved at the meeting. Report will follow. DR read through the statement of accounts. DS asked if there were any question re the accounts, none – JC proposed the accounts and SM seconded.

7. Election of Office Bearers (8.05 -8.15)

- Convener – DS advised that this is his last post as convener and advised whoever is taking over has a great team behind them. DS stepped down and asked JC to conduct a vote for convener. JC asked if anyone would like to become convener. George Stewart advised will take the Convener role. SG proposed and JC seconded. DS will remain a Community Councillor. DS asked GS if he would like him to continue the meeting – GS agreed.
- Vice Convener – JC advised will continue to be vice-convener and stressed does not want to automatically become convener. DS proposed and DR seconded
- Treasurer – DR advised would remain as treasurer. DS proposed and SM seconded
- Secretary – HF agreed to continue with her honorarium role

8. Dates of Future Meetings

The Glassary, Kilmartin and Ford Parish Church, Barrmor View, Kilmartin is booked every Thursday night. GC advised he has other CC's to meet on other days. **It was agreed that dates would be agreed at the ad-hoc meeting.**

AGM Close – meeting Commence

9. Matters arising from the minutes

9.1 Traffic Problems

DS advised that the Advertiser ran an article during April on the speeding issues. HF has asked for an update since the last meeting and asked that someone attends the meeting in July. Next steps – **HF to send GC email trail and GC will escalate.**

10. Reports:

10.1 Police Report

DS advised **HF will add this to the website.**

10.2 Planning Report- Kilmartin Quarry extension

Carried forward to next meeting

11. Updates:

11.1 Kilmartin Museum (inc planning application)

Discussed at start of meeting

11.2 Dunadd Community Enterprise

DS advised that he has taken over as chair for DCE and is in the process of updating the community plan and looking at funding opportunities for a development worker.

11.3 Windfarm Community Benefit/ Shared Ownership

DS advised there was a meeting held last week, DCC are awaiting an update from Ford Village Hall Committee regarding next steps. Further updates to follow once meeting takes place.

12. Correspondence: (8.55-9.05)

12.1 C38 Update

HF advised that the Council are happy to install the horse signs but DCC own them. A discussion took place and it was agreed that DCC will do this. **HF to contact council to arrange.** TF gave update that he had been liaising with the council regarding C38 and had made progression last year. This year there has been pot hole repair in January and over the last few days. TF advised the road from the South end of Loch Leathan to Glenburn was extremely bad and from Glenburn to the Ford road end – agricultural. The work needs to be done. Argyll and Bute are advising that currently unable to due to budgets. It was noted the road is in serious need of repair and if not repaired it will need rebuilt. The C38 is used by emergency vehicles and diverted traffic when the A816 is closed.

GC to contact council to see what can be done.

12.2 Funding Requests – none

12.3 Cnoc na h-Eilde consultation responses

No new ones received. Agreement that **DCC will submit the previous concerns.**

13. Public questions

None

14. AOCB

SM advised looking for someone from Dunadd to join the A'Chruach Community Benefit Panel

15. Date of Next Meeting

To be discussed at adhoc meeting

Meeting 29th May 2023.

7.00pm via zoom

Present – David Smart (chairing meeting), Diane Roberts (DR), George Stewart (GS), Willie Beattie (WB), Jo Cole (JC,) Sue Maclean (dialled in via HF), Hazel Fuller (HF)

DS opened the meeting and thanked everyone for joining. DS explained the meeting is a follow on from last week, so that all Community Councillors could look over the information provided by WB regarding the planning application. DS advised that DCC need to make a position whether we support are neutral or object to the development of glebe field car park.

A discussion took place and all members of the call (apart from HF who is not allowed to vote) objected to the planning application on the following grounds-

1. Road safety – DCC has raised concerns about speeding traffic and road safety for a number of years. There is no footpath on the A816 north of the garage.
2. Multiple junction – DCC has already raised concerns about quarry traffic entering and exiting the quarry road and A816. To add additional traffic to this already narrow road and junction would be dangerous.
3. Coming from the north pedestrians and cyclist will have to navigate 3 junctions which are very close together. A number of foreign visitors stay at the Old Manse B&B who walk up to the village. Road safety awareness is already an issue.
4. There is very limited verge for any new signage warning road users of the complexity of the junctions.
5. Concerns about sight lines when entering and exiting the garage and quarry road.
6. Interruption of core path across the Glebe Field. Cyclists will be forced to enter the car park and cross the traffic to exit onto A816.
7. Pedestrians entering from the north and those with limited mobility will enter through the car park access road and there is no footpath, the proposed steps will not be suitable for all. Concerned about drivers trying to enter the car park being able to see them.
8. From turn out at our last two community council meetings, there were strong objections to the planning application.
9. DCC acknowledge that there needs to be a wider car parking solution – however this should be found elsewhere and not on the site of the Glebe Field.
10. A petition opposing the car park presented to residents in Kilmartin found that, out of 77 in total people of voting age within the village boundary, 66 people

were happy to sign the petition, 10 people were unavailable or holidays lets. There was only 1 resident supportive of the development.

11. The museum's own mission statement advises that "*Kilmartin Museum inspires and educates people by **interpreting, explaining, and conserving the internationally important archaeological landscape, artefacts and natural heritage of Kilmartin Glen.***" DCC feel that using the Glebe field to create the additional parking – takes away from the landscape.
12. The purpose of the museum is to protect the historic environment. Adding a car park in the Glebe field goes against this.

HF will submit the objection to the Council along with the comments from the previous two meetings.

DS thanked everyone and handed the meeting over to George Stewart as the new chair of DCC (DS dialled out.)

HF explained that at the last meeting there was a reference made that DCC remain neutral for planning applications. HF advised that the neutral stance was to apply for windfarm planning applications only and that DCC have over the last year – objected to planning applications. HF apologised for any confusion caused.

A discussion took place around date of next meetings – HF agreed to speak with Garret and ascertain what dates they can do. HF will send an email to all Community Councillors over the next week to agree going forward, dates and venues for future meetings.

DR advised that the domain needs renewing for the website – everyone on the call agreed that these could be paid from the DCC accounts. **DR to organise.**

A micro-grant request has come in for the zoom licence but this will be discussed at the next meeting.

GS thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting ended 7.30pm.