

Dunadd Community Council

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30th May 2025 at 7.30pm in Dalriada Mid Argyll Parish Church, Kilmartin.

Present: George Stewart (GS) Convener, Jo Cole (JC) Vice Convener, Di Roberts (DR) Treasurer, Willie Beattie, (WB), Jim Malcolm (JM), Sue MacLean, Steve Walker (SW).

In attendance: David Bracken (DB), Grace MacLeod (GM) Kilmartin Museum, John Raven (JR) Kilmartin Museum.

1. Apologies: Dougie Philand (DP) Argyll and Bute Councillor.
2. Declarations of interest: None for the AGM.
3. Minutes of previous AGM: Agreed as correct. Proposed JM, seconded JC.
4. Co-option: There are 2 vacancies, GS asked if anyone present wanted to be co-opted. No one at the meeting wanted to be co-opted.
5. Convener's report: GS summarised the main activities of the Community Council. See Annex 1
6. Annual statement of accounts and Treasurer's report: DR. The verified Income and Expenditure Statement had been circulated to Community Councillors prior to the meeting. DR summarised the financial activities of the Community Council. See Annex 2 and 3. Community. A gift up to the value of £40 was approved for Aileen Gillies who had verified the accounts. Acceptance was proposed JM, seconded SM.
7. Election of office bearers: GS stood down as Convener. As no one else expressed an interest, GS agreed to serve as Convener. Proposed JM, seconded SW.
JC agreed to continue as Vice Convener. Proposed WB, seconded DR.
DR agreed to continue as Treasurer for one last year. Proposed JC, seconded SW.
SM agreed to continue as DCC representative on the A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund awards panel.
SW agreed to take on the roll as Secretary with DR taking minutes at the meetings. All expressed their thanks to Hazel Fuller for hard work over the recent times.
All Community Councillors agreed to continue.
8. Dates of future meetings: After some discussion it was agreed to move the meetings to the third Thursday of the month, with meetings alternating between Kilmartin Museum and Ford Village Hall. Venues as follows subject to availability.

17 th July 2025	Ford Village Hall
18 th September 2025	Kilmartin Museum
20 th November 2025	Ford Village Hall
15 th January 2026	Kilmartin Museum
19 th March 2026	Ford Village Hall
21 st May 2026	Kilmartin Museum

DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL CONVENER'S REPORT 2025

I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to my fellow Community Councillors for their commitment and dedication to Dunadd Community Council during 2024/2025. This has been a challenging year in some ways; for example, our November meeting was not quorate and caused complications as a result. Sadly, some longstanding issues raised continue unresolved for another year. This is not a problem confined to Argyll & Bute, as most Councils are struggling with budgetary concerns. However,...

VISITOR LEVY This is without doubt the most contentious issue of the last 12 plus months. The proposal to charge visitors a %age fee for accommodation within the Council area must seem to be a great way to add income to Council coffers, but delving into the real-world practicalities raises significant problems, explained to us in detail by Pete Creech at our January meeting. Conversations with some accommodation providers revealed anger – even fury, believing that the Levy could potentially damage business, particularly for smaller businesses, which could easily mean closure for many, with a knock-on effect to ancillary businesses, already experiencing difficulties in a tough market. There is no need to go into further detail here. The online survey – heavily weighted towards the Council's preferred option – has now closed and we await a decision in due course.

ROAD SAFETY IN MID ARGYLL This issue has been dragging on for decades (I am told). Ford and Kilmartin are particularly concerned with several issues not addressed and deteriorating by the month, including: • Poor and inadequate signage. Sometimes none where needed. Sometimes badly placed or hidden behind plant/tree growth. • Road surfaces allowed to deteriorate. • White lining on roads obscured, worn or non-existent. • Speeding traffic through villages, despite blind corners. • Traffic noise – particularly from motorcycles – is increasing. The downward slope between Kilmartin Museum to Kilmartin Auto Repairs is often treated as a reason to accelerate. (Forgive me for mentioning this one, but my front garden overlooks this section of road and since the pandemic, quiet Summer weekends in the garden admiring Kilmartin Glen are now a thing of the past.) Our recently appointed Community Councillor Steve Walker has taken on the responsibility for taking this matter forward. He has had a meeting with Councillor Jan Brown who suggests we link with other Community Councils to form a united approach, as well as urging Dunadd residents to report incidents of bad driving, speeding etc to local police.

KILMARTIN MUSEUM and KILMARTIN QUARRY Representatives from the Museum have regularly attended our meetings for some time now, keeping us abreast of developments at the Museum, which has been much welcomed. The issue of the Overspill Car Park in the Glebe Field for the Museum has not been an issue in 2024/2025, but we are told that the new Museum Director, Dr John Raven may well wish to resurrect this plan, should a resolution to objections be found. The Quarry is now under the management of A & J McCrae, quarry masters, and we hope to have representatives from the quarry attending our July meeting.

LOCAL PLACE PLANS The deadline for submitting these local development plans is the end of June 2025. Information on this issue is available on Argyll & Bute Council's website at <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/local-development-plan-3>. Steve Walker is preparing an outline for us to discuss at our meeting immediately following this AGM.

ROLE OF SECRETARY GOING FORWARD This issue came about as our Secretary Hazel Fuller was finding it difficult to attend meetings for family reasons. It was hoped that some sort of arrangement could be made to pay her a reasonable remuneration for her efforts. However, efforts to resolve this have proved unsuccessful. Hazel officially resigned as Secretary last year but has now intimated that she would prefer to leave this role and asks that we discuss alternative arrangements.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS Any planning applications within Dunadd Community Council area appear on Argyll & Bute Council website weekly. None have been identified recently which might raise concerns.

DUNADD COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE DCE recently provided goalposts for Kilmartin Village Green, but no further projects being considered currently.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL BOUNDARY CHANGES This has only surfaced since our last meeting. We have been advised by Argyll & Bute Council that boundary changes apply to Dunadd and Lochgilphead Community

Councils. Detail on the Council website is not entirely clear, (the map seems a bit muddled), but the intention is to change the ward boundaries “in line with the Council’s Polling Scheme for normal elections”. It appears to give Dunadd a few extra metres just north of Cairnbaan, but as I said, the map is not clear. ... and finally... Thanks everyone for your efforts in the last 12 months. Sadly, Sue Creech and David McInnes left the fold during the year. We wish them well. We were recently joined by the very able Steve Walker. I cannot recollect how many vacancies we have now, but one or two anyway. Our thanks once again to Mid Argyll Councillors Jan Brown, Garrett Corner and Dougie Philand. The way ahead is bright and Mid Argyll is set for a new Golden Age, where life is beautiful all the time. The sky will be ever blue, and Heaven’s bounty will shower upon us and... well maybe not yet awhile, but we shall see what is in store for us ere long.

GEORGE JOHN STEWART - 15th May 2025

Dunnadd Community Council Annual statement of accounts
1st April 2024-31st March 2025

General Fund

Opening Balance £3315.19

Includes £811.60 A 'Chuarch Grant

Income:

Argyll and Bute Council Funding £958.40

Foundation Scotland A Churach Wind Farm £3322.79

Expenses:

Ford Hall Hire £92.00

Kilmartin Church £45.00

Secretary Costs £370.00

Secretary Gift and Verifier gifts £49.50

Foundation Scotland grant transferred to correct account £3322.79

Total Income £4281.19

Total Expense £4418.57

Closing Balance £3177.81

Micro Grants:

Opening Balance £1,862.36

Income Foundation Scotland £3322.79

Grant paid back £250.00

Expenses:

Dunadd Community Enterprise £1063.88

Kilmartin Community Initiative £990.00

Ford SWI £250.00

Ford Village Hall £1059.72

Mid Argyll Pipe Band £500.00

Isla Ranger £75.00

Total Income £3572.79

Total Expenses £3938.60

Closing Balance £1,496.55

Inology (held on behalf of Ford Village Hall

Opening Balance £5,643.90

Income RWE £2,069.35

Expenses Ford Village Hall £3000.00

Closing Balance £4,713.25

The accounts were duly signed by GS (Convenor) and DR (Treasurer)