

"DRAFT"**Minutes****Dalry Community Development Hub (DCDH)****Trustee - Business and Progress meeting****Venue:** Rosearden, Courthill St. **Date:** 26th January 2016 **Time:** 7.00 pm start.**Attendees:**

James McCosh	Chair
Sheena Woodside	Treasurer
Alastair Adamson	Secretary
Myra Sim	Trustee
Hamish Harkness	Trustee (apologies)
Heather Grossart	Trustee
Catherine McMillan	Trustee
Stephanie Ross	Trustee (apologies)
Caroline Cooper	Trustee
Audrey Hillis	NAC
Jim Cumming	NAC
Kevin Thaw	DSM (apologies)
Anthony Hume	NAC
Hilary Storm	Friend of DCDH (subgroup member)

1. Welcome/Introduction - purpose of meeting

The Chairman, James McCosh welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The purpose of this evening's business meeting of the trustees is to note and record progress made to date, and to inform all trustees about ongoing engagement which should result in further progress on a number of fronts.

2. Record apologies, and agree minutes of 27th October 2015 DCDH trustee meeting.

Apologies were recorded from - Hamish Harkness, Stephanie Ross and Kevin Thaw.

It was noted that Hamish had been admitted to hospital earlier this week. The trustees recorded that they hoped that he has a speedy recovery.

The minutes of 27th October trustee's business meeting were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by: - Sheena Woodside Seconded by: - Heather Grossart

3. Jim Cumming NAC – “Stalled Spaces” funding

J McC welcomed Jim and thanked him for offering to assist the DCDH to secure a better understand of what “Stalled Spaces” funding could offer the community of Dalry.

Jim explained that the Commonwealth Games Legacy Fund is the source of this funding and it is administered by NAC and Architect and Design Scotland. The fund is to be used to provide temporary improvements to stalled or derelict land in the short term. Up to £5k funding per identified project could be secured by DCDH if robust submissions could be prepared by DCDH. As there is now only £15k of the original £30k funding still available, it was unlikely that Dalry would be considered for more than £5k of funding.

AA asked JC if the stalled spaces funding was in addition to the Central Scotland Green Networks fund currently available for the restoration and improvement of rural and urban landscapes of North Ayrshire. JC confirmed that this was the case.

AA was actioned to phone CSGN to establish who is currently managing their fund.

After some discussion it was agreed that the gap site at New St., and the waste ground behind the Kings Revolution at the Cross, could be considered as compliant “Stalled Spaces” projects.

Jim Cumming provided copies of Application Guidance notes, Application form and a summary document detailing structure of the stalled spaces initiative.

JC confirmed that he would be happy to provide advice and assistance to the DCDH with their proposed application for funding.

SW will contact owner of site adjacent to the gap site at New Street and also send a letter to the owner of the Gap site in the hope of securing support for this initiative.

The trustees agreed to proceed with the preparation of a “Stalled Spaces” application, based on a single submission encompassing both sites:

- Gap site at New Street:
- Waste ground behind Kings Revolution

4. Kevin Thaw DSM – Potential sponsorship of Lynn Glen (Apologies)**5. Other possible sources of funding to support the delivery of DCDH projects.**

The following possible sources of funding were identified:

- CSGN: <http://www.centalscotlandgreennetwork.org/>
- Tesco: <http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/faqs/Category/lge-grants-docs-tes>
- DPBT: <http://dpbt.org.uk/>
- BeGreen: <http://www.begreencentres.co.uk/dalry/grants-services/>
- RES: <http://www.kelburnwindfarm.co.uk/community-fund/introduction/>
- Leader matching funding: <http://www.ayrshire-leader.com/>
- NAC: <http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/resident/your-community/community-funding.aspx>

It was agreed that the Funding Subgroup should establish how best to match the many potential funding sources with initiatives currently being progressed by the DCDH.

AA indicated that good progress had been achieved to secure funding for the Lynn Glen.

If NAC can be convinced to partner the “Public Path Refurbishment Access Agreement,” and the agreement of the land owners is secured, there is every possibility that funded work could now commence at the Lynn Glen from April/May 2016.

6. Consider if the DCDH can, in partnership with NAC, temporarily fill the current void created by the demise of the DCC.

What is currently being done to ensure that Dalry is not compromised because it does not have a Community Council?

NAC were asked this question a number of months ago and it is hoped that some guidance will be secured at the meeting AA/JMcC has programmed with NAC for 9th February 2016. Until the current Revision of Community Council consultation, started in 2013, is completed by NAC and the revised community council structure is established, Dalry will continue to be a disadvantaged community relying on proactive local individuals to respond to ongoing planning issues and council consultations.

7. Progress reports and Plans.

- [Dalry Bypass – progress.](#)

It is understood that the project has now been approved and funded, and that work will commence later this year. – This is great news for the community of Dalry.

- [Dalry Scout Hall – progress.](#)

Since the DCDH November 2015 meeting with John Hopkins, from observations at the site, there appears to be no further progress to report.

It would now appear that the planned completion date of spring 2016 is unlikely.

The trustees were informed that the Dalry Scouts were again active and were meeting at a temporary venue in Dalry. This was recorded as one further item of good news, which could not have been achieved without the help and support of CWPL.

Audrey Hillis volunteered to contact John Hopkins to establish if there was a new date for the completion of the Scout Hall refurbishment.

- [Progress achieved by Dalry Sports Club – Dalry Park development project.](#)

It is understood that further funding is being sought for a second phase of consultancy reports before a revised scheme is finalised.

DCDH wished the Sports Club every success with their project and gave assurances that any proposals for 22 Sharon Street would ensure that it did not duplicate in any way or undermine the Dalry Park development project.

The DCDH understand that NAC currently has funding of approximately £30k available specifically to enhance the existing children's play facilities at Dalry Park and at other local Dalry play parks.

The existing Dalry Park children's play area desperately requires remedial works and enhanced play activities, to offer the children of Dalry equivalent facilities to those currently being enjoyed by the children of other North Ayrshire towns.

NAC should be asked to confirm how and when they propose to spend this "ring fenced" funding on new equipment, as the children's play area is unlikely to form part of the Dalry Sports Club – Dalry Park development project.

- **Lynn Glen**

AA provided an update and was pleased to report that, subject to NAC agreeing to a joint partnership agreement for the Lynn Glen walk restoration initiative, there was every possibility of at least 2 sources of funding and sponsorship being secured by DCDH to start work on the project from April 2016.

NAC had been asked to consider the suggested division of responsibilities recorded in the DCDH 27th October 2015 minutes.

J McC and AA now have a meeting arranged with NAC on 9th February 2016 and hope to secure the necessary agreed joint partnership working solution for the Lynn Glen walk restoration.

To date the DCDH have made significant progress applying for funds, and hope to be able to confirm that this exercise has been successful by mid February 2016.

With a positive outcome from the 9th February meeting, and success with funding applications, the DCDH should be able to present a very positive message to the community of Dalry at the 2nd March 2016 AGM.

As this project will require significant effort, focus and attention by DCDH during 2016 – 2017 the trustees were asked to consider establishing a Lynn Glen subgroup, and try to encourage other members of the community to be part of this initiative.

This can hopefully be achieved through further recruitment at the AGM.

- **NAC consultation on Revision of Community Councils (this will include the revised community council boundaries which the DCDH has lobbied for over the past two years).**

AA reported that the outcome of the consultation will most likely result in the Dalry Community Council boundary being more or less redefined in line with the recommendations made by the DCDH. The other issues raised by DCDH in the response to the second phase – stage 1 consultation had been considered, and the final outcome should reflect a number of changes influenced by our response. 5th February 2016 is the closing date for responses to stage 2 of the consultation. Trustees agreed that there was no need for DCDH to provide any further response.

- **NAC consultation on Locality Planning.**

It was recorded that a number of DCDH trustees had attended Locality Planning events. It would appear that the next stage of the process involves reviewing and analysing all of the responses from the various events, as well as the consultation surveys that were completed by those who could not attend the events. A report summarising the findings is to be produced and presented to the Council and Community Planning Partners.

A copy will also be distributed to all who took part in the process. NAC will circulate a findings report which summarises the feedback from the formal consultation process.

The DCDH will continue their engagement with NAC on behalf of the Dalry Community.

DCDH will continue to support the NAC activities associated with this initiative.

- **NAC consultation on Community Benefit.**

The first stage of this consultation is now closed.

DCDH provided a response, and the issues and concerns raised are now being considered by NAC.

NAC has still to finalise their report.

When the findings are published AA will circulate the information to trustees.

The DCDH still has concerns about how the current NAC proposals will ensure a fair and equitable outcome for the “host” communities.

DCDH will now request a meeting with NAC’s interim Community Benefit Officer to secure a better understanding of the duties currently being undertaken by this person.

- **Windfarm Community Benefit. (funds available to Dalry from CWPL and RES developments)**

It was reported that previous DCDH meetings, correspondence and engagement with third parties, including CWPL and RES, had significantly improved the communities understanding of the benefits being secured as the “host” to renewable developments. Current engagement with both CWPL and RES has resulted in a number of reports being distributed to trustees for consideration and comment.

It was noted that there is still an outstanding action for DCDH to respond to the CWPL communication of 15th January 2016. The CWPL correspondence and other related documents had been forwarded to trustees for comment. Given the relatively short notice, a suitable response could not be prepared in time for discussion at this meeting. From comments already received, the general consensus of opinion expressed by the trustees was one disappointment and continued concern that .

AA agreed to prepare a “draft” response, taking cognisance of comments already received, and then circulate a “draft” to trustees for final approval before a formal reply is sent to CWPL.

It was noted that the outcomes of the Community Council review and Locality Planning will result in revised boundaries being formally implemented by April 2016.

This will result in the 14 Kelburn Wind Farm turbines being located within the new Dalry Community Council area.

J McC confirmed that a letter was sent to RES dated 18th January 2016 requesting a meeting with RES to discuss how DCDH can assist with the implementation of the changes to the current funding arrangements, and how best to minimise the potential financial impact to the communities of North Coast and Cumbraes.

RES has yet to acknowledge receipt of this letter.

AA was asked to pursue a response from RES.

- Dalry Town Centre improvement.

The trustees were reminded of the following:-

The DCDH and other interested parties met with NAC on 6th August 2015 to agree how best to address the current Dalry Cross issue. DCDH hoped to secure an agreement for the restoration of the "community space" at the Cross to include the identified facilities which had been removed/damaged over the past 6 years.

NAC initially agreed to fund and undertake the necessary works, and then later suggested that the DCDH should apply to Town Centre Communities Capital Fund for this project.

As the DCDH funding application to the Town Centre Communities Capital Fund was unsuccessful, the DCDH, other interested parties and Council officers agreed to work together to establish how this work could be funded and delivered by NAC during the current financial year (before end March 2016).

NAC initially agreed a meeting date of early December 2015.

A revised date of 9th February 2016 has now been offered by NAC.

The DCDH are hoping for a positive outcome from the meeting.

- 22 Sharon Street proposals.

Note of interest sent by DCDH to NAC regarding the above site.

The long term aim would be the enhancement of the current Dalry Campus to cater for future Educational and community needs and to centralise youth activities, with the exception of the facilities being planned by the Dalry Sports Club for the Dalry Park. Short term would be make the area safe, some overflow parking for current School Campus and a secure play / meeting area for the communities' youth.

The DCDH has received a reply from Elma Murray to the DCDH letter of 21st Dec 2015.

NAC claim that the site is still surplus to Education's requirements, as far as they can foresee. But as the response indicates, there is no compelling wish to dispose of the land only to a potential house builder, the DCDH note of interest must still stand.

As no closing date has been set, there is clearly no rush to sell the ground. The DCDH are now currently attempting to obtain a clear indication of support from the following people:

Patricia Gibson MP – letter of support already secured.

Councillor Catherine MacMillan – letter of support already secured.

Councillor Robert Barr

Kenneth Gibson MSP – 2 "e" mails sent and still no response.

Dalry Primary School Council – HG will ask for confirmation of support.

When the DCDH establish the level of support likely to be secured from elected

representatives and other interested parties, the next stage of this initiative will be to organise a petition outside the school, at pick up and drop off times, to help reinforce proof of the Dalry community support of the DCDH proposals.

J McC and AA will be meeting with the appropriate officers of NAC to further discuss a number of current issues. It is hoped that this can be added to the agenda for the arranged 9th February 2016 meeting, if NAC consider it appropriate.

- [Rural 21 – Dalry action plan.](#)

No further progress was reported.

- [Youth issues.](#)

No further progress was reported.

- [Dalry Station Gardening Group](#)

The trustees noted that the Dalry Station Gardening Group, established and initially facilitated by the DCDH, is now an independent constituted group.

The active members of DSGG decided that independence, rather than devolved powers as a subgroup of the DCDH, was their preferred option.

The DCDH wish the DSGG every success, and hope that their gardening skills and knowledge can be called upon to help with other community initiatives which have gardening elements in the project.

8. First years financial reporting and audit to be submitted to OSCR – progress report.

SW agreed to prepare the 6th March 2015 to 31st October 2015 DCDH financial report within the next three weeks.

AA agreed to produce the DCDH Annual Report in the same timescale.

SW will, in conjunction with Ayrshire Community Trust, finalise the OSCR submission.

The DCDH Annual Report and Accounts will then be submitted to OSCR before the end February 2016.

9. Discuss options for venue, date and time for AGM, and consider other dates and times for future meetings planned between January 2016 and June 2016.

On what day, first week March 2016, can we secure a suitable venue for the AGM?

To minimise costs, it was decided to hold the AGM in Rosearden (Max capacity 50)

It was agreed that the first AGM of the DCDH would be as follows:-

Venue: Rosearden, Courthill St. **Date:** Wednesday 2nd March 2016 **Time:** 7.00 pm start.

AA confirmed that he would prepare copies of “Notice of AGM” and the associated “Agenda” for distribution in advance of the AGM.

As this will be the DCDH’s first AGM, the only documents required for the meeting are the “Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31st October 2015” and Agenda.

10. Any other DCDH business?

There was no further business.

11. Close – 9.45pm