



**DALRY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HUB**

<http://dcdh.btc.co.uk/>

**Scottish Charity number: SC045464**

## Minutes

### **Dalry Community Development Hub (DCDH)**

#### **Trustee - Business and Progress meeting**

**Venue: Rosearden, Courthill St.    Date: 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017    Time: 7.00 pm start.**

#### **Attendees:**

James McCosh	Chair	
Sheena Woodside	Treasurer	
Alastair Adamson	Secretary	
Myra Sim	Trustee	
Hamish Harkness	Trustee	
Heather Grossart	Trustee	
Catherine McMillan	Trustee	
Caroline Cooper	Trustee -	apologies
Reg N-Graham	Trustee -	apologies
Janet Gibson	Trustee	
Julie Wales	Trustee	
Audrey Hillis	NAC -	apologies
Thomas Reaney	NAC -	apologies
Anthony Hume	subgroup member	apologies
Bruce Davidson	EAW (Lynn Glen) -	apologies
Ian Shaw	Project Kilbirnie -	apologies
John Hopkins	Dalry Scouts	
Diane Mackie	DCC -	
Jackie Flynn	DCC -	apologies
Ian Kinghorn	NAC	apologies
Stewart Beck	NAC	

#### **1. Welcome/Introduction - purpose of meeting – J McC**

James McCosh welcomed all, and noted the attendance of trustees and representatives from DCC, Dalry Scouts and NAC.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to continue with our efforts to progress current initiatives, agree a plan to transfer responsibility for NAC facing initiatives from DCDH to DCC, and consider priorities for any further issues the DCDH has been requested to address by the community it represents.

#### **2. Record apologies, and agree minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016 trustees meeting. - J McC**

The apologies received, as per above, was recorded.

The minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016 DCDH trustee business meeting were proposed for acceptance by Myra Sim and seconded by Hamish Harkness.



**3. Discuss the “draft” recorded DCDH public meeting notes of 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016, and decide if the approval of minutes of this meeting should be tabled at the next DCDH public meeting.**

James McCosh asked if minutes of the Public Meeting should be approved at this meeting, or should be tabled for approval at the next public meeting proposed for October 2017.

It was agreed that the minutes of DCDH Public meetings, with the exception of the AGM, should be tabled for acceptance at the next meeting of DCDH.

The minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 DCDH Public meeting were then proposed for acceptance by Heather Grossart and seconded by Janet Gibson.

**4. Topics to be discussed at this evening’s meeting:**

- ***DCDH engagement with new DCC.***

The DCDH Chair (JMcC) asked the DCC Chair (HG) to confirm what the community councillors considered would be an acceptable transfer of current and future community activities from DCDH to DCC, which as an expedience had been undertaken by DCDH since 2014.

It was proposed to the DCDH trustees that there should be a structured transfer of all NAC facing activities from DCDH to DCC, over the next 2 months, with the intention of this being completed in advance of the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017 AGM of DCDH.

Agreement was also sought that DCDH would undertake the securing of finance for identified community projects, and manage expenditure and project delivery of funded activities. The Dalry Community Development Hub trustees agreed in principle, and the Dalry Community Councillors in attendance also subscribed to this as a sensible proposal. Community Councillor – Diane Mackie confirmed her agreement to be considered for appointment as a DCDH trustee. **AA to make the necessary arrangements.**

As it is likely that all seven Community Councillors will also be DCDH trustees, the community we serve should now benefit from a more cohesive and supportive approach.

- ***DCDH engagement with Project Kilbirnie.***

The proposals for the 2017 “Big Fit Walk” was confirmed as being a partnership project which would take place this time in Kilbirnie Park (Location of Garnock Pool, to be demolished) at a date in June/July which has still to be agreed.

DCDH confirmed its support, and offered its assistance if and when required.

The chair asked how the developing DCDH and DCC partnership could help influence the delivery of the proposed Kilwinning – Kilbirnie cycle path.

Stewart Beck confirmed that Sustrans had advised that the existing 2009 feasibility study should be revised to reflect the current situation.

This would:

- ✓ enable a better understanding of the current landownership
- ✓ identify if the same landownership concerns exist
- ✓ identify the most economically/environmentally viable option for the route based on current conditions;



- ✓ enable the cost estimates to be updated.

Louise Kirk has worked with Phillip Kearney of Sustrans to secure funding for a review of feasibility study (FS). This funding was only confirmed on 16/11/16 and is subject to Cabinet approval. This will be considered at the January Cabinet as part of an overall Finance Report. The proposal would be for an external consultant to be employed to undertake the review. Arrangements will be made for the study to start when the funding has been agreed by Cabinet.

The consultant would then collaborate with a working group consisting of some Plug the Gap (PTG) members, NAC representatives and a representative from the North Ayrshire Outdoor Access Forum.

Additionally, the consultant would re-engage with landowners along the Garnock Valley. The Study would require being complete by mid May 2017.

The study will then be used to inform funding applications for implementation.

It was suggested that this project would be delivered as a number of phases, and that the initial focus of the group would be to investigate the possibilities for plugging the gap between Dalry – Kilbirnie.

The Active Travel Officer post has now been filled, and this Officer will assist with the co-ordination of the Study. Further details and updates will be provided at the next meeting of DCDH. It is recognised that this project requires input and support from many groups, and it was confirmed that DCDH and DCC would both be willing to help with the initiative.

- ***DCDH engagement with Garnock Valley Locality Planning Group.***

It was confirmed that Heather (as DCC Chair) would be the conduit between DCC and LPG. Catherine McMillan (Chair of the Garnock Valley Locality Planning Group) confirmed that further thought should be given to the best structure for DCDH to inform and be informed by Garnock Valley Locality Planning Group. The close working relationship which exists between DCDH and DCC may be all that is required to ensure that there is the necessary cohesiveness to avoid duplication of effort or unnecessary conflict/disagreement.

***Action: Catherine to advise at the next meeting of DCDH.***

- ***Roadside Art on Bypass and associated heritage trail – Progress report***

Julie Wales indicated that the Subgroup want to complete 3 projects by the first half of the year.

1.The completion of the school projects:- On the 6th of February Myra and Julie have an appointment at Dalry primary to discuss the project and how it will be carried out.

2.Wikipedia Project:- Garnock Academy have been approached and are keen to get involved in this but due to campus relocation have asked us to allow them a settling in period before the DCDH "Roadside Art On Bypass and associated heritage trail" Subgroup discuss it any further.

3. Heritage Trail:- A meeting is arranged for 16th January to progress the application for the funding required for the Heritage Trail. [Heritage Lottery Fund](#)



Further research will require to be undertaken by the Subgroup before any funding applications can be developed for the proposed “Roadside Art on the Bypass” project.

*Julie offered to provide a further update at the next DCDH meeting.*

*AA asked Julie to provide a list of Subgroup member names.*

- ***Dalry Bypass and Den Realignment – Progress report***

Heather Grossart indicated that information secured from Kenneth Gibson at the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 DCC meeting confirmed that the start date for work on the Bypass was March 2017, and following immediately after completion of the Bypass that work on site would start on the associated Den Realignment project.

- ***Realignment of the two bad bends, on the Girtle farm and Yonderhouse sections of the B714 from Dalry to Saltcoats – Progress report***

This had been reported at the January 2017 DCC meeting as authorised, funded and in hand. The Chair raised concerns that recent rumours about this project would suggest that funding has been withdrawn by NAC for this very important safety project. It was suggested that detailed estimates are significantly over budget, and that NAC are now working with the consulting engineers in an attempt to reduce costs, in order to progress the scheme.

*Catherine McMillan offered to establish if this was the case, and report back at the next meetings of DCC/DCDH.*

- ***Brighten up Dalry Town Centre – Progress report***

Dalry now has a Town Centre of which to be proud thanks to the work completed to date, including the addition power outlets and the superb Christmas festive lighting provided by DAG.

- New bins – Completed
- New benches - Completed
- New Planters - Completed
- Removal of Graffiti - Completed
- Re-pointing the community area – Completed
- Additional bollards - Completed
- New lockable bollards - Completed
- New railing at St Margaret Church – Completed
- Liaise with DCDH regarding the proposed sponsored 3 tree initiative. – Outcome of pit inspection determined that Trees could not be planted due to the high water table level at the Town Centre.
- Map of Dalry Walks, located at the Biggart Fountain, to be updated and a revised list of supporters and sponsors added. – Completed
- Signage at “T” junction Bridgend – A737 (Town Centre). - Completed
- Paint curved bench and brighten up Courthill St. corner. – Completed



Since the completion of the work listed above, Dalry has now established a new Community Council. DCDH had taken on a number of initiatives which **could not** or **would not** be addressed by other community groups. With recent revisions of community structure, facilitated by NAC, resulting in new Locality Planning Groups and new Community Councils, January 2017 has been witnessing the start of a healthy reallocation of community responsibilities, initiatives and projects.

Initiatives requiring engagement with NAC will form part of a planned transfer of responsibilities from DCDH to DCC.

The AGM of DCDH is programmed to take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017, and it is hoped that a seamless transfer of the agreed initiatives will be achieved before the meeting date.

Outstanding Brighten up Dalry Town Centre work:

- Provide revise Town Centre signage. – in hand - Action IK
- Revised Map of Dalry Walks, with an additional small notice board, to be provided at corner of Bridgend / Bridgend Lane. – in hand - Action IK
- Signage at corner of Bridgend / Bridgend Lane – (Town Centre). – in hand - Action IK
- Bridgend Lane Signage – (Lovers Walk to Lynn Glen). – in hand - Action IK

***As the work is programmed for completion before the end of March, it was agreed that DCDH should continue to liaise with Ian Kinghorn for the above works. – Action AA.***

Centralised Bin Store:

At the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 Dalry Community Council meeting, attended by Cllr's Barr and McMillan, the proposal to rid the landscaped corner of Courthill St./ The Cross of refuse bins was supported by all in attendance.

With a new DCC, having been established this year, the DCDH is now transferring initiatives which involve engagement with NAC back to the DCC.

The Dalry Community Development Hub has since August 2015 been working with NAC to help "Brighten up Dalry Town Centre". During the timescales of this initiative it was noted that a number of bins were being left on the pavement, beside the curved community bench, causing an obstruction and degrading the visual quality of what could be an attractive "Place".

During 2016 the Public Toilet, located approximately 15 metres from the curved community bench, was decommissioned and removed. There is now a spare NAC owned site, which may be considered suitable as an alternative to the abandoned bins in our Town Centre.

As this will no doubt require further discussion with other NAC departments, and negotiation with the local residents and businesses likely to be affected by the proposal, it was suggested that NAC should be requested to meet with representatives of the Dalry Community to discuss options and how best to progress this proposal.

A meeting at Dalry Cross would likely be the best option, as this will allow NAC to view the significant improvements achieved through the joint initiative, and give all a better



understanding of concerns already raised about the detrimental impact of the refuse bins.

*Heather Grossart, as Chair of DCC, agreed to progress this issue with NAC.*

- **Lynn Glen – Progress report**

AA reported that the start date for the Lynn Glen **Phase 2** works (funded from the grant from LandTrust) had been delayed, and the work is now unlikely to start until April 2017.

**Phase 2** is dependant on the initial preparatory project **Phase 1** (funded by Tesco's Bags of Help) which was programmed to be completed November 2016.

**Phase 1** was designed to create a material access facility and prepare the first section of the walk for the transfer of materials to address the repair and upgrades identified as **Phase 2** works.

Due to difficulties with work priorities of East Ayrshire Woodlands (the project management resource provided by North Ayrshire Council), and difficulties caused by weather and the access requirements across one of the landowner's fields for the delivery of materials, the completion of **Phase 2** is now anticipated to be during the summer of 2017.

A meeting is being convened within the next two weeks to agree a revised completion programme date for **Phase 1** which, to be realistic, is now likely to be March / April 2017. Prior to this meeting urgent engagement with Jim Hair (Landowner of access route for material) is required to secure agreement for the material delivery route and whether access to the route can be facilitated during the months of February / March.

AA expressed his disappointment at the lack of progress. He did however appreciate that weather, complying with farmers needs and dealing with the priorities set by Councils, all add up to potential project slippage.

**Actions:**

*AA to write to Tesco's and LandTrust asking for extensions to funding spend end dates.*

*J McC to contact Jim Hair to arrange an urgent face to face meeting with him, Bruce Davidson and DCDH trustees on site.*

- **Community benefit issues – Progress report**

AA reported that there was no measurable progress since the DCDH public meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

DCDH and DCC to discuss how the interest of the Dalry community can be best served in the future.

*Action – AA to write to DCC.*

- **Dalry Scout Hall – Progress report**

John Hopkins, Chairperson of the 55th Ayrshire (Dalry) Scout Group provided a brief update regarding progress of the new Scout Hall. John informed that a bat survey had been carried out and the demolition cleared to proceed. Demolition works are progressing well and



expected to be complete by the end of January. The group are currently negotiating prices with local contractors for the new build. Community Windpower Ltd have secured a very favourable timber kit supply package on behalf of the Scouts. Planning Permission has now been granted for the new hall. The building Warrant is currently being processed. It is expected to start the new build end of February with completion during August 2017.

John responded to some rumours that the new hall will only be for the use of the Scouts.

John informed that the Scouts will always have first call on the hall use, but it is a condition of every single grant funder (and John's own involvement in this project) that the hall will be available for wider community use. Several groups have already expressed an interest in using the new facilities.

John confirmed that Ayrshire LEADER Funding has been secured. He suggested that the Scouts would be willing to provide a copy of their application package to the Hub, if this would assist in our application.

- **22 Sharon Street – update**

Heather Grossart indicated that it had been confirmed by our local councillors, at the 9<sup>th</sup> January DCC meeting, that the site of the old school was now earmarked for development of new sheltered housing and a centralised local NAC office.

At the DCC meeting the councillors also stated that there would be no scope for the provision of further School Parking on the site, as the total footprint would be occupied by the planned development.

The DCC will be asked to secure further details of the proposals, just in case there is still scope for establishing enhanced parking facilities for the School on the lower level of the site.

AA commented that the efforts made by DCDH, to convince NAC not to sell the site to a private developer, had hopefully contributed to this positive outcome for the town.

The support received from Councillor McMillan, Kenneth Gibson MSP and Patricia Gibson MP, endorsing the concerns raised by DCDH, was no doubt also a contributory factor.

- **Ayrshire 21 – Progress report**

It was agreed that the future progress of Ayrshire 21 / Charette / and any other community consultations, undertaken on behalf for the Dalry community, would now be addressed by DCC.

- **Annual reports, audits and arrangements for March 2017 AGM**

AA and SW agreed to work together to prepare the necessary end of year reports and audits, for submission to OSCR and for presentation at the 2017 AGM of DCDH.

The same arrangements as last year will apply.

A date for the AGM was agreed – 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017

AA will start to prepare “Notice of AGM”, Agenda and other required information for consideration at the February 2017 DCDH trustee business meeting.

AA also highlighted the need to ensure that arrangements are in place for the continuity of DCDH administrative activities following the March 2017 AGM. This requires to be addressed



sooner than later.

#### 5. Any other DCDH business?

- ***Defib at Dalry Town Centre***

Julie Wales confirmed that arrangements were now in place for the installation of the Defib . All permissions have been given for the defib to be sited on the gable end of the Green Shop and it is expected to be fitted around April. Annual running costs will be funded by the BeGreen shop.

Training was also being offered, and arrangements were in place for a number of local volunteers to attend one of the training evenings at Dalry Fire Station.

So far 27 people have put their names forward. The maximum number per instruction evening is 12

#### Current List:

PTA, After School Care	5
Camera Club	6
Trinity Church	8
DCDH	1
Parent Toddler	5
Playtime Nursery	1
St Palladius Church	1

- ***Leader applications – actions?***

It was agreed that a meeting would be arranged with Audrey Hillis to progress the application for Dalry Town Centre which AH/AA/JMcC/JG/SW were currently developing. It's hoped that this meeting will take place very soon. - **Action J McC**

It was also noted from Julie that a leader application was being prepared by the DCDH Subgroup (***Roadside Art On Bypass***) and a Heritage Lottery Fund application (***Dalry heritage trail***).

When the applications are finalised, they will be circulated to all trustees for comment and approval, before being formally submitted to Leader and HLF as DCDH applications for funding .

- ***Other funding opportunities?***

AA informed the attendees that there were many sources of funding available for which to apply, if DCDH were able to identify other community initiatives which required finance.

Some examples of funding organisations that have already indicate their willingness to consider further applications from DCDH are:

***LandTrust, Tesco, Paths for All, Leader, HLF, Co-op, DPBT and many more.***

He did however indicate that significant preparatory work would be advised before any



submission could be made for funds, and this would require significant commitment from those willing to undertake this work.

- ***Dalry Play Park enhancements and maintenance - update***

Number of pieces of play equipment in Dalry

There are three parks in Dalry - Public Park, West Kilbride Road and Stoopshill Crescent. In total there is currently 29 pieces of play equipment in Dalry.

Planning gain funds for Dalry Public Park

The Facilities Maintenance Officer has received 2 proposals from play park equipment suppliers and this is being evaluated.

More play park facilities

The planning gain funds of £30k will provide more facilities for the Dalry Public Park.

NAC has confirmed that the plan is to retain all 3 play parks in Dalry, with 2 of the 3 being enhanced – Dalry Public Park (as stated above) and West Kilbride Road.

- ***Dates of future meetings to be noted:***

15<sup>th</sup> February 2017 – DCDH trustee business meeting.

15<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – DCDH trustee business meeting.

29<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – AGM of DCDH

**6. The meeting was brought to a close at 9.00 pm.**