

DUNSHALT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2023

(Scottish Charity SC003253)

PRESENT: IAN MACAULAY, GORDON MORTON, GORDON SIMPSON, FIONA SMITH, FRANCES CARLETON, DAVID TRACEY, + 2 NEW RESIDENTS

APOLOGIES: STEVE MCHARDY

1. Welcome and introductions were made among those present.

2. Review of DCA Constitution: Dave McGrath, Fife Voluntary Action, led a review of the constitution with the aim of making it fit for purpose. Dave has a community learning background, and has led a number of community associations through this process. Issues to be considered are:

- options for change - retaining current status OR gaining 'legal personality' through adopting incorporated status;
- whether to adopt Tier 1 status which will provide a framework for a group comprising 5 – 11 trustees; responsibilities of trustees to follow due diligence ie - all decisions must uphold aims and objectives, manage conflicts of interest, keep organisation solvent, promote organisation.
- once decided, the process for change will involve transfer of assets to the new status which could take 3-4 months.

Following the discussion, those present agreed that we should move to SCIO incorporated status Tier 1, and invite Dave to take us forward with this at our next meeting.

2. Matters arising: Ian reported on the discussion with the African drumming let hirer on the complaint and petition. The group have seen an increase in participants in recent months, including several participants travelling from Edinburgh which may account for the increase in volume. They are happy to cooperate in trying to reduce the noise from sessions. It was noted that windows and doors have been closed since concerns were raised, though the stress of noise on those living in the immediate Hall vicinity remains. Gordon Morton asked whether terminating this let due to the concerns raised might set a precedent, and was assured it wouldn't. Ian was asked to speak to the Group again to seek ways to further reduce the volume. If this is not possible, discussions on alternative venues will be explored.

3. Council Matters: 3 possible sites for a road build-out to slow traffic are under consideration, at the Eden Bridge, the Shop and Auchtermuchty Road.

4. Volunteer Groups: Playpark grant applications have seen approval of Local Planning grant of £2k, plus **the pledge of £2k from DCA funds**. Fife Environmental Trust application for £50k will be announced by the end of September. Feedback from recent Fife Council meeting will give a further indication of the progress with the playpark project. With a successful outcome now in sight for this project, community fundraising can now be planned with a suggested target of £2k between now and March 2024.

On Seniors' Activities, given the number of folk who have commented on missing the Festive lunch over the past few years due to Covid restrictions, it was agreed that the Fergusson Trust application should be for that purpose only between now and the end of 2023. To meet the deadlines, an application should be made by the end of September.

5. Local Place Plan Survey: This is now closed and the project moves to the research phase. At the final conversation event G Simpson proposed an imaginative project for the River Eden, combining hydro-electric generation, flood prevention, and water sports, repurposing the former Gateside School as an activity hub.

6. New Residents Pack: Contents were agreed as follows: a welcome card which Katie Beaumont is happy to design; contact details for the DCA, health centre, shop, village website and Facebook page, copies of most recent Muchty Matters and Edenshead Church newsletters. New residents Rona and Jean Marie were welcomed to the meeting, and shared ideas for future projects.

7. Other Business: Frances was thanked for arranging cleaning of the Hall windows every 2 months free of charge. The last Muchty Matters newsletter failed to include Dunshalt items, including a report on the Senior's outing. Ian apologised for this omission and will send a piece for the Winter edition. Noted that the 100 Club draw in October will also cover the months of September and August.

8. Date of next meeting Monday 9 October, 7pm, with D McGrath, Fife Voluntary Action to continue review of the Constitution.