

## DUNSHALT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

Scottish Charity SC003253

**PRESENT:** F CARLTON, D TRACEY, G SIMPSON, I MACAULAY, S MCHARDY, F SMITH, C WILKIE, V HARRIS

**APOLOGIES:** CLLR DONALD LOTHIAN

G Simpson thanked the Association for postponing the meeting for 1 week to enable his attendance.

**Matters arising:** Two amendments requested to previous minute of 13 August: **Duck Race** - on Friday August 16th at 6:30pm. **Senior Bus Trip** - Frances submitted a costed suggestion for a trip to St Andrews with a Fish Tea at the Tailend.

S McHardy requested that at a future meeting we familiarise with the key points of the new constitution, and ensure we have an accurate register of trustees. I Macaulay updated the Association on the progress with OSCR in dissolving the previous charity. We have been advised to seek the services of a solicitor to draw up a Supplementary Deed to conclude the process of transfer to the new Incorporated Charity. D Mcgrath, Fife Voluntary Action, who has supported us for the past 2 years, agrees that this is required. Those present agreed to proceed with this.

**Council updates:** Cllr Lothian has reported that unfortunately the Council are unable to provide a timeline for improving speed curbing road lining and signage. Feedback on the bus timetable changes, which include transfer delays, failures to connect services, and drivers unfamiliar with the route, have been passed on to the Community Council. Further clarification will be requested from the Community Council on the sustainability of the Speedwatch initiative.

No advice from the Council on footpath maintenance. C Cooper was thanked for recently clearing part of the Cashmill footpath with a sythe.

Footpath clearing, including engaging with local landowners, was suggested as a project for Spring 2025.

**Financial Report:** S McHardy reminded the Association that a debit card is available for payments. A question was posed on variance in the Ferguson Trust income and expenditure. This was due to the non-redemption of vouchers. As funds are not subject to restricted and non-restricted use, any under-expenditure under this heading is absorbed into general funds.

**Hall management:** Following a discussion on how best to distribute some of the responsibilities currently held by Steve, the following actions were agreed:

- to establish a DCA Whatsapp group
- to ensure that at least 3 Trustees are familiar with handling the DCA phone and its apps
- to hold a briefing meeting for all Association members, covering areas such as heating, bookings, emails/texts - to be held on Monday 30 September, 7pm at Steve's home.

Other areas to be covered will include liaising with hirers, ensuring IT is working, meter readings, and booking conditions - such as utilising dado rails and hooks for hanging banners etc - NOT using pins, sellotape or blu-tack.

Members were thanked for supporting the new cleaner who is working for 2 hours every Monday for a 4

week trial period, to be reviewed.

**Fund raising update:** Relief, gratitude and congratulations were expressed over the playpark taking shape in the past week. Subject to a site meeting later this week, Fiona estimates that the project should be completed by mid-October. Agreed that an opening event in the second half of October should be planned, inviting either the MP, MSP, or both depending on their availability, and recommended protocol for such events. Also Cllr Lothian. The event should include a photo with the guests presenting a cheque for the hall roof repair

Further actions: list of sponsors and other guests to be invited, certificates of thanks; photographer contacted; press release for Courier and Fife FM; outline of parking arrangements on the day

S Mchardy will prepare a draft running order for the event

**Other events noted as follows:**

Macmillan Coffee morning on Saturday 21 September. Arrangements are in hand thanks to the hard work of the fundraising group. Funds raised to be split between Macmillan and seniors' events.

Family Halloween Disco - tickets to go on sale following the coffee morning - Saturday 26 October. Funds to go to children's Christmas Parties.

Saturday 14 December proposed for Christmas Parties - 11am-1pm. A Burns fundraiser, possibly with Bruach, was also proposed.

**Ferguson Bequest** - Noted that 2 issues relating to the Ferguson Bequest are under review:

- the annual allocation to Dunshalt
- eligibility for the entitlement to the fund (eg over 60; or over 65)

To date, DCA policy on distributing funds has been

- ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of funds to all 115 residents currently over 60
- recognising that the Ferguson Bequest funds available for a current year are to be shared between the communities of Dunshalt and Auchtermuchty, whose population ratio is approximately 1:7.

Discussion followed on changes to the previous policy. Agreed that once settled, the new policy should be posted on the village website and distributed to all households in the village. Ian and Frances will draft a statement based on our discussion for consideration at the next meeting.

**100 Club:** S McHardy proposed we use a smartphone random number generator for the monthly draw, which was agreed by the Association.

July draw; £20 - Brian Lawrie; £10 - Angie Crawford; £5- Ian Barr.

August - Rachel Pendrie, Sandra Carmichael, Norman Wilkie.

September - Jean Allan, Alistair Leitch, Rhona Dunn

**Date of next DCA meeting:** Tuesday 15 October, 7pm

