



DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY TRUST

Committee Meeting Minutes: 7pm 9th July 2026

1 Welcome & Apologies:

Present: Jason Bold (JB), Mandy Boswell (MB), Angela Wallis (AW), Colin Ewing (CE) Bryony Anderson (BA), Mali MacLennan (MM), Carwyn Llewellyn (CL)

Apologies: Stuart Cullen, Liza Clelland, Jenny Hey

JB to chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Adoption of previous edited minutes: Proposed MB, Seconded AW

CL will upload minutes to the website

3 Conflicts of interest

CE not voting on Pickleball application: Neighbours to pickleball grant applicants

Noted: MB gave the blank form to pickleball applicants

Actions:

4 Financial update

- Profit/Loss: £415,160.87 total turnover, 371,507.51 gross profits including assets, £76,189.15 admin costs, 295,318.36 operating profit including assets YTD to June.
- CE asks for clarification on why no change in figures after tax, MM clarified DCT does not pay tax under current structure but may change if setting up trading arms. If a trading arm does make a profit, it has 9 months to donate that profit to the charity
- DCT Accountant is undertaking an audit of 2025 year end accounts and will come back with suggestions and recommendations.
- CE question on obligation to undertake audit. BA clarifies 2025 HMRC audit threshold was £500,000 which was crossed to trigger the 2025 audit requirement, in 2026 threshold increases to £1,000,000. Trustees assume that if not obliged, we will not undertake an audit.
- MB question on Dunvegan Community Hall roof allocation not included in 2025 account. BA clarifies that works are still underway and yet to be drawn down so the funds are still held in the bank, so they count as reserves until released to the Hall. Uncertainty surrounding commitments will be cleared up in the audit but no timeline for completion of audit due to accountant illness.
- Unrestricted reserves will also need to be revisited with help from the accountant to ensure commitments and responsibilities are covered.
- With a growing workforce, budget and project pipeline, JB suggests that DCT trustees should meet to specifically review finances and understand responsibilities going forward.

Actions: CL Arrange trustee meeting to discuss finances and 2026 budget

6 Staff updates

- Update from community council on response from THC to say the annual park inspection should be carried out the week commencing 15th September. The committee is happy to wait.
- MM: Orbest farmhouse budget completed, link available in drive. MM forecasts that costs will increase but that loans to help are available when we get to that stage.
- MM: New DCT website is also live.
- MM: Lots of fundraisers for projects coming up so spread the word and push on socials for help and donations.

Woodland Officer

- Concern amongst trustees surrounding the complexity of the bat survey and tree felling issues and the costs associated. Trustees agree that JH has done as much as possible to forecast costs and plan a route forward.
- Good attendance for the volunteer days and the temporary signage is still up.
- AB suggests that we send thanks to Keith for the gate and Luca for volunteering here and at the Gaeltec Buildings.
- JB suggests permanent welcome sign for the gate, MB, CE, AW agree.
- BA suggests that designs for additional signage comply with DCT identity and brand.
- No need to tender for costs under £5000 for Emily to design the welcome sign for the woodland.
- The committee understands that there will be a need for further signage once Gaeltec building is finished along with other DCT projects and that all signage/posters need to comply with DCT branding.
- The committee agreed to defer decision on specifications of picnic tables and benches until information on availability of materials becomes apparent.
- JH has been in contact with Andrew Prendergast to discuss the options surrounding establishing a woodland croft vs a woodland lease.
- There are concerns that woodland croft does not address the area's housing needs and that DCT should prioritise delivering housing instead.
- The committee should define the exact scope of a "woodland croft" in order to understand opportunities and development time required.
- Question on who is responsible for building the house in a woodland croft.
- MM explains different routes for building housing on a woodland croft but it's difficult to narrow down without more community engagement to define needs.
- MM explains if housing is decoupled from woodland croft requirements then the 3 hectares per croft limit minimum is not applicable.
- MM: A woodland lease might be more straightforward for DCT and provide a lower point of entry for people wanting to build their own home.
- Are there any learning points or contacts that could help us find a path forward on this?
- MM: Glengarry/ Uigshadder / Eigg?
- Jenny has put an application into MOWI for sitka control match funding.
- Committee to wait on MOWI response before committing DCT funds.
- Jenny presents opportunity to DCT to train locals for treating and removing invasive salmonberry for £18p/h
- Committee agree to postpone decision on salmonberry removal until Jenny returns

Gaeltec community hub

- Question to confirm if it will be named the Gaeltec building or Dunvegan Community Hub or other suggestions once refurbishments are complete. BA mentions that there is community

desire to keep the Gaeltec name part of the history but DCT could undertake a poll to see what the community feel is the best name.

- Workshops and art projects such as bat box building, zine making workshop and artist workshops have been completely funded by species on the edge/nature scot. These workshops will be delivered in the 2026 financial year.

Actions: CL to contact Emily for tendering signage for woodland welcome sign.

Mandy to contact Bat surveyors

7 Vision, Mission, Values

- Committee agrees that large, multi stage projects require an agreement surrounding DCT's larger Vision, Mission and Values and the impact on DCT's structural organisation as well as its ability to undertake ambitious projects, so a VMV document should definitely be something that's worked towards.
- Trustees understand that DCT has very little spare capacity at the moment and need to work towards developing these ideas within the current staff budget.
- Suggested the community action plan and membership census inform VMV without adding excessive workload?
- Committee agree when developing the VMV, that the language should be very concise and avoid buzzwords.
- Trustees happy to contribute towards the working document to progress the aim.

Actions: Trustees to contribute towards the working document by Tuesday 14th

8 Funding Discussions

Pickleballers

- Committee support the application but question the subsidy asked for hall fee. Is this to make it similar to other groups?
- Clarification needed for costs £3 per person per session for other local groups on skye
- What are they charging at the moment?
- What is the hall fee per session?

Actions: CL to follow up with applicants for more information.

Dunvegan primary school discretionary grant.

- Trustees would like to meet with the primary school to discuss a strategic approach.
- Trustees would like to learn how the school has used the funding in previous years.
- Feedback letter required from the school for 2025 funding.

Actions: CL: Organise meeting between Leona, Angela and Jason in late august.

Community hall roof repairs

- Trustees agree that this type of the project that the trust should fund but because repairs have been delayed so long it has caused issues with DCT yearly budget and funding cycle.
- DCT have committed the funds so must approve now but better two-way communication is required going forward.
- If the funding budget starts getting low because of this confusion, we should update the website to let people know before applying for funds.

SkyeDance 2nd Round

- SkyeDance still to come back to us with a review of hall activities.
- Trustees were pleased to see more events on the website than funding application stated.
- We should get feedback on summer events to inform the next round.

9 DCC updates

- HCC Roads manager Andrew Bone visited the area and confirmed items brought to his attention will get done at some point.
- DCC has seconded a new member to contribute towards the Emergency preparation plan and could tie in with an upcoming community event to promote the EPP.
- DCC confirms that they have a copy of the dunvegan community action plan.
- DCC budget is running low but money is secured for hardship fund and christmas decorations.
- Black water waste planning application in car park could mean its resurfaced sooner rather than later (although planning can't insist on this)
- Trustees have concerns around the risk of large vehicles maneuvering in car park and what effect there would be on the number of parking spaces available.

Actions:

10 AOB

- There was a lot of old machinery, equipment and devices left behind in the workshop, that would be a shame to throw away.
- Can we check with the archive centre if they want any of the physical records or items left behind?
- Trustees ask how DCT approaches the sale/donation of this stuff? Would amateur radio enthusiasts be interested? What percentage do we accept for getting rid of this? Do we look for a good-will donation to get rid of the stuff and stop it going to landfill?
- DCT under pressure to find a solution before the renovation works start.

Actions: CL to add opportunity to newsletter.

- SSEN Development opposite are using the top end carpark and parking is becoming an issue for staff and visitors. Parking for Gaeltec will become an issue if they are allowed to continue unhindered.
- Mention of concern for physical security of premises and need for combination keylock on DCT front door.

Action: MB to contact SSEN to open discussion

Action: MB to research traffic counter outside gaeltec building

Date of Next meeting: 24th August 2026

Meeting closed at 9:35pm