DUNVEGAN COMMUNITY TRUST

Committee Meeting Minutes: 17 January 2026

1 Welcome & Apologies:
Present: Jason Bold (JB), Stuart Cullen (SC), Mandy Boswell (MB), Angela Wallis (AW), Liza Cleland (LC), Colin Ewing (CE) Bryony Anderson (BA), Mali MacLennan (MM)

JB to chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Adoption of previous minutes: SC proposed, JB seconded

BA will upload minutes to the website

3 Election of office bearers
- JB to chair this meeting. Information given about the office bearer roles within the committee, however committee members felt that it was good to have some initial continuity of roles. JB to be chair and SC treasurer for the first 3 months with the office bearer discussion being added back to the agenda in the meeting scheduled for April.
- MM checked Constitution and found that a secretary role was not specifically needed.

Actions: Add Stuart to the banking to be able to authorise payments

4 Conflicts of interest
- CE has a potential conflict of interest between the Trust and his role at Isle of Skye Renewables Co-operative, depending on the discussion
- JB will leave the room during discussion of Lola Bold's educational grant
- SC made members aware that his aunt runs the exercise class so won't vote on this funding application

Actions:

5 Membership update
- There have been 4 new full members since the last meeting
- BA has contacted all associate members and only retained those who have requested to stay as members. The membership is now 80% full members.
- LC suggested good practise to regularly review the membership for any changes in circumstances, new Admin Officer to carry out a review soon

Actions: Admin Officer to carry out full membership review

6 Employment updates
- DCT is now an employer rather than engaging self employed contractors. Payroll is being run by the accountants and we've had some HR support through DTAS on contracts. Awaiting confirmation of HMRC registration

- Administration & Communications Officer was interviewed for by JB and Emma-Jane MacAskill, and the role offered to Caroline Bruns.
- Woodland Officer role was interviewed for by JB and MM, and they recommend the role be offered to Jenny Hey. This is a 9 month contract due to funding constraints, SLF will fund the role until the end of March then DCT reserves will cover the cost of the post after this with further funding being sought to extend the role. Lots of potential for working with various local community groups.
- Both the above are excellent candidates and bring a wealth of experience to the roles. They will both start in February.

Actions:

7 Banking (Insignis) and address details

- DCT has been recommended to use Insignis by our accountant, to allow the reserves to be split between different financial institutions to gain banking protection. It will allow DCT to get better interest rates, have instant access to funds when needed and mean DCT can switch accounts without a heavy admin burden
- DCT registered address to be changed to the Gaeltec Buildings, address would need to be changed with various organisations - approved by all trustees

Actions: MM to provide more information regarding Insignis for the next meeting

8 Minibus design and collection

- MM shared the minibus design proofs. The minibus is diesel, as for the size an EV would be over the weight limit for volunteer drivers
- MM to volunteer to collect the minibus from Falkirk with accommodation and travel approved by trustees
- The old minibus is off the road but is insured, and the brakes are to be fixed imminently. There is a list of other recommended work, so perhaps cannot be used in the way it has been until recently. There is potential for seats to be removed and the old minibus to be reclassified as a van - not for decision now, but will be brought to the next meeting.
- Related to minibus hire, the website needs to be improved and MM has been collecting quotes for this work

Actions:

9 Orbost Farmhouse Architect quotes

- MM has been firming up quotes for Architect work up to the point of construction, we have requested 3 and 2 have been received
- Ollie Blair Architects £26,360 ex VAT, £31,632 inc VAT
- Iain Livesley Architects carried out the initial work on the project, his quote is £21,270 inc VAT. This quote does not include the fee costs for a services engineer, MM to enquire about this, but still recommends this quote.
- MM asking for DCT to fund the initial RIBA stages (£4,470), and will look for funding from the planning stage onwards. MM to provide more information to trustees for a decision via email

Actions: Contact Iain Livesley regarding services engineer MM
Provide more information to trustees on the quotes MM

10 Funding applications

- Educational Grant - Lola Bold (JB left the room). Lola is in her 3rd year and applying for £1000 support, this was unanimously approved by the trustees

- Some discussion was held on the structure of the funding awards and how the incoming Community Benefit payment is split between projects, this to be brought to the next meeting for further discussion
- Dunvegan Exercise Class is applying for £999 for improvements and maintenance of equipment, hall hire, minibus fees to keep the class running safely for users. This was unanimously agreed by the trustees

Actions: Contact applicants with decisions - BA

11 AOB

- Dates to be set for upcoming meetings and trustees agreed to hold the meetings at the Gaeltec Buildings on Thursdays.
- Risk register to be developed for DCT activities, BA has done some work but this needs completing and sharing with trustees
- MM requested to buy a new printer for the Gaeltec Buildings which was agreed by trustees

Actions: dates set for upcoming meetings BA
Risk register to be further developed BA & MM
MM to buy new printer

Date of Next meeting: 5 March 2026 (UPDATE - postponed to 12 March 2026)

Meeting closed at 7.15pm