



Committee Meeting Minutes: 5 May 2026

1 Welcome & Apologies:

Present: Jason Bold (JB), Stuart Cullen (SC), Mandy Boswell (MB), Angela Wallis (AW), Colin Ewing (CE) Bryony Anderson (BA), Mali MacLennan (MM), Jenny Hey (JH)

Apologies: Liza Cleland (LC)

JB to chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Adoption of previous minutes: CE proposed, MB seconded

BA will upload minutes to the website

3 Trustee roles

- JB acting Chair and SC acting Treasurer, decided they should continue in these roles for 12 months
- All trustees don't need to be over the details of all projects but we need a trustee linked to each project, the board needs to be ready to manage quite a complex organisation from the outset, potential for more commercial activities coming up. Support available for training, HR, we need to learn from other groups as well. DCT needs to develop a strategy (where we want to get to and how to get there, vision-mission-values exercise could also be useful), then split operational from strategic.
 - Woodland, Woodland Crofts - AW, CE
 - Gaeltec Hub - SCP fund, funding, leases JB, refurbishment SC, renewables CE
 - Housing - SC
 - Staff oversight, staff handbook, appraisals, interviews - MB, AW
 - Upcoming projects - MB
- Ultimately we will need to move towards a facilities based paid role for asset management.

Actions:

4 Conflicts of interest

- JB not voting on educational grant application
- CE not voting on MacLoud Samba Drumming application

Actions:

5 Financial update

- Income £412,308, with costs (including grant awards) across the year so far of £89,250 we have an operating sum (including physical assets) of £322,695. There has been a big jump in income and the operating sum due to income from SLF and HIE for the Orbst Farmhouse/woodland purchase.

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- Grant awards budget being worked on by SC. There are 5 grant funding categories, which can be allocated funds based on last year's activities for tracking purposes, but it is important to track the funds for decision making.
- Discretionary funds need discussion with the two groups and updating for the year
- Insignis is a useful option, with MB checking in with FSCS about how cover works for these kinds of investments. The other option is to open savings accounts with other banks and building societies. JB to contact accountant regarding risk
- A new charity current account needs investigation due to charges from RBS, perhaps a Co-operative account, JB to check with the accountant that this account would work with Insignis and accounting software.
- No update on audit as yet
- Banking mandate - committee confirm that Katie Lawrence is to be removed as a signatory and SC to be added as a signatory

Actions: Contact accountant regarding banking and Insignis JB
Update banking mandate MM

6 Gaeltec Project Officer report

- Report attached - questions approved with some discussion on the Skye Sea Salt Co salt smoker. Agreed to using it on the gravelled area between the buildings for now, providing hard standing for a shed in the medium term and open to other options in the longer term.

Actions:

7 Woodland Project Officer report

- Report attached. Play structures in Cnoc nan Craobh need a decision regarding levels of risk, significant discussion (responsibility/risk/insurance) led to decision to remove the hung netting but to leave the swings with signage regarding risk. AW to get more information on management of the swings. No decision yet on whether to replace equipment removed with something else
- Roadside tree felling means we need to restock (with native broadleaf), if funding not available some money would be needed, important to look at budget for this project
- Cnoc nan Craobh management proposal made - trustees currently against deer fencing (using tree guards for new planting instead), gates need replacing though, JH to get quotes. Quotes also for path maintenance, signs, benches.
- Cruachan woodland management plan to be discussed further, there was discussion about potential quality of the land and challenges, however consensus on limited development prior to leasing the land and a management plan that sets tenants up for success (and potentially grant funding). Model for house sites and housing not yet decided, but housing crucial, including housing allocation policy. JH to draft a management plan.
- Quoted approx £30k to remove salmonberry over the next 3-4 years - decided against this currently
- Approval to purchase gardening tools for volunteer days, to be included in the tool library

Actions: Remove netting and inspect swings JH
Get figures against maintenance works, particularly Cnoc nan Craobh JH
Draft management plan JH

8 Development Officer report

- Report attached.

- We've had an application for membership from someone who lives in the Dunvegan CC area but isn't registered to vote, they would be eligible for associate membership only and the trustees approve this
- A piece of park equipment has been interfered with, with bolts being removed from the equipment. Someone from DCT was there within the hour and the item has been removed and stored, with replacement bolts to be ordered.
- Aims of the housing allocation policy (from the DO report) were discussed and approved
- Overall strategy for the Trust is beginning to be something that needs recording, potentially by working on vision/mission/values or a strategy statement.
- Let's Make Dunvegan Beautiful approved to become a working group for banking and other support.
- With potential for new projects coming up, Trustees need to consider staff capacity and potential for employing another staff member. HIE has a Graduate scheme which can partially fund a role, so we will enquire with them.

Actions: Respond to issues regarding the park equipment

9 Funding applications

- Education grant application from Jake Bold approved
- Coastguard application for thermal imaging binoculars approved, as no other funding sources are likely available. Will enquire after the old equipment, to add to the tool library for community use
- Skyedance application split into two options - for summer school (4 day long workshop sessions during the summer holidays and/or term time 2hr sessions in the autumn). Expectation that this will be very popular. Agreed to award funds for summer sessions first with a requirement to advertise where funding is coming from. Trustees to return to the discussion regarding the term time sessions once the grant funding budget is presented and with confirmation Skyedance can deliver these, ask if they want to contribute a performance to the Dunvegan Show
- MacLoud Drumming Group looking for funding for design and printing of new uniforms which is approved with good acknowledgement of the funding award
- Let's Make Dunvegan Beautiful initially applied to purchase barrel planters, but these need replacing frequently, so the application has been updated for high quality wooden planters. This is a small grant application, so the Trustees decided to award the maximum for this category of £1000, to get a good number of planters for the village sites. 'Sponsored by Dunvegan Community Trust' decals to be printed for adding to the planters
- Dunvegan Traders have applied for funding to design and install a map sign in the public carpark. Lots of questions were raised and Trustees have asked for these to be put to the applicant with decision deferred.

Actions: Contact applicants with decisions - BA

10 DCC update

- DCC are following up with the NHS about dentistry and with SGRPID about a defibrillator at the Coral Beach carpark
- Asking Highland Council to put a brown sign at the Dunvegan Hotel junction pointing into the village centre
- Wanting to raise awareness of SSEN reinforcement project and traffic increases
- Investigating issues around Christmas lights and insurance
- Requesting that the 40mph speed limit is extended past Skye Silks and up to the quarry

Actions:

10 AOB

- Insurance questions - rebuild cost for Orbost queried by insurer, these are high due to the thick stone walls on the old part of the building, decided to keep this as in the valuation rather than spending additional money to reassess
- Next meeting is scheduled in 3 weeks time due to this meeting being delayed, agreed to reschedule the meeting at the end of May to the start of June.
- JH has asked to do the same number of days in her contract, but to extend the time that these days are worked over by reducing from 3 to 2 days per week
- Risk Register still needs attention
- Who should go to DTAS annual conference - BA and MM keen to go, with MB interested in attending from the Trustees

Actions: Develop a Risk Register for trustee input BA/MM/JH

Date of Next meeting: 4 June 2026 7pm Gaeltec Buildings

Meeting closed at 10.00pm