

DALWHINNIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Date: Thursday 8th May 2025

Time: 18.30

IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Chappell (MAC), Jen Dickinson (JD), Nicola Penny (NP), Deborah Munday (DM), Ian Philp (IP), David Haggarty (DH)

APOLOGIES and WELCOME

Simon Conroy (SC), Lesley Carr (LC), Muriel Cockburn (MC/HC)

DECLARATION OF INTEREST/INTENTIONS

No declarations

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting from 17th March 2025 were proposed by JD and seconded by DM

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Current balance £9,296.41
- Bank of Scotland have now advised charges will be applied to the account, JD to investigate

MATTERS ARISING

- Speeding – no further update, the result of the speed survey has been provided which states that the average speed is still below 40mph! MAC to speak with PC Stewart on his return from Shetland. It was suggested we could purchase the signs which show current speed for which there may be grants, JD to research. A police model could also be erected on private property, DH to investigate, if the cost is up to £100 each then we could start with these. Proposed MAC, seconded IP. It was also noted that the road is still awaiting to be finished opposite the distillery but nobody has advised when, MAC to chase BEAR. It was also pointed out that people are also speeding up Station Road which is actually signed as a 20mph road, DM to compile a letter to be distributed to request residents to observe the speed limit. DH ha also emailed directly to the tour bus operators on multiple occasions regarding them speeding through the village, MAC asked for everyone to continue doing this and to cc the Dalwhinnie chair email.
- War Memorial Benches – this has now been 3-4 weeks since ordering, SC to chase

- DCC Fund Raising
 - Discussions were had regarding a further pantomime this year and the options for small cast productions are to be decided on, potentially Sleeping Beauty/Rapunzel or Peter Pan
 - A craft fair for end of October beginning of November is to be held, the village hall to be booked once a date is decided
 - It was asked what funds that are being raised are to be spent on – suggestions were for a Christmas Party for older residents, tree planting and speed limit signs, it was suggested to ask the older residents what they would like. IP to organize
 - SC to contact Aldo Kane to see if he can offer a date yet
 - Musical evening with the Toe Tappers/Elsie Galt also a suggestion
- Website Management – JD to chase on form which Am-Baile are requiring
- Station Road Lighting – nothing has happened yet, DH needs assistance to remove, IP has offered to help. HC have not responded with regards fixing the street lighting. DM advised that the old lights had sockets but the new ones don't. It was also suggested that a Christmas Tree could be erected at the war memorial, however in previous years due to the weather this hadn't worked but if planted would be permanent and could be decorated each year. MAC to speak to Eilidh (Diagio) for any assistance for lights, these could be battery operated, the estate could be asked to donate the tree.
- Rail Crossing – no further update. IP advised he is getting more people climbing over his fence/gate causing damage, it was suggested that more signage is required to deter people.
- EARBA Pump Storage – Update to follow. There is an open meeting at Laggan Village Hall on 19th May 25, as many as possible are urged to attend
- SSE Hydro Community Fund – applications are open until June. JD to investigate and apply if possible. Proposed DM, seconded DH
- Community Growing Gathering – Nobody was available to attend the last meeting

PLANNING MATTERS

No current planning matters

AOB

- Circulation of agenda and minutes of meetings. NP has been approached following a request from Ralia Estate to publish agenda and minutes to a wider audience. It was agreed that a list of Estate Factor email addresses would be obtained and these circulated to them, however if they change the addresses they would need to advise of any updates to continue receiving this information. Alternatively we could issue via mail. Copies of the agenda and minutes will be posted on the notice board and on the Dalwhinnie community Facebook page. The website is difficult to use
- There is a workshop on Communities and Landscape Regeneration taking place on Tuesday 3rd June at Boat of Garten, 13.30-18.30, travel expenses can be covered and food is provided if anyone can attend
- IP suggested compiling a list of people that can be contacted in the event of needing a service, e.g. Electrician, Plumber, Chimney Sweep etc. This will be a list of names and numbers not actual recommendations of service etc. The list could then be posted on the notice board.
- DM suggested an event for children from outer areas/estates who don't get access to things like trick or treating, previously this had been done with people gathering in their cars and using open car boots instead of doors

NEXT MEETING DATES

- Thursday 19th June 25, Tuesday 22nd July 25, Thursday 18th Sept 25, Tuesday 7th October 25, all Dalwhinnie Village Hall, 6.30pm