

Dunadd Community Enterprise

Minutes of AGM

Tuesday 14 January 2025, Kilmartin Parish Churh, Barrmor View, Kilmartin

7.30pm

Present: David Bracken; Rowena Ranger; Sue McLean; Sally Wilkin; Chris Carr; Steve Walker; Carol MacGregor; David Smart

1. Apologies: Hazel Fuller; Anne Smart; Di Roberts; Finlay McLean

2. Minutes of last meeting:

Following the last meeting, the accounts were submitted to Companies House.

Proposer: David Bracken

Seconder: Sally Wilkin

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Chair's report:

The Chair opened his report by remembering Janet Jardine and giving thanks for her contribution as a Director of the enterprise.

The Chair's report is attached to this document.

In addition to the information given the document:

- The Chair noted that, if DCE did not get new directors, it is likely DCE will be wound up in twelve months time and much of intervening year will be spent making arrangements for its winding up.
- DCE's plans for 2025 are to proceed with the application for funding for a Development Worker, find a successful conclusion to the ownership arrangements for Slockavullin Green; make arrangements for the handover of activities if DCE winds down.
- If applications for funding for a Development Worker are successful, one piece of work they could do is to talk to enterprises in the area to understand their needs.
- There was some discussion about the fate of the old lawnmower.
- The accounts have been approved by the accountant and are ready to submit to Companies House, subject to approval at this meeting.

There was discussion around whether DCE has a role in bringing together organisations and groups operating in the area, and whether there is merit in having regular meetings between community groups.

We are aware that DCE does not have activities operating in Kilmichael or Bridgend. However, no-one has applied for funding or identified activities in this areas. It was noted that the lack of facilities limits opportunities to host community activities in these areas.

4. Treasurer's report:

Sally Wilkin presented the Treasurer's report, which related to the financial year 2023/4. The accounts presented were as of April 2024.

Income over the year came from grants, the sale of books collected via Book Swap (£107.00) and donations (£713 from Book Swap).

Grants included:

Four microgrants each of £250.00 from Dunadd Community Council, two to pay for flowers, compost etc, one to cover maintenance and equipment costs, and one for Book Swap.

Outgoings included:

£144.00 for the Zoom licence.

£180.00 membership of DTAS.

Cost of secretarial support.

Accountancy services.

Hall hire.

Repair and renewal costs, including new plants and £107.00 for new signage for the defibrillator.

Soup for Bookswap meetings held during the winter months.

Much of the money held in the accounts is reserved for particular purposes. Any unreserved funds go back to the Enterprise.

As part of the Treasurer's Report, our thanks were extended to the following people:

- Everyone who has donated money, baking and sweet treats to Book Swap,
- Di Roberts for dealing with the book sales
- Di, Gill and helpers for maintaining the tubs throughout the village
- David Bracken for applying—and getting—grants, including for the new lawnmower.

David Smart proposed the approval of the accounts.

David Bracken seconded the proposal.

The accounts were proposed.

5. Election of directors:

Steve Walker expressed a willingness to become a director of the enterprise. David Bracken, David Smart, Sally Wilkin and Chris Carr all stood again for election as directors of the enterprise.

Sue Maclean proposed the appointment of the above as directors. Carol MacGregor seconded the proposal.

Steve Walker, David Bracken, David Smart, Sally Wilkin and Chris Carr were appointed as directors for the year 2025/6.

David Smart noted that we have the power to co-opt new directors if anyone else would like to join the enterprise, and that it would be good to have all communities covered by the enterprise be represented.

6. Any questions:

Steve Walker asked about the history of the enterprise and its purpose. David Bracken and David Smart outlined its origins and the reasons behind its creation. Principle among the reasons for its creation was that there was previously no organisation in the area which could apply for funding from the windfarm. Di Roberts, David Bracken and Steve Carter had been instrumental in setting up the organisation.

There is a misconception among members of the local community that the enterprise was set up to investigate the reuse of the old Church of Scotland. The original intention was to start with small projects which would make a difference to the community; the sale of the Church arose soon after the enterprise was set up.

Projects which the enterprise has carried since its inception include:

- Litter project (ongoing). (It was noted that the anti-littering signs are so good that they get stolen. Only four of the original 30 remain.)
- Sowing wild flowers.
- Covid support, including distribution of hardship payments, an initiative to help businesses after Covid via holding markets on the green)
- The acquisition of a stretch tent for outdoor events (including the above mentioned markets).
- Creation / updating of the community plan.

The creation of the Community Plan enabled the refocusing of the enterprise, clarifying its role as an organisation focusing on the delivery of projects and not on the delivery of services.

Six areas of interest have been identified in the plan. These are:

Organisation, tourism development, enterprise development, community cohesion, community asset ownership and activities for younger residents.

The vision for the organisation at present is for it to be a lobbying / support group, with a focus on the delivery of small projects.

7: Any other business:

There was discussion about the Dunadd footpath and a wish for this to be maintained.

Sue MacLean thanked the committee for its work.

8: Date of next meeting:

Next meeting to be held in January 2026, date and time to be confirmed nearer the time.

Chair's Report:

DCE Re-cap 2024

DCE (established in 2016) has continued to contribute to the life of our community.

During the year we were all saddened by the passing of Janet Jardine. For those of us who attended her memorial service at Kilmartin, her eulogy perfectly described her as a gentle, but determined person who cared about folks, her community and the planet. Our community is poorer as a result of her passing.

Looking back on the past year, we met last at the AGM was held on 11th January 2024. At this meeting, Sally Wilkin joined DCE, and the Chair role transitioned to me. At the AGM Janet stood down as Treasurer with Di Roberts stepping up and providing us with need support on the numbers and Sally taking over the treasurer role on in May 2024.

At that session we presented a draft community plan and welcomed comments and feedback from those who attended. A follow up consultation was held in on 8th February 2024 , after being rescheduled due to bad weather. In discussions that evening, the future of the Ford Village Hall was discussed. It has been fantastic the progress the Ford Community has made in renovating the hall into a bright and welcoming space that is now home to a large number of regular community activities – chapeau.

The feedback provided by the consultations was incorporated into the draft plan and a finalised document was published on the Enterprise's web site in April 2024. The Directors recognise that to advance this plan additional resource is required. My biggest regret this year is that we have not managed to secure funding to employ a Development Manager to advance the aims and objectives of our community. I understand that the Community Council is shortly to look at the plan and explore if this could be the basis for the development of a Place Plan for Dunadd. These plans are being sought by Argyll and Bute Council to help them in future planning activity.

We have a job description prepared for a Development Manager and we will try again to get funding.

Progress in 2024/25

Loch Awe National Park proposal – we attended a consultation and took soundings from the residents and the business community. The overwhelming feedback was negative with concerns raised around the effect on planning and development limitations and potential further unwelcome increases in house prices. We fed back our concerns to the Community Councillors. There was an ambition to undertake more consultation with the business community, but we have not been able to advance this work.

Kilmartin Green – One of the gems in our community is Kilmartin Green; it is a valued and valuable resource and thanks are due to everyone who works to keep it pristine and useable. In 2024, the coffers of Foundation Scotland were again raided by DCE to get

funds necessary to purchase a new lawn mower. Funds were secured and the new kit arrived in late summer 2024. It is envisaged that there will be microgrant applications made shortly to purchase bulbs and seed to plant the Kilmartin Village for 2025.

Kilmartin Green again came in focus when it was recognised the five a side goal posts had deteriorated and needed replaced. We have recently seen the new posts arrive and be put in situ.

Slockavullin – discussions have commenced around the potential of DCE taking over the ownership of Slockavullin Green. This would see DCE take responsibility of insurance and governance with a commitment being sought from the community to take the care of the maintenance of the Green.

The Book Swap – this endeavour has again been a great success providing a valued space for folks to meet and chat. During the winter period soup was provided, with plans to continue this activity in 2025. A proposed Royal visit put a spanner in the works of the initiative; however if there was a silver lining it was that dialogue commenced between Kilmartin Museum and the Book Swap team to see the church car park made available on each Book Swap day.

Seed Swap – this again has become a fixture of our community calendar and fingers crossed we will see this taking place in spring 2025.

Thanks

- Chris for helping me source demographic information to provide context for the updated Community Plan
- Sally for taking over as treasurer and for working constructively with Di and Hazel on the accounts.
- Di Roberts special thanks for stepping up and assisting with the bookkeeping when we were struggling
- Hazel for continuing to organise me, co-ordinate meetings, produce minutes and ensure that our accounts were submitted and approved by our accountants Ainsley Smith
- David Bracken for sorting the lawnmower, goal posts, web hosting and email, bank accounts (when we needed to get people added and removed), google drive, attending meetings and consultations and keeping the other directors up to speed with a local information and for being the heart of DCE

Looking forward

This could be a watershed year for DCE. The Directors will stay for a further year, but we need to decide if DCE still has a purpose and what our function is going forward. David B and I attended a recent meeting with organisations from around Dunadd and Loch Awe. There is the potential for a new larger scale, funded community organisation to emerge. It is not clear what its remit and purpose could be.

Currently there are other community groups including the Lachlan Miller Trust in Kilmichael/Bridgend, the Kilmartin Initiative and the Ford Village Hall Committee – how does DCE interface and add value?

Future Plans

Finalize arrangements for a development worker to support DCE initiatives.

Continue engaging with the community on the Slockavullin project, ensuring clarity on roles and responsibilities.

Pursue additional funding opportunities to support ongoing and future projects.

David Smart (Chair)

Treasurer Detail

Dunadd Community Enterprise Community Interest Company

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 30 April 2024

	30.4.24		30.4.23	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Sales	107		82	
Donations	1,213		961	
Grants	1,144		344	
	<u> </u>	2,464	<u> </u>	1,387
Cost of sales				
Sub contractors		350		450
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
GROSS SURPLUS		2,114		937
Expenditure				
Rent	-		370	
Other establishment costs	340		290	
Insurance	148		138	
Post and stationery	-		4	
Advertising	-		103	
Motor expenses	-		60	
Repairs and renewals	328		665	
Sundry expenses	80		27	
Subscription	324		90	
Accountancy	330		-	
	<u> </u>	1,550	<u> </u>	1,747
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		<u>564</u>		<u>(810)</u>