

DUNADD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Dunadd Community Council held on Tuesday 28th July. 2020 at 7.30p.m. via zoom conference.

Present: David Smart (welcome to the new Convener from the ex-convener), Jim Malcolm, Di Roberts, Helen Mackie.

In Attendance: Violet Brown, Sharon Webb, Stephen Carter, David Bracken, Anne Blackburn.

1. Apologies. Donnie Macmillan (A&BC), Dougie Philand (A&BC), P.S. Keith Evans (Police Scotland)
2. Declarations of Interest: DS as director of DCE; JM as volunteer with Kilmartin Museum.
3. Minutes of previous meeting – January as there was no meeting in March. Approved and signed by JM as Convener at time of meeting.
4. Matters arising from the minutes.

4.1 JM to pursue A&BC Roads department for speakers at next meeting re. traffic issues.

4.2 From the 26th May meeting, JM invited to a local community forum with representatives from SSE and Balfour Beatty re. new high voltage lines. At meeting on 29th July JM expressed concern that Ford had not been consulted about the construction camp at Torran. Planning approval had been granted without going public. They accepted the criticism and had amended practise. When asked if there were any outbreaks of Covid-19, only one worker had tested +ve and had self-isolated.

5. Reports

5.1 Police Report – via email. No incidents to report. Speed awareness training was stalled by Covid 19 crisis but hoped to resume soon.

5.2 Treasurer’s Report – an update on the change of role. Di has still not received cheque book and documents etc from Gordon. New signatures are with the bank. When authorised, payments of microgrants etc can resume.

5.3 Planning Report. Kilmartin Quarry extension / a presentation detailing proposals available on line from 1st August (no details as yet) and public consultation via video call(s) on 12th August. Kilmartin Museum not against as removal of topsoil will enable detailed archaeological survey of this important area. According to the plans, the track to Upper Largie farm will remain. / Eredine wind farm is outwith the DCC area and was not discussed

6. Updates:

6.1 Covid-19 response. No great uptake of volunteer help. Those with needs had made their own arrangements. DB said that financial hardship grants were welcome but funds are nearly gone. DS said more funding was available. DB to email contact.

DS wanted more young people involved in decision making. A&BC likewise but this had proved difficult in the past.

6.2 Dunadd Community Enterprise Church project. With funding uncertain and financial viability in doubt for the future it was decided to walk away from the project. DS and SW agreed this was the right choice. The owner is OK with decision. Some suggestion that Clan MacAlpin may be interested as a heritage centre.

6.3 Kilmartin Museum. Lost 95% of income. Most staff furloughed. Impossible to reopen as spaces are too small / financially not viable / Café risk-assessed for take-aways. Possibility of guided walks resuming. Redevelopment unaffected. HLF accept delays although it is hoped to put the work out to tender soon as companies may be desperate for the work. Re. car park, there will be further consultation with DCC, DCE and local community. Will be some cost overruns so a need for more funding and/or cost cutting.

7. Correspondence. None received other than Covid information which was circulated to the volunteers and co-ordinators.

8. Public questions. DB raised the question as to why there were no plans to reopen Kilmartin toilets given the increase in visitors and lack of alternatives other than the hotel and that is unacceptable. JM to raise issue with A&BC.

9. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 29th Sept. in Kilmartin parish church (hopefully!)

The meeting closed at 8.45pm. Thanks to DB for arranging the conference.