

Dunadd Community Enterprise

2020 AGM

4th Feb 2021

The meeting was conducted via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Present:

David Bracken (Chair), Stef Burgon, Chris Carr, Steve Carter (Vice Chair), Jeremy Houston, Pauline Houston, Simon Hunt, Janet Jardine, Gary Linstead, Viv Little, Jim Malcolm, Di Roberts (Treasurer), Anne Smart, David Smart, Bob Sweetman, Lesley Sweetman, Sally Wilkin.

Apologies:

Ann Blackburn, Ian Copland, Allan McLean, Ella Wilson, Steve Wilson, Stuart Wright.

1.Welcome

As Chair, David Bracken (DB) welcomed everyone. He asked permission to record the meeting and that it would be deleted once the notes of the meeting had been written. This was agreed by all in attendance. Attendees agreed that voting on the Special Resolution (item 4) will happen via on-line poll.

2.Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were proposed by Jim Malcolm. A poll showed 91% agreed that the minutes were accurate, with 9% abstaining.

3.Matters arising

DB confirmed that Dunadd Community Enterprise was registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) in Aug 2020 and were in the process of opening a bank account for the SCIO, this has been significantly delayed due to Covid. We will launch as a charity once we have an active bank account.

4.Resolution to add online meetings to Dunadd Community Enterprise Articles

DB explained that our Articles/Constitution do not preclude carrying out a meeting on-line. Following advice from Dev Trust Assoc Scotland we were seeking to include an explicit Article laying out the circumstances that would allow for on-line meetings. An on-line form was available on the website prior to the meeting, those completing that form also voted during the meeting. A poll conducted during the meeting resulted in 100% agreement to accepting the special resolution.

5.Chair's Report

DB spoke to a prepared presentation.

There are currently 179 members, of which 162 are ordinary members, 12 are junior members and there are 12 associate members

- Kilmartin Church – this was the biggest project of the year. It included some tight unmissable deadlines and several different professionals (architect, surveyors, A&B Council etc). Directors learnt new skills including 3D videoing,

narration and editing to produce a meaningful representation of the proposed development of Kilmartin Church. A community consultation as well as membership vote took place. To include everything that the community wanted all aspects would have been on a small scale. There were limited income opportunities, and it would have taken several years for the project to break even financially. A community shares organization would need to be set up and it was uncertain whether enough people would come forward to run it. The wider financial uncertainty of availability of grants due to Brexit and Covid-19 recovery were also factors considered. The project was complete in Aug 2020 as everything, including communications, slowed down during lockdown. It was therefore decided by Directors not to proceed with the project.

The building is privately owned, and the museum is using it for storage while their extension is being built. The Mc Alpine clan is interested in exploring it as a clan seat.

- Lockdown – in partnership with Dunadd Community Council funding was received to supply volunteers with PPE, the local Scrubs sewing group to buy fabric and to run a hardship fund for those living in Dunadd. Two grants were received and a further top up was received for one of them. This project was completed in Dec 2020.
- Kilmartin green/garden fund – the finances for fuel maintenance and plants has never been very robust, often relying on contributions from volunteers. The Kilmartin Hotel regularly contributes and over recent years a number of micro-grants from Dunadd Community Council were received. A just Giving campaign in summer 2020 raised over £1,000 which provides a financial safety net for ongoing maintenance and fuel. No other fund-raising activities have been possible since March 2020.
- Wildflower project – despite a difficult start due to the Covid-19 restrictions, a first site was agreed with the landowner of Kilmartin Village Green. Thanks to the hard work of Gary Linstead and 14 volunteers. The banking has been raked, the first lot of seed scattered, and crocuses planted. Sites in Ford and Slockavullin are being explored.
- Market garden facility – the Directors have looked at a number of sites around the area but have yet to find one that would be suitable.
- Kilmartin public toilets – Argyll and Bute Council are keen for community organisations to take over the running of public toilets, we are currently negotiating a 12-month license agreement which would give us time to develop a feasibility study.
- Stretch tent – We have applied to Prince's Countryside Trust for funding towards the running of the public toilets, public liability insurance, a stretch tent and generator. The tent can be used by community groups until meetings can take place in buildings again and also as a pop-up shop/gallery for local artists to sell their wares.

DB thanked the Directors for their hard work and for being flexible when we've had to change the way we do things.

Steve Carter proposed acceptance of the report. This was agreed by 100% of attendees via a poll.

6. Treasurer's Report

DR reminded people that the accounts covered the period up to 30 April 2020 and that they had been independently examined, submitted to Companies House and the Corporation Tax return had been completed. There is no tax to pay. DR identified

which funds are restricted i.e. specific grants given to us for a specific purpose that can only be spent on specific things. These include: Development Worker Fund, Litter Project, Church Project and Covid-19 project.

Development Worker Fund – funded by A'Chruach Community Fund, some outstanding costs to be incurred and some funds to be repaid in 2020/21.

Kilmartin Garden Fund – All avenues of donations were unavailable so a Just Giving page was set up.

Litter project - £390 still to spend on signage for the defibrillator installed outside Kilmartin Primary School.

Church project – these accounts only show one of the three grants that were awarded. Spending takes place in 2020/21.

Unrestricted money available £242.

Steve Carter proposed acceptance of the accounts, seconded by Jim Malcolm and agreed by 100% of attendees via a poll.

7. Election of Directors

The current Directors – David Bracken, Chris Carr, Steve Carter, Gary Linstead, Allan McLean and Di Roberts were all willing to stand again. No other members came forward for election. A vote was not required as less than the maximum number allowed were standing. A poll showed 91% agreed 9% abstained.

8. Any other business

- Where will the tent be stored and what about insurance?
The tent will be stored in the sheds in Kilmartin. We have public liability insurance, but it isn't covered for theft. Those hiring it will have to have their own insurance.
- Where will the tent be erected?
It will primarily be put up on Kilmartin Village Green to maximise passing trade for the pop-up artists shop/gallery. The landowner has given permission and the Green Committee are in agreement too.
- How big is the tent?
Its full size is 10m x 10m and with all sides up can accommodate 100 people standing. It was suggested that we buy bespoke pegs to cope with the west coast winds. A discussion followed about getting professional training to put it up (a resident in Ford used to put them up as part of his job) Weather checks should be a requirement before it is hired out.
- David Smart outlined plans for 19th Mid Argyll Scouts to acquire a plot of land and steading one mile down a forestry track in Kilmichael Glen. It would be an asset transfer from Forestry and Land Scotland. It would be run as an off-grid wild camping area. There is a potential partnership with the DCE market garden project. The intention would be that if the scout group folded the land would transfer to DCE. If the transfer doesn't go ahead the steading will probably be demolished and the area commercially planted.
- Thanks were expressed to DB his hard work during this exceptional year.