

# Duror & Kentallen

## DUROR & KENTALLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MEETING

Monday February 14th 2022 at 7:30pm  
Kentallen and Duror Community Centre

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**Present:** Sarah Fanet (Highland Council), Geoff Nix (Chair), Pat Young (Vice Chair), Jonathan Baxter (Treasurer), Alex Smith, Audrey Godfrey, Chris Pearman, Liz Paul, Lis Robertson, Steve Bignell, Dicky Weir, Kay Duffy, and Lea Thomson (secretary)

**Apologies:** Claire Howell, Richard Wilkie, Dot Ferguson, Willie Burke, Charlotte Mair, Jeannie MacLeod, Andrew Baxter, and Stephen Softley.

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### 1. Thank you

Geoff began the meeting by thanking Jonathan for stepping into the role of acting chairman on short notice and for his time and efforts in guiding the Community Council (CC) through the last few months. He is looking forward to continuing to work with Jonathan as Geoff takes over the role of Chairman.

### 2. Voting in of Members

#### Co-opted Members

The following people were voted in as co-opted members. These members may vote on CC issues but may not co-opt new members.

Dicky Weir	Nominated by Steve	Seconded by Jonathan
Chris Pearman	Nominated by Jonathan	Seconded by Pat
Audrey Godfrey	Nominated by Pat	Seconded by Jonathan
Kay Duffy	Nominated by Jonathan	Seconded by Pat

#### Associate Members

There was one nomination for an associate member. Associate members are regarded as members of the CC in that they are copied in on all documentation circulated to CC members, but they have no voting rights.

Jeannie MacLeod	Nominated by Jonathan	Seconded by Pat
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### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2021

Amendments required to minutes:

- Geoff contacted the Highland Council by email regarding parking issues at Cuil Bay, not by phone. (Note: amended by Lea 17/2/22)
- Minutes approved by Chris, seconded by Pat.

## 4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- **Playground equipment updates** - The swing set has been ordered, with the deposit of £2,000 paid by the Hall Committee. Total cost of the agreed equipment was £7,971.84. The Highland Council have agreed to provide £4,600 from the Developer Contribution towards the set and the remaining balance has been split equally to be paid by the Hall Committee and the Community Council - so the Community Council will pay £1,670.93. The annual fees for the playground equipment, will be shared equally between the Hall Committee and the Community Council, and are estimated at around £180 each. The hall has title of ownership for the equipment, and will therefore take responsibility for liability insurance.
- **Cuil Bay parking issues** - Geoff sent a letter in October 2021, which was acknowledged at the end of the year but he has since had no further communication. Geoff to email Sarah with the details, and she will escalate with the Council.
  - Liz Paul commented on the very poor state of the road, which has caused serious damage to tyres and car suspensions of locals, and asked the council to look into this. Sarah will escalate with the council.
  - Liz also asked if we can ensure that local landowners are kept informed of progress. (Note: further discussion on Cuil Bay in AOB)
- **Main Road Bench Refurbishment** - It was decided to opt for a composite bench. Lea to redistribute the email sent previously with quotes. Jonathan suggested we could install two benches: this one on the main road, and another by the memorial. Dicky will take responsibility for getting the benches ordered and installed. Chris restated his concern over ownership (as the original bench is owned by the Highland Council). Sarah to check with the Highland Council: if the CC buys and installs the benches, will the HC be responsible for insurance?
- **Broadband** - No further updates, although the dates seem to have been pushed to the end of the year. Geoff confirmed Dicky's query that the installations will be fibre to the premises (FTTP).
- **Road Safety** - no further updates

## 5. Treasurer's Report

- Was in abeyance until a new chairman was elected. Current account contains £9,622.66 and the deposit account holds £3,795.27.
- Still to pay out CC insurance £86, the cost of the remembrance wreath (TBC) and dog poo bags £75.28.
- Jonathan is chasing payouts from new hydro and will report at the next meeting.
- Geoff to be added and Rachel deleted as co-signatory for cheques at RBS.

## 6. Correspondence

- **Covid Regulations** - two emails from Derek Manson at the Highland Council re COVID regulations. Latest dated 3rd Feb is that it is now ok for CCs to meet face to face, following a risk assessment has been completed.
- **Government Funding** - Sarah Fanet has sent out emails re funding opportunities which Lea has circulated to the members. These are:
  - Place-based investment programme support (6th Jan)
  - Mental health funding (17th Jan)
  - Funding for women in agriculture (17th Jan)
  - Playground grants (9th Feb)
- **Common Good Land (2/2/22)** - some CCs with common good land are petitioning the Government to have a better approach to getting this registered. Lis will ask Neil Malcolm if he is aware of any common good land in our area.
- **Highland Council re Community Surgeries** - Sarah Fanet, our ward councillor, contacted us to ask for hall booking details as she wants to undertake some local surgeries.

## 7. Planning

Concerning these three applications:

- [22/00263/PIP Demolition of steading and erection of house in grounds of Auchendarroch, Achindarroch Road, Duror.](#)
- [22/00253/FUL Erection of 2 houses in grounds of Auchendarroch, Achindarroch Road, Duror.](#)
- [21/03675/FUL Renewal of permission for house on land 60M SE Of Achindarroch Farm Duror](#)

Lea read an email from Neil Ravenscroft expressing concern over planning application 22/0263/PIP, regarding the scale and orientation of the planned dwelling. Steve stated that he also objects to all three applications in Achindarroch, due to the scale of the developments and that they are not planning to connect to sewage mains, which will have an environmental impact. Chris is concerned regarding the size of the development and the safety of adding new dwellings to the area, considering the narrowness of the access road and the danger of the junction. Geoff will contact the Highland Council to confirm we will need to discuss this further before making our consultee comment.

There were queries as to why [22/00191/FUL | Erection of 2 polytunnels | Coroghan Duror Appin PA38 4BW](#) required planning permission, as polytunnels are temporary structures. Chris also queried a development across the road from him, where he'd heard that industrial buildings were being erected to store equipment and vehicles, but he hadn't seen any planning for this - and he was concerned about the nature of the buildings and the impact on the narrow access road.

Regarding [21/06041/FUL Conversion and extension of garage to form holiday letting unit, and erection of garage, Fraochaidh, Duror, Appin.](#) - the CC has no issues with this application.

Regarding [21/02145/FUL Erection of 4 flats and associated works, Cameron Brae, Kentallen](#) - which is under consideration. Lea pointed out to Sarah that this was received 3rd May, validated in June, scheduled for determination by 6th August and should have expired on 27th September 2021, but is still showing as under consideration.

## 8. COVID - Area updates and meeting changes

Dicky was thanked for his work to create a formal risk assessment for our meetings. This risk assessment has been circulated to CC members. He will make the amendments requested and send them to Geoff for sign-off.

## 9. Any Other Business

- **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations (2 - 5 June)** - suggested we set up a sub-committee to arrange this in conjunction with the Hall Committee. Anyone who's interested in helping to contact Jonathan.
- **Village Tidy-Up** - this usually takes place in early Spring. Jeannie is great at leading this project. Jonathan will speak to her and get the ball rolling.
- **Village Projects** - in the past we've funded projects such as the Duror Diggers' village plant boxes. Lea to publicize and ask for idea submissions.
- **Cycle Path Maintenance** - the cycle path is in a poor and dangerous state in some parts of our ward. Geoff to take a cycle down the path, make notes and write a letter to Sustrans on behalf of the CC.
- **Cuil Bay Road** - Liz Paul asked CC to approach the Highland Council about getting the road resurfaced. Geoff and Liz have both put in complaints already but have had no response. Issues about the road include campers blocking parking and access for emergency vehicles, potholes, poor surfacing, a lack of signage and road lines, poor sightlines when accessing the main road, and road speed. People use this road as an extension of the cycle track, and there is a primary school at the top - the speed should really be reduced to 30 mph or less. Geoff will write to the Highland Council on behalf of the CC. Sarah to escalate these points with the Highland Council.
- **Missing access bridge on core path in Glen Duror** - the bridge fell into disrepair and wasn't replaced, even though it is on a core path. The Council has been contacted many times before about getting the bridge and path reinstated as it is popular with local people. There were issues with the forestry refusing to take responsibility for maintaining the path and bridge - but they're legally obliged as it is registered as a core path. Liz Paul has contacted Access Officers who have agreed to take it forward, and she will keep the CC informed of progress. Geoff offered to support her to ensure the Forestry Access Officers know the importance of this access to a core path.

## 10. Date of Next Meeting

- Monday 14th March 2022. Kay will take minutes in Lea's absence.