

MINUTES, DORNOCH BID BOARD MEETING.
7pm Monday 22nd September, Dornoch Hub.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ginny Knox (**GK**), Jo Johnston (**JJ**), Catherine MacCulloch (**CM**), Sharon Mackay (**SM**), Gareth Dixon (**GD**), Claire Bruce (**CB**), Robert Smith (**RS**), Colin Thompson (**CT**), Jim McGillvray (**JMcG**)

	ITEM	DISCUSSION NOTE	ACTION
	Matters/Actions arising from last minutes	Dornoch Town Wi-Fi – Connection location has been agreed with the Castle Hotel. Still to be completed. Jobs Page – CB to include a link on our website to new ‘Live North’ site once it is live. New Opt-in member - Pitcalzean House – to go on Website Christmas Party – 19th December in the new Clubhouse. Tickets to be a max. of £45 inc. Disco with “good value” drinks publicised. Members’ Meeting – 16th October at RDGC. Agenda: • BID update (GK), • RDGC Masterplan (Neil Hampton), • Highland Broadband Offer (Kyle Mackay) tbc. Place Plan – GK to get a timetable update from Lou Rollason Common Good Fund/signage – THC have been enforcing an arbitrary cap on Dornoch CGF grants and going against DACC decisions. Jim hopes to get to the bottom of this at meeting of County Committee in December. Meanwhile, Jim recommends submitting our signage grant application to the Community Regeneration Fund and the CGF. Town Tidies – to be run on 1st Sat of October and November in the afternoon, before breaking for the Winter. It was suggested one at least should include Embo. Camore should also be considered. Closure of Food Bank – Luke Watson from DACIC is on the case. Many thanks to him. First Aid Courses – Jo has commenced training. Catherine and Sharon will also undertake training. The other 2 places should be offered to members. Dornoch Organisation Chart – Ginny to create an org. chart of various community committees in Dornoch, showing responsibilities New Director/s sought – 5 names were proposed by current directors. Ginny to approach these people viz willingness to serve. Adoption of minutes - Proposed GD, and seconded CM	CT CB SM GK SM SM SM GK GK
2	Finance - monthly report	Current balance of £52,531. JJ to find appropriate high interest account. Director Identification Verification – all Directors to complete asap. Residual - Jo flagging a likely residual amount in coffers at Y/E of £17k. Subsequently, this turned out to include Dornoch Gatherings and “We are Dornoch” sums. Sharon and Jo to have future monthly meetings ahead of the Board, to schedule expenditure for rest of the year. Jo, Sharon, Claire and Ginny will meet in next week to ensure moneys are properly allocated.	JJ All SM/JJ JJ/SM/GK/ CB
3	Dornoch Gatherings	Dornoch Gatherings is a new project designed to build Dornoch’s reputation as a cultural event location and thus attract additional	

		visitors to the town. It also aims to raise funds for Dornoch Cathedral by hosting its events in this underused venue. Dornoch BID is providing a short-term banking 'home' for DG to allow the project to get off the ground. • First 2 events have proved very popular. Famous folk singer, Kate Rusby will be performing on 3rd October. • The Art of Musick performance will be on 29th Oct during AHFF, but sadly the Tartan Fashion Show scheduled for 1st November has had to be cancelled. • Assuming the project can source a few more "friends" to help fund it, it should soon become self-sustaining. • The plan is still for DG's to set up as a charity and remove all their funds from BID's bank account by year-end.	
4	We Are Dornoch	Catherine met with Donald Goskirk, Chair of DADCA, (an organisation already constituted as a charity) to see if "WAD" could legally become a part of DADCA and therefore be able to receive donations with gift aid etc. The DADCA Board will decide formally on this at their meeting on 13th October. Possible opportunity to raise money for Hogmanay/Christmas lights via WAD @AHFF	CM CM
5	Marketing: Website & Social Media activity/report	Elastic Creative's monthly report will be shared ASAP The new social media schedule, now underway, appears to have driven many more followers, though curiously, has brought less engagement! The website is being developed for promotion of the Autumn Highland Festival Fortnight, with the events being added as they are confirmed.	CB CB
7	Autumn/Spring Highland Festival	Programme presented. History tours, star gazing workshops, re-enactments, supper clubs, trad. skills workshops, seasonal menus, cookery demo, family events and discounted RDGC green fees RDGC. SM to finalise all details ASAP for marketing and has a meeting with a content creator later this week. CB to join. Issue has emerged with light trail, with planning permission, potential budget overruns and late delivery complications. Ginny and Sharon to take issue away and recommend solution to the Board. Colin to supply full Whisky Festival details, so these can be added. Whisky festival sales are going very well. Meeting arranged with Colin, Sharon & Lou on Thursday to discuss fully. Next Spring festival is on the radar already. Confirmation asap.	SM/CB GK/SM CT SM
8	Successful Business Rates Reduction @ Castle Hotel	The Castle Hotel employed Agency Preston Tate to help them seek a ND rates reduction, with great success. Rates now reduced from £90k -> £70k, backdated 3 years. Fees charged: 1/3rd of 1 year's savings. Colin recommends this firm highly, and thinks other hospitality businesses in Dornoch may be able to benefit too. Sharon to share details via Newsletter.	SM
9	New Community Centre Feedback	Sharon to complete BID Board Feedback and circulate questionnaire to all BID members.	SM

NEXT MEETING – 7pm, Mon 27th October, Dornoch Hub.