



**Drymen Community Development Trust (DCDT)**  
**Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Tuesday 28 November 2023**

**Drymen Village Hall**

**Present:** Richard Boddington (RB), Ewan Mackay (EM), Simon Reid (SPR) Struan Robb (SR), Hilary Soanes (HS)

**Welcome:** RB opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Apologies:** Rae Gibb, Katy Gibb, Sam Baird, Robert Coleman

Matters arising from Minutes: HS to follow up Membership email remainders, HS to find out about Direct Debit for memberships, RB to follow up with Tom Horner, EM explained that Buchanan Energy is interested in local power scheme and EM offered DCDT to be involved.

**Previous Minutes:** Approved, Proposed EM, Seconded SPR

**Treasurer's Report:** (see attached)

96 members this month

HS suggested that some of the resources held on short notice should be moved to a longer notice account (35 days) to gain additional interest, this was agreed.

**Road Safety Trial (RST):**

EM proposed further monitoring prior to the removal of the additional lines and barriers at an approximate cost of £500, TP&E would add this information to its report on the RST. It was agreed that the monitoring should be carried out and EM to organise.

HS had discussed with Markon to remove RST road markings and return them to the original. EM agreed to get drawing from TP&E. RB has already contacted Stirling Council.

The planters were offered for sale and are sold.

**Toilets**

The feasibility study undertaken by Community Enterprise Ltd for DCDT is ongoing.

Last week (20/11/2023) a meeting was held for local businesses to discuss issues around not having public toilets. Representatives of the Clachan, Winnock, Drymen Deli & Bakery & Drymen Inn attended, together with DCDT. (**Present:** Richard Boddington (RB), Hilary Soanes (HS), Kirsteen McCallion (KC) (Winnock Hotel Manager), Stuart (SB) & Jen Burch (JB) (Drymen Inn), Gordon (GS) & Elaine Strang (ES) (Clachan Inn), David Mackie (DM) (Deli)).

All agreed that it is a problem not having public toilets and causes them hassle. Options were discussed including Stirling Council failure of its 'comfort partner scheme' and whether toilet users should have to pay, which it was felt they should not.

On 27/11/2023 RB, EM and Dawn Connor met with Campbell Whyte (CW) and David Jewell (DJ) of Springfield Developments to discuss the Castle Park development in general, but also to discuss the possibility of building public toilets in the area of Stirling Road car park. Discussions were positive and CW and DJ suggested they come and talk to the community more widely in early 2024.

## **Piping in the Square**

The meeting of Pipe Majors will not be before January.

## **Christmas**

The work to organise this year's Advent windows has been completed by RB.

Christmas Tree has been kindly donated by Duff Christmas Tree Farm, for which we are very grateful. It will be put up on 09 December and there will be a lighting-up ceremony and carol singing from 4:30pm Sunday 10 December.

## **Ebike Scheme**

EM currently has the ebike batteries stored inside to avoid cold weather damage. The scheme to be fully launched in spring 2024.

## **Paths Group**

Names of volunteers are being collected and work done to ensure appropriate systems are in place. Working groups proposed to start in spring 2024.

## **Square Bench/ In memory of Plaque**

The DCDT has agreed that Joan Sidey can place a plaque in memory of her husband Alistair Sidey on one of the benches at the Square. This will be put in place on 10 December.

## **Square Electricity Supply**

DCDT had registered for a tariff for its electricity supplier to purchase excess power from the bus shelter solar panels. However, the electricity supplier has yet to enact this tariff and HS has raised an official complaint with the Supplier.

## **AOCB**

### **Drymen in Bloom**

Drymen in Bloom has requested that the DCDT organise an end of year garden tidy at the flower beds in an around the Butcher Shop. This has been started but now needs to be completed.

### **Square Inspection**

The latest Square Inspection has been completed by RB and needs to be written up. The pot-holes, as expected, have got worse and when weather permits need to be repaired.

### **Cobbles & War Memorial**

There are loose-fitting cobbles outside the Winnock Hotel Annexe and the library which need to be addressed. RB to ask a local tradesperson (Graeme Fraser) to quote to rectify.

The War Memorial needs repointing with the correct lime mortar mix. It may be possible to obtain a grant to repair it. Quote/quotes will be required. Graeme Fraser has agreed to provide a quote, but the work cannot be undertaken until the weather is warmer.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 30 January 2024

### Treasurers Report 25/11/23

**Book Balance £53,924.74                      Restricted                      £38,571.29 / Unrestricted                      £15,353.45**

#### **Actual Balances :**

Old Treasurer's Account	432.44
Current Account	1945.04
Instant Access Savings	11886.26
35 Day Notice Savings	<u>39661.00</u>
Total	53924.74

#### **Restricted Balances:**

- **Drymen Website**                      **£2,601.17** - £40.79 paid for renewal of domain name
- **Drymen to Balmaha Paths Fund**                      **£29,226.13** – No movement
- **Paths Leaflets**                      **£990.37** – No movement
- **Information Boards**                      **£459.27** – No movement
- **Defibrillator Fund**                      **£200** – No movement
- **Electricity on the Square**                      **£12.50** - £25.90 direct debit payment made
- **EBike / Meanders**                      **£689.22** – No movement
- **Road Safety Trial**                      **£4,392.93** - £540 paid for Traffic Data Collection
  
- **Public Toilets**                      I have been notified that the Community Pride Award Grant from Stirling Council is ready for payment amounting to £1500. There was a security check due to us changing our bank account details on the supplier account but I am on alert for its imminent release.

#### **Unrestricted Balance:**

**23<sup>rd</sup> October B/F                      £15,192.65**

#### **Income**

Interest	120.80
Membership	35.00
Joan Sidey Bench Adoption	<u>117.96</u>
	<b>273.76</b>

#### **Expenditure**

Meeting Room (incl. historic)	45.00
Sign maker Plaque	<u>67.96</u>
	<b>112.96</b>

**Balance                      £15,353.45**

## **Membership**

Twelve (people; some are joint members) reminders were sent out for lapsed September memberships. As a direct response to this we had two renewals. In addition to this there have been two other renewals.

Total 'paid up' members total 96. There were no October lapses but another set of reminders will be sent out at the end of the month for November (plus some summer lapses).

## **Electricity**

The contract with Octopus is due to end on 11<sup>th</sup> January. In the meantime effort is being made to establish why we still have not 'Boarded' with their Panel Power service. A complaint has been lodged with Panel Power and the dispute is on-going.

Hilary Soanes  
DCDT Treasurer