



**DCDT Enterprise Company  
Annual General Meeting (AGM) – 15th June 2022**

**Directors Present:** Paul Saunders (PS) (Chair), Richard Boddington (RB) (Secretary), David Mackie (DM), Struan Robb (SR)

**Members Present:** Marina Brennan, Gillian Cameron, Joanne Frame, Walter Hemfrey, Stephen Hickey, Frances Lander, Robyn Mcintosh, Colin O’Brien, Elspeth O’Brien, Simon Reid, Andrew Richardson (DCC), Paul Rybarczyk

**Others Present:** Stuart Guzinski (SG)

Item	Discussion	Actioner
	<p><b>DOCUMENTS CIRCULATED PRIOR TO MEETING:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda</li> <li>• Minutes of previous AGM on 21 June 2021</li> <li>• DCDT Accounts for the tax year to March 2022</li> </ul> <p>1. <b>APOLOGIES FROM DIRECTORS:</b> Apologies from Katy Gibb (KG), Rae Gibb (RG) and Ewan Mackay (EM)</p> <p>2. <b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST AGM</b> It was noted by PS that the thanks for the Drymen Christmas Tree should be directed to Ewan Duff rather than James Duff. Approval of the minutes of 21 June 2021 AGM proposed by SR &amp; seconded by DM, based on making the change outlined above.</p> <p>3. <b>CHAIR’S REPORT</b> PS Introduced DCDT – a charity, with members, aiming to deliver projects to improved the community. DCDT also maintains and manages the village square on behalf of the community, who own it. PS ran through the main activities of the DCDT since the last AGM. The full Chair’s presentation is available to view on the Discover Drymen website by following the link below:  <a href="https://www.drymen.org/community-trust">https://www.drymen.org/community-trust</a>  The main achievements over the year have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completing the Discover Drymen village website, which is now well used.</li> <li>• Mono-blocking the parking on the south side of the village square.</li> <li>• Widening and extending the pavement along the village square and resurfacing the path across the square (working with Drymen Community Council (DCC) and Stirling Council).</li> </ul>	

- Refurbishing the bus shelter, including the installation of a solar roof to power lighting for the bus shelter and e-bike chargers.
- Installation of a bike tool station and top-up water tap on the square.
- The production of several new wildlife information boards (thanks to RSPB).
- Production of Drymen Heritage Trail with a leaflet, audio files and information board for the village square.
- Planting a tree (with plaque) outside Drymen Medical Centre to thank the NHS and Drymen Community for their work during the Covid-19 pandemic. (This was funded by a kind legacy to DCDT in memory of Kenneth Cameron).
- Drymen Advent Windows and Christmas Tree (thanks to all who took part and to Ewan Duff for providing the Christmas tree).
- Drymen Spring Clean (thanks to Fraser Robb for disposing of the litter and clearing the bypass and thanks to Drymen in Bloom for their ongoing hard work around the village).
- Ongoing attendance of the East Loch Lomond Visitor Management Group (ELLVMG) to represent the community alongside DCC.
- Piping on the square during July and August 2021.

RB gave a summary of the Active Travel progress made in the village over the course of the year:

- Two E-bikes for free loan (kindly provided by Loch Lomond and Trossachs Countryside Trust).
- Weekly “Drymen Cycle Meanders” led rides established.
- Drymen Cycle Meanders leaflet of local cycle routes produced.
- Dr Bike Session on the square in March to provide bike maintenance.
- Solar powered E-bike chargers installed on the bus shelter.

PS outlined the Trust’s priorities for the coming year:

- Campaign for Public Toilets for the village.
- Complete square renewal (in particular re-surfacing of the road around the square if sufficient funding can be found).
- Creation of a Community Place Plan for the village.

Paul thanked a number of organisations and individuals who have contributed to the activities of the Trust over the past year, in particular:

- Ewan Mackay for his work on many projects, and in particular the refurbishment of the bus shelter.
- Robert Coleman and RSPB for the Nature Boards for the village square.
- Katy Gibb, Carol Hemfrey and Louise MacInnes for all their work on the Heritage Trail.
- Drymen in Bloom, the Spring Clean attendees, Cubs, SR and EM for mowing, Struan and Fraser Robb for litter picking the bypass – all who contributed to keeping the village looking its best.
- Everyone who joined in with the Advent Windows.
- DM for providing food at the Christmas light switch on.
- Kenneth and Gillian Cameron for their donation to the DCDT.
- RB for work on Active Travel in the village.
- Lastly, thanks to all the members of the DCDT - we are always keen to receive ideas and feedback and are always looking for more people to get involved!

Questions to the Chair:

1. Paul Rybarczyk - what could volunteers do to help DCDT?  
PS – e.g., deliver leaflets, litter pick, dig trench, help with projects

	<p>2. Gillian Cameron – path down to library is steep and could be slippery in winter. Handrail? PS – DCDT will inspect path and whether a handrail may be beneficial.</p> <p><i>ACTION: Review path as above.</i></p> <p>3. Frances Lander – noted that there was no dropped kerb at the south end of the new pavement. RB – This has been raised with Stirling Council. They did not include a dropped kerb as they felt the cobbled pavement opposite was not an appropriate footpath. Discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>4. Paul Rybarczyk – what is happening with the garage in the corner of the square? PS – DCDT is not involved in the site but our understanding is that the owners are hoping to develop it as a restaurant/café and it is in planning.</p> <p>5. Any update on traffic calming in the village? PS, AR - Money allocated by Stirling Council to remove the feature coming into the village from south, but no replacement identified. Frances Lander – traffic on Stirling Road is too fast. More speed limit signs required. AR – MacMic to install two zebra crossings, which will hopefully slow traffic. Paul Rybarczyk – Balmaha Road also too fast.</p> <p>4. <b>20 MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOOD PRESENTATION (STUART GUZINSKI FROM FORTH ENVIRONMENT LINK (FEL))</b> FEL were funded by LLTNPA’s Green Recovery Fund to undertake a pilot study, applying the ‘20 Minute Neighbourhood’ concept to Drymen and its local area. The concept is based on people within a community being able to meet their needs within a 10 minute (each way) walk of their home. It was originally developed for urban areas and in this case was being trialled for a rural setting.</p> <p>The study used a wide range of methods to engage with local people. Stuart Guzinski gave a presentation, which is available to download on the Drymen.org website here: <a href="https://www.drymen.org/20-minute-neighbourhood">https://www.drymen.org/20-minute-neighbourhood</a></p> <p>Key findings:</p> <p>For rural areas generally, the term ‘20-minute neighbourhood’ is best replaced by places where people ‘Live Well Locally’, as the 20 minute value is arbitrary and not very applicable in rural locations.</p> <p>Feedback from the Drymen Community highlighted the following as having the most room for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public transport</li> <li>• Traffic</li> <li>• Moving around</li> <li>• Housing, work, social, recreation</li> </ul> <p>Thank you to Stuart and his team for all their hard work. The findings from the study will be invaluable as a basis to the new Drymen Place Plan.</p>	DCDT
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**UPDATE FROM DRYMEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL (DCC)**

Andrew Richardson (AR) from DCC gave a brief overview of the role of DCC and a summary of their activities over the year:

DCC is the statutory consultee representing Drymen and as such liaises with the National Park Authority, Stirling Council, the police and other similar bodies. It aims to represent the village and help locals with any relevant issues. The DCC also sit on the East Loch Lomond Visitor Management Group (ELLVMG).

DCC income comes primarily from the Gala Day (not held this year due to lack of support) and small budget from Stirling Council.

Examples of recent work include:

- Stopping transatlantic flights flying over LLTNP.
- Insuring community assets.
- Working with Stirling Council to identify potholes, change the bin collection day from Sunday to Thursday, closing Balfunning Lane and limiting access and speed on Balfunning Road.

DCC is delighted to be working with DCDT on improving the village square and securing public toilets for the village. DCC are always looking for additional councillors - their next meeting is on Tuesday 6 September at 7.30.

Thanks to AR for the update.

6.

**UPDATE FROM DRYMEN HERITAGE**

Unfortunately, Carol Hemfrey was unable to attend the meeting, but provided this summary which RB read out:

*This year seems to have been a very successful/memorable one with co-operation with the parent Trust in the Village Heritage project, culminating in the publication of the Drymen Heritage Trail leaflet and its related audio links and the board in the square. Very special thanks go to Katy Gibb and colleagues who brought a long-standing Drymen Heritage aim to fruition.*

*Unfortunately, the intended transfer of research files to the dedicated filing cabinet in the library's local history room, which has been delayed by the project-planner's ill health, has been set back even further by the recent collapse of the library ceiling. However, it is hoped that it can still be retrieved at some point and temporarily relocated.*

*Bizarrely, a recent attempt to breathe new life into the 40-year-old Drymen and District Local History Society included an ill-conceived proposed usurpation of the 13-year-old Drymen Heritage name. Fortunately, this occurred between the project planner's two spells in hospital and was robustly rebuffed. The obviously-forgotten previous sporadic liaison will, however, still be maintained for mutual benefit.*

*And finally – the usual annual plea. All members of the Trust are automatic members of Drymen Heritage, with no further 'subs'. If anyone has been impressed by the depth of village history revealed in the Heritage Trail, and would like to delve even deeper, please get in contact. There are lots of different tasks available, and you don't have to be academically minded, just interested in the fabric (buildings) and social (people) aspects of our community. The book has still to be published!  
Carol. A. Hemfrey 15/6/22.*

<p>7.</p>	<p><b>TREASURER’S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS AND APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR</b>  Ewan Mackay was unable to attend the meeting as he had Covid.</p> <p>Richard Boddington summarised the financial activity for tax year 2020/2021. The Financial review from the accounts is presented here:</p> <p><i>The 2021/22 financial year has been very positive for the Trust the membership has continued to rise over the year with the membership numbers standing at 146, and with a move to reminding members to renew on a rolling basis we have spread the workload for managing the membership.</i></p> <p><i>Over the course of the financial year, we have received circa £50k in grant funding. We have also received Support from connecting Scotland who now provide the Mifi connections for the digital inclusion project until Dec 2023. With the return of Piping in the Square, a good membership and gift aid we have had a good non-grant income of £2,078.</i></p> <p><i>Our main Expenses through the year have been:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. The repairs to the Parking bays in May 2021 (£20,431 at completion)</i></li> <li><i>2. The Renovations to the Bus shelter, which is nearing completion (£21,835)</i></li> <li><i>3. The Historical Trail, also nearing completion (£1,452)</i></li> <li><i>4. The Website Project (£1,567) completed June 2021</i></li> <li><i>5. The Installation of Bike Stands in the Square (£1,545)</i></li> </ol> <p><i>Over the course of the year, we have seen increases in both the Restricted and Unrestricted funds, due to the grant funding received, piping in the Square and the good membership numbers, however it is worth noting at this point that due to market conditions during 2021 the bus shelter project is expected to over spend by about £3,000 which will have a significant impact on our unrestricted funds in the next accounting period. It is also worth noting that in the course of the completing the Bus shelter project, a payment was made to a hacker when dealing with one of the suppliers, this was resolved as the hack was into the supplier email system and they accepted responsibility and honoured the agreement, supplying the equipment.</i></p> <p><i>The Trust is very grateful to all of the organisations which have provided funding this year, without which the Trust could not carry out its activities.</i></p> <p>Approval of the accounts was proposed by David Mackie and seconded by Paul Rybarczyk.</p> <p>Approval of the ongoing appointment of the auditors (Baxter Accounting &amp; Tax Services) was proposed by Paul Saunders and seconded by Richard Boddington after the meeting.</p> <p><b>ITEM 8: PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES</b></p> <p>DM proposed that the membership fees be increased as follows, and that a new option of life membership be offered to individuals who would like to make a larger donation to the funds of the DCDT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual membership increase from £6 to £10</li> <li>Couple membership increase from £10 to £15</li> <li>New life membership - £250</li> </ul> <p>The proposal was put to the members who voted unanimously to support the changes.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>DM proposed that the membership fees be increased as follows, and that a new option of life membership be offered to individuals who would like to make a larger donation to the funds of the DCDT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual membership increase from £6 to £10</li> <li>Couple membership increase from £10 to £15</li> <li>New life membership - £250</li> </ul> <p>The proposal was put to the members who voted unanimously to support the changes.</p>	

9.	<p><b>ELECTION AND RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS</b></p> <p>All Directors were re-elected to their existing posts. SR proposed. Frances Lander seconded.</p>	
10.	<p><b>ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>When is the library due to re-open after ceiling collapse? DM replied that he had heard it would be open soon.</p> <p>Paul Rybarczyk noted that the RSPB were hoping to release Beavers on Loch Lomond/Endrick and asked whether DCDT had a view on this. DCDT unaware and did not have a view.</p> <p>Meeting closed just after 9pm with thanks to all for attending.</p>	

*Drymen Community Development Trust, Registered Office: Creitendam, Balmaha Road, Drymen, G63 0BX  
Registered Number: SC312742 - Charity Registration Number: SC041565*