

Dunure Community Council 15th April 2025, Kennedy Hall

Present

Angus Craig	Acting Chair	AC
Calum McCutcheon	Vice Chair	CM
Tracy Craig	Secretary	TC
Irene Collier	Treasurer	IC
Greg Paterson	Member	GP
Janey McCreath	Member	JM
Patrick Hill	Member	PH
Elija Maus	Special co-optee	EM
Derek Chapman	Co-opted member	DC
Di Ballinger	Co-opted member	DB
Provost Campbell	SAC	IMC
Milissa McCulloch	SAC	MM
Daisy Seymour	Member of the community	
Alison Stewart	Member of the community	
Bill McLellan	Member of the community	
Sandra Simons	Member of the community	
Valerie Cox	Member of the community	
Neil Cox	Member of the community	
Lucy Gash	Member of the community	
Hobson Rankin	Member of the community	
Rona Jess	Member of the community	
Roger Houghton	Member of the community	
Neil Sinclair	Member of the community	
Rebecca Latchford	Member of the community	

Apologies

Mhairi Eaglesham

Adoption of previous minutes

Proposer Janey McCreath, Seconder Greg Paterson

Matters Arising

Ongoing ARA Matters

Bill McLellan provided an update from ARA received on the 15th April 2025.

“The speed table, that had been designed 5 year's ago did not factor in the extension of the bus bay and had a 2.4m flat top. However, due to the proximity to the junction and concerns to keep the bus stop clear, this had to be changed by reducing the flat top width. However, the speed table as is still meets the standards.”

Road sign confusion, again thank you to Bill for getting this response:

“This is part of the works package and as works are still ongoing, ARA shall ensure all the required markings and signage is put in place and all old signage removed before the contractor leaves the site.”

There was a lot of discussion about the siting of the ramp and whether it would have been more beneficial at both the North and South entrances to Fisherton and whether it should be like the tabletop ramp at Alloway Primary School. Daisy Seymour pointed out that the siting as is, is most beneficial for the lollypop man and the school children crossing the road.

It was generally agreed that the ramp was doing what was intended and slowing down the traffic.

Provost Campbell did point out that ARA are looking for replacement flashing signs.

The placing of the chicanes in the village was widely discussed, their locations, road falling away, position by the building plot for sale on Castle Road all are a cause for concern. Neil Sinclair and others felt the priority was given to the wrong direction. AC going to question ARA about all the points raised.

The crossing at ‘the hole in the wall’ was also raised. Both Neil Sinclair and PH pointed out the danger and whether anything was planned to make it safer. GP pointed out that ARA intends to look at the crossing once all the other road safety measures have been addressed.

Neil Sinclair asked whether there should be repeater signs reminding drivers they were in a 20mph stretch. The provost pointed out that all drivers should be aware that once they enter a 20mph zone, they should respect that speed up until they enter a different speed zone.

Craig Tara

The Chair would like to publicly thank Barry McCrindle for his efforts in addressing the villagers concerns regarding the traffic congestion on check in days directly with the General Manager.

Valerie Cox gave details of a road rage incident with a van pulling out in front of her and then aggressively driving on her tail. She has reported to both Craig Tara and the police, where an incident was raised. In this instance, she managed to get the license plate. She asked whether it would be sensible to have CCTV on that straight.

The Chair is going to ask the General Manager of Craig Tara to come along to the next Community Council meeting.

Neil Cox pointed out that lives could be put at risk should they require urgent attention and ambulances were unable to get past.

The community continue to be concerned at the expansion of Craig Tara and the planning process which did not consider the impact that it has on our community.

The Chair explained that he personally attended the planning meeting and explained the concerns, as did others, but this was ignored.

Hope Homes

DB was sorry that she was unable to meet with Elaine Stewart (our local MP) when she came to the village, but Bill McLellan did manage to raise the concerns of the building site next door to the Hope Homes development. Following that he has now had communication from Mark McSeveney the site manager from Campbell Homes. "We had a meeting on site with SEPA and have agreements in place that we can use the existing septic tank and soakaway system for the number of houses we have proposed. Hope to have a meeting with our Architects soon when the Planning application can be progressed."

Dynamic Dunure

Janey McCreath, the chair of Dynamic Dunure, gave a summary of the community engagement event. It was publicised on Facebook, on the noticeboard and the committee hand delivered a letter to every household in the parish inviting them to come along. It was felt it was a worthwhile event with both positives and negatives being raised. Once the Dynamic Dunure committee have had a debrief and all the comments logged they will respond to all the concerns and questions raised.

Neil Sinclair asked how he could become a member of Dynamic Dunure, JM explained that he contacts Greg Paterson, the secretary, who will send out a membership form.

As per the Constitution, membership is open to;

- People residing within Dunure and Fisherton
- Members of local organisations
- Members of other local not for profit organisations

VE Beacon

The Provost gave a summary of all the different events planned to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of VE date.

The community council have been contacted about lighting a beacon at 9.30pm on the 8th May. TC has responded but yet to hear back from the organisers. The siting of the beacon has been discussed. Details will be announced.

Sauchrie Windfarm

TC confirmed that Dunure & Fisherton Community Council had not been consulted prior to the scoping application for the proposed windfarm and the statement by the company that we had was incorrect. This was an oversight and whilst the company are not legally obliged to contact the CC, they should have and will in the future.

Planning & Licensing

None

Treasurers Report 18/03/2025

Balance brought forward

£ 2,405.71

Expenditure

Zurich Insurance Company	£ 84.00
Bank Service Charges	£ 5.25
Income	£ 0
Balance	£ 2,316.46

Police Report

None

Councillors Report

The Bridge is out to tender, and there is only one person tendering.

Historic Environment Scotland (HES) are insisting there is an archaeological survey of the proposed locations for the posts required for the lighting of the castle. An amount of £120,000 has been quoted for this. This is obviously not acceptable, and options are being looked at.

Due to the length of time that has passed from the initial quote for the building of the bridge, the Provost stated that the costs have risen and further funds have had to be found.

Valerie Cox asked about the large green electrical box which has been sited right in front of the castle. The Provost confirmed that this is being addressed.

Milissa McCulloch

Milissa has asked if the CC could publicise the consultation on the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils. It is open to all the community to comment.

She also gave details of the opening for applications to the Community Ownership Fund. There are grants ranging from £5,000 to £15,000. The purpose of the fund is to support community groups in taking ownership of assets at risk of being lost to the community.

Place Plan – Lucy Gash asked about the progress of the Place Plan. JM explained that this was ongoing, and Audrey Gatt (SAC) is pulling all the information together.

A.O.C.B.

Hobson Rankin asked for a definition of when talking about the village heritage, what did that mean. There was discussion on what constituted Dunure, was it simply buildings or the parish as a whole.

Both Hobson and Patrick Hill asked about the make-up of Dynamic Dunure, and how the community could bring their concerns forward as it appeared to be a closed group. “Surely the community council meetings were the place for

people to bring their concerns with regards the building of The Helm?" As the community council has representation on the Dynamic Dunure board, this was agreed to be appropriate.

The Chair explained about the history of the formation of Dynamic Dunure. It is made up of representatives from all the village groups.

Community Council

Hall and Parks Committee

Dunure Youth Club

Dunure Harbour Association

Dunure Coastal Rowing and Watersports Club

Church

Parents Association

School

Originally formed as a charitable mechanism for fund raising, as it was felt there would be more strength should an application come from all the village groups.

The huge effort behind the Heritage Lottery application, the plans for the building of The Helm and the repairing of the Lighthouse has tested the constitution of Dynamic Dunure and the committee recognises it must be more open and evolve. It has also been asked to make it easier for people to know who the representatives are from each group so as the community feel they have someone to approach with questions.

Neil Sinclair asked should Dynamic Dunure not be concentrating on the harbour repairs and restoration? It was explained that as the Harbour is owned by the Harbour Committee it is their decision what happens and as they are part of the DD group the restoration of the Lighthouse is the focus of the Heritage Lottery application. SAC have made it clear that they will provide no funds as it is owned by a private organisation. He also asked about how he could become involved with Dynamic Dunure. JM explained he could become a member, but to be a Trustee you had to be a member of one of the groups. Neil felt the groups were clique and avoided them. The Chair responded by saying he had been a member of the community council for over 15 year's and this was the first time he had ever met Neil.

DB asked for more detail of the lease for the Kennedy Hall. JM explained that it is up for renewal in 2026.

Lucy Gash wanted it noted that it was the first time that she had realised that anyone could be a member of Dynamic Dunure. She questioned whether the AGM was the right place for the discussion on The Helm and questioned when the business plan would be released. JM explained the business plan is in draft

format and there are options to be considered before it becomes final and agreed.

Lucy expressed concern that would The Helm still be there in 10 year's time or would it be closed like so many other village halls. JM reminded the meeting that the Hall has been maintained over the year's by the funds raised from the parking in the park.

Neil Sinclair wished to highlight the new website he has set up. He was unaware that DD was in the process of building their own website to serve the village. PH expressed concern that this website was run by an individual and not a community, this was echoed by other members.

Neil and Valerie Cox expressed concern that there has not been a proper consultation on the impact of The Helm in the village and this was noted by JM.

Sandra Simons felt that communication could be stronger. This was also noted.

Provost Campbell finished the meeting in thanking everyone for coming along and felt it was a breath of fresh air having such input from the members of the community.

Date of the next meeting and AGM Tuesday 20th May 2025