

[REDACTED]
Thrumster
Caithness
KW1 [REDACTED]

10th November 2021

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Dunbeath District Centre

Dear Councillors and Planning Officials

I write in support of the proposed plan to acquire land at Achorn Road, Dunbeath for the purpose of building a new Centre.

The current centre serves the South East of Caithness and beyond. Its success lies firmly within the commitment of service to the Community. The Centre provides a safe and secure space for people of all ages and its range of activities caters for all. Its contribution to the health and wellbeing of the community has been paramount to ensuring that the housebound and vulnerable were supplied with food and social contact during the recent pandemic. It has to be noted though that this was merely an extension of the ongoing daily/weekly care provided as a matter of course in normal times.

The fact that the Centre is largely staffed by volunteers supported by two paid staff speaks volumes of the support this Centre has within the Community.

I have served as Locum Church of Scotland Minister in the parish for the past four years and consider the Dunbeath District Centre to be a flagship for Care within the Community not only within bounds of Caithness but for the entire Highland Region and beyond.

Their vision for a new Centre is to be commended and is the way forward to be able to dovetail in with other services such as podiatry. The Business Plan has been well costed and plans for conversion of the existing Centre to provide Respite Accommodation for the disabled is just typical of the foresight of the Directors and those involved in the day to day running of the Centre. A new Centre will further facilitate additional activities and provide better accommodation and space for users. My role as a minister gives me unique opportunity to visit many folk within the Community and everyone I have spoken with is full of praise for the Plans to build a new Centre suitable for the future.

I strongly recommend that Highland Council approve this proposal and commend the Staff and volunteers of Dunbeath District Centre for their commitment and foresight.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
Rev Heather Stewart
Locum Minister Parish of Latheron

[Redacted]

Wick

KW1 [Redacted]

[Redacted]

10th November

I Fully support the Dunbeath and District centre, and there new ideas to rebuild a larger centre on the ground at the back of Neil Gunn car park. This land is laying empty and could be put to far better use.

The centre runs lots of activities and plays a huge part in our community, they hold classes as well as a walking group and art class I attend weekly, a bigger centre would allow them to have more users, and more activities – this would benefit us all.

We live in wick and attend the centre weekly, there is nothing like it in our area, they are a great community hub.

[Redacted]

[REDACTED], Dunbeath, KW6 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am writing to you to say that I fully support the Dunbeath and District centre, there plan to rebuild a larger centre on the ground at the back of Neil Gunn car park.

My late mother attended the centre every day, when the lockdown started they then helped her by delivering meals and shopping along with prescriptions. All the staff and volunteers always have a friendly smile and listening ear.

This new centre will be put on land that is laying empty and could be put to far better use.

All of the local community benefit from the centre in some way, whether directly or through family members, a bigger centre would allow them to have more users and help more people, especially as there are a lot of elderly in our area.



I [REDACTED]

Thrumster

KW [REDACTED]

10th Nov 2021

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to say that I fully support the Dunbeath and District centre and their plans to build a Health and wellbeing centre next to Neil Gunn car park.

I support the land acquisition request.

I think this unused land could be put to far better use and a new purpose built centre would be a great asset to the whole of Caithness, it would be great to see more people using it as the staff are friendly and welcoming which means a lot to the more elderly, I understand that at the moment the centre is simply not big enough to accommodate all the users.

I attend the centre regularly as it is a great chance to catch up with people, living in a rural area makes it difficult and at times the centre is the only interaction I have.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Latheronwheel
Latheron KW5 [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I am extremely grateful for the Dunbeath Community District Services. Without their help I might not have been able to live in the Community as I was unwell and unable to cook meals for myself and my Father.

I have appreciated the effort and care that has gone into cooking and delivering a wide variety of meals for over a year now.

The team are consistently friendly and helpful and I was able to also get emergency food supplies when I was unable to get it.

I have support from the District nurses and GP surgery and feel the Dunbeath District Services are also a vital component in helping me live my life. They frequently get my medicine from the Surgery and deliver it to me. I've enjoyed day trips they organised also.

My life has been enriched by their being in the community and I hope you will consider whatever plans they have for the Community building with favour as they have an excellent work ethic and ethos behind them.

[REDACTED]



Dunbeath

Ewen Mackintosh, Highland Council

11th Nov '21

As a family who have always lived in the area I fully support the Dunbeath and District centre.

I have three young children and during lockdown they helped so much with anything they could, my mother in law and mother both volunteer at the centre and all the staff are always happy to help.

The idea to build a larger centre on the ground at the back of Neil Gunn car park is a good one, this land is laying empty and could be put to better use.

The centre runs lots of activities and plays a huge part in our community, as the elderly population ages, I notice more and more how many rely but also enjoy the company they get at the day centre, I myself work in NHS care at home and see the positive difference this interaction can have on the elderly .

They are a real community affair, everyone is welcome, they regularly hold events for fundraising which are always well attended and its great to have somewhere welcoming and safe to take the kids if needed.

The new bigger centre will allow them to welcome more people and hold more activities – this would benefit the whole community, not just the elderly, but would of course be of great benefit to them as we are in such a rural area it can be very isolating.



[REDACTED]
LatheronWheel
KW5 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
14th Nov 2021

I am writing to you to say that I fully support the Dunbeath and District centre and their plans to build a Health and wellbeing centre next to Neil Gunn car park.

I have attended the centre in the past for classes, but do know that it is a great asset to the village and wider community.

I support all the centre does and fully support the land acquisition request.

[REDACTED]