MINUTES OF MEETING

DUNVEGAN PRIMARY STAKEHOLDER MEETING - 23

11 June 2025 at 4.15pm Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees:	Parent Council Representatives	
	Highland Councillor	
	John Finlayson	JF
	Drew Millar	DM
	Drow Willian	
	Community Representatives	
	John Laing, Dunvegan Community Council	JL
	Mali MacLennan, Dunvegan Trust	MMcL
	Tim Wallis, Dunvegan Community Council	TW
	Highland Council Officials	
	Robert Campbell, Service Lead, Capital	RC
	Planning & Estate Strategy	IXC
	Laura Burns, Project Manager	LB
	Dorothy Gibb, Estate Team Leader	DG
	Mhairi MacDonald, Area Education Manager	MMcD
	Jenny MacRae, Estates Co-Ordinator	JMR
	Catherine Matheson, Dunvegan Primary School/Show	CM
	Committee	
	External Officials	
	James Swinnerton, LSHA	JS
	Helen Brown Kate Forbes MSP Caseworker	HB
Apologies:	Samatha Muir	
J. 1 9.1 2.1	Maressa Munro	
	Ryan Sutherland	
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Apologies as above.	
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No matters arising.	
Minutes approved by Tim – Seconded by Laura.	
2. Enabling Works/LSHA Update	
 JS – Shared some recent pictures of the works and explained the outstanding works. 	
Still waiting on Scottish Water reconnection after route diversion, some	
concreting works, turfing, seeding, road signage and completion of	
fencing to be finished off.	
Aiming to have all Enabling Works completed for early to mid-July.	
 JF – All very positive and the works have made a significant improvement 	
to the area. Is there any update on the SSEN connection and when house	
building will commence?	
JS- SSEN are indicating 2027/2028 for connection so we need to factor this is for when beyons are started and keep this is mind when we start	
this in for when houses are started and keep this in mind when we start procurement.	
procurement.	
3. Highland Council Update	
LB- Dunvegan has a different Planning Application route from Broadford.	
Submission was made on 2 May to meet the remaining conditions of the	
master plan and Planning have acknowledged receipt of the submission.	
Three Planning items needed further information, and RS submitted the	
information to the Planning Portal 2 May. Now await decision from	
Planning.	
Regular design meetings are held and it's the same design team as for	
Broadford with same external consultants.	
Everything progressing well and on target.	
DG- Land acquisition is still ongoing and await outcome from Land Court.	
Wait for Land Court response is not delaying the school build project but	
may be impacting the Community group in progressing the pitch. We must	
be patient until the legal side is concluded.	
JF – Recent Social Media articles raised some questions in the	
community, but we are all on the same trajectory and trying to get the	
same outcome.	
MMcL – have not heard anything locally recently. Trust met with local	
stakeholders for the community pitch and all in agreement until the land	
acquisition is concluded, we can't do anything else. I presume there will	
be a hearing by the Land Court soon.	
DG – I believe it will be a procedural hearing so it's not a decision-making masting. I think it's a bearing to determine how things are to progress.	
meeting. I think it's a hearing to determine how things are to progress	
between Dunvegan Estates solicitors and the local crofter's solicitor. The	
Council has taken a step back from this as it is between Dunvegan Estate	
and the tenant crofter.	
 JF – JS, have you any updates on the legal issues? 	

- JS not had any updates and any discussions with the local crofter have all been related to access to existing land at the top end of the site. This has all been resolved and not aware of any dissatisfaction.
- JF RC can you give us an update on the Procurement process?
- RC Tenders have been received for Broadford Primary and a new Commissioning Board has been set up to scrutinise the tenders and agree the procurement routes for these projects. Hope to get news of contractor appointment very soon.

Robert shared the timeline of works presented at March Committee. Aiming to start Broadford in August/September 2025 with Dunvegan following approximately six months later and hopefully using the same contractor for both builds.

Will be in a position before the summer holidays to give a procurement update and firm up the planned construction timeline.

4. Dunvegan Trust/Community Update

 MMcL – No major updates since last meeting but have had a community meeting with interested user groups to formally decide on the pitch surface.

There were some concerns expressed about the environmental impact of an artificial pitch, but after speaking to Shetland Council who is just about to install an all-weather pitch using an organic infill, we may pursue this similar option.

Shetland Council have given us some advice on this and will keep in contact with them as they progress their project.

- JF That is good news, and consensus is the group know what they are aiming to deliver.
- MMcL Yes. It's important to try and mitigate as many of the environmental issues as possible, especially given the proximity of a water course on the site.
- DG Interested to hear more on the organic infill and how it performs.
 Have you considered the sports that will be played on the pitch.
- MMcL- The most local support is obviously for football, but we've had a
 rep from Skye Rugby at the recent meeting. We do want to design a pitch
 that's suitable and strong enough to withstand rugby. Have been advised
 the organic infill with the 3G surface is suitable for rugby and football and
 should also suit shinty.
 - JL Community are delighted with the works that have been delivered. A question that has been asked in the community is whether the new school will have solar panels?

	DG -There is a statement out that all new builds in Highland Council will have solar panels on it. However, Dunvegan will be Passivhaus Design and have low energy consumption. Infrastructure is not currently in place to put the excess power created by solar panels back into the grid. We may make provision for panels for the future.	
	 LB - Planning have asked for details of any potential solar panels as it's part of the process and has Dorothy has stated, it's not a given decision to install them. We've also got a net zero consultant on the consultant side and they're giving us advice on it as well. But indications are that we may put infrastructure in for the future. 	
5.	Sport Scotland Update - No update	
6.	AOCB	
7.	• - Date of Next Meeting	
	10 September 2025 4.15pm Via Microsoft Teams	