

Minutes Of Meeting 19
Dunvegan Primary Stakeholder Group
4 September 2024 at 4:15pm
Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees	Initials
Parent Council Representatives	
Anna Campbell	AC
Highland Councillor	
John Finlayson	JF
Drew Millar	DM
Community Representatives	
John Laing – Dunvegan Community Council	JL
Catherine Matheson – Dunvegan Show Committee	CMk
Highland Council Officials	
Robert Campbell, Estate Strategy Manager	RC
Jenny MacRae, Estates Co-Ordinator	JMR
Samantha Muir, Head Teacher	SM
External Officials	
Ian Hall, Dualchas	IH
James Swinnerton, LSHA	JS
Lowri Richards, LSHA	LR
Apologies	
Dorothy Gibb, Team Leader, Estates	
Finlay MacDonald, Head of Property & Facilities	
Kenna MacInnes, NWSFC	
Mali MacLennan, Dunvegan Trust	

Item	Discussion and comment	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies <p>Apologies as above. Welcome to Lowri Richards from LSHA.</p>	
	<p>Minutes approved – Cllr Millar Seconded – John Laing.</p> <p>No matters arising</p>	
2.	Enabling works update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JF – Machinery now on site and progress is being made on the road construction and associated works. JS – Contract signed off and mobilisation of works commenced mid-July. Photographs were shared to the group showing progress. Road levels are varying so there will need to be some interfacing with the school access to tie everything together. Drainage works are scheduled next. Road access to the Housing site is being constructed. Loop road works during the October holidays whilst no pupils and staff on site. Weather has been an issue with delivery of schedule as has land acquisitions. JF – Land acquisition has been resolved now and works can move on. RC – Good to see this progressing. JMR – School fencing to be confirmed after loop road works are completed in October. SM – Depending on how soon we can use the loop road and drop off points, our parking issues may be solved. JF – Going to proceed with all the enabling works now? JS – Yes, that is the plan. 	
3.	Highland Council update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early access to the areas needed for the roadworks have been agreed and progressing. Croft registration and resumption (decrofting) procedure still progressing. Once that has concluded, then the land acquisitions/swaps will be finalised and everything will be in place for the housing site, new school site, community pitch and widened road with footpath. Council's in-house design team have been working on updating the layout for the school. Hope to have a copy to share with stakeholders at the next meeting. Hope to have Broadford and Dunvegan schools' construction in tandem. Working towards Aug 2026 opening for Broadford and targeting October 2026 opening for Dunvegan. Will depend on Capital Program. Internal decoration of school corridor, staff room and school office carried out during the summer. Request from HT to get games hall painted and awaiting costs from contractor. Upgrade of boundary fence will be addressed once the turning loop road and associated works are completed as part of the enabling works program. SM – The painting has made such a difference to the school environment. JF – Planning submission for the school will be next. When will Broadford start date be? 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC – April 2025 schedule with years build. Handover summer 2026 and Dunvegan a couple of months behind. We have approval to take Dunvegan to tender stage. JF – Need to decide if tendering for both Skye schools. RC – Construction market is volatile, and costs are still high. JL – Possibility that Police Station and house may close in Dunvegan. Should we be looking at accommodating the Police within the new school build? JF – Agree, this is something The Highland Investment Plan supports. RC – Reviewing all our projects to include NHS, Police etc... In co-locating JF – May be able to provide a room/hot desk space for different services DM – One main issue we will have is contractor accommodation when these projects start. How do we find accommodation for these projects. RC – Allan Maguire aware and working with SSEN on a major project scheduled for Skye. JF – RJ MacLeod at Uig set up their own camp. We need to be looking at all options. B & Bs prefer workers DM – R J MacLeod example is a good set up. Hoping that the Planning application for Broadford progresses smoothly. RC – Regular contact with Planning colleagues. 	
4.	LSHA update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JS – Continuing with land acquisition with THC. SSEN connection is the main issue Opportunity to add 16 new houses to the construction package for both schools JF – Good point. That is a major contract for someone. DM – How are negotiations going with SSEN and the quotes they are providing. JS – Quote has expired and don't expect it to be any cheaper. SSEN communication has gone quiet and no further details on the Community Benefit Packages. JF – Had a catch up with Paul Higgenbottom (SSEN) Need planning granted before any benefit payments can be made. Subgroup led by Peter Peacock with additional members from the local area is to be set up to progress this package. 	
5.	Community update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MMacL..- Caught up with Maressa several months ago to discuss the next steps and submitted a brief for a feasibility study into the development and costs of the pitch ground to several Sports pitch consultants. Had intended to make an application to the last round of the CRF, but the quotes were below the minimum for the fund so now looking at funding it ourselves unless an alternative funding source can be identified. The committee are deciding whether to do this in this financial year or whether wait until next. (Trust's financial year ends on 31/12) Received funding for the first phase of a community action plan, and Sports/recreation facilities will feature in this so will work on re-igniting community engagement in the project over the next 6 months. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trust did not have a particularly positive response from Sports Scotland following their request for a strategic look at the 29 associated school groups, after which I sent the Sports and Leisure Facility Strategy document - <p><i>"This paper outlines how the council are going to take a strategic approach but the work on the actual strategy has not been undertaken, to my knowledge. The strategy should look at all the of the 29 Associated School Groups and their network of community spaces to establish what they have and what is required. This would then allow any areas for future investment/development to be identified and prioritised according to the criteria outlined in the paper you were sent."</i></p> Trust responded seeking clarification of the implications of this for the project, and eligibility for funding through the Sports Facilities Fund, and whether Sport Scotland pausing funding projects in Highland Region until this document is produced. The following was also pointed out: <p>Project is specifically mentioned in section 3.6 of the West Highland and Islands Development Plan: <i>'Dunvegan is a key service and employment centre for northwest Skye Placemaking Priorities P125 - Dunvegan Enable investment in improved community facilities including a replacement school and new sports pitch.'</i></p> In the Skye and Raasay Future Plan- Major Infrastructure Projects: <table border="1" data-bbox="244 983 1292 1012"> <tr> <td>45</td> <td>Dunvegan School, Housing and Sports Redevelopment</td> <td>Replacement of existing Dunvegan Primary School, development of sports pitch and affordable housing.</td> <td>West Skye</td> <td>Part funding secured and masterplanning underway.</td> <td>THC/North West Association/L</td> </tr> </table> <p>The project is also cited in the same document as a case study. The Pitch, along with the new school and housing development is within an area of the most deprived 5% in terms of geographical access according to SIMD, and the school serves a catchment area of 46,000 hectares - and unfortunately no-where in there is a sports pitch, so in terms of need, feel like it is difficult for it to be demonstrated in clearer terms. Have not had a response!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JF – Have asked Forbes Dunlop – Sport Scotland CEX, to Skye to visit Dunvegan and Broadford. Forbes hopes to visit before the end of the year. JF – The stockpile materials, can this be used for the sports pitch site? JS – Yes, some of the spoil could be used on the pitch site. IH – Have been looking at this and to minimise the number of lorries taking material off site. In principle the intention is there to do this but waiting on some technical advice. Details will need to be submitted to Planning and estimate a timescale of 6 months for conclusion. 	45	Dunvegan School, Housing and Sports Redevelopment	Replacement of existing Dunvegan Primary School, development of sports pitch and affordable housing.	West Skye	Part funding secured and masterplanning underway.	THC/North West Association/L	
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6.	AOCB							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM requested that the Dunvegan Show Committee know as soon as possible, if they can access the school grounds for the 2025 show. A response by February 2025 would be needed. JF – the project is progressing and will need to review early in 2025. 							
7.	Date of next meeting							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 6 November 2024- 4.15pm Via Microsoft Teams 							