

Minutes of Meeting 22
Dunvegan Primary Stakeholder Group
30 April 2025 at 4:15pm
Via Microsoft Teams

Attendees	Initials
Parent Council Representatives	
Highland Councillor	
John Finlayson	JF
Community Representatives	
John Laing, Dunvegan Community Council	JL
Mali MacLennan, Dunvegan Trust	MMcL
Highland Council Officials	
Laura Burns, Project Manager	LB
Dorothy Gibb, Estates Team Leader	DG
Mhairi MacDonald, Area Education Manager	MMcD
Jenny MacRae, Estates Co-Ordinator	JMR
Catherine Matheson, Dunvegan Primary School/Show Committee	CM
Samantha Muir, Head Teacher	SM
External Officials	
Ian Hall, Dualchas	IH
James Swinnerton, LSHA	JS
David Cameron, Kate Forbes MSP Caseworker	DC
Apologies	
Anna Campbell	
Drew Millar	
Calum Munro	
Iain Robertson, Principal Project Manager	
Ryan Sutherland, Senior Architectural Technician	

Item	Discussion and comment	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies	
	Apologies as above. No matters arising.	
2.	Enabling works and LSHA update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JS – Gave overview on status of enabling works and shared site photos. Fencing being completed, grass seeding and turfing works ongoing, formation of SUDs has been delayed slightly due to re-routing a water main by Scottish Water. Hope to have reconnection date confirmed next week and then complete the works in that area. Turn tables, end bollards are in place and strainers being put in for the Kilmuir Road link path. Water main re-connection is the only thing holding us back on completion of works. Better idea next week on the final program. IH – Nothing to add thank you. DG – The works are looking great, such a fantastic improvement. RC – All looking good and seeing phase 1 of the project completed. 	
3.	Highland Council update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC – Report went to Council meeting at the end of March for Highland Investment Plan and funding was approved for the new school at Dunvegan. <p>Robert shared the timescales for the project.</p> <p>Dunvegan design has been under way for a while and even though it dropped out of the Capital Programme in 2023, design work has continued like Broadford.</p> <p>Looking to have the whole of the design process complete by the end of this calendar year with construction starting in the new year.</p> <p>Scheduled 15-month build period which takes us up to March 2027.</p> <p>There will be a period to allow handover and occupation of the new building. Easter holidays could be used for the move over but building to be operational by June 2027.</p> <p>Phase two of the works would be the demolition of the existing buildings and then completing the site works and have allowed a six-month period for that which takes us to the end of 2027.</p> <p>Procurement for this and Broadford were explained before and how there may be an option to do both schools in tandem. The tenders for Broadford, stage 1 tenders, are out just now and due back on Friday 2 May. Will need a few weeks to evaluate and review them and check any anomalies or anything we need to go back and clarify.</p> <p>The option of delivering Dunvegan and Broadford in tandem is feasible or not or viable will be part of this report, and there's also a commissioning board being set up to look at how all these major projects are to be procured. When we've got the information from Broadford, we will present a report to that board to determine the procurement route. Will update the stakeholder group in due course once we've been through that process.</p> <p>Planning submission to go in this week and just being finalised. It's not a typical planning submission but a discharge of conditions as outlined in the approved Masterplan, which means we don't have to go through a full Planning process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DG – Feedback from Drop in Event. Ryan and I did a drop-in session at the school from about 2pm till 7.30pm. The pupils were able to come in with some of the staff and their parents to view the new school, LSHA Housing and Enabling Works presentation boards and ask questions. Had a good steady turnout from the community and very positive feedback on the whole project. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JF – Derek Brown, Mali & John L all met today, and procurement was raised. At Council in March, it was agreed a more traditional route for procurement would be delivered. RC – Hub North is the preferred Procurement delivery partner for projects going forward. However, Broadford is LEIP funded and Dunvegan will be HIP funded. <p>Will need to look at the benefits potentially of batching Dunvegan with Broadford and need to review once we get the tender reports back.</p> <p>Once we've had a chance to review documents the decision on Dunvegan will be made by this new commissioning board which has been set up for all future projects going forward.</p> <p>Once we get a preferred contractor, talks can be initiated on the two new builds but ultimately, the commissioning board will have the final say.</p>	
4.	Dunvegan Trust and Community update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MMcL - Trust have a meeting next Wednesday with representation from Dunvegan and Struan Community Council, North-West Skye Football Club, Skye Rugby Club, the Church and Dunvegan Show Committee. <p>Discuss and hopefully confirm decision on the pitch surface, which will enable us to progress the planning application for the pitch.</p> <p>In regular contact with Dorothy who has been very helpful in sharing tree and bat survey and other reports that have been done for the site.</p> <p>Three trial pits have been dug and none of which indicated deep peat.</p> <p>In the draft peat management plan there is an area of deep indicated 1.9 metres, are you able to clarify this area?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DG – the area you refer to is not on the pitch site but at the lower end of the school site - where the SUDs will be located. Have you carried out any further testing on the pitch area? MMcL – No further testing been done but we have had a sports pitch expert out to site. They would like to investigate further once the spoil is on site and to carry out CBR testing. However, he has indicated he has enough information for a planning application. DG – Just a reminder that we have not concluded the legal side of things for that area. MMcL – any idea of when the spoil from the Housing site could be moved over to the pitch site? DG – Will have to wait till the Legal side of things are concluded. JF – James are you happy in the meantime for the spoil to remain as is? JS – For now yes but would need to be moved by May 2026 to start house builds. MMcL – Would hope the transfer would go through by the end of the year? JF – If additional input is need by Kate Forbes to move the land transfer on, I'll be meeting with her next week. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DG – Our Legal team are continuing to push this through but will need to wait for the Crofting Commission/Land Court to resume the land. <p>Dorothy to send update on land transfer to JF before meeting with Kate Forbes next week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RC – Are you in talks with SFA? They have a new fund opening with criteria that targets women/girl's football. May be worth contacting them but I have a meeting with them tomorrow and can mention this project. https://www.scottishfa.co.uk/news/scottish-fa-adds-86m-to-pitching-in-facilities-campaign-thanks-to-uk-government-investment/ JL- Following on from today's meeting, there can be no doubt, certainly in the officials from Sport Scotland about the level of participation of sport in Dunvegan when Callum outlined the number of clubs that he works with, the number of people that have to travel back and forward to Portree for activities. This would be useful information for Robert when he's talking to the SFA. MMcL to send details of local clubs to Robert and Dorothy JF – I would like to thank all officers, Stakeholders and the wider community for the commitment they have made moving this project forward and getting it to the point we are at now. 	<p>DG</p> <p>MMcL</p>
5.	Sport Scotland update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JF – Site meeting today at Broadford and Dunvegan with Derek Brown, Highland Council CEX, Forbes Dunlop, Sports Scotland CEX and Steve Walsh, HLH CEX. All recognised the level of local participation in this project and how the communities have pulled together. Impressed by the current works on site at Dunvegan and good to show these people how ambitious the Skye community is. 	
6.	AOCB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 	
7.	Date of next meeting	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 June 2025 4.15pm Via Microsoft Teams 	