**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 31st JANUARY 2024**

**Proposed By Seconded by**

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| **Attending** | **Robert Curr (Chair), Susan Sutherland (Secretary).**  **Pamela Hanmer (Treasurer), Max Flemmich MBE, Lilian Mair, Rebecca Amis, Richard Hanmer, John Oliver.**  **In attendance: Arlene Hodgart (EAC), Councillors Beverley Clark, Kevin McGregor and Sally Cogley,** **Sgt Buchanan Grant, Steve Gillies (DART).**  **14 Members of Public.** |
| **Apologies.** | **Ishba Sharif, Yasmin Sharif.** |

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| **Item** | **Agenda Subject** | **Action** |
|  | **MINUTE of November 2023 MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING**  **Proposed**: Lilian Mair, **Seconded**: Richard Hanmer.  Resignations from the DDCC:  Resignations noted as received from:   * Brian Sutherland (Chair) * Jane Bull (member) * Rob Glencairn (member) * Sally Jarrett (member) * Emily Walsh (member)   Reasons provided in resignation letters were read out at the meeting. All acknowledged the positive contribution to DDCC of the outgoing Chair, Brian Sutherland.  Attendance of Other Meetings (2 members must be in attendance).  Confirmed that Robert Curr and Richard Hanmer will attend the Gala Committee meetings.  Representatives for Kings Award Event 10th Feb 2024.  Robert Curr and John Oliver will attend. Robert Curr had also previously ensured that Frank Donnelly has received an invite to the event.  Rules and Guidelines for the Lottery.  Pamela Hanmer provided an outline of the December draw issues and confirmed that all concerns have been addressed and rectified. An overview was given on the work progressed over the past 6 months to define the list of active lottery members and checks implemented before each draw to ensure accuracy.  A question from the public was raised regarding the winners’ numbers displayed on social media for the December draw and the lack of response to his question on the Facebook page. Pamela Hanmer advised that the comment was not visible at the point that she went to respond (with delays happening due to the festive season). Lilian Mair advised that she had attempted to respond to the comment repeated on the Darvel and Priestland community page, but that this response had not been published by that page’s admin. Robert Curr confirmed that any lottery responses going forward will only be progressed on the Darvel Lottery page. Pamela Hanmer confirmed that direct contact had been made with the member affected and this had been resolved. Steve Gillies confirmed that the duplicate number issue had been inherited by current lottery administration and apologised for a social media post that he had posted and subsequently clarified at this time.  Future proposals have been informed by research and discussions across other lotteries and feedback received. These proposals and Terms and Conditions will be circulated to members for comment on 1 February 2024 and will be finalised in response to the feedback received. These propose that:   * The name is adjusted to “The DDCC Lottery”. * The administration of the lottery will be a sub group of the DDCC, comprising the DDCC Treasurer and 2 other members. * Any changes to the lottery will be brought to and agreed at DDCC public meetings. * Draws will be conducted using names as opposed to numbers, using a randomisation software and with results shared. * Draws will be done before the DDCC meetings, when scheduled. * Results will be provided directly to Lottery members and posted on the Lottery Facebook page only. * Lottery reports will be circulated prior to each DDCC meeting. * Prize money proportions proposed to change to 50% prize fund (80% of which is first prize and 2 x 10% for additional prizes), and 25% to community funds and 25% to DDCC for administrative and community projects. * If a member does not contribute for 3 months or more, then membership may be withdrawn. * T&Cs will also detail the process for community groups to apply for funding, so that members can comment on these arrangements as well.   T&Cs will also be published on the DDCC website.  Feedback was received from public attendees, including:   * Concerns around the percentage split between the community fund and DDCC. * A request that community groups can comment on the proposals as well. * Potential to restrict growth of members by restricting the contribution to community funding.   DDCC members confirmed that these are proposals only at this stage. Lottery members are being consulted first and then broader community consultation will be looked at. |  |
|  | **POLICE SCOTLAND REPORT**  Sgt Buchanan was in attendance and provided details of incidents over the November to January period. Also confirmed was work between the Police and EAC to contact owners regrading security and risks in abandoned buildings in Darvel.  A motion was proposed to agree DDCC payment of an invoice for Defibrillator pads to a total of £179. This was agreed:  **Proposed**: Robert Curr. **Seconded**: Richard Hanmer. |  |
|  | **COUNCILLORS REPORTS**  Cllr Sally Cogley  Cllr Sally introduced a campaign to clean up the valley, using the hashtag #howcleanisourvalley with an emphasis on roadside litter. This will involve litter, school’s groups and community groups, with schools engaged to provide ideas. Thoughts also being considered on deterrents, as CCTV is not effective. A member of the public raised recognition for the groups and individuals already dedicated to litter picking – Cllr Sally Cogley noted.  There is also work to establish more Tenant and Resident (TAR) groups in the valley to support the resolution of housing issues. Suggestions are welcome on focus areas in Darvel that would benefit from a TAR.  Cllr Beverly Clark:  Instructions were provided on reporting road defects to Ayrshire Roads Alliance. All are encouraged to report defects in the hope that repairs may be prioritised to those with the most reports. Defects can be reported by:   * Going to the Ayrshire Roads Alliance website * Click on “Report a Fault” * Click “Continue” * Add the location in the box at the top of the map. * Click on the map to select the road or street name where the defect is found. * Click “Carriageway defect”. * Select “Carriageway Pothole”. * Add own details in relevant fields as they appear on screen. * Submit.   Cllr Beverley Clark also raised awareness of an issue discussed at Parliament. This relates to where Carers allowance is withdrawn once a recipient starts to receive a full pension. This is not widely known and recipients are often given very short notice of the withdrawal of the allowance. Knowledge of this should be passed to anyone affected.  Cllr Kevin McGregor  Cllr Kevin McGregor confirmed that the ARA budget for 22/23 and 23/24 did not include enough provision for improvements to roads in Darvel. The 24/25 budget will be looked at, but no guarantee that Darvel improvements will be prioritised. The ARA will also have a change of staff during this year as Kevin Braidwood will be leaving.  Recent fly tipping issues have been reported tot EAC and they are hoping to deal with these.  Cllr Kevin McGregor also included a congratulatory message to members and community groups on the Christmas events, including the Lights switch on and the Corner Market event. |  |
|  | **SECRETARY’S REPORT**  **Correspondence.**  Corner Events Management Plan  Steve Gillies had provided the Generic Event Management Plan for the Corner. This is a 3-year public entertainment license, with the plan produced as part of the application, including Risk assessment and Fire assessment. This was provided to DDCC following concerns raised at a previous meeting regarding the safety of wider events being moved to the Corner (raised regarding proposals to move Gala activities from Morton Park to the Corner).  Arlene Hodgart (EAC) provided an overview of the requirements for events and where these require an application to be made. She referred to EAC colleague Keith Stewart for further details relating to community events.  Lottery proposals  Steve Gillies had provided a paper, circulated prior to the meeting, with proposals on Lottery improvements. Robert Curr confirmed that this has been reviewed and has informed some of the proposals being made and to be circulated to members in February. Feedback from Steve Gillies in response to the proposals and informed by his paper included:   * Concerns with the proposed name change. * A view that the percentage going to DDCC is too high and should be reduced. (Robert Curr confirmed that these proceeds will still benefit the community through activities associated with the DDCC e.g. Gala). * A view that the other community concerns (e.g. Gala) should compete for funding alongside other community groups. * An active attempt should be made to recruit new lottery members and an offer is made for a lottery stall at the Corner markets. (Pamela Hanmer confirmed that there are intentions to advertise and recruit) * A suggestion that the draw needs more theatre and sponsor attendance. It was confirmed that this had initially stopped due to COVID lockdowns and has not been brought back as yet. * A leadership team should be established for the lottery (in effect a community focus/consulation group), of 3-5 members not associated with any community groups who can meet annually to review policy on behalf of the community. * Funding releases were discussed. Pamela Hanmer confirmed that these are proposed to be scheduled once a year. * Use of the Discover Darvel webpages Pamela Hanmer raised concerns that there was currently no access to the original Lottery website. Steve Gillies confirmed that admin access can be granted.   Suggestions and feedback will be further considered during finalisation of the current proposals. Thanks were provided to Steve Gillies for his input and report.  **Planning Applications**: Planning applications were discussed as follows:   * Mr Pablo Ipince, 36 West Main Street. Conversion, alteration, and extension of outbuilding to form a dwelling house. Delegated 23 January 2024. |  |
|  | **TREASURER’S REPORT:**  Circulated at the meeting.  **Funding**  No funding report was provided for the January meeting.  **Darvel Lottery**  A summary was provided on the figures reported to the lottery licensing board following the December draw, including entry figures and administrative (bank) charges. |  |
|  | **REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY**  **Darvel Area Regeneration Team (DART) / Darvel Strategy Group (DSG)**  Any reports received are circulated to members prior to the DDCC meeting. |  |
|  | **Other Competent Business**  A member of the public raised re receipt of a letter proposing a new electrical substation at Priestland. She believed she was the only household to have received this notification and has concerns with the proposed entry point on the road corner, as well as potential noise. Feedback is to be provided by 10 February. Agreed that this should be circulated on the Darvel community social media page, to encourage wider community feedback.  Robert Curr also reiterated that the DDCC members are all volunteers, and none are in receipt of payment (this also stands for other community groups in Darvel). Additional members are needed, especially with the pressured of the increased role in managing and responding to conversations on social media. A call was made for more community involvement and for those interested in getting involved with the Community Council.  All were thanked for their attendance. |  |
|  | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  **Date of next meeting 28 February 2024 at 7pm in Darvel Church Hall, Ranoldcoup Road.** |  |