

Dunoon Community Council

**Annual General Meeting of the Dunoon Community Council held in Queen’s Hall, Dunoon on Monday 12th May 2025.**

Present:

Gill Robertson (GR) (Convener) Tom McCowan (TMc) (Secretary) Lindsey McPhail (LM) John Jameson (JJ)

Debz Wright (DW) Abigail Apps (AA) (*Arrived Late*)

Attended via Teams:

Tim Moss (TM ) (Treasurer) David Clough (DC)

ABC Councillors Attending:

Councillor Ross Moreland (RM) Councillor Daniel Hampsey (DH)

Members of the Press: Police Scotland:

Chris Martin (CM) Not in attendance.

Members of the Public:

Frauke Thornton (FT) Audrey Roy (AR)

Christina MacDonald (CMd)

Apologies:

Tom Warren (TW) (Vice Convener) Yvonne Love (YL)

Lester Deemer (LD) Paul Graysmark (PG)

Councillor Audrey Forrest (AF)

1. Gill Robertson (The Convener) opened the meeting at 1900hrs and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The convener told those in attendance that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of taking the minutes and the recording would be destroyed after the meeting scheduled for Monday 11th May 2026 and the minutes have been approved. She invited anyone not happy to be recorded to leave the room or remain silent.
2. **Recording of members attending and apologies received.**

Apologies received from TW,YL,PG,LD,AF

1. **Declaration of Interest**.
   1. Gillian Robertson – Board of Trustees for Dunoon Foodbank, Committee member at Youth stuff
   2. Tom McCowan – Area Coordinator Poppy Scotland
   3. Tim Moss – Member of Dunoon Community Development Trust, Member of the Freemasons, Serving member of HM Forces.
   4. David Clough - Member of Dunoon Community Development Trust, Member of the Community Shed, Honorary local representative of the Cruising Association.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting were discussed**. There were no corrections or alterations made.

**Proposal. The minutes from the previous meeting were correct and bear a true reflection of the Dunoon Community Council Annual General Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2024.**

**Proposed: LM Seconded: TM**

**For (4) Against (0) Abstained (1) Result: Passed.**

1. **Conveners Report** – Report can be found at Annex A

1. **Secretary Report** – Report can be found at Annex A
2. **Treasurer Report** – Report can be found at Annex A
3. **Members Reports** - Report can be found at Annex A

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council accept the audited accounts as a true and accurate reflection of Dunoon Community Councils financial position.**

**Proposed: TMc Seconded: GR**

**For (6) Against (0) Abstained (1) Result: Passed.**

1. **Election of Office Bearers/Post Holders** –
   1. **Office Bearers.**
2. Election of Convener – Nominations – Gillian Robertson

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council elect Gillian Robertson as Convener of Dunoon Community Council.**

**For (7) Against (0) Abstained (1) Result: Gillian Robertson is elected as Convener.**

1. Election of Secretary – Nominations – Thomas McCowan

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council elect Thomas McCowan as Secretary of Dunoon Community Council.**

**For (7) Against (0) Abstained (1) Result: Thomas McCowan is elected as Secretary.**

1. Election of Treasurer – Nominations – Timothy Moss

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council elect Timothy Moss as Treasurer of Dunoon Community Council.**

**For (7) Against (0) Abstained (1) Result: Timothy Moss is elected as Treasurer.**

1. Election of Vice-Convener – Nominations – Tom Warren

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council elect Tom Warren as Vice-Convener of Dunoon Community Council.**

**For (8) Against (0) Abstained (0) Result: Tom Warren is elected as Vice-Convener.**

1. **Election of Post Holders.**

Planning Yvonne Love

Licencing Yvonne Love

Education & Youth Engagement Vacant

Transport David Clough

Infrastructure Redevelopment Paul Graysmark

Play Area Redevelopment Abigail Apps

Community Engagement Thomas McCowan

Grants & Funding Timothy Moss

Community Council Liaison Tom Warren

Public Health & Social Services Gillian Robertson

Environmental Member Debz Wright

Argyll Rally Liaison David Clough

Emergency Resilience Lead Vacant

**Proposal. Dunoon Community Council elect those nominated as post holders for the assigned portfolios.**

**For (10) Against (0) Abstained (0) Result: Passed.**

1. **Dates of Future Meetings –** Dunoon Community Council will meet on the second Monday of every month. The dates are as follows, 12th May 2025, 09th June 2025, 11th August 2025, 8th September 2025, 13th October 2025, 10th November 2025, 8th December 2025, 12th January 2026, 09h February 2026, 09th March 2026, 15th April 2026.

*The meeting on 8th December 2025 will be an informal workshop meeting.*

1. **Date of next Annual General Meeting –** 12th May 2025 at 1930hrs.

The Convener brought the meeting to an end at 1925hrs and thanked all those who attended. The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 11th May 2026, Queens Hall, Dunoon at 1900hrs.

**Annex List:**

Annex A – Annual Reports

Distribution:

All DCC Councillors

Cllr Moreland

Cllr Forrest

Cllr Hampsey

Melissa Stewart

Police Scotland

PC M Cunningham

Chris Martin (Observer)

Queens Hall Reception

Library

DCC Facebook page

DCC Website

**Annex A to**

**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual General Meeting**

**12th May 2025**

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Secretary

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

1. Since the last AGM in the role of Secretary I have continued to promote Dunoon Community Council through social media and our website. Our website since its inception on 13th October 2023 has received 15503 views (29/04/2025 @1130hrs) which averages out at 815 views per month.
2. We have coopted 3 new members this year and said farewell to three members. We need to coopt one more adult and it would be good to coopt a youngster (16 – 18 years old)
3. We conducted 3 surveys in the last year which received a lot of responses.
4. We attended two markets where we were well received by the public who attended. Most we happy to see us and said it was good that we were interacting with the public. I plan to book onto a couple of markets this year.
5. The Poppy Appeal which DCC is the administrative body raised a record of £14356.40 last year.
6. DCC organised this year’s 80th Anniversary of VE Day Celebrations for Dunoon on 8th and 10th May, which ended up being the national event for Scotland.

Plans for 2025/26

1. To continue to build DCC social media presence
2. To continue to develop our website
3. To promote DCC in the local community

Report prepared by Tom McCowan

Date 29th April 2025

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Convener

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

I was elected at the October meeting taking over from Tom Warren who is now vice-convenor.

As convenor I met with Kilmun Community Council chair and secretary to iron out an issue re Giants Burn wind farm survey and their complaint about us in the local newspaper. We agree that DCC would remain a conduit for any information re the wind farm but that we had, in fact, kept each of the local CCs informed at every stage.

In February the DCC Secretary and I met with civil servants from the levelling up team of the UK government re issues in the town. This far Dunoon does not appear to have benefited from any of the money attached.

Over the spring DCC received several complaints about testers if the Rose Garden in Argyll St much work went on around this with the police and the Council and the area has now been cleaned up and consideration of CCTV is taking place.

There are many reports from this year, and my thanks must go to all DCC officers who play such a crucial role in keeping on top of finances, transport, infrastructure, planning etc. Thanks to Tom McCowan for his very busy role as secretary and for organising the hugely successful VE Day celebrations.

We look forward to a busy, active year ahead!

Report prepared by Gill Robertson

Date 12th May 2025

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Treasurer

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

1. Since the last AGM in the role of Treasurer has changed over from A Graham to myself (Timothy Moss) on 4 Jan 25. I have reviewed the current financial status of Dunoon Community Council.
2. I have submitted the Annual accounts to Ian Reid for an independent audit.

Plans for 2025/26

1. To continue to improve the financial balance sheet for the upcoming year
2. To minimise outgoing’s by next years audit being conducted by another person rather than Ian Reid. To allow for a fresh set of eyes and to prevent Financial Prejudice.

Report prepared by Timothy Moss

Date 6 May 2025

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Transport

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

1. Since the last AGM I have continued to provide monthly updates on matter appertaining to Transport except in August and September.
2. I’ve represented the DCC at all Cowal Transport Forums held – June 2024, October 2024, January 2025 and, God willing, May 2025 (9th May).
3. I’ve attended several meetings of the Cowal Gourock Transport Link (CGTL) involving all of Cowal and Greenock Community Councils since its inception last year.
4. I’ve attended all Community Engagement sessions on Transport matters at Queens Hall in 2024.
5. Undertook the distribution of the Residents Information Packs for the 2024 Argyll Rally, and the distribution of residents letters for the 2025 Argyll Rally.
6. I’m in regular dialogue with CalMac and West Coast Motors on connectivity between Inverclyde and Cowal.
7. I’ve attended all of Mull Car Clubs Community Council Liaison meetings – total I think is 8 since April 2024.
8. Working with Alan Livingstone, West Coast Motors and Gordon Ross (WF) to investigate feasibility of the reintroduction of the 907 Bus service.
9. Looking to re-route the 486 bus to run between Kirn and Dunoon.

**Achievements**

Amendments to CalMac and West Coast Motors timetable in Autumn 2024 to improve connectivity following a Community Survey undertaken in September 2024.

Regular contact with Richard Hadfield, Ferry Strategy, Transport Scotland.

Making the CGTL Group the focal point of contact for CalMac on timetabling and ferry operations.

Communication with all 16 MSP’s responsible for Inverclyde and Cowal to raise awareness of the ferry crisis on the Gourock / Dunoon route.

Getting “to the Ferry” signs displayed at Gourock Railway Station.

Getting Scotrail to use Platform 1 at Gourock as the main platform to reduce walking times between Train and Ferry.

**Plans for 2025/26**

1. To continue to work with all Cowal CC’s and Gourock CC on the Gourock / Dunoon route
2. To continue to push for positive action to rectify the appalling state of the passenger ferry service.
3. Finalise the feasibility of reintroducing the 907 service.
4. Finalise the feasibility of rerouting the 486 bus between Kirn and Dunoon.
5. To continue to support Mull Car Club in the running of the Argyll Rally.
6. To continue to develop bus / ferry connectivity to all destinations served by WCM from Dunoon

Report prepared by David Clough, DCC Transport Lead

Date 7th May 2025

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Emergency Resilience

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

1. There have been at least 4 group meetings to discuss / review the current Emergency Resilience plan
2. .A meeting was held in Gourock with 2 senior members of the Largs resilience team which provided some good ideas and they have offered support.
3. An ABC webinar on 20th March was attended by Gill Robertson & Tom McCowan.
4. A Ready Scot Webinar was attended by DRC in September 2024.
5. Contact was made with Susan Donnelly, Corporate Resilience Manager, Argyll and Bute Council

**Plans for 2025/26**

1. We need to find a new lead member to review the documentation / ideas to date and prepare the questionnaire for residents to complete.
2. Continue to work on the current plan as the basis for moving forward

Report prepared by David Clough

Date 7th May 2025

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**Dunoon Community Council**

**Annual Report.**

**2025**

**Annual Report for** Infrastructure & Redevelopment

13 May 2024 – 12 May 2025

This year I have been working on the following.

Have successfully restored 10 wooden benches in Dunoon and established a working link with the Community payback team.

Reported numerous faults to Argyll and Bute Council.

Working on establishing a schedule of work for drain clearance and maintenance. This is causing frustration as Argyll and Bute Councils continued failure to engage.

Have established what work is required to repair the Highland Mary Statue. I have also established who owns and is responsible for the Statue.

In the year 2025/26

I plan to continue to monitor defects in Dunoon and continue to bring them to the attention of the Council.

I intend to build a good working relationship with Argyll and Bute Council’s roads and amenities team, The Community Payback Team and Claire Hallybone from the CARS Project.

I will continue to establish the schedules of work and maintenance of the drains in Dunoon.

Report prepared by Paul Graysmark

Date 12th May 2025