

Trustees Annual Report

Dunloy Stronger Together AGM 10th September 2024

This has been an extremely busy and successful year for Dunloy Stronger Together which is evidenced by the sheer number of events held and organised in 2023 and 2024. However, these brilliant events are just the tip of the iceberg with a massive amount of work in the background to make it all possible. Every single one of these events/activities are in support of our mission statement which is “Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Community”.

The major developments this year are that Dunloy Stronger Together (thereafter referred to as DST) have formally taken over responsibility from 1st June 2023 for the running of the local playgroup which has been renamed as Dunloy Wraparound Club and Playgroup (thereafter referred to as DWC). A new committee has been elected for DWC with a big increase in enrolments and further extended opening hours from 2nd September 2024. The DWC AGM is scheduled for Monday 21st October 2024.

None of this would be possible without the drive, hardwork and passion of DST’s first full time employee Lauren Elliott who took up post on 1st April 2023. Lauren has been a key part of DST for a number of years but has now taken on the full-time roles of Events Manager for DST and Playgroup Manager and Playgroup leader for DWC and has been doing an incredible job over the last 6 months. Lauren has secured over £25,000 of funding for DST to support ongoing activities as well as completely refreshing all policies and procedures so that DWC is now fully registered with social services.

DST are also blessed with a fantastic committee of dedicated volunteers and helpers. Maire Buckley has taken on the role of Vice-chair of DWC this year as well as Vice-chair of DST and dedicates a lot of time and effort in these roles. Jane McFerran is treasurer of DST and brilliantly keeps on top of all things financial throughout the year including wages and the accounts. Joanne Mc Michael has stepped up as secretary of DST taking minutes of all meetings and keeping everything running smoothly. Similarly the help and support of our other committee members Aidan Clifford and Bernie McClean who are always there at meetings & events and are a great source of help, support and guidance throughout the year.

I would also like to mention Aine McCullough who stepped down this year after serving for a number of years as secretary for DST and really helped DST to get established during this period. As always this year we have had massive support from local businesses as well as a really fantastic relationship with St Josephs Primary School, Dunloy FC, Dunloy GAA and the whole parish of Dunloy. Your help and support has been critical and is very much appreciated by all in DST.

Finally, the success of DST and everything that we do is a reflection of the brilliant community of Dunloy that we are blessed to live in and to serve. As I said earlier, our mission statement is simple; “Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Community”. We are passionate to provide whatever

services we can to continue to support the people and the village of Dunloy and the surrounding areas. The support we receive throughout the year from the whole community helps to energise and motivate and encourage all involved to keep going from strength to strength and expand the services and activities that we offer.

Thank you all for being here tonight and for your support in my role as Chairperson.

I will now hand over to Anne for the election of officers for the new committee.

Bobby Carlin

Chairperson

Dunloy Stronger Together

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