



# CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES APPROVED**  
**on**  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

## Minutes of meeting held on Monday 27th May 2013 in the Hugh Miller Institute

**Community Councillors** Ronald Young, Vivienne Plampton, Anne Short, Gabriele Pearson, Diane Brawn

**Highland Councillors:** Craig Fraser, David Alston

**Youth Representative:** Paige Shepherd

**Community Council Minute Secretary:** Jeremy Price

One member of the public was also present

Item	Details	Action
1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome</u></b></p> <p>Ronald welcomed everyone to the meeting at 19.20hrs after the AGM.</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> were received from Andrew Hulse</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Approval of previous minutes</u></b></p> <p>2.1 The minutes of the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013 were approved  Proposed: Diane Brawn Seconded: Gabriele Pearson</p>	
3	<p><b><u>Youth issues</u></b></p> <p>3.1 Paige said that at the next meeting she would bring the report from Fraser following the six months that he had been in post and the activities as a result of the Middleton Trust funds.</p> <p>3.2 She reported on the Juniors and Seniors BBQ that had taken place,</p> <p>3.3 Paige said that the mosaic is complete and with the permission of the community council she would like to get it installed on the shelter. Members agreed to this.</p> <p>3.4 Paige reported that Emily and Estere were going to Edinburgh with Wanda to meet Alex Salmond about the work done on the volunteer work undertaken.</p> <p>3.5 A dance group from Cromarty was going to the dance festival in Inverness in June.</p> <p>3.6 The sailing is about to start and 6 young people are involved in this.</p> <p>3.7 Paige was asked about the floodlights for the multi-court survey (see 5.1 below) and she reported that the young people did not seem to need it.</p>	

<p><b>3.8</b></p> <p><b>3.9</b></p>	<p>David said that it would be appropriate at the AGM to pass on Council's thanks to Fraser for all his work with young people in Cromarty.</p> <p>He also said that thanks and congratulations should be recorded for Paige for her own achievements throughout the last year, as the chairman had pointed out in his report at the AGM.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>4.1</b></p> <p><b>4.2</b></p>	<p><b><u>Police Report</u></b></p> <p>There was no police representative present and no report had been received.</p> <p>Gabriele said that That following her initial conversation with Sergeant McNeil a couple of month ago, she has not heard from him again, although repeated phone calls and emails have been made and sent asking him if he would be attending the meeting and if not, asking for a report.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>5.1</b></p> <p><b>5.2</b></p> <p><b>5.3</b></p> <p><b>5.4</b></p>	<p><b><u>Matters arising from previous minutes</u></b></p> <p>(5.1 – Lights on multi-court) – as 3.7 above. Item discharged.</p> <p>(5.2 – catch on gates on Links) Ronald had still to complete the work.</p> <p>(5.3 – dog bins) Andy has repaired a couple of bins but one needs replacing and the one for Burnside still needs installing.</p> <p>(5.4 – Seaplane Plinth Fund) David said there is still a possibility that the money could be used for some kind of memorial. This will be raised again at the next meeting.</p>	<p><b>RY</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b></p>	<p><b><u>Gaelic Chapel</u></b></p> <p>Craig said David had arranged a meeting at Ross-shire Voluntary Action and the Gaelic Committee would be visiting which might get the ball rolling on a practical project.</p>	

<b>7</b>	<b><u>Review and update on Councillors' portfolios</u></b>	
7.1	Diane went through the maintenance spreadsheet and updated each item reported to Highland Council.	
7.2	There was a brief discussion about the additional costs of newer-style dog waste bins if they were ever updated when replaced. It was decided that funds would not allow the purchase of the better bins. If the existing ones break then we will ask the HC to replace them.	
7.3	Gabriele said that a reporter had attended Davidston to look at the wind turbine development application appeal.	
7.4	Gabriele also said she'd spoken to Julie Penwright about the childcare provision. The nursery would open one full day a week during June until the summer holidays as a pilot.	
7.5	Anne said she wanted to record that following her enthusiasm about Ewan Marsh's response to her last meeting, she had made two phone calls to him, left three messages for him on his mobile phone and sent three emails to him and had no response at all. The purpose was to invite him to a future CCC meeting.	
7.6	Ronald said that in relation to the maintenance schedule, the crews were still using the tractor to cut the grass on the football field and underfoot it was still badly damaged – pitted and rutted all over. He still felt the only viable option was to use a ride-on mower.	
7.7	The graveyard was reported to still be in dire need of some attention.	
7.8	There was a discussion about access to the area that the tennis court would be built on for the contractors. Vivienne was concerned that the wheels on vehicles would further damage the football field and the contractors needed to be given specific instructions re access.	<b>CF</b>
7.9	Craig said he would email Ricky McNabb and ask him to contact Anne and also ask about the use of a rid-on mower for the football field.	
<b>8</b>	<b><u>Victoria Hall report</u></b>	
8.1	Vivienne had circulated her report and she read it to the meeting (Appendix A).	
<b>9</b>	<b><u>Treasurer's report</u></b>	
9.1	Vivienne presented her report. (Appendix B)	
9.2	Ronald thanked Vivienne for the comprehensive report and her financial management of the accounts.	

<b>10</b>	<b><u>Highland Councillors' reports</u></b>	
<b>10.1</b>	Craig reported on the Holyrood cross-party working group on heart and stroke issues.	
<b>10.2</b>	He reported on the grid across the ditch at the end of the ladies walk which had been completed.	
<b>10.3</b>	Craig showed some photographs of the flooding to Shore Road where the offlets were blocked and reported on his actions to try and have work done on them.	
<b>10.4</b>	In general terms, Craig reported on an anonymous letter he'd received about dog control in Rosemarkie. The point he wanted to raise was that Highland Councillors could not act on anonymous letters or reports – they needed to have a named individual. There were hotlines within the council which could be used anonymously but councilors needed references.	
<b>10.5</b>	Craig also said that the beach clean had gone well and had been reported in local papers with photographs supporting the story.	
<b>10.6</b>	David said that the Middleton Trust trustees had met again and reported on the funded projects.	
<b>10.7</b>	He said that the Splash and Dash would receive £500 and monies had been agreed for the Fortrose Greenland expedition as there were Cromarty young people involved. There was also support for the Childrens' Opera which would be performed in the summer.	
<b>10.8</b>	David asked that the council write a letter to Henry McKenzie Johnston thanking him for the support of the Middleton Trust which would enable various projects in Cromarty.	<b>JP</b>
<b>10.9</b>	David then apprised Members of some changes to other trusts locally. There was a small amount of money within the Cromarty Benevolent Trust and the business of administering it was become too onerous for the amounts involved. It was proposed to wind this up and transfer the monies to the Craigie Urquhart Trust. There would be a public meeting to discuss this.	
<b>10.10</b>	Similarly, the church has a number of small trusts which derived from the old 'poor funds'. These, too, needed a lot of administration and they may very well go the same way, transferring the funds to the Urquhart Trust. These needed permission from the Lord Advocate and research was underway as to the way forward.	
<b>10.11</b>	He reported that these sums would boost the Urquhart Trust to around £60k if it all happened in this way and it meant that the trust could continue to support local work for older people.	
<b>11</b>	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	
<b>11.1</b>	Jeremy had circulated emailed reports about the Inner Moray Firth Development Plan, details of proposed licensing changes, the Scotland Rural Development Programme and the National Planning Framework.	
<b>11.2</b>	Gabriele asked if it was realistic to expect members to read these documents, which are often around 150 pages long and in technical terms.	
<b>11.3</b>	Most councilors agreed they were too hefty to read but they looked at the general substance and outline of them.	

<b>12</b>	<b><u>Any other business</u></b>	
12.1	Vivienne said she had been contacted by a resident of Allan Square who was complaining that part of the grass triangle appeared to have been appropriated by another resident in order to park vehicles. The area had been sectioned off using some large wooden planters.	
12.2	There was general concern about the use of the planters and also the use of the grass area, which was recreational, for parking. There was also the issue about a resident effectively 'annexing' land for themselves.	
12.3	Ronald suggested the use of bollards and David said that there may be an issue over rights of way.	
12.4	ACTION: David to contact the relevant department at Highland Council to visit and assess if the land is adopted and what can be done to stop this use.	
12.5	Gabriele raised the problem of sheep escaping from the Reeds Park fields. The owner is Sandy McDonald.	
12.6	The sheep have been escaping on to the shore path. A number have been seen at Burnside and in the walled garden. Craig will contact John Nightingale to see if he can put some pressure on the owner.	<b>CF</b>
12.7	Gabriele asked if there was an updated copy of the useful contacts list which is on the Cromarty Live website as some numbers were now not in use. Jeremy said he did not keep this and any changes needed to be via Kristina Dupar.	
12.8	The issue of speeding on Denny Road was raised. Craig said he'd emailed about trying to get a 20mph limit throughout the town but David said you can't have a 60mph limit going direct to a 20mph limit. The best way to slow them down was to have cars parked on the road for now.	
12.9	The suggestion of the 'Smiley Face' display was made and although there's three on the Black Isle, with Cromarty on the waiting list, an application could be made to fund one for Cromarty through, for example, the Cromarty Trust.	
12.10	Anne said that Alison Hill had reported some erosion along the coast outside her boundary which needed inspecting.	
12.11	Ronald said he'd been to the first Homes and Heritage session and found it very good.	
12.12	The member of public present asked about the Fairy Glen road and how it was deteriorating at a rapid rate. Craig said that he'd been following this up for some time and there was a geo-tech report submitted. Highland Council was acting on the recommendations made in the report, which was categorized into red, amber and green areas to show the priorities. He said HC would target their resources to the areas needing most attention.	
12.13	The Inner Moray Firth Development Plan was discussed in the light of the Cromarty and Nigg recommendations. It was agreed that those within the plan were as Members wanted at the outset. The old plan would remain in force until probably the end of the year when the new one is adopted.	
<b>13</b>	<b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b>	
13.1	The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2013 at 7.30pm.	

<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>14.1</b></p> <p><b>14.2</b></p> <p><b>14.3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Planning</u></b></p> <p><i>Please note: the Highland Councillors did not participate in any planning related discussions and left the meeting for this agenda item.</i></p> <p>Gabriele had circulated a report of local planning issues to members which were:</p> <p>13/01106/FUL   Erection of extension to house   Craighead Farmhouse Craighead Cromarty IV11 8XY</p> <p>Ref. No: 13/01106/FUL   Received: Fri 22 Mar 2013   Validated: Fri 22 Mar 2013   Status: Permission Granted</p> <p>13/00453/FUL   Installation of rooflight and erection of two greenhouses (Planning Permission)   The Old Bank House Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE</p> <p>Ref. No: 13/00453/FUL   Received: Tue 05 Feb 2013   Validated: Fri 01 Mar 2013   Status: Permission Granted</p> <p>13/00454/LBC   Installation of rooflight and erection of lean-to greenhouse</p> <p>The Old Bank House Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE</p> <p>Ref. No: 13/00454/LBC   Received: Wed 06 Feb 2013   Validated: Fri 01 Mar 2013   Status: Granted Listed Building Consent</p> <p>The application by Global Energy for the South Quay at Nigg was discussed. Comments on the application have to be in by 7<sup>th</sup> June. The work will take place over two winters, a total of 8-10 months between October and May. The issues facing Cromarty are around the potential noise from pile driving.</p> <p>The consensus of members was that there was support for the application but we should work with them to minimize the impact on our community in terms of noise and 24hr working. Ronald suggested that under comments we should ask how they would keep the noise impact to a minimum.</p> <p>Residents have 28 days from the time the first advert is displayed, to comment on the application. [<i>Sec's note: A letter has been sent to the planner with the CC response to this application.</i>]</p>	
	<p>The meeting concluded at 20.46 hrs. Ronald thanked everyone for their attendance.</p>	

## **Cromarty & District Community Council**

### **Committee Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

#### **Agenda Item – Victoria Hall Report**

1. Victoria Hall finances remain stable. Annual accounts have been audited to 31<sup>st</sup> March and a detailed account at that date is available under the Treasurer's Report.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required.**
2. The Youth Cafe continues to thrive with continuous activities on three week days. A new sailing project is to commence shortly.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required.**
3. Repairs to the exterior artwork panels and the vandalised notice board have been completed but the panel needs replacing due to an error in printing. A proposal to install effective but aesthetic acoustic improvements is being submitted in a funding application through the Cromarty & Resolis Film Society. If successful the Hall's acoustics could be improved enormously and thereby attract more bookings to hold musical, theatrical and film related events.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required.**

Vivienne Plampton

## **Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council**

### **Agenda Item No 9 - Treasurer’s Report**

**Period: 23rd March to 25th May 2013**

#### **General Income**

Guide Book Sales - Various £ 110.50

Less:

#### **General Expenditure**

Secretarial Services - April & May meetings £ 100.00

Auditor Gratuity £ 12.98

Dog Bin Repairs £ 6.44

**Increase/(Decrease) in Accumulated Fund** **£(8.92)**

#### **Fund Income**

Gala Day Fund - Tennis Club Donation £ 20.00

Lonna's Light Donation £ 25.00

Splash & Dash Donation - Global Energy £ 600.00

Less:

#### **Fund Expenditure**

Homes & Heritage Project Costs £ 760.23

Cromarty Arms Inn - March & April Lunches £ 282.75

**Increase/(Decrease) in Other Funds** **£(397.98)**

#### **Net Assets**

Accounts Receivable @25.05.2013 £ 5.00

Accounts Payable @ 25.05.2013 £ -

Bank & Cash in hand balances as @ 25.05.2013 £ 9,566.01

**Total Net Assets at 25th May 2013** **£ 9,571.01**

**Comprising:**

Community Council Accumulated Fund	£ 1,629.41
Provision for Guide Book reprinting	£ 450.00
Seaplane Plinth Fund	£ 820.13
Bonfire Night Fund	£ 468.84
Splash & Dash (formerly Cromarty 2007) Fund	£ 1,317.47
Monday Club Fund	£ 346.80
Lonna's Lights Fund	£ 28.19
Gala Day Fund	£ 370.40
Homes & Heritage Project Fund	£ 4,139.77
	<b>£ 9,571.01</b>

Vivienne Plampton 25.05.2013