



CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES
NOT YET
APPROVED

DRAFT Minutes of meeting held on Monday 31st March 2014 in the Hugh Miller Institute

Community Councillors: Ronald Young (Chair), Vivienne Plampton, Anne Short, Gabriele Pearson, Diane Brawn, Andrew Hulse

Highland Councillor: Craig Fraser

Community Council Minute Secretary: Jeremy Price

Guest speakers: Dr Issie MacPhail, UHI, Roger McMichael and Vanessa Halhead, Transition Black Isle

Item	Details	Action
1	<u>Chairman's Welcome and apologies</u> Ronald welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from David Alston and Acting Sgt Nicolson, Police Scotland	
2	<u>Approval of previous minutes</u>	
2.1	The minutes of the meeting on 31 st March 2014 were approved subject to a minor change in the Action Points list. Proposed: Gabriele Pearson Seconded: Vivienne Plampton	
3	<u>Youth Issues</u> There was no youth representative present.	
4	<u>Police Report</u>	
4.1	There was no police representative present but a report had been received which is copied at Appendix A.	

5	<u>Community Wind Farm Project</u>	
5.1	Ronald welcomed Roger McMichael and Vanessa Halhead, representing Transition Black Isle (TBI).	
5.2	Roger gave a short presentation on a proposal for a community wind farm to be set up in the centre of the Black Isle. An opportunity had arisen to lease land from the Forestry Commission and if it went ahead, profits would be returned to the communities of the Black Isle via a trust fund set up by TBI and the Black Isle Partnership to support a range of projects, the infrastructure or services within the Black Isle.	
5.3	A feasibility study has commenced and the report is likely to be available in 2-3 months. There will be a major public event held to promote it and answer any questions.	
5.4	It is likely to be a long-term project, not commencing until 2017/2018 if permission was granted and a ballot would be held to determine whether the communities on the Black Isle supported the scheme. The proposal was for up to three 100m turbines.	
5.5	In response to a question from Ronald asking if a formal response from the council was sought, Roger said that they were currently looking for thoughts, ideas and reactions, not a 'yes or no' in terms of support.	
5.6	There was a discussion about how far the ballot would extend, although Roger said this was yet to be finally determined.	
5.7	Roger agreed that there would be a visual impact and said that any proposals would include a visual impact statement and representations.	
5.8	Ronald said that the council had, last year, opposed a wind farm at Davidston and wondered if supporting this in another area might seem hypocritical. Gabriele clarified that as a community council, we never at any time during the planning or appeal process voiced an opinion and definitely did not object. The council collated the residents' views and comments and passed them on to the correct authority.	
5.9	Both Vanessa and Roger made the point that this one would be a community-owned and led project with financial and CO2 benefits to all the communities on the Black Isle. Vanessa said that with continuing cuts from public funding, this would be a source of income to fund any longer-term projects. She said there could be huge benefits and there were many examples of such schemes throughout Scotland to present at future meetings.	
5.10	Roger and Vanessa agreed to report back to Members when there were updates available.	
5.11	Ronald thanked both of them for attending and giving the presentation.	

6	<u>Representing Communities Project</u>	
6.1	Ronald welcomed Dr Issie MacPhail from UHI who had come to talk about item 3 on the previous meeting's minutes.	
6.2	Dr MacPhail explained the purpose of the project which ultimately links into the health and well-being of the community and she explained why Cromarty had been chosen and described the four other communities in Wales, Birmingham and Glasgow that were running in parallel with Cromarty.	
6.3	She explained that Cromarty had undergone a number of import economic, social and demographic changes in the last 50 years which made it a perfect candidate area to look at. She cited the building of the bridges, population changes and local councils moving communities forward.	
6.4	Responding to concerns from Members, Dr MacPhail stressed that she was not adding to the workload of the council and she and her colleague would undertake all the arrangements for interviews, resources and activities. The Highland Archive would be used and she offered to take a group there to see material on the town and learn how to access the information.	
6.5	Dr MacPhail also stressed the project was not repeating the Homes and Heritage Project but drawing on its findings.	
6.6	The timescales were to have the formal report complete in 2016 and in 2015/2016 the C&DCC and community would have an opportunity to comment on the findings prior to the final report being completed. She said that there would be a formal reception in Edinburgh next winter to promote the whole project and said the council might want to be represented to promote the community itself.	
6.7	Ronald thanked Dr MacPhail for attending and Gabriele suggested a piece might be compiled for the Cromarty Live website. She agreed to take this on.	GP
7	<u>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</u>	
7.1	(6.2 – Craig's list of items) – Craig said he'd met Sam Lowe from Highland Council. There was nothing to report or update at present. Gabriele noted that issues with the road between Davidston and Farness weren't on the list and reported that the potholes had caused at least two punctures to car tyres.	CF
7.2	(6.5 – interim election) This is covered under Any Other Business below.	
7.3	(7.3 – bus stop repairs) Vivienne said there was difficulty contacting the recommended contractor. She has arrangements in hand to obtain quotes.	VP
7.4	(7.4 – 'Smiley' speed notification sign) Ongoing	DA
7.5	(7.6 – Online fault reporting system) Ongoing	DA
7.6	(13.4 – Scottish Water event) Jeremy had ensured a piece was placed on the website	
7.7	(11.3 – leaflets) Vivienne said that she had not heard from Jon Palmer as to whether he was making progress with this. Jeremy will ask Jon if he is going to continue with it.	JP

8	<u>Gaelic Chapel</u>	
8.1	Craig reported that a Facebook page had been set up for the chapel.	
8.2	The next stage is the completion of setting up the Trust which is in progress at present.	
9	<u>Review and update on Councillors' portfolios</u>	
9.1	There were no matters to discuss.	
10	<u>Victoria Hall report</u>	
10.1	Vivienne had circulated her report (Appendix B).	
11	<u>Treasurer's report</u>	
11.1	Vivienne had circulated her report and there were no questions raised about it. (Appendix C).	
11.2	Vivienne raised the matter of Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Society (CAGS) which had contacted her regarding an annual grant from the council for maintaining certain areas in the town. She had searched for the item which referred to this and found the reference from several years ago in which the council agreed a grant for that one year but asked CAGS to apply subsequently to the Common Good fund. CAGS has been informed and an application made for this year and a payment has been made.	
11.3	Vivienne also confirmed that following ratification at last month's meeting, gifts had been obtained for Duncan Bowers for his work on the Nigg developments and Jacquie Ross for auditing work.	
12	<u>Highland Councillor's report</u>	
12.1	Craig said that he'd been in correspondence with Sam Lowe from Highland Council about the area at the rear of the Links car park and this was the agreed course of action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Remove dead wood as this is now a potential fire hazard, grub and thin out self-seeded shrubs and plants. · Consider re-instating original path that runs alongside the Ice House make good the fence, not to replace with steps but have a mulched path. · Once basic work has been completed re-evaluate area probably need someone with gardening knowledge to discuss pruning etc · Target the end of May (ish) to start basic work. 	
12.2	He'd also discussed the use of a flail mower on the longer grass areas.	
12.3	Craig mentioned that the caravan in the car park had returned and there were still no signs to prevent this. He suggested that if the area behind it was worked on, it would restore the path down and this would encourage them to move the vehicle.	
12.4	Craig said the dog bin at Burnside had been knocked down. He said the green bin could be used and he'd put that bin up at the car park by the bowls club so that the whole Reed's Park loop was then covered. <i>[Sec's note: this has now been done]</i>	
12.5	Craig is trying to arrange repair of tiles at the bus shelter.	

<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>13.3</p> <p>13.4</p> <p>13.5</p> <p>13.6</p>	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>Jeremy referred to an email from Kristina Dupar about what can be put on the Cromarty live website as she's often getting requests asking for business and calendar items to be included which refer to events or other items strictly outwith the C&DCC geographical area - for example events in the Resolis Hall, Groam House Museum in Fortrose, businesses with only one of two items supplied by a Cromarty craftsperson (and the majority from other areas all over the Highlands).</p> <p>Since this is the official CC website, she felt the council should issue guidelines which could be quoted when replying to enquiries.</p> <p>Members discussed the matter and decided to issue the following guidelines for her benefit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cromarty and District Community Council does not want to be seen to be promoting one business over another, especially from other areas. Therefore it has issued guidelines in respect of items on the Cromarty Live website. • Events which fall outwith the C&DCC area will not be included in the notices unless they directly impact on Cromarty and district or have some relevance to the community • Businesses which want to advertise events will not be included on the site if they are from outwith the C&DCC • Items which seem to be more business advertising or promotional material from within the community can be included in the form of a few words and a link to the businesses or event website. <p>Jeremy to pass details to Kristina. <i>[Sec's note: done]</i></p> <p>A letter had been received from Highland Skateparks Association in relation to a new BMX track in Inverness asking for support for the project. It was agreed to do so. Jeremy to send letter. <i>[Sec's note: done]</i></p> <p>An email had been circulated about the new service structure and changes to strategic committees names within Highland Council. This was duly noted.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>JP</p> <p>JP</p> <p></p>
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<p>14</p> <p>14.1</p> <p>14.2</p> <p>14.3</p> <p>14.4</p> <p>14.5</p> <p>14.6</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>At this point, the subject of Ronald’s and Anne’s resignation was raised. Both had given notice at the last meeting that they intended to step down from the council in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Vivienne and Gabriele had been in touch with Di Agnew about arrangements and the timing of the resignations was crucial because of the cycles of elections. If it was wrong, it could be that C&DCC would be dissolved until the end of the year. It could also mean C&DCC footing the bill for an interim election, difficulties in financial arrangements and the management of the Victoria Hall.</p> <p>Di had provided three options which were discussed at length and as a consequence both Anne and Ronald proffered their resignations with effect from midnight on Wednesday 30th April. This would give Vivienne time to make any necessary financial adjustments and also would provide the shortest lead-in time to an interim election. It would mean that C&DCC would be dissolved with effect from 1st May 2014 until the required number of councillors was voted in.</p> <p>It would mean the earliest date for the new council to sit would be 28th June and, after office bearers were voted in, a date for the AGM could be set for July.</p> <p>Both Anne and Ronald spoke to Members. Anne said she had enjoyed all her time on the council but felt it was time for her to step down. Ronald thanked everyone for their support over the years, singling out Vivienne for her work as Treasurer, Craig, David and Anne for their support and also Jeremy and Estelle as minute secretaries. He also said that all the councillors he’d worked with over the years were to be congratulated!</p> <p>Vivienne spoke on behalf of the community council and said it would not be what it is today without both Anne and Ronald. They had both done superb jobs and will be missed. She promised a more ‘formal’ goodbye at a subsequent opportunity.</p>	
<p>14</p>	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>To be confirmed following the interim elections.</p>	
<p>15</p> <p>15.1</p>	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p><i>Please note: the Highland Councillor did not participate in any planning related discussions and left the meeting for this agenda item</i></p> <p>Gabriele reported on the following, and there were no comments from Members:</p> <p>New Planning Application</p> <p>None</p> <p>Update on Planning Applications</p> <p>14/00456/LBC Demolition and erection of replacement extension, internal alterations and installation of dormer and replacement windows (listed building consent) 88 Little Vennel Cromarty IV11 8XF -Permission Granted</p> <p>14/00410/FUL Erection of replacement extension and installation of dormer window (planning permission) 88 Little Vennel Cromarty IV11 8XF - Permission Granted</p> <p>Out of area Planning Applications</p> <p>None</p>	

	<p>The meeting concluded at 21.15hrs. Ronald thanked everyone for their attendance and bade everyone a final goodbye.</p>	
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Summary of Action Points from meeting

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
6.7	Gabriele	To compile a piece for the Cromarty Live website on the Representing Communities Project
7.1	Craig	To continue pursuing the list of items needing rectification or repair
7.3	Vivienne	To obtain quotes for repairs and rebuild of bus stops
7.4	David	Progress 'Smiley' speed indicator board for Cromarty
7.5	David	To follow up online fault reporting system problems at HC
7.7	Jeremy	To pursue the production of leaflets by Jon Palmer
13.4	Jeremy	To pass details of website guidelines to Kristina Dupar
13.5	Jeremy	Send letter of support to Highland Skateparks
Ongoing	All	Increased communication with community

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORM

Command Area	Ross & Cromarty	Community Group	Cromarty Community Council
Station	Dingwall	Officer Attending	
Date of Meeting	28/04/2014	Location	Hugh Miller Institute, Cromarty

Meeting Preparation

Ward and Local Policing Plan Priorities.	Activities conducted over the reporting period to support those priorities.
1. Road Safety	<p>This has been identified as a Police Scotland priority and will continue to be a National focus.</p> <p>Operation Route (Speed checks) took place within the Ross Shire area including Cromarty this past week. This was to ensure road safety particularly around school areas on pupils return from Easter holidays.</p> <p>No persons were charged in the Cromarty area in relation to this operation.</p>
2. Alcohol Abuse	No issues of note in the Cromarty area.
3. Anti-social behaviour	No issues of note in the Cromarty area.
Update on Previously Agreed Actions – See previous OP 55/8 & Relevant Reference on the Area Command Action Tracking Table	
None outstanding	
Update on any local community safety issues / trends within the community and any assistance / information requested from the community. Review IMPACT / intelligence etc	
<p>In the period since the last meeting on the 31/03/14 to 28/04/14 there have been a total of 7 Incidents which were mainly of a routine nature with no significant matters of note. 2 crimes were reported; 1 theft of a motor vehicle from outside a house in Cromarty village and 1 report of Fraud. Enquiries are ongoing in relation to both these incidents and there is a positive line of enquiry for both incidents.</p>	
Any local / Area Command / Divisional / Police Scotland updates / key messages	
Temporary Inspector Paul Daly is now the Inspector for Dingwall/Black Isle Ross Shire Command having taking over from Inspector Neil Mackinnon who has retired.	

Cromarty & District Community Council

Committee Meeting 28th April 2014

Agenda Item 10 – Victoria Hall Report

1. Detailed accounts for the year to 31st March 2014 can be found with Agenda Item 11, Treasurer's Report. Another successful year financially has allowed the Hall to proceed with an essential programme of refurbishment within the Hall interior.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

2. Quotes have been obtained for the refurbishment of the Hall flooring and the eventual cost should be in the region of £2,200, which is £700 cheaper than the same work done in 2005. A specification of decorating work has also been prepared and an invitation to tender for this work will be advertised locally within the next few weeks. In addition a schedule of minor repair works has been prepared and these will be completed prior to the flooring and decorating works.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

3. A meeting of interested parties took place to discuss the refurbishment and re-hanging of the artwork panels. As a result, John McNaught is preparing a proposal to recreate the existing panels on a slightly smaller scale and to a higher specification. The resultant panels should be in place shortly after the completion of the refurbishment/redecorating works mentioned above. The cost will be no more than £1,000, towards which we already have a £250 contribution from the recent rental of the smaller meeting room versions of the panels to a Scottish NHS Trust. Further contributions may be sought from other relevant agencies but the work will proceed with any unfunded balance being met from the Hall Fund.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

4. Youth Café Report – to follow.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

Vivienne Plampton

Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council**Agenda Item No 11 - Treasurer’s Report****Period: 31st March to 27th April 2014****General Income**

Publications Sales £70.00

Less:**General Expenditure**

Secretarial Services - March meeting £50.00

Garden Maintenance - CAGS Subsidy £125.00

H&S and Audit Gratuities £33.00

Printing Costs -Ink Cartridge £12.49

Increase/(Decrease) in Accumulated Fund**£(150.49)****Fund Income**

Lonna's Lights Fund - Public Donations £25.50

Less:**Fund Expenditure**

Monday Club Fund - March Lunches £165.75

Publications Reprinting Fund Charge £50.00

Gala Day Fund - Purchases re 2014 Gala Day £295.00

Increase/(Decrease) in Other Funds**£(485.25)****Net Assets**

Accounts Receivable @ 27.04.14 £70.00

Accounts Payable @ 27.04.14 £-

Bank & Cash in hand balances as @ 27.04.14 £7,763.25

Total Net Assets at 27th April 2014**£7,833.25****Comprising:**

Community Council Accumulated Fund £1,387.96

Provision for Guide Book reprinting £717.50

Seaplane Plinth Fund £820.13

Bonfire Night Fund £742.84

Splash & Dash Fund £945.74

Monday Club Fund £529.55

Lonna's Lights Fund £179.64

Gala Day Fund £2,509.89

£7,833.25

Vivienne Plampton 27.04.14