



CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 30th January 2017, 7.30pm in the Hugh Miller Institute**

Minutes
Approved
27.2.2017

Present

Community Councillors: Jacquie Ross (JR) Chair, Diane Brawn (DB) Secretary, Estelle Quick (EQ) Treasurer, Rosemarie Hogg (RH), Alan McDonald (AM), Gabriele Pearson (GP)

Youth Representative: Bryn Leyshon (BL)

Highland Councillors: Cllr Craig Fraser (CF)

Police Scotland:

Member(s) of the public: Helen Cameron (Albyn Housing Trust), John McHardy (Highland Council), Morven Taylor (The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust), Denis Torley (representing Cromarty Primary School Parent Council)

Community Council Minute Secretary: Gillian McNaught (GM)

	<i>(Minute Secretary's note).</i> Following an invitation from the CFPA to attend a seminar, Gain More Business from the Cruise Sector on 16th February, a meeting was held between 7 - 7.30pm to nominate three Cromarty Business representatives to attend. Those selected were Phoebe Fox, Sarah Pern & Jon Palmer.	
1	<u>Chairman's Welcome</u> JR welcomed everyone to the meeting. <u>Apologies:</u> Cllr David Alston (DA), Kenneth MacFarlane (KM), PC Calum Reid (PC CR).	
2	<u>Declarations of Interests</u> -	
3	<u>Approval of previous Minutes, 28th November 2016</u> The Minutes were approved by AM and seconded by DB.	
(5)	<u>Youth issues</u>	
5.1	Victoria Hall Bus Shelter - complaints received from young people about the smell and condition of the shelter. Fraser Thomson has previously organised a clean. EQ will liaise with Fraser and proposed £10 for cleaning materials to rectify. Members agreed .	EQ
5.2	Litter - Complaints received about litter around town and on beaches as well as chewing gum on streets.	
5.3	Street Lights - Flickering lights on Bank Street and other lights around town are out. CF will follow this up along with other lighting issues.	CF
(cont)		

<p>(cont)</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>5.6</p> <p>5.7</p> <p>5.8</p>	<p>Links Football Pitch - the surface is very poor with stones exposed and turf uneven. This potentially requires re-surfacing to make it safe for play.</p> <p>Battery Bin - A battery recycling facility in town was suggested. EQ will ask if Cromarty Stores would be willing to site a small bin in-store.</p> <p>Garden Bins - some areas are provided with bins for garden waste but CF confirmed HC will not supply to households in Cromarty & District due to cost.</p> <p>Damaged beach fence - this is opposite the Royal and has a broken section held together with orange string. This is a health and safety issue and JR will pass on to Harbour Trust.</p> <p>Good News - the Hogmanay Ceilidh was sold out and very successful. One young person commented they enjoyed the Saturday Community Markets in the Victoria Hall.</p> <p>BL was thanked for his report and left the meeting.</p>	<p>EQ</p> <p>JR</p>
<p>(4)</p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p><u>The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust - Update on Albyn Housing</u></p> <p>JR welcomed Helen Cameron (HC) Albyn Housing Trust, John McHardy (JM) Highland Council & Morven Taylor (MT) The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust to the meeting.</p> <p>Discussions with C&DCC and Ronnie MacRae at The Highlands Small Community Trust have taken place since last April regarding the future of Townlands Barn and the immediate surroundings. The agreement with Townlands Sanctuary Ltd, current owner of the Barn, states that if no development takes place within 5 years (before April 2016), the Community will have the opportunity to look at solutions to secure the future of the building. This ‘transfer event’ would entail the payment of £10,000 from the new owner to the current owner.</p> <p>Discussion took place as to how this could be taken forward. The organisations represented emphasised that if the Barn was secured by the Community, then the Community would have decision making powers about the Barn’s future and development of the surrounding area, including the Sandielands Housing Development, the Victoria Hall and Playing Fields.</p>	

<p>(cont)</p> <p>(4)</p>	<p>JM confirmed that £10,000 would be made available from HC on an interest free loan if the Community wished to exercise purchase of the Barn, with a view to creating a Community facility or selling privately to an agreed buyer. It was also intimated that someone would be employed to facilitate the site as a whole, look at costs and work with the Community and Architect to take the plans forward. Financial assistance would also be available for one off costs, such as surveys, negotiation and legal fees and a modest amount for administration.</p> <p>MT said Sandielands is likely to be the last development site within the town so it was important for Albyn to develop based on housing needs and in conjunction with the future plans for Townlands Barn and surrounds. Targets to deliver social rented homes by 2021 is backed by a 4 year funding window from the Scottish Government, HC and other major partners.</p> <p>The C&DCC agreed to look further into these proposals JM will send a copy of the HC loan agreement. EQ will look into what the current C&DCC insurance covers.</p> <p>JR thanked all for their input and HC, JM & MT left the meeting.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>EQ</p>
<p>(13)</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p>	<p><u>Cromarty Primary School (CPS) Update (from item 13, AOB)</u></p> <p>Denis Torley (DT) informed members that the CPS Parent Council (CPS PC) met last week and requested help from the C&DCC to resolve various issues with the CPS refurbishment and extension, including problems with the heating system and unfinished works in the playground. Concerns were voiced that the deadline to rectify defects may have passed and Temporary Warrants are still being issued by Building Control.</p> <p>JR is meeting with Henri Shepherd, CPS Head Teacher this week and on Friday 3rd February, with Robert Campbell, David Walker and Di Agnew from HC to discuss the soil from the school build at White Dykes and the CPS refurbishment concerns.</p> <p>The CPS Parent Council intend to write to Audit Scotland and DT will forward the snagging list to JR.</p> <p>DT was thanked for his input and left the meeting.</p>	<p>JR</p>
<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p>	<p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>Circulated prior to the Meeting. Appendix A.</p>	

<u>Matters Arising</u>		
7.1	(6.1 Follow up on broken fence around football park). Ongoing.	CF
7.2	(6.4 Follow up on parked car at junction causing problems). Done. Discharged.	
7.3	(6.5 Road Traffic Management issues meeting with Iain Moncrieff). JR has invited Ian Moncreiff to the next C&DCC meeting. No response to date. Ongoing.	JR
7.4	(4.4 Report Broken gate at Townlands play park). CF sent photographs to HC as a Health & Safety issue. Will check if this has been fixed. Ongoing.	CF
7.5	(6.5 Follow up on C&DCC publication sales on Ebay). Not worth pursuing. Discharged.	
7.6	(6.6 Monitor levels of litter and report back. Done. Discharged.	
7.7	(6.9 Send complaint about removal of grave marker to Craig). CF has followed up. Discharged.	
7.8	(6.10 JR to get further information from HC regarding future of Alan Square Public Toilets). Ongoing.	JR
7.9	(6.11 Meet with HC and Highlife Highland about soil from school build on Whitedykes site). JR will meet with Di Agnew & Robert Campbell and David Walker on Friday 3rd February to discuss and raise the Primary School concerns in item 13.1. Ongoing.	JR
7.10	(6.12 Look at possibility of local contractor carrying out pruning work). Has contacted HC but will follow up. Ongoing.	CF
7.11	(6.13 Letter of thanks to Jim Mallows). Done. Discharged.	
7.12	(6.15 Follow up on proposed Memorial bench). Await further correspondence. Discharged.	
7.13	(6.16 Follow up suggestions for Links Toilet). John Nightingale agrees in principal but not on the proposed site near to dwellings. It was suggested the Ferry end but there are no services in place. JR will discuss with Tony Vandyke who has planning permission for a coffee shop Ongoing.	JR
7.14	(6.17 CF follow up issues in his report including serious road maintenance issues on Farness Road). Ongoing.	CF
7.15	(6.18 Compile full list of issues to be discussed with Iain Moncrieff from HC). Issues to be raised at February meeting. (see item 7.3). Ongoing.	CF & ALL
(cont)		

(cont)		
7.16	((6.23 Send notice about closure of Links for CL website). Done. Discharged.	JR
7.17	(6.25 Attend C&DCC Members Emergency Plan training days if possible). New set of dates are Sunday 5th & 12th February. All C&DCC members to attend if possible. Ongoing.	ALL
7.18	(6.26 Follow up on fly tipping at the Red Burn). Done. Discharged.	
7.19	(6.29 Continue with updating listings and contacts on CL website and liaise with Kristina). Discharged.	
7.20	(6.34 Update Members when new information available on Albyn Housing field). Discussed under item 4. Discharged.	
7.21	(8.1 Communicate Members' agreement on <i>The Sheddie</i> to VH committee). Done. Discharged.	
7.22	(10 Follow up on any issues raised with street lighting). Raised under item 5.3. Ongoing.	CF
7.23	(11.1 Ask Heartstone for brief report on their project). Done but no reply. Discharged.	
7.24	(11.2 Jacquie to attend CFPA Public meeting and Gillian to confirm with Joanne Allday). Done. Discharged.	
7.25	(11.3 Follow up with HC the suggestion to re-design the Links bus shelter and compare costings with the proposed replacement). Ongoing.	CF
7.26	(11.5 Follow up on repair to bus timetable notice board at the Victoria Park). Further damage reported and no timetable. Ongoing.	CF
7.27	(11.6 Await further information and follow up on geese shooting concerns). Done. Discharged.	
8	<u>Treasurer's Report</u>	
8.1	EQ circulated her report prior to the meeting (Appendix B).	
8.2	Paypal - JR email EQ with details of Cromarty Rising Paypal donations.	JR
9	<u>Victoria Hall Report</u>	
	Alan Plampton circulated the Victoria Hall Report (Appendix C) prior to the meeting.	

10	<u>Community Councillors' Portfolios</u>	
10.1	<u>Estelle Quick</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Dog Poo Bin volunteer rota now in place. 	
10.2	<u>Rosemarie Hogg</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forsyth Place Trees - pruning should be done by the end of February. Braehead Manhole - this has sunk again. CF will follow up. 	CF
10.3	<u>Diane Brawn</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black Isle Community Councils (BICC) - a meeting will be held next week. 	
10.4	<u>Gabriele Pearson</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cromarty Care Project - Minutes received from their December meeting. CCP is looking to recruit a Project Co-ordinator which would run for a 2 year period under present funding arrangements. Planning - New applications circulated to Members prior to meeting. No further discussions. 	
10.5	<u>Alan McDonald</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Gala - AM unable to attend committee meeting last week but has been kept up to date. Dates for 2017 Gala to be confirmed. Christmas Tree - AM has taken over this Portfolio item from JR. 	AM & GM
10.6	<u>Jacquie Ross</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harbour Trust - David Alston (DA) asked that the C&DCC consider nominating Tony Vandyke (currently Treasurer) as a Trustee of Cromarty Harbour Trust. DA will no longer be a Trustee after 4th May and wishes to ensure continuity and help oversee the transition with the imminent Harbour Revision Order. Following the HRO, all six Trustees will then be appointed by an open process. JR nominated Tony Vandyke as a Trustee and was seconded by GP. Agreed. JR to contact Harbour Trust. 	JR
11	<u>Highland Councillors' Reports</u> <u>Cllr Craig Fraser</u> 11.1 Ferry Shelter - Ivor Soutor , Senior HC Transport Officer had been in contact about the siting of the Shelter, which HC will maintain. The Nigg one has already been installed. JR will contact Tony Vandyke and copy in John Nightingale to progress. 11.2 Street Lighting - A programme of repairs are being carried on the Black Isle, including Cromarty. 11.3 Other issues CF is currently following up include; the damaged fence in Townlands; huge hole in the Victoria Park fence; problems with Bank Street street lighting and the collapsed drain at Braehead.	JR

12	<u>Correspondence</u>	
12.1	Cromarty Courthouse Museum - Anne Short wishes to step down from her role as the nominated C&DCC representative on the Museum Committee. Suggestions for this post are being followed up.	JR
12.2	Unswept debris and leaves - the build up is causing pavements and walkways to be very slippery. This will be brought up with Ian Moncrieff at the proposed meeting.	
12.3	Reeds Loop Path - JR received a letter from a Resident about a collapsed section on a bridge. CF will take a photo and send to HC.	CF
13	<u>AOB</u>	
13.1	Cromarty Primary School Update - discussed earlier in the meeting.	
13.2	Moray Firth Demonstration & Research Marine Protected Area Proposal - CF wished to bring to attention of Members that the Moray Firth Partnership (MFP) is submitting a third party proposal for a Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area (D&R MPA) in the Moray Firth. Deadline for consultation passed at end of January 2017.	
13.3	EQ thanked Alex Graham for disposing of the community Christmas Tree.	
14	Date of Next Meeting Monday 27th February 2017, Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty @ 7.30pm.	
	JR thanked everyone for attending and for their input. The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.	

Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
5.1	Estelle	Liaise with Fraser about cleaning bus shelter and purchase cleaning materials
(5.3) & 7.22	Craig	Follow up street lighting problems
(5.5)	Estelle	Ask Cromarty Stores if they are able to display a battery recycling bin in the shop
(5.7)	Jacquie	Contact harbour Trust about broken fence at the Harbour

(4)	All	Consideration of Townlands Barn brought into Community Ownership
(4)	Estelle	Check current C&DCC insurance in relation to Townlands Barn
13.2	Jacque	Report back on meetings ref: Cromarty Primary School
7.1	Craig	Follow up on broken fence around football park
7.3	Jacque	Follow up invitation to Iain Moncrieff to attend February meeting
7.4	Craig	Check if broken gate at Townlands is fixed
7.8	Jacque	Further information from HC regarding future of Alan Square Public Toilets
7.9	Jacque	Report back on meeting to discuss CPS soil at Whitedykes and CPS PC concerns about refurbishment
7.10	Craig	Follow possibility of local contractor carrying out pruning work
7.13	Jacque	Contact Tony Vandyke about proposal of a Links Toilet at slipway end of the Links
7.14	Craig	Follow up issues in his report including serious road maintenance issues on Farness Road
7.15	Craig & ALL	Compile full list of issues to be discussed with Iain Moncrieff from HC at February meeting
7.17	ALL	Attend Resilience training days
7.25	Craig	Follow up with HC the suggestion to re-design the Links bus shelter and compare costings with the proposed replacement
7.26	Craig	Follow up on repair to bus timetable notice board at the Victoria Park and replacement of timetable
8.2	Jacque	Pass on Paypal details to Estelle ref Cromarty Rising donations
10.2	Craig	Follow up sunken manhole at end of Braehead
10.5	Alan & Gillian	Take on Christmas Tree and Lights in Portfolio. Gillian update Portfolio List
10.6	Jacque	Contact Harbour Trust about agreement to propose Tony Vandyke as Harbour Trust Trustee
11.1	Jacque	Contact Tony Vandyke to discuss Links Toilets near slipway
12.1	Jacque & ALL	Suggestions for C&DCC representative on Cromarty Courthouse Committee
12.3	Craig	Photograph damaged area of Reeds Loop path and send to HC

Appendix A
Agenda item 6

During the stated dates police dealt with 16 calls to the Cromarty area which varied from abandoned vehicles, road traffic collisions and assistance advice to reported disorder. As well as this 16 calls that were responded to police also carried out proactive mobile patrols and licenced premises checks. As a result of these proactive patrols a quantity of controlled drugs were seized from a male and he was cautioned and charged with possession of a class B controlled drug. In relation to the reported disorder a male was arrested for his conduct and reported to the Procurator Fiscal. This would appear to have been a fairly isolated incident and is likely to have been a direct result of over consumption of alcohol.

Of note on 14/12/16 there was reported attempted break in to a stable in Culicudden as such it would be prudent to remind residents to be vigilant when it comes to home security as although the persons responsible were not in Cromarty itself they were nearby. In relation to the previous issue of conflict over wildfowling and birdwatching at Udale Bay police have continued to receive complaints about this. These complaints have been responded to and no criminality has been found. The divisional wildlife officer PC N0962 Daniel Sutherland is continuing to liaise with the RSPB regarding the reported conflicts.

PC Calum Reid.

Appendix B
Agenda item 8

<u>Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council</u>				
<u>Agenda Item No 8 - Treasurer's Report</u>				
<u>Period: 27/11/16-28/01/17</u>				
<u>General Income</u>				
Less:				
<u>General Expenditure</u>				
Cruise seminar tickets	£	33.00		
Secretarial Services - November	£	50.00		
Postage - website sale	£	1.45		
Increase/Decrease in Accumulated Fund	£	84.45		
<u>Fund Income</u>				
Tractor Operations Fund - fuel allowance	£	200.00		
Bonfire Night Fund - 2016 net proceeds	£	638.00		
Gala Day Fund - Xmas fair	£	600.00		
Monday Club Fund - Xmas fair	£	500.00		
Cromarty Rising Fund - donations	£	13,983.77		
Cromarty Rising Fund - Hogmanay ceilidh	£	400.00		
	£	16,321.77		
Less:				
<u>Fund Expenditure</u>				
Monday Club Fund - November lunches	£	129.50		
Monday Club Fund - December lunches	£	112.00		
Emergency Resilience Fund - miscellaneous	£	20.47		
Bonfire Night Fund - thank you present	£	10.00		
Gluren bij de Buren Fund - expenses	£	128.09		
Gluren bij de Buren Fund - donation to Cromarty Rising	£	100.00		
Splash & Dash Fund - website renewal	£	24.00		
Cromarty Rising Fund - legal costs	£	1,800.00		
Cromarty Rising Fund - badges	£	859.20		
	£	3,183.26		
Increase/Decrease in Other Funds	£	13,138.51		
<u>Net Assets</u>				
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 28/01/17	£	22,670.11		
Paypal - website sales	£	5.83		
Total Net Assets at 28/01/17	£	22,675.94		
<u>Comprising:</u>				
Community Council Accumulated Fund	£	2,362.22		
Provision for Guide Book reprinting	£	290.80		
Seaplane Plinth Fund	£	48.93		
Bonfire Night Fund	£	1,045.25		
Splash & Dash Fund	£	667.77		
Monday Club Fund	£	650.00		
Community Christmas Fund	£	78.97		
Gala Day Fund	£	5,214.69		

Appendix C
Agenda item 9

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting - 30th January 2017

Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report

- 1. Finances and Bookings** Bookings remain strong as we start 2017. Following the Highland Council's recent consultation process, it is very likely that the Victoria Hall will not be used a Polling Station. It is proposed to use the Cromarty Primary School in future. Loss of income to the Hall is insignificant, as it averages no more than £150pa.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

- 2. Highland Council/Highlife Highland** The Licence to Occupy renewal is still ongoing! Unfortunately still no change from our last report. Di Agnew is still pursuing a resolution on our behalf, but unfortunately it would seem that, following the departure of George Sim and Greg Youngson from the Highland Council Property Division, nobody else has taken responsibility for this from their workloads. This has now been outstanding for nearly a year! Highland Council repairs to the Hall are also still outstanding!

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

- 3. Emergency Resilience Project** All works have now been completed, and suggested dates have been arranged for Council Member training sessions. Unfortunately, none of these dates for initial training have yet been taken up by Members. Forthcoming suggested dates are 5th and 12th February. Both are Sundays and from 13.00 to 14.00. The C&DCC snow plough is now in the Hall's new unit and has commenced operations from its new home. Following the last meeting's agreement, the Victoria Hall's storage unit has been named 'THE SHEDDIE'.

ACTION - Information only, and no action required.

- 4. Public Entertainment Licence** The renewal application has been submitted and we await the new licence. The Highland Council contractor has now visited and completed the inspection and servicing of the fire safety equipment.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

5. **Youth Café** The latest report is to follow for Member's interest. It is also very good to report that the Middleton Trust has approved funding until at least 2020. This allows the C&DCC to confirm the existing post of the Youth Café's Part-time Assistant Youth Worker, until at least that date.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

Alan Plampton

VHMC

Alan Plampton

VHMC