



Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 28th August 2017, 7.30pm in the Hugh Miller Institute

**Minutes
Approved
25.9.2017**

Present

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

Youth Representative: Bryn Leyshon (BL)

Highland Councillors: Cllr Craig Fraser (CF)

Police Scotland:

Member(s) of the public: (1)

Community Council Minute Secretary: Gillian McNaught (GM)

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| 1 | <p><u>Chairman's Welcome</u> JR welcomed committee.</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> Alan McDonald (AM), PC Calum Reid (PC CR).</p> | |
| 2 | <p><u>Declarations of Interests</u> -</p> | |
| 3 | <p><u>Approval of previous Minutes, 26th June 2017</u> Approved by EQ and seconded by RH.</p> | |
| 4 | <p><u>Youth issues</u> A number of issues have been raised by young people over the summer.</p> <p>4.1 Buses - continuing complaints about Stagecoach delays - some being 20 minutes and up to one hour late. BL to compile a list of dates and times and send to CF to follow up. Cross ticketing still a problem. (<i>See minutes 26.6.2017, item 10.4</i>)</p> <p>4.2 Cromarty Surgery - Concerns there was no Doctor or Nurse on duty on two consecutive days this month for pupils' after school appointments.</p> <p>4.3 Seagulls - This is still a huge problem for some residents and visitors. BL will ask if the Youth Club can make a sign for the Park to discourage the feeding of gulls.</p> <p>4.4 Dumping - The area at Whitedykes where the spoil from the school build was taken is now used for fly tipping. This is a safety issue as children are now playing around dumped items (Also discussed under 6.5).</p> | <p>BL & CF</p> <p>BL</p> |
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| 4.5 | Overgrown Gutters - CF will follow up with HC. | CF |
| 4.6 | Potholes - These are numerous around the area. Members encourage Residents to report road defects directly online. JR will post a link for reporting on Facebook. | JR |
| 4.7 | Congested Roads - The streets are proving difficult to negotiate due to numbers of parked cars and vehicles parked too close to junctions. (Awaiting Traffic Management Plan for Cromarty. <i>See item 6.4</i>) | |
| 4.8 | Good news - The Royal Visit in June was a great success and the Community Skiff now has 100 adults and 50 young rowers. BL was thanked for his report and left the meeting. | |
| 5 | <u>Police Report</u> Circulated prior to the meeting. Appendix A. | |
| 6 | <u>Matters Arising</u> | |
| 6.1 | (4.1 Ref: Seagulls, Craig send HC links to Estelle, Estelle write news item for CL and Alan to post on Facebook). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.2 | (6.4 Contact Neil Cameron at Resolis CC about a Housing needs survey). Part of wider discussions around Townlands Barn. Ongoing. | JR |
| 6.3 | (6.5 Follow up on broken fence around football park and repairs to gate). CF has been pursuing. Ongoing. | CF |
| 6.4 | (6.6 Follow up request for meeting). JR unable to attend, but CF met with Iain Moncrieff from HC about various community issues. A Road Traffic Plan has still to be completed by HC. Ongoing. | JR & CF |
| 6.5 | (6.7 Update on Whitedykes when new information comes in). JR has had no response from HC to numerous emails and phone calls about this or outstanding works to the Primary School. Members agreed that JR now writes to Steve Barron, Chief Executive of HC expressing Members' dissatisfaction. Ongoing. | JR |
| 6.6 | (6.8 Update Members on Business Development Team). No recent activity to report. Ongoing. | EQ |
| 6.7 | (6.11 Re-label as agreed Christmas Fund donation tins around town). Done. Discharged. | |
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| 6.8 | (6.12 Ref: Development Trust etc, organise Public Meeting for end of July). Proposed for end of September. Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.9 | (6.13 Follow up on funding and work required on both Slipways). <i>Discussed under 8.3.</i> Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.10 | (6.16 Ref: Links bus shelter, Craig to find out if HC shelter still available and RH explore other options). After discussions, Members agreed to accept a new HC shelter in Black and that the existing wooden shelter be advertised for sale for a reasonable price. Ongoing. | RH & CF |
| 6.11 | (6.20 Craig pick up collection for surgery staff on Friday and present it same day). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.12 | (8 Look into alternative Bank provider ref: CCDT). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.13 | (10.3 Speak to Eric Softon about Community Xmas Tree). KM reported that a tree of any size would be available. Done. Discharged. | AM |
| 6.14 | (8 Look into alternative Bank provider ref: CCDT). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.15 | (10.4 Rosemarie compile details on bus issues, Craig to compile and circulate to interested parties). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.16 | (10.4 Ref: Bus complaints, Estelle to organise a bus survey at the PO, write news item for CL and send to Alan for Facebook posting). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.17 | (10.6 Confirm non Councillor roles on Portfolios and members look at reducing Jacquie's Portfolio workload). <i>Discussed under 10.4.</i> Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.18 | (11.3 Send information about the CCDT with ref to Gaelic Chapel). EQ to send information to CF. Following discussions with John Nightingale, it is proposed the Chapel comes under the existing CCDT rather than setting up a new Trust. Ongoing. | EQ, JR & CF |
| 6.19 | (11.5 Follow up on complaint about drainage to top of Paye). Situation currently stable. Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.20 | (11.7 Pass on C&DCC's dissatisfaction with Roads underspend). Done. Discharged. | |
| 6.21 | (12.1 Report back ref. dead sheep). The Landowner, John Nightingale, has urged the farmer to make more regular visits to his livestock and requests that people are more specific about date and location when reporting problems. DB will send a follow up letter to the owner. Ongoing. | DB |
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| (cont) 6.22 | (12.2 Respond to Resident’s concerns ref: Cromarty Surgery and monitor situation). Members noted the current system of Doctors is working very well, but is not a long term solution. DB will contact David Alston, Chairman of NHS Highland for further discussion. Ongoing. | DB |
| 6.23 | (12.3 Contact David Cockburn to advise green memorial bench is agreed). Done. With a recent increase in requests for memorial benches on Estate land, DB will look into the current application process and update Members and John Nightingale. Ongoing. | DB |
| 6.24 | (12.5 Follow up directional signs from Links to Public Toilets). Ongoing. | CF |
| 6.25 | (13.1 Follow up issues with grounds maintenance with HC). Ongoing. | CF |
| 7 | <u>Treasurer’s Report</u> | |
| 7.1 | EQ circulated her report, which covers a two month period, prior to the meeting . (Appendix B). | |
| 7.2 | Gala - a very good profit was made this year and a portion of this will be distributed for community use. | |
| 7.3 | The HC Annual Grant - this has decreased whilst the insurance cost has gone up. This equates to a £30 drop in grant from 2016/17. EQ was thanked for her report. | |

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| 8 | <u>Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT)</u> | |
| 8.1 | Carbon Footprint Reduction Grant - a £1500 grant has been awarded for initial research into a proposal by Nigel Shapcott and Greg Fullarton to introduce electric charging points, electric bikes and vehicles within the town. JR will circulate the final application to members once completed. | JR |
| 8.2 | Cromarty Ferry - KM reported that CalMac has two 6 car ferries for sale with a deadline for bids by the end of September. Highland Ferries would like the opportunity to purchase a bigger ferry with a view to improving the Cromarty/Nigg service with the ability to carry lorries, vans and camper vans which would in turn extend the operating season. Several options were discussed to meet the purchase costs. Ian Blackford MP will request that CalMac delay the deadline to allow more time to explore and a meeting is also scheduled with a representative from HIE this week. | KM & AM |
| 8.3 | Ferry Slipways - JR is pleased to report that the HC Ward discretionary Budget has awarded £5000 towards the cost of repairs. A more competitive quote for all the works required is in the process of being put together. | JR & KM |
| 8.4 | Townlands Barn - The Cromarty Film Society has lodged an interest to propose a Cinema for the building. | |
| 8.5 | Public Meeting - this is a priority and the C&DCC aim that this will take place by the end of September once more information from other organisations is forthcoming. | JR |
| 9 | <u>Victoria Hall Report</u> Alan Plampton circulated the Victoria Hall Report (Appendix C) prior to the meeting. | |

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| 10 | <u>Community Councillors' Portfolios & Portfolio Review</u> | |
| 10.1 | <u>Rosemarie Hogg</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tractor is due its annual service but no reply has been received from HC. • The Townlands fence and gate was scheduled to be fixed by July 4th and has not been repaired. JR will add this in her letter to the HC Chief Executive. | RH JR |
| 10.2 | <u>Gabriele Pearson</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17/03202/FUL Erection of four houses Daffodil Field Miller Road Cromarty- awaiting decision. A number of concerns were raised by residents and a canvas of C&DCC Members confirmed 5 objected. GP wrote an objection letter and the matter will now go to committee. | |
| 10.3 | <u>Diane Brawn</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigg Energy Park Ltd has applied for Planning permission to extend an existing building and use land to store raw materials in connection with the offshore renewables sector. There will be a public consultation event in the Victoria Hall in September 2017, tbc. • The next Cromarty Firth Port Authority quarterly meeting will be held on Thursday 5th October at 2pm. Other commitments prevent any Members attending, but the CFPA suggest that General Manager, Rory Gunn will meet with the C&DCC at a time tbc. | |
| 10.4 | <u>Portfolio List</u> DB will check if the Black Isle CC Liaison is still active and will take on the Community Noticeboard from EQ. (Victoria Hall noticeboard removed from list). GM to update Portfolio list. | DB & GM |
| 11 | <u>Highland Councillors' (HC) Reports</u> <u>Cllr Craig Fraser</u> 11.1 CF has circulated flyers to all Black Isle CCs with his HC contact details. 11.2 Current Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stables to Cromarty Mains verges overgrown and dangerous • Ivy growing over gravestones • Sutor viewpoint path very overgrown • Bushes around the ice house require tidying • Eathie to Hillockhead road in very poor repair <p>CF will continue to follow up these complaints and others with HC.</p> | CF |

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| 12 | <u>Correspondence</u> | |
| 12.1 | Cromarty Firth Port Authority - an invitation to C&DCC as stakeholder, to nominate a representative for the selection panel to interview and make recommendations on the appointment of new Board members. JR will ask if the CFPA require any particular skills. | JR |
| 12.2 | British Red Cross - email regarding fully funded First Aid courses available for groups who support people at higher risk. | DB |
| 13 | <u>AOB</u> | |
| 13.1 | Lunch Club - this will start the first Monday of October. EQ will endeavour to meet any funding shortfall with an application to the Ward Budget and other suggested sources. | EQ & CF |
| 13.2 | Shore Street Parking - a complaint had been received about the permanent parking of large vehicles and a boat on the grass verge. The land belongs to the Cromarty Estate and RH will follow up with the vehicle owners. | RH |
| 14 | <u>Date of next meeting</u> Monday 25th September 2017 @ 7.30pm, Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty. | |
| | JR thanked everyone for attending and for their input. The meeting concluded at 9.10pm. | |

Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

| Reference | To whom allocated | Notes |
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| 4.1 | Bryn & Craig | Bryn to collate list of complaints about Stagecoach service and send to Craig |
| 4.3 | Bryn | Contact Wanda with view to making a sign for public not to feeds seagulls at the Park |
| 4.5 | Craig | Follow up with HC about overgrown gutters on Townlands homes |
| 4.6 | Jacque | Post link to pothole reporting form on Facebook |
| 6.2 | Jacque | Contact Neil Cameron at Resolis CC about a Housing needs survey in relation to Townlands Barn |
| 6.3 | Craig | Chase HC action on broken gate & fence |
| 6.4 | Jacque & Craig | Follow up Traffic Management plan with Iain Moncrieff |
| 6.5 | Jacque | Send letter from C&DCC to Steve Barron regarding HCs lack of response to requests for meetings/information |
| 6.6 | Estelle | Update Members on Business Development Team with any new information |
| 6.13 | Jacque & Kenneth | Follow up on funding and work required on both Slipways |
| 6.13 | Alan | Make contact with Eric Softon regarding Community Xmas tree |
| 6.16 | Craig & Rosemarie | Ref: Links bus shelter, Craig to order a Black replacement from HC and RH to advertise existing as minuted. |
| 6.18 | Estelle, Jacque and Craig | Estelle send documents to Craig an explore further the Chapel coming under CCDT umbrella |
| 6.21 | Diane | Write to farmer with an update. |
| 6.22 | Diane | Contact David Alston about NHS long term plans for Cromarty Surgery |
| 6.23 | Diane | Research the process for requesting memorial benches in Cromarty and report back |
| 6.24 & 6.25 | Craig | Follow up directional signs from Links to Public Toilets and grounds maintenance issues |
| 8.1 | Jacque | Circulate to members finalised application for Carbon Footprint Reduction grant |
| 8.2 | Kenny & Alan | Update Members on potential larger ferry bid |
| 8.3 | Kenny, Alan & Jacque | Update Members on the status of slipway repairs |
| 8.5 | Jacque & All | Organise Public Meeting at end of September to discuss the CCDT |
| 10.1 | Rosemarie | Follow up on annual service for Tractor |

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| 10.1 | Jacquie | Compile list of issues raised by C&DCC and not followed up by HC and send to Steve Barron |
| 10.4 | Diane | Check BICC and take over Community Noticeboard in Portfolio |
| 11.2 | Craig | Follow up on all current issues on list |
| 12.1 | Jacquie | Contact CFPA and enquire if looking for any particular skills in a stakeholder nomination |
| 12.2 | Diane | Progress offer of free First Aid course to Groups |
| 13.1 | Estelle & Craig | Estelle to submit application to Ward Budget via Craig and look into other funding sources |
| 13.2 | Rosemarie | Follow up with owners of boat and vehicles parked on Shore Street verge |

Agenda item 5
Appendix A

POLICE REPORT 29/05/17 to 25/08/17

Between 29/05/17 and 25/08/17 Police Scotland dealt with 14 incidents in the Cromarty area. These incidents included neighbour disputes, domestic incidents, reported vandalism, road traffic collisions and mental health related incidents. As a result of these incidents two persons were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for consideration of prosecution. Given this covers a 3 month period this is a particularly low crime figure, which is reassuring for the community.

Officers continue to carry out high vizability foot and mobile patrols in the Cromarty area on a regular basis.

At present I do not have any key messages for the community.

PC Calum Reid

Appendix B

Agenda item

| <u>Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council</u> | | | |
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| <u>Agenda Item No 7 - Treasurer's Report</u> | | | |
| <u>Period: 25/06/17-27/08/17</u> | | | |
| <u>General Income</u> | | | |
| Publications sales | £ | 125.50 | PO, Emporium, Courthouse |
| Less: | | | |
| <u>General Expenditure</u> | | | |
| Secretarial Services - June | £ | 50.00 | |
| | | | |
| Increase/Decrease in Accumulated Fund | | | |
| | £ | 75.50 | |
| <u>Fund Income</u> | | | |
| Cromarty Rising Fund - donations | £ | 54.84 | |
| Community Development Fund - donations | £ | 97.85 | |
| Bonfire Night Fund - donations | £ | 450.00 | |
| Gala Fund - takings | £ | 7,966.34 | |
| | £ | 8,569.03 | |
| Less: | | | |
| <u>Fund Expenditure</u> | | | |
| Gala Day Fund - costs | £ | 2,770.60 | |
| Gala Fund - barbecue | £ | 521.10 | |
| | £ | 3,291.70 | |
| Increase/Decrease in Other Funds | | | |
| | £ | 5,277.33 | |
| <u>Net Assets</u> | | | |
| Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 27/08/17 | £ | 23,571.00 | |
| Paypal - website sales | £ | 5.83 | |
| Total Net Assets at 27/08/17 | | | |
| | £ | 23,576.83 | |
| <i>Comprising:</i> | | | |
| Community Council Accumulated Fund | £ | 1,734.17 | |
| Provision for Guide Book reprinting | £ | 604.30 | |
| Seaplane Plinth Fund | £ | 48.93 | |
| Bonfire Night Fund | £ | 1,495.25 | |
| Splash & Dash Fund | £ | 637.82 | |
| Monday Club Fund | £ | 845.00 | |
| Community Development Fund | £ | 219.42 | |
| Gala Fund | £ | 8,469.21 | |
| Emergency Resilience Fund | £ | 242.72 | |
| Open Gardens Fund | £ | 6.86 | |
| Gluren bij de Buren Fund | £ | 202.06 | |
| Tractor Operations Fund | £ | 400.00 | |
| Cromarty Rising Fund | £ | 8,671.09 | |
| | £ | 23,576.83 | |
| Estelle Quick 27/08/17 | | | |

Appendix C
Agenda item 9

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting - 28th August 2017

Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report

- 1. Finances and Bookings** We now move in to the busy winter period with the regular user groups starting back after the summer break. Strong event bookings throughout the next 12 months.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

- 2. Repairs and Maintenance** The replacement of the main hall blinds has now been completed. As previously reported, the new roller blinds are more 'fit for purpose' and now provide an effective blackout effect for relevant bookings. Following a routine service, the boiler engineer has noted a number of issues that need to be addressed. This includes a number of incinerated birds in the chimney at the boiler end! These have been reported to the Highland Council and we await to hear what actions they propose. You may have noticed, the main Hall clock is missing! It is 'on holiday' in Edinburgh having its inner workings replaced.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

- 3. Highland Council/Highlife Highland** Negotiations over the new Licence to Occupy are still underway and it is hoped that the renewal will be complete soon. A new draft will be available for consideration and action at the next meeting. However all outstanding repairs, currently with the Highland Council, remain outstanding.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

- 4. Youth Café** No further report since last meeting.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

Alan Plampton

VHMC