



# Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on  
Monday 26th February 2018, 7.30pm in the Hugh Miller Institute

**Minutes  
Approved  
26.3.2018**

## Present

**Community Councillors:** Diane Brawn (DB) Secretary, Estelle Quick (EQ) Treasurer, Rosemarie Hogg (RH), Gabriele Pearson (GP)

**Youth Representative:** Bryn Leyshon (BL)

**Highland Councillors:** Cllr Craig Fraser (CF)

**Police Scotland:**

**Member(s) of the public:**

**Community Council Minute Secretary:** Gillian McNaught (GM)

1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome</u></b> In JR's absence, EQ agreed to take the position of Chair and welcomed Councillors.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> Jacquie Ross (JR), Alan McDonald (AM), Kenneth MacFarlane (KM), PC Michael Cosh (PC MC).</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interests</u></b> -</p>	
3	<p><b><u>Approval of previous Minutes, 29th January 2018</u></b></p> <p>Approved by RH and seconded by DB, after the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>item 4.1</i> Action Points - inclusion of ' <i>Marine Terrace</i>' for clarification.</li> <li>• <i>item 4.6</i> - Information corrected.</li> <li>• <i>item 5</i> - Police Report not available for January Draft Minutes but Members agreed to include in January <i>Approved</i> Minutes.</li> <li>• <i>item 13.3</i> Action Points - Correction, <i>JR</i> to contact J Nightingale.</li> </ul>	
4	<p><b><u>Youth issues</u></b></p> <p><b>4.1 Littering</b> - BL reported that an area of ground at the bottom of the Denny (believed to be privately owned), has had numerous dog poo bags thrown onto the bushes alongside discarded scooters and chairs. EQ will follow up.</p> <p><b>4.2 New Youth Representative</b> - BL will be leaving school next term so the search is on for a successor. Wanda has posted information on Facebook.</p> <p><b>4.3 Bus Service</b> - BL has been using the bus service on a regular basis recently and (cont) informed Members that timekeeping and reliability have been very good.</p>	EQ

(cont)		
4.4	<p><b>CCDT</b> - It was <b>agreed</b> that a CCDT Trustee would visit the Youth Cafe on a Monday night to encourage young people to get involved and put forward their ideas.</p> <p>BL was thanked for his report and left the meeting at 7.45pm.</p>	<b>JR &amp; EQ</b>
5	<b><u>Police Report</u></b>	
5.1	Report from PC Michael Cosh circulated prior to the meeting. ( <b>Appendix A</b> ). PC MC thanked for this update.	
6	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>	
6.1	(4.1 Photograph potholes at slipway on Marine Terrace and send to HC). Done, awaiting reply. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.2	(4.2 Replace bus timetables in the bus shelter). Done. DB to tidy up High Street shelter timetables. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>DB</b>
6.3	(4.3 Co-ordinate a visit by CCDT member to Youth Cafe). Discussed under <i>item 4.4</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.4	(6.5 Report back to Jacquie about bus company joint ticketing plans). No reply to enquiry. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.5	(6.6 Follow up Traffic Management plan with Iain Moncrieff). A meeting has been arranged in March for a site visit to discuss a TMP for the whole of Cromarty and drainage problems on The Paye. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.6	(6.7 Follow up on delay of flatworm soil survey results for Whitedykes ). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>JR</b>
6.7	(6.8 Jacquie to email John Nightingale regarding a Community lease or sale of slipways.). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>KM &amp; JR</b>
6.8	(6.12 Invite SSPCA to next meeting regarding animal husbandry at the Reeds Loop). Gill MacGregor from SSPCA will attend March C&DCC meeting. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	<b>DB</b>
6.9	(6.13 Contact Cromarty Courthouse regarding possible relocation of model boat cabinets). Paul Monk, Cromarty Courthouse Trustee will contact the Harbour Trust to progress. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
(cont)		

(cont)		
6.10	(6.14 Alan consult with Xmas light supplier, propose purchases and discuss with Jacquie prior to ordering). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>AM &amp; JR</b>
6.11	(6.17 Follow up request to Di Agnew for information on the assets of the Common Good Fund). Awaiting information. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>EQ</b>
6.12	(6.20 Follow up on issues highlighted in report). Discussed under <i>item 11</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.13	(6.21 Photograph and report poor road repair outside PO). This will be discussed at March site visit by Ian Moncrieffe. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.14	(8.3 Confirm date and time of next CCDT board meeting). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.15	(8.4 Estelle circulate business survey to CCDT members and Jacquie post on FB and CL website). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.16	(8.5 Send details of fundraising Bric a Brac sale to Jacquie for FB). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.17	(9.1 Contact Alan Plampton to progress the Hall licence renewal). Covered in VH report, <i>Appendix C</i> . Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.18	(10.1 Send dog poo rota to DB for noticeboard). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.19	(10.1 Direct enquirer regarding use of HMI to High Life Highland). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.20	(10.3 Contact Katie Forbes, MSP about Cromarty ferry). EQ reported that the proposed purchase of a larger CalMac vessel has fallen through. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.21	(10.4 Apply to Ward Budget for full amount requested by volunteer gritting team). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.22	(10.6 Attend the January joint Port Authority meeting). Discussed under <i>item 10.3</i> . Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.23	(11.1 Follow up on 20 day timescale for broken fence and gate complaint). CF checked and the repair work has been completed to a very good standard, but CF disappointed it had to go to a formal complaint to achieve this. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
(cont)		

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6.24	(11.2 Contact John Nightingale about maintenance issues on 100 steps walk). The fallen trees across the path have been dealt with but there are still issues with broken handrails and path maintenance. CF to liaise with HC on core paths and about repair to the road surface from Cromarty Mains to Sutor Viewpoint. <b>Ongoing.</b>	CF
6.25	(11.3 Invite Ian Moncrieff to a site visit). See <i>item 6.5</i> . Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.26	(11.4 Follow up on suggestion for re-use of links bus shelter). <b>Ongoing.</b>	CF
6.27	(12.1 Contact John Nightingale on behalf of Caithness motorcycle group for permission to weekend camp on Links). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.28	(13.2 Report back on any further information about the Breathe festival re-schedule). No information available. Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.29	(13.3 Email John Nightingale with concerns about warning signage for Estate shoots). <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR
6.30	(13.4 Meet with Regatta organisers to discuss general issues). <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR
7	<b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b>  EQ circulated her report prior to the meeting. ( <b>Appendix B</b> ).	
7.1	The Tractor maintenance and fuel funds are now in separate accounts.	
7.2	<b>HC Annual CC Administration Grant &amp; Ward Discretionary Fund</b> - The proposed 53% reduction to the WDF was agreed at a recent HC budget meeting. The exact impact on the CC grant is unknown but is expected to be reduced by around 50%.	
7.3	In light of this, discussion took place about the possibilities for generating income for the CC. Members <b>agreed</b> to request a contribution from groups towards the Insurance the CC pays to cover local events and also request some support from Victoria Hall.	EQ
7.4	Suggestions for savings on CC expenditure were also discussed. Members <b>agreed</b> essential costs for Insurance and the Minute Secretary would remain fixed. Members <b>agreed</b> EQ would give notice on the lease of the Allan Square shed for the end of March and the market stalls moved for temporary storage into Townlands Barn. EQ will contact Vivienne Griffiths.	EQ
7.5	The Motorcycle group wishing to camp ( <i>see Minutes 29.1.2018, item 12.1</i> ) had offered to make a donation. It was suggested and <b>agreed</b> DB will contact and suggest a donation to the C&DCC if so desired.	DB

<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>8.1</b></p> <p><b>8.2</b></p> <p><b>8.3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT)</u></b></p> <p>The <b>Housing Survey</b> has been distributed to properties in Cromarty but a resident living outwith the town had not received one. EQ will ask that a district wide distribution is looked into.</p> <p><b>Townlands Barn</b> - The completion date was scheduled for the end of the week, but there may be a delay while issues raised by the Seller are addressed.</p> <p><b>CCDT Director</b> - Alan McDonald has stood down as a Director and Sheila Currie has been appointed.</p>	<p><b>EQ</b></p>
<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>9.1</b></p>	<p><b><u>Victoria Hall Report</u></b></p> <p>Alan Plampton's (AP) Victoria Hall Report was circulated prior to the meeting (<b>Appendix C</b>). AP was thanked for his report.</p>	
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>10.1</b></p> <p><b>10.2</b></p> <p><b>10.3</b></p> <p><b>10.4</b></p>	<p><b><u>Community Councillors' Portfolios</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Rosemarie Hogg</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Gritter</b> - The £320 received from the Ward Budget has been spent on the basic materials and requirements as agreed. The vehicle licence has been renewed for another year.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Gabriele Pearson</u></b></p> <p>Only one new planning application received since the last meeting:</p> <p>The Old Bank House Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ref. No: 18/00501/LBC   Received: Fri 02 Feb 2018   Validated: Thu 08 Feb 2018   Status: Under Consideration.</li> <li>Still awaiting a decision on the Daffodil field application (<i>see minutes 28.8.2017, item 10.2</i>)</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Diane Brawn</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BICC</b> - The next meeting will be held in Munloch and the HC budget cut to all CCs is on the Agenda. DB will attend.</li> <li><b>CFPA January Meeting</b> - DB attended and reported back to Members. Among the items highlighted were CFPA's work on health and safety; the proposed completion of Phase 4 Port expansion by 2020 and the re-submission of their Ship to Ship oil transfer licence.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Estelle Quick</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>HMI</b> - A group recently using the meeting room triggered the alarm in the Library resulting in a Police and High Life Highland staff member call out. EQ will look further into this.</li> </ul>	<p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>EQ</b></p>

<b>11</b>	<b><u>Highland Councillor (HC) Report</u></b>  <b><u>Cllr Craig Fraser</u></b>	
<b>11.1</b>	<b>Transition Black Isle</b> - leaflets showing local footpaths and walks have been published. CF to send pdf to EQ for CL website.	<b>CF &amp; EQ</b>
<b>11.2</b>	<b>The Paye</b> - see under <i>item 6.5</i> .	
<b>11.3</b>	<b>Gaelic Chapel</b> - A Conservation Architect has recommended that the overgrown ivy on the walls be dealt with at the earliest and self seeded trees (all but largest one) removed.	<b>CF</b>
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Cromarty Courthouse</b> - CF has been appointed a Trustee. Remedial work on damp within the courtroom will be undertaken before this season's opening, with major refurbishment scheduled for 2019.	
<b>12</b>	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	
<b>12.1</b>	Following an email request, DB will confirm with Biker's group that Alan Square public toilets are open 24/7.	<b>DB</b>
<b>12.2</b>	<b>Scottish Government Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund</b> - A request from HC to highlight any issues or infrastructure pressures ahead of this scheme opening in Spring 2018. DB thanked EQ for assistance in completing the questionnaire.	
<b>12.3</b>	An email from Avoch Community Council to say that C&DCC contact details appeared on their insurance document. EQ confirms C&DCC information is in order.	
<b>12.4</b>	Several complaints have been received regarding the damaged van parked on Burnside Place which has been reported to the Police.	
<b>12.5</b>	EQ received comment about the poor state of the steps and path to the Hugh Miller monument. EQ to remind CF to include this as part of the site visit with Ian Moncrieff.	<b>EQ &amp; CF</b>
<b>12.6</b>	Ross shire Voluntary Action February newsletter received.	
<b>12.7</b>	Email received about a proposed memorial bench at the top of the 100 Steps. DB to reply to family and contact John Nightingale.	<b>DB</b>

<b>13</b>	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
<b>13.1</b>	<b>New Links Bus Shelter</b> - CF will follow this up with HC.	<b>CF</b>
<b>14</b>	<b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b> <b>Monday 26th March 2018 @ 7.30pm, Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty.</b>	
	EQ thanked everyone for attending and for their input. The meeting concluded at 8.45 pm.	

### Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
4.1	Estelle	Follow up on littering problem at the bottom of the Denny
4.4	Jacque & Estelle	Organise a visit by CCDT Trustee to Monday Youth Cafe
6.2	Diane	Tidy up High Street bus timetables
6.4	Craig	Report back to Jacque about bus company joint ticketing plans
6.5	Craig	Raise issues discussed with Iain Moncrieff at March site meeting. (The Paye, Traffic Management plan for Cromarty, path to HM Monument)
6.6	Jacque	Follow up on delay of flatworm soil survey results for Whitedykes
6.7	Kenneth & Jacque	Jacque to email John Nightingale regarding a Community lease or sale of slipways
6.8	Diane	Send March Meeting Agenda to Gill MacGregor, SSPCA
6.10	Alan & Jacque	Alan consult with Xmas light supplier, propose purchases and discuss with Jacque prior to ordering
6.11	Estelle	Follow up request to Di Agnew for information on the assets of the Common Good Fund
6.24	Craig	Contact HC Core Paths about 100 Steps repairs and HC Roads about repairs to Sutor Viewpoint road surfaces
6.26	Craig	Progress discussions about re-use of links bus shelter
6.29	Jacque	Email John Nightingale with concerns about warning signage for Estate shoots
6.30	Jacque	Meet with Regatta organisers to discuss general issues

7.3	Estelle	Request contributions from groups for Events covered by C&DCC insurance and contact VHC regarding support
7.4	Estelle	Give notice on the Allan Square store lease for end of March and progress temporary storage of market stalls in Townlands Barn
7.5	Diane	Following the Motorcycle Group's offer, suggest a donation to C&DCC if wished.
8.1	Estelle	Request Housing Group look at a district wide distribution of their survey.
10.3	Diane	Attend March BICC meeting
10.4	Estelle	Look into the alarm activation at the library while HMI meeting room in use
11.1	Craig & Estelle	Craig to send pdf of pathways to Estelle who will pass on for posting on Cromarty Live
11.3	Craig	Progress the cutting of ivy and removal of self seeded trees at Gaelic Chapel as minuted
12.1	Diane	Confirm with Motorcycle Group about opening times of Allan Square toilets
12.5	Estelle	Remind Craig to show Ian Moncrieff the poor state of path to the HM monument at March site meeting
12.7	Diane	Reply to family proposing a memorial bench at top of 100 Steps and contact John Nightingale
13.1	Craig	Follow up new Links Bus Shelter with HC

**Agenda item 5**

**Appendix A**

**POLICE  
SCOTLAND**

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORM**

Command Area	North Highland	Community Group	Cromarty Community Council
Station	Dingwall	Officer Attending	PS Michael Cosh (e-mail)
Date of Meeting	26 February 2018	Location	Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty



## Meeting Preparation

Ward and Local Policing Plan Priorities.	Activities conducted over the reporting period to support those priorities.
1. Road Safety 2. Anti-social behaviour 3. Alcohol Abuse 4. 5. 6.	High-Viz mobile and foot patrols carried out in the area and also licensed premises checks.
Update on Previously Agreed Actions – See previous OP 55/8 & Relevant Reference on the Area Command Action Tracking Table	
None.	
Update on any local community safety issues / trends within the community and any assistance / information requested from the community. Review IMPACT / intelligence etc	
<p><b>"POLICE REPORT 29/01/17 TO 28/02/18 -</b></p> <p><b>Between 29/01/18 and 26/02/18 police were called to 4 incidents in the Cromarty area, which is a dramatic reduction in the number of local matters from the last period and from this time last year.</b></p> <p><b>These incidents were in relation to alarm activations at properties and information regarding a drone being piloted in the nearby area, however no criminal matters were reported to the Police.</b></p> <p><b>In relation to the matter of the drone, this has been a common call to police in the surrounding areas and to date there has been no concerns identified.</b></p> <p><b>Officers continue, when possible, to conduct high visibility mobile and foot patrols in the area.</b></p> <p><b>Should you wish to discuss anything further or are aware of anything I have not mentioned then please do not hesitate to contact me.</b></p> <p><b>Kind Regards</b></p> <p><b>Michael</b></p>	
Any local / Area Command / Divisional / Police Scotland updates / key messages	
There are no key messages to pass to the community at this time.	

Meeting Outcomes

Date Raised	Issue	Agreed / Proposed Actions	Area Command Action Tracking Table Reference	Remarks

Intelligence - SID Log References (If submitted)

NONE.
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Next Meeting

Date		Time		Location	

Area Commander Review

Initial		Date	

Distribution:

Forward to DCU – FAO Service Delivery Officer, DCU, Divisional HQ.

GPMS Classification: NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

**Agenda item 7**  
**Appendix B**

<b><u>Finance Report – Cromarty &amp; District Community Council</u></b>			
<b><u>Agenda Item No 7 - Treasurer's Report</u></b>			
<b><u>Period: 28/01/18-25/02/18</u></b>			
<b><u>General Income</u></b>			
Publication sales	£9.36	Website	
<b>Less:</b>			
<b><u>General Expenditure</u></b>			
Secretarial Services - January	£50.00		
Postage and stationery	£4.22		
<b>Increase/Decrease in Accumulated Fund</b>	<b>-£44.86</b>		
<b><u>Fund Income</u></b>			
Tractor Maintenance Fund - Highland Council	£320.00		
	£320.00		
<b>Less:</b>			
<b><u>Fund Expenditure</u></b>			
Cromarty Rising Fund - legal fees	£810.00		
Monday Club Fund - January lunches	£133.00		
	£943.00		
<b>Increase/Decrease in Other Funds</b>	<b>-£623.00</b>		
<b><u>Net Assets</u></b>			
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 25/02/18	£25,676.22		
Paypal - website sales	£33.13		
<b>Total Net Assets at 25/02/18</b>	<b>£25,709.35</b>		
<b><u>Comprising:</u></b>			
Community Council Accumulated Fund	£2,307.79		
Provision for Guide Book reprinting	£604.30		
Seaplane Plinth Fund	£48.93		
Bonfire Night Fund	£1,085.78		
Splash & Dash Fund	£565.82		
Monday Club Fund	£695.50		
Community Development Fund	£276.82		
Gala Fund	£6,730.41		
Emergency Resilience Fund	£242.72		
Open Gardens Fund	£6.86		
Gluren bij de Buren Fund	£202.06		
Tractor Operations Fund	£400.00		
Tractor Maintenance Fund	£320.00		
Cromarty Rising Fund	£7,222.36		
Ferry Slip Fund	£5,000.00		
	<b>£25,709.35</b>		
Estelle Quick 25/02/18			

## Agenda item 9

### Appendix C

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018

#### Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report

1. **Finances and Bookings** Nothing new to report.

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

2. **Repairs and Maintenance** Lighting work still planned for March. New PA system also being planned. Sadly, someone has 'misappropriated' a large table! Enquiries are ongoing! An external key lock safe is possibly to be fitted to the Emergency Resilience Project storage unit. However this has been delayed until confirmations of cover are received under the new insurance arrangements (see 4 below).

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

3. **Highland Council/Highlife Highland** Unfortunately there is no update, but Di Agnew, representing the Cromarty Common Good and the Black Isle Ward, continues to negotiate on our behalf.

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

4. **Insurance and Water Charges** Following the ending of the Highland Council's Block Policy, we are now negotiating direct with the insurers. It is hoped that this will not result in any massive increases or the Hall having to pass on costs to users. However these negotiations are ongoing. Following Scottish Government changes to Water and Sewerage charges from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018, all premises will suffer increases over the next 3 years, as the RV is changed from the usual historic figure to a 'Live' one. In the case of the Hall this increase will be nearly 125%! In addition, this increase may result in jeopardising our current 100% Business Rate Relief. Members will be advised of any developments.

**ACTION - Information only, and no action required.**

5. **Youth Café** The recruitment process for the new Assistant Youthworker has been further delayed, but is planned to now restart in March.

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

Alan Plampton VHMC