



# CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES  
APPROVED  
27<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
2013

## Minutes of AGM held on Monday 28th May 2012 in the Hugh Miller Institute at 7pm

### Present:

**Community Councillors:** Ronald Young (Chair), Julie Penwright, Anne Short, Vivienne Plampton, Helen Elliott, Bill Wall, Gabriele Pearson

**Community Council Minute Secretary:** Jeremy Price

There were three members of the public present

Item	Details	Action
1	<b><u>Chairman's welcome</u></b>  Ronald welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
	<b><u>Apologies</u></b>  Apologies were received from Craig Fraser and David Alston	
2	<b><u>Approval of previous minutes</u></b>  <b>Proposed:</b> Anne Short <b>Seconded:</b> Vivienne Plampton  These were agreed as a true record of the meeting subject to one minor amendment to the spelling of a name under 5.3.	
3	<b><u>Matters arising from previous minutes</u></b>  There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.	
4	<b><u>Election of officers</u></b>  Ronald stood down from the chair. The following officers were elected:  <b>Chair:</b> Ronald Young - Proposed by Vivienne Plampton; Seconded by Anne Short  <b>Secretary:</b> Julie Penwright - Proposed by Anne Short; Seconded by Bill Wall  <b>Treasurer:</b> Vivienne Plampton - Proposed by Julie Penwright; Seconded by Anne Short  Ronald congratulated the officer bearers on their re-election.	

**Chairman's report**

Ronald read his report:

Ronald said that it had been a very busy year for the Council and thanked all the Councillors for their hard work during the year. He detailed some of the many activities, achievements and events during the year which included :-

- The continuing work of the Victoria Hall Management Committee
- The success of the Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Society obtaining the old tennis courts as allotments
- Dr Forth's Bequest –.Councillors are progressing with the options as agreed - a snow plough had been obtained, the tennis court plan was progressing and play equipment in the parks was expanding
- The firework event took place in November as usual with a slightly changed committee.
- The work in relation to the Bright Spark Development proposals for wind turbines at Rose Farm

Ronald added that many things remained on the agenda for people, including environmental issues and sea defences, dog fouling matters and public toilet issues. The closure of the police station and the move of PC Williams was high on the agenda during the year.

On behalf of the Council, Ronald gave special thanks to the following people for their support during the year: -

- to Cllr David Alston
- to Cllr Craig Fraser
- to Vivienne in her role as Treasurer
- to the Youth Representatives Bob Clunas and Paige Shepherd for their input to meetings and keeping us up to date with all the youngsters' activities
- to PC Darren Williams for attending meetings/ providing a local crime report
- to Kristina Dupar for managing the Cromarty Live website on our behalf
- To Jeremy for taking on the role of minute secretary and Estelle for her support before that

Ronald thanked all the Councillors for supporting him in his role as Chair over the last few months.

6

**Treasurer's Report**

6:1

Vivienne issued copies of audited Annual Report and Accounts to all the Councillors as follows:-

Audit Certificate from the Auditor, J. A. Ross, dated 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012  
Consolidated Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet  
Detailed Community Council Income & Expenditure Account  
Detailed Victoria Hall Income & Expenditure Account

She said there were a number of points to note –

1. These accounts now show that the finances of the Victoria Hall have been fully consolidated with those of the C&DCC.
2. More work has been done to show which C&DCC funds are restricted to specific areas of activity. This includes identifying a Seaplane Plinth Fund. As a result it has been necessary to restate last year's figures to show this analysis.
3. This treatment has continued to highlight that the C&DCC has been operating in deficit for the last few years. Therefore Members should be aware that, as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012, the C&DCC only had £1,511.58 (2011 - £2,919.60) available reserves for general activities.
4. A Bonfire Night Fund has been established with the proceeds from last year's event. The existing organising committee has become a C&DCC Sub-Committee reporting through the Chairman.
5. The Cromarty 2007 Fund is restricted to supporting Cromarty Community Hogmanay events.
6. The Dr Forth Fund has now been used to finance the three Community selected projects (Snow Plough £, Tennis Court £ and Play Equipment£). The remaining balance of £261.29 is as yet unallocated.
7. The Monday Club Fund is grant money used to provide Monday Lunches to local elderly folk.
8. The Play Equipment Fund is a fundraiser, started in 2011, which has supplied additional equipment for both Victoria Park and the playspace in Townlands Park. Julie and Helen are now planning further additions to these facilities.
9. To minimise the effect of misleading figures for the cost and income from Publications (Guide Books and Leaflets), the accounts will now provide for future reprinting from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.
10. The Victoria Hall has had another promising year under VHMC management, whose priority is to make sure that its financial viability is maintained without recourse to handouts from public funding subsidy. The Victoria Hall Management Committee continues working towards providing the Community with an essential resource in Cromarty. Finances are sound but there is no room for complacency as there are limited reserves available to fund activities that do not pay for themselves. The Victoria Hall Fund represents reserves that will be used to pay for any future Hall refurbishment, not covered by the freeholder under our Licence to Occupy Agreement.
11. The Victoria Hall also includes the amazing Youth Cafe facility, which is much admired all over the Black Isle as well as further afield. The C&DCC is working towards the Hall providing the Youth Cafe with a permanent home for many years to come. They have managed to attract funding in challenging economic times with the majority of their Fund being committed to providing a summer programme of activities for local young persons.

6.2	There were no further questions regarding these audited accounts, and Members approved their adoption, gave a vote of thanks to the auditor Jacquie Ross and to agreed that she be appointed for the year 2012/13. Members also agreed a sum of money be provided to present Jacquie with a gift for her work, which she does voluntarily, for the last two years.	
6.3	Ronald thanked Vivienne for her report and for all her hard work as Treasurer during the year.	
7	<p><b><u>Any other business</u></b></p> <p>There was no other business for the meeting.</p>	
6	<p><b><u>Close</u></b></p> <p>Ronald thanked everyone for attending and for their input and closed the meeting at 19.18hrs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Date of next AGM agreed as the last Monday in May 2013.</b></p>	