



CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 29th June 2015
in the Hugh Miller Institute

MINUTES
APPROVED
27.7 2015

Present

Community Councillors: Gabriele Pearson (GP) Secretary, Vivienne Plampton, Treasurer (VP), Diane Brawn (DB), Andrew Hulse (AH)

Youth Representative: Niamh McCann (NM)

Highland Councillors:

Police Scotland:

Member(s) of the public: Dr Jill Stoner (representing Cromarty Care Project), Dr Simon Harrison (representing Black Isle Carers), Ingrid Gunn (representing the Cromarty Ferry working group), Tom Henderson, Nigel Shapcott & Tony Van Dyke, Denis Torley.

Community Council Minute Secretary: Gillian McNaught

1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome</u> VP took the chair as agreed (29.6.15 AGM, item 7) and welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>	
1.1	<p><u>Apologies:</u> Estelle Quick (EQ), PC Calum Reid(CR), Police Scotland, Cllr David Alston(DA), Cllr Craig Fraser(CF).</p>	
2	<p><u>Approval of previous Minutes 25th May 2015</u></p> <p>Approved by DB and seconded by GP.</p>	
3	<p><u>Youth Issues</u></p> <p>3.1 NM is stepping down as Youth Representative after a year in post. Sativa Alexander will be taking on this role.</p> <p>3.2 NM reported there is a lot of dog mess around the town and asked about the green spray which seemed to work at the time but hasn't been done for a while. AH has some cans but VP will check with Jeremy Price about stock and proposed it could be stored centrally.</p> <p>3.3 The grass around the goals in the dog free area on the Links is quite worn and muddy. It was suggested the goals be moved to the links or stored for the summer to give the grass a chance to recover. VP will contact the Cromarty primary School.</p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>VP</p>

3.4	<p>NM reported that young people have been asking about toilet provision at the car park end of the links. VP informed the meeting that the last temporary toilets, hired from a private contractor, were in a poor state of repair and the C&DCC were then offered the choice of the same again or an upgrade to the existing Allan Square toilets. The latter was agreed as it was felt important to have good quality toilets all year round. VP will make enquiries again to John Nightingale about this issue.</p>	VP
3.5	<p>It has been reported that a lot of the walks around Cromarty, in particular the Reeds Loop and Ladies Walk are very overgrown. This will be passed on to CF.</p> <p>NM was thanked for her report and her time on the Council. It was agreed how useful it was for the C&DCC members to be kept in touch with the issues affecting the younger members of the community. NM left the meeting.</p>	CF
4	<p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>4.1 This was circulated prior to the meeting. (Appendix A)</p> <p>4.2 GP posted two requests for information from the Police report onto the CL website (27.4.2015, 4.1). Some discussion took place about how best to present this on the website. GP will speak to Kristina Dupar about how to make the information easier to find and at the same time make clear that the C&DCC are working with the Police for the benefit of the whole community.</p> <p>4.3 CR had permission to share the data of speeds on the Denny with the C&DCC However, GP will check with CR if this information can be made public.</p>	GP
(8)	<p><u>Black Isle Carers and Cromarty Care Project</u></p> <p>VP moved this up the agenda due to representatives present.</p> <p>(8.1) Dr Simon Harrison gave an informative presentation about the work of the Black Isle Carers (BIC), a group started 18 months ago to look at care provision across the Black Isle and how improvements can be made. A report has been commissioned into care needs and local expectations, funded by HC which is due to be published in July with further workshops mid August.</p> <p>(8.2) Dr Jill Stoner gave members an insight into the Cromarty Care Project (CCP), formed from the Townlands Sanctuary initiative, which has just been awarded charitable status. Both groups are liaising as their goals are similar, but CCP is specifically looking at local care in Cromarty.</p> <p>(8.3) It was agreed that GP would take this matter as a portfolio item. Any general updates can be communicated through her or representatives from either project are welcome to attend meetings in person. VP suggested that CCP set up a page on Cromarty Live as an additional way of communicating their plans. Dr Stoner and Dr Harrison were thanked for coming and members expressed their support for their projects.</p>	VP & GP

<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>5.6</p> <p>5.7</p> <p>5.8</p> <p>5.9</p> <p>5.10</p> <p>5.11</p>	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>(3.3 Cromarty Ferry Working Group). Ingrid Rochford (IR) presented the report (Appendix B) which was a summary of their weekly meetings. All had worked hard to look at all the options and will continue to do so, but the outcome is there will be no ferry this year. Members agreed to further expressions of support from C&DCC if required.</p> <p>Tom Henderson (TH) from Cromarty Ferry Company agreed the report covered all the points very well and stressed that he would still like the ferry to run again. At the moment, he is looking at alternative work for it or it may be put on the market. TH sent a letter prior to the meeting to the C&DCC which he wished to be made public. (Appendix C).</p> <p>VP thanked members of the working group for their efforts and and Tony Van Dyke, IR and TH left the meeting. Denis Torley joined the meeting.</p> <p>(6.3 Remind PC Calum Reid in September about Natal event). Ongoing. It was agreed that EQ would take this on under her ‘Events’ portfolio with support from DB.</p> <p>(6.5 Report back on progress of replacement basketball hoop). Unfortunately the original joiner approached is not able to complete this so it was agreed to approach Pete Rochford. Ongoing.</p> <p>(6.6 Follow up with damaged bus timetable notice board). CF to give update. Ongoing.</p> <p>(6.7 Follow up on Farness Road). CF has sent photographs to HC. Ongoing.</p> <p>(6.12 Update meeting on replacement Hospital Road sign). Ongoing.</p> <p>(6.14 Browse Cromarty Booklet for suggested changes). Ongoing.</p> <p>(6.17 Look at a 30/30 group to help tidy up links). Ongoing and see AOCB</p> <p>(6.18 Report back on traffic mirror for Braehead). Ongoing.</p> <p>(10.1 Follow up on new bin at Marine Terrace). Discharged.</p> <p>(10.2 Follow up on LEADER email to local businesses). Jon Palmer has volunteered to be a representative. Discharged.</p>	<p></p> <p>EQ & DB</p> <p>VP</p> <p>CF</p> <p>CF</p> <p>DA</p> <p>VP & All</p> <p>CF</p> <p>CF</p> <p></p>
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Gaelic Chapel</u></p> <p>See Cllr CF’s report (Appendix G).</p>	<p></p>

7	<p><u>Community Councillor's portfolios - review/update</u></p> <p>The portfolio list was updated. (Appendix D)</p>	
8	<p><u>Black Isle Carers and Cromarty care project presentation.</u></p> <p>Discussed under agenda item 5.</p>	
9	<p><u>Victoria Hall Report</u></p> <p>Circulated prior to the meeting. (Appendix E).</p>	
10	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>VP's last Treasurer's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Appendix F.</p>	
11	<p><u>Highland Councillors' Reports</u></p> <p>Craig Fraser This report was read out at the meeting. (Appendix G).</p>	
12	<p><u>Cromarty Residents' Association update</u> <i>(Secretary's note. Sarah Jane Wilson made contact after the meeting to say both Treasurer and Secretary of the organisation are stepping down with no replacement volunteers)</i></p>	
13	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Heritage Angel Awards. Deadline 30th June. • Letter from HC Trading Standards warning of bugs tradesmen. This will be posted on CL website and the C&DCC noticeboard. • A marketing leaflet from John Wood, Highland Archaeology Services. • A letter received from a member of the public who was stopped from walking on an area of Cromarty Estate. GP will seek clarification on exactly where this was and report back to the meeting. • Ross shire Voluntary Action group held an AGM, 11th June, Global Stadium. • Notice from HC regarding closure of Barkly Street, 15th - 19th June. • Email about a speeding 'event' organised by Vicky Benjamin on 29th June at the top of the Denny to encourage drivers to obey the speed limit. • Email from Rebekah Moore for Volunteering opportunities for "See Me" Community Champions. • Email from HC Communications Department regarding workshops across Scotland to discuss the environment. Dingwall, 20th June. • HC Annual online feedback questionnaire regarding their services to be completed by 7th July. 	<p>GP & VP</p> <p>GP</p> <p>GP</p>

14	<u>AOB</u>	
14.1	Nigel Shapcott (NS) raised the issue of defibrillators, previously discussed. (Minutes 25.5.2015, item 6.23). Although it was noted two defibrillators are located in Cromarty (in the surgery and with First Responders), one or other may not be available immediately when time is vitally important. NS has seen a system that keeps the equipment in a box, centrally located in an easy access public place with a secure entry code. NS will research further and report back. NS was thanked for this very valid additional information and left the meeting.	
14.2	Denis Torley (DT) updated the C&DCC members about their garden wall which was demolished without their consent during the current school rebuild. (Minutes 27.4.2015, item 11). VP will talk to DA to raise the points discussed.	VP
14.3	An email had been received from Sheila Currie regarding the management of coastal erosion with reference to the links and Braehead and in relation to grass cutting and stone removal (Minutes 27.4 2015, item 10.1). She offered an alternative view that nature will make a good job of protecting this fragile habitat if maram grass is allowed to grow and stones and sand thrown up by the tide remain in place. It was agreed it would be helpful to invite Sheila to present her views to the next C&DCC meeting. VP will contact her.	VP
14.4	<p>GP attended a Black Isle Community Councils meeting which was very supportive and useful to hear what others are doing. The main points of discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that all CCs are struggling with various issues, including the longer 4 year term for members, recruiting and keeping members and meetings not quorate for decision making. These findings have been passed in writing to HC. • Emergency planning is ongoing • Road repair complaints • £5k for a feasibility study for the Black isle Wildlife Trail • Possibilities of a Park and Ride for Inverness • Development on a farm Green site is causing concerns in Fortrose and residents are worried about the increasing congestion on their roads • Broadband in rural areas is ongoing. 	
14.5	Emergency planning (Minutes 1.12.15, item 10.1& 23.3.15, item 6.19) It was agreed to offer the Victoria Hall as an emergency facility in future discussions with the relevant bodies (Hydro, HC, SSE), to enable suitable planning in the event of future power cuts.	VP
14.6	Co-opting of members. VP will check minutes and the constitution with regard to co-opting new members and report back.	VP

15	<u>Planning</u> GP circulated the planning report prior to the meeting. Appendix H.	
15	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> Monday 27th July 2015 @ 7.30pm Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty	
	VP thanked everyone for attending and for their input.	

Summary of Action Points from meeting

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
3.2	Vivienne	Ask Jeremy about stock of green spray & report back
3.3	Vivienne	Contact Cromarty primary about the goals in dog free area
3.4	Vivienne	Contact John Nightingale regarding links toilets
3.5	Craig	Follow up on core paths overgrown
4.2	Gabrielle	Contact Kristina Dupar about Police info on CL website
4.3	Gabrielle	Contact PC CR about speed data information
(8.3)	Gabrielle & Vivienne	V pass on G's contacts to Care Groups. G to take on in her portfolio.
5.2	Estelle and Diane	Make contact with the Natal Project committee
5.3	Vivienne	Contact Pete Rochford ref replacement basketball hoop
5.4	Craig	Follow up with damaged bus timetable notice board
5.5	Craig	Report back on Farness Road
5.6	David	Update meeting on replacement Hospital Road sign
5.7	All	Browse Cromarty Booklet for suggested changes
5.9	Craig	Report back on traffic mirror for Braehead
13	Vivienne & Gabrielle	Post Trading Standards information about bogus tradesmen on noticeboard and CL website
13	Gabrielle	Clarify information regarding walks on Cromarty Estate
13	Gabrielle	Complete HC annual online feedback questionnaire
14.2	Vivienne	Speak to David Alston about points raised ref demolished wall
14.3	Vivienne	Invite Sheila Currie to next meeting to discuss coastal erosion
14.5	Vivienne	Pass on C&DCC agreement to use Victoria Hall as emergency centre to appropriate agencies
14.6	Vivienne	Check paperwork ref co-opting new members.

- There is a requirement to have an additional deck hand on board for commercial vessel licensing reasons when the crew are climbing on and off the vessel.
- Tom would have to acquire another vessel for the crew to reach the Cromarty Queen on her mooring.
- Tom noted his concerns with the weather.

2. Alternative berth in the Cromarty Firth

Ingrid went to Torquil Macleod at the Cromarty Firth Port Authority and he was able to offer a berth at Saltburn but also suggested the east finger of the new pier at Nigg and to talk to Global.

Ingrid talked to Rory Gunn at Global and they said that we could not use it this year as they had other plans for it but later said to Tom Henderson that it was not out of the question in future years

Tom was happy to explore the option of being at Saltburn but thought that Nigg was too far away as maintenance is done in the evenings and it was too far to travel.

Tom then went to see CFPA and found a suitable berth at Invergordon West Harbour.

3. Solution for Cromarty Harbour

Tony got in touch with a Naval Architect and talked through options for berthing at Cromarty Harbour.

The mooring piles consist of 100mm piles sheathed together, sleeved with a steel tube and then filled with concrete. A number between 2-4 of these piles would be more than adequate in mooring the Cromarty Queen safely. The drill rig is small and could operate from a 4wd vehicle or even off the Cromarty Queen itself. An estimated cost would be between £5k - £15k per pile. We would also have to look at some sort of floating walkway to get from the Cromarty Queen onto the harbour.

We all agreed this seemed like a good option and to explore it further and the costs involved.

4. Alternative berth in Cromarty Harbour

We also asked David if it might be possible to move the fishing boats elsewhere in the harbour so that the ferry could use the berth they currently have. We asked if they could move to the east arm of the harbour but it is not deep enough there. Then we asked if it could be dredged some more to allow this to happen. David checked but contrary to the plans produced in the 1770s, the harbour did not sit on foundations but on the shingle. The engineers' advice (Wallace Stone & partners) was not to dredge any closer than 5m to the harbour wall. Making this option not possible.

Slipways

1. Tom brought up that the build up of sand ridges off shore from both slipways is becoming an increasing problem and had he been running the ferry this year he would have done work on this back in April as there are only certain times of the year that you are allowed to move silt and sand.

During the running of the season this becomes less of a problem as the ferry going back and forth stops the banks building up.

Nigel and Jeremy went out to look at the sandbanks that had formed and agreed they were indeed building up.

Since then we have heard from Nigg and Shandwick Community Council that they had already raised the issue with Global and they have agreed to clear the silt on both sides of the firth at their expense. Nigg and Shandwick Community Council agreed to get this in writing and assurance that they would do it before next years season, ie April 2016.

2. It was also mentioned that the slipways are not long enough on either side at certain tide levels and should we be looking into extending them and possibly making them wider too to make the landing easier for the current ferry.

Crew

1. As Tom had handed back his contract to the council he had to let his crew know that they didn't have work. Tom checked to see if any of them were still available if he wanted to run this year and the answer was no.
2. Tom explained to get a new crew would be difficult. The MCA will still need to see any new crew operate the vessel under supervision to see they are up to scratch. This could take weeks.

The time this would take meant that it was not financially viable to run the ferry this year as the likelihood would be not taking passengers until mid to late July at the latest, if indeed a crew could be found, the season then being too short.

Contract with Council

1. David checked with Highland Council to see if Tom's contract could be reinstated this year if all the issues with berthing etc. could be solved. There is a clause in the contract to say that it could be extended by one year and this is something Tom could discuss further with Highland Council.

Press

1. On Tuesday the 9th of June Tom confirmed that he could not get a crew in time and therefore there would not be a ferry this year. Jeremy then drafted a press release that we all checked and it was released on Wednesday the 10th of June.
2. We were all keen that any press was positive and accurate.

Signage

1. It was noted at our first meeting that there were still road signs advertising the ferry. Craig got in touch with BEAR and asked for them all to be covered. This still hasn't happened and Craig is chasing.

Nigg and Shandwick Community Council

1. At our first meeting we asked Jeremy if there had been any contact with anyone at the Nigg side. Jeremy said he would get in touch with them.
2. At the next meeting Jeremy reported back that NSCC were very concerned about the ferry issues and would like to be involved
3. At our last meeting, Friday 19th June, John and Eveline Waring came and expressed how upset they had been to only hear the ferry was not running from local press. At this point they had been in the process of putting together funding applications to build a small visitor centre at the Nigg Ferry terminal, to offer tea and coffee, toilets and a dry space for cyclist and foot passengers to wait. We apologised for not getting them involved sooner and that we would all work together to try to make sure the ferry runs next year.

Water Taxi

1. We looked into the possibility of running a water taxi this year in order to still get foot and cycle passengers across the firth.
However, there is nowhere for a smaller rib type vessel to land at Nigg as there is no harbour.
2. We then discussed whether a water taxi from Cromarty would be a good idea in the future. Philip Graham did some investigation into possible vehicles and how much they would cost. We discussed the option of bring people from Inverness on the water taxi and then taking them from Cromarty to various other ports for sight seeing, golf etc. Also picking up passenger from the cruise ships. We all agreed it was an exciting idea and would be great for Cromarty.

Where do we go from here?

1. We need a meeting with Highland Council. We would like to ask if the money allocated for this year's ferry could be used to pay for the Piles in the Harbour. We would also like to discuss the tender for 2016 with them. We believe there are many more visitors to Cromarty than there were when the last tender was put together and would like to see if it would be possible to run from Easter. John and Eveline to arrange a meeting with them.
2. Ingrid to get in touch with John Nightingale to let him know what has been happening and to possibly discuss the upgrade of the slipways, both of which he owns.
3. We need regular dialogue with Cromarty Harbour Trust to discuss progress on solutions, including mooring piers, to have a permanent ferry berth in Cromarty Harbour.

The above is a summary of the more detailed exploration of each issue and option considered and is available in the minutes of this sub-committee.

Ingrid Rochford

Appendix C
Agenda Item 5.1

CROMARTY FERRY COMPANY LTD

Udale Farm, Poyntzfield, by Dingwall, IV7 8LY

Tel : 01381 610 269 Fax : 01381 610 408
Mobile 07717207875 Email : info@cromarty-ferry.co.uk
VAT Reg No : GB 797 3495 62

22/06/15

Dear Jeremy,

With regards to David Alston's comments copied in on an email from Ingrid on 1/6/15 to the ferry sub-committee, I would like to make the following points.

We consulted with all harbour users in 2013/14 and the most common issue raised by them was concern about the narrowing of the entrance by the ferry berth. I was asked at the public meeting if there had been incidents because of this. In October 2011 Jim Jack, with passengers on board, could not enter the harbour. No-one from the Cromarty Ferry Company was available to take action and the situation required the intervention of Sarah Pern and others. There has also been an occasion where Sarah has been able to get out of the harbour. It may not be helpful to circulate this comment but I will make sure that it is included in the Community Council minutes.

The reason that Jim Jack was having difficulty in entering the Cromarty Harbour on one day in October 2011, in strong winds, was that one of the stern ropes on Cromarty Queen had slipped out of its fairlead causing the vessel to move out from the Quayside.

The Harbour Master at the time had contacted me to let me know, however I was out of the area and was not able to get to the ferry for a couple of hours.

The Harbour Master managed to tie another rope on to the stern rope of Cromarty Queen to pull the vessel back in to allow Jim Jack in to the harbour.

Shortly after this event we changed the rope arrangements on the berth of Cromarty Queen and have had no occurrences of ropes slipping out of fairleads since.

We also met with the trustees of the Cromarty Harbour Trust after this event and supplied extra contact details of crew/skippers in case there were any issues in the future of which there have been none.

Incidentally, the Cromarty Queen has on various occasions over the years, come to the aid and rescue of various yachts and vessels that have got in to difficulty in and around the vicinity of the Cromarty Harbour, and have been happy to do so.

It seems most unreasonable in the light of this, that the ferry should be penalised for one occasion which happened 4 years ago and hasn't happened since.

I would be grateful if you could include this response in the Community Council minutes.

Kind Regards,

Tom Henderson

Cromarty Ferry Company

Appendix D

Agenda item 7

Councillors' Ex-Officio Portfolios

UPDATED June 2015

ITEM	Lead Role	Supported By
Black Isle Community Council Liaison	Gabriele Pearson	Diane Brawn
Christmas Tree and Lights	Andrew Hulse	
Community Groups/Events	Estelle Quick	(Georgia Macleod)*
Cromarty Care Project	Gabriele Pearson	
Cromarty Leaflets & Booklets	Estelle Quick	Diane Brawn
Dog Fouling	Andrew Hulse	
Environmental Issues & The Links	Gabriele Pearson	Diane Brawn
Highland Community Panel	Diane Brawn	
Hugh Miller Institute Keys/ Bookings	Estelle Quick	
Improvement to Road Surfaces	Gabriele Pearson	
Litter on Links/Beaches	Andrew Hulse	(Craig Fraser)*
Maintenance of green areas	Gabriele Pearson	Diane Brawn
Middleton Trust	(David Alston)*	
Natal Event (Events)	Estelle Quick	Diane Brawn
Nigg Liaison	Diane Brawn	

Planning	Gabriele Pearson	(Lynne Sproull)*
Planning - Outlying districts	Diane Brawn	Gabriele Pearson
Police Liaison	Gabriele Pearson	
Transition Black Isle / Million Miles project	Diane Brawn	
Transport Issues (Bus routes)	Andrew Hulse	
Victoria Hall & Community Noticeboard	Vivienne Plampton	(Alan Plampton)*

* Non Councillor support role only

Appendix E

Agenda item 9

Cromarty & District Community Council

Committee Meeting 29th June 2015

Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report

1. Continued strong bookings. This year's first quarter figures show a 24% increase in Hall Rental Income as compared to last year's first quarter.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

2. No further news on the Licence to Occupy renewal. Still currently with Di Agnew.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

3. The security lighting on the Park side of the Hall has not yet been repaired and in addition the Hall is also likely to have to replace the external kitchen doors which have now twice been damaged by users leaving them open and unsecured in high winds. Quotes are awaited for this work.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

4. As previously reported, the July meeting should receive a report detailing the progress made in separating the Victoria Hall duties, to assist in finding suitable volunteers to maintain effective administration of the Hall.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

5. Youth Café Report - No update since last meeting. Now closed for the summer recess, the Youth Café has been assisting in the recent Representing Cromarty exhibition. The annual Summer Programme and Camp Outing will commence shortly.

ACTION - Information only, no action required.

Vivienne Plampton

Appendix F

Agenda item 10

<u>Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council</u>				
<u>Agenda Item No 10 - Treasurer's Report</u>				
<u>Period: 25th May to 28th June 2015</u>				
<u>General Income</u>				
Publications Income - Walks Leaflets	£	5.00		
Less:				
<u>General Expenditure</u>				
Secretarial Services - May meeting	£	50.00		
Print Post & Stationery - Envelopes	£	1.95		
Miscellaneous - Voucher Gratuity re Auditor	£	30.00		
Accounting Software - 50% contribution	£	119.98		
Increase/(Decrease) in Accumulated Fund		£(196.93)		
<u>Fund Income</u>				
Less:				
<u>Fund Expenditure</u>				
Increase/(Decrease) in Other Funds		£0.00		
<u>Net Assets</u>				
Accounts Receivable @ 28.06.15	£	179.50	Guide Book Sales (HMI & Emporium) + HC re software	
Accounts Payable @ 28.06.15				
Bank & Cash in hand balances as @ 28.06.15	£	9,757.19		
Total Net Assets at 28th June 2015		£ 9,936.69		
<u>Comprising:</u>				
Community Council Accumulated Fund	£	1,157.16		
Provision for Guide Book reprinting	£	1,122.50	449 sold at £2.50 cost =	£1,122.50
Seaplane Plinth Fund	£	820.13		
Bonfire Night Fund	£	1,685.52		
Splash & Dash Fund	£	739.72		
Monday Club Fund	£	2.80		
Community Christmas Fund	£	9.53		
Gala Day Fund	£	4,399.33		
		£ 9,936.69		
Vivienne Plampton 28.06.15				

Appendix G

Agenda item 11

Councillor Report 29th June 2014

Gaelic Chapel - Ongoing - I have asked HC for an update on current progress - at the time of writing I am still awaiting a reply from HC - Community Council have been copied into these e-mails

Links - I have been in communication with Highland Council (HC) and John Nightingale (Cromarty Estate) The proposal I have put forward is to have a height barrier at the entrance to the Links set at a height of 2.2m. This would allow cars onto the Links, this I hope would encourage day trippers back to Cromarty. However, a flexible height bar may be needed to allow access to the Links for the grass cutting contractor. Alternatively the locking bollard could be moved to the other end of the Links at the re-cycle point.

HC seem amenable to this suggestion I have e-mailed this idea to John Nightingale and spoken with Gail Pocock who seemed optimistic that JN would be agreeable. I have yet to receive a reply from John Nightingale.

Road Defects - I have raised calls to HC regarding the various road defects in the various roads in Cromarty including Big Vennel, Shore Street, Forsythe Place, High Street, Bank Street, Marine Terrace, the Denny and Townlands Park. Photos have been sent with the call to show the appalling state of the roads in Cromarty - Copies of these e-mails have been sent to the CC.

Police - There is a new temporary Inspector Nick Macrae he is in post for the next 2 months details have been sent to CC

A832 Fairy Glen - Site visit to be arranged with HC and RSPB in line with the geotechnical report

Black Isle Wildlife Trail (BIWT) - There was a request for funding for a feasibility study by the BIWT group - this has been fully funded by the Black Isle ward budget and Highland Council - The contract will be awarded by mid to end July with the finished study delivered to the steering group by the end of September. Part of the brief is to identify possible sources of funding, and human resource options for, implementation of the Trail, which will point the way forward.

Appendix H

Agenda item 15

New Planning Applications

15/02197/FUL | Part change of use of house to shop, alterations and erection of extensions to house and erection of outbuildings and studio/workshop building (Planning Permission) | Mount Eagle 5 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8UY - Awaiting decision

15/02168/LBC | Alterations and erection of extensions to house and erection of outbuildings and studio/workshop building (Listed Building Consent) | Mount Eagle 5 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8UY- Awaiting decision

15/02080/FUL | Erection of extension and alterations to house, including sub-division to form separate residential unit, and erection of two outbuildings (Planning Permission) | Ellison House 21 High Street Cromarty IV11 8U
- Awaiting decision

15/02079/LBC | Erection of extension and alterations to house (Listed Building Consent) | Ellison House 21 High Street Cromarty IV11 8UZ
- Awaiting decision

15/02100/FUL | Installation of replacement rooflight and removal of rooflights (Planning Permission) | Miller House Church Street Cromarty IV11 8XA
- Awaiting decision

15/01845/LBC | Installation of replacement rooflight and removal of rooflights (Listed Building Consent) | Miller House Church Street Cromarty IV11 8XA
- Awaiting decision

Up date on Planning Applications

15/01765/AGR | Erection of agricultural building (Prior notification) | Navity Farm Cromarty IV11 8XY- Prior Approval Granted

15/01639/FUL | Erection of summerhouse, formation of opening in boundary wall, and erection of fences and gates | Harbour View 4 Coastguard George Street Cromarty IV11 8YL- Application Withdrawn

Out of area Planning Application up date

15/00093/FUL | Construct and operate three 2.5MW wind turbines up to 100m max tip height (Hill of Nigg Wind Farm) | Land South Of Wester Rarichie Farm Fearn Tain- Application refused