



# Cromarty & District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on  
Monday 29th May 2017, 7.30pm in the Hugh Miller Institute

**Minutes**  
**Approved**  
**29.6.2017**

## 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:**

**Highland Councillors:**

**Police Scotland:**

**Member(s) of the public:** Nigel Shapcott (NS)

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

1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome</u></b></p> <p>JR welcomed committee and NS to the meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> Alan McDonald (AM), Cllr Craig Fraser (CF), Cllr Gordon Adam, Bryn Leyshon (BL), PC Calum Reid (PC CR).</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interests</u></b></p> <p>-</p>	
3	<p><b><u>Approval of previous Minutes, 24th April 2017</u></b></p> <p>The date on the Minutes was corrected and were then approved by DB and seconded by EQ.</p>	
4	<p><b><u>Youth issues</u></b></p> <p>No report this month due to school exams.</p>	
(13)	<p><b><u>(Moved from AOB)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>The Great Place Scheme</b></li></ul> <p>JR had passed information about this funding to NS as it could potentially benefit several ongoing projects (Harbour, Gaelic Chapel, Townlands Barn etc). As these have links to Heritage, it was <b>agreed</b> NS would consult with the local Heritage organisations on the 'expression of interest' draft and that any applications or matters relating to this funding would now come under the auspices of the <b>Cromarty Community Development Trust</b>.</p> <p>EQ to pass on details of contacts to NS. JR assist with proposal for submission and circulate draft to Members and request feedback.</p>	<p><b>EQ &amp; JR</b></p>

(13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cromarty Medical Practice</b></li> </ul> <p>NS reported that a new GP had been in discussions about taking on the practice but this had fallen through. Cromarty Care Project are in contact with the NHS and will work with whoever comes in to ensure continuing good care of the elderly and look to a possible CCP ‘hub’ and office space within the practice building.</p> <p>JR thanked NS for his input and he left the meeting.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>Police Report</u></b></p> <p>PC Reid has returned to work. GP circulated his Report prior to the meeting. An additional message from Area Inspector David Ogilvie, with advice on avoiding rogue traders and doorstep crime will be posted on CL Website. (<b>Appendix A</b>)</p>	GP
6	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>6.1 (5a Display and post Harbour Trust update from Tony as minuted). Done. <b>Discharged.</b></p> <p>6.2 (6.5 Contact Neil Cameron at Resolis CC about a Housing needs survey). <b>JR Ongoing.</b></p> <p>6.3 (6.6 Contact Henri Shepherd ). JR reported that an amount of work had been done over Easter but a long snagging list, including a 7ft window crack have still to be dealt with. David Walker has given assurances remaining works will be sorted by 19th June. <b>Discharged.</b></p> <p>6.4 (6.7 Follow up on broken fence around football park). <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>6.5 (6.8 Follow up request for meeting). No response from Iain Moncrieff. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>6.6 (6.9 Follow up on repairs to padlocked gate). <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>6.7 (6.10 Seek further information on future on Alan Square Toilets). Awaiting a information from HC. <b>Discharged.</b></p> <p>6.8 (6.11 Update on Whitedykes when new information comes in). A legal investigation has been carried out and there are no issues of concern for the use of land at Whitedykes and Townlands. A site meeting is pending. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>CF</p> <p>JR</p> <p>CF</p> <p>JR</p>

(cont)	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>	
6.9	(6.11 Contact Tony Vandyke about proposal of a Links Toilet at slipway end of the Links). <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.10	(6.13 Research & compare costs of repair/redesign of existing Links bus shelter and the cost to HC of installing a new one). RH made contact and awaiting costings. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.11	(6.15 Approach Business Development Team and assess if Member Portfolio item required). No recent activity to report. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>EQ</b>
6.12	( 6.16 Follow through on Slipway repairs/shelter proposal as minuted. Discussed under 10.1. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.13	(6.17 Continue to highlight responsibilities of Landowners with regard to water and debris flowing from land onto roads). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.14	(6.21 Continue following up on issues raised in his report). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.15	(6.26 Read documentation about Highland Democracy planning to be discussed at next meeting). GP responded. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.16	(9.1 Complete forms for the Cromarty Community Company and then open Bank Account for it). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.17	(9.2 Send Port Authority report to Kristina for posting on CL website). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.18	(9.3 Meet with William Gilfillan to discuss the Ferry). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.19	(9.3 Follow up with David Walker about Whitedykes). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.20	(11.2 Pass Christmas Lights brochure to Alan). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
7	<b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b>	
7.1	EQ circulated her report prior to the meeting ( <b>Appendix B</b> ).	
7.2	EQ proposed the Community Christmas Fund be converted to a more general Community Development Fund. This was <b>agreed</b> and EQ will re-label donation tins around town.	<b>EQ</b>

8	<p><b><u>Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT)</u></b></p> <p>This is now set up with five Members and Directors; Estelle Quick, Jacquie Ross, Alan McDonald, Rosemarie Hogg and Kenneth MacFarlane. This group will meet to organise a Community Public meeting to be held in July, to update on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CCDT and encourage new Members to join the Trust</li> <li>• The Great Place Scheme</li> <li>• Harbour matters</li> <li>• Townlands Barn &amp; Housing</li> <li>• Gaelic Chapel</li> </ul> <p>All CCDT members to read the Articles before this initial meeting.</p>	EQ, JR, AM, RH & KM
9	<p><b><u>Victoria Hall Report</u></b></p> <p>Alan Plampton circulated the Victoria Hall Report (<b>Appendix C</b>) prior to the meeting.</p>	
10	<p><b><u>Community Councillors' Portfolios</u></b></p> <p><b>10.1 <u>Kenneth MacFarlane</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cromarty Ferry</b> - this is now in the Harbour and ready to operate from Thursday this week.</li> <li>• <b>Slipways</b> - JR reported that the Nigg slipway has been condemned and requires emergency repairs. JR has submitted an application to the HC Ward Discretionary Budget and been in discussions with HC and other interested parties about funding the completion of these emergency works and necessary repairs to <i>both</i> slipways.</li> </ul> <p><b>10.2 <u>Diane Brawn</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beatrice Oilfield</b> - Information was received about the decommissioning process which will be ongoing until 2027. DB will send this information for posting on CL Website.</li> <li>• <b>Cromarty Firth Port Authority</b> - DB will complete a recent Stakeholder Survey behalf of the C&amp;DCC, to be returned to Joanne Allday.</li> <li>• <b>Highland Communities Small Housing Trust</b> - Members <b>agreed</b> to renew membership.</li> </ul> <p><b>10.3 <u>Jacquie Ross</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Harbour</b> - repair work is taking place on Smeaton's Breakwater and the bridge is currently shut off to public access for the duration.</li> <li>• <b>Links</b> - this is now open for vehicle access. Camper vans are so far following instruction to park away from the beach side.</li> </ul> <p>(cont)</p>	KM & JR  DB DB DB

<p>(cont)</p> <p><b>10.4</b></p>	<p><b><u>Gabriele Pearson</u></b>  <b>Planning</b> - 17/01729/LBC Cromarty Primary School Braehead Cromarty IV11 8XR  Installation of external CCTV cameras(retrospective), installation of two internal security doors, re-cladding of porches, erection of lean-to shelter and rebuilding of boundary wall. - Awaiting decision  Five objections have been lodged and issues are ongoing following the dumping of stonework at Whitedykes.</p>	
<p><b>10.5</b></p>	<p><b><u>Rosemarie Hogg</u></b>  • <b>Links Bus Shelter</b> - Awaiting a reply regarding the renovation/re-use of existing wooden shelter.</p>	<p><b>RH</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b><u>Highland Councillors' Reports</u></b>   <b><u>Craig Fraser</u></b>  A letter and report was circulated to members prior to the meeting (<b>Appendix D</b>).</p>	
<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>12.1</b></p> <p><b>12.2</b></p> <p><b>12.3</b></p> <p><b>12.4</b></p> <p><b>12.5</b></p>	<p><b><u>Correspondence</u></b></p> <p><b>Cromarty Hustings</b> - A request received from Sandy Thomson for permission to hold a Hustings Event in the Victoria Hall on Tuesday 30th May. This was <b>agreed</b> and thanks were extended to Sandy for organising.</p> <p><b>Citizens Advice Bureau</b> - Nigel Shapcott is continuing to work on the proposed outreach service for Cromarty.</p> <p><b>Cromarty Primary School</b> - C&amp;DCC Office Bearers have kindly been invited to the VIP opening of the new extension on 26th June.</p> <p><b>Tree Charter</b> - EQ received newsletters and a charter to gather signatures to support the National Association of Local Councils' aims of improving the community environment. EQ will make the charter available in the Library and Post Office. For each signature the Woodland Trust will plant a tree.</p> <p><b>Memorial Bench</b> - Correspondence received from David Cockburn regarding the proposed Memorial Bench for the Braehead. Location and type of bench <b>agreed</b>, with the proviso the bench is black to match existing.</p>	<p><b>EQ</b></p>

13	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
13.1	<b>Marine Terrace</b> - complaints received about the severe cutting back of the escallonia bushes which act as a windbreak for homes. The Community Payback team had been asked to reduce the growth to 6ft. The team has limited time each week to work on this and their workload was increased by the fact that the overgrown area had been used for dumping rubbish. The middle section of the growth was also choked and bare and a landscape gardener advised that the height needed to be reduced further in order for this to come green again. After discussion, it was <b>agreed</b> to instruct the team to complete the job as advised and to make the site tidy and good. JR will inform Wanda.	<b>JR</b>
13.2	<b>Lazy Corner</b> - the bollards that had appeared there have now been removed.	
13.3	RH had been contacted asking permission for 3 young people connected to a Black Isle sailing club to camp for one night on the Links. No issues other than using the public toilet facilities.	
13.4	<b>Grass Cutting</b> - Members had received various complaints about grounds maintenance and the untidy state of the graveyard.	
13.5	<b>Cromarty Firth Port Authority Decommissioning</b> - A resident had expressed concerns about the siting of unused rigs around the Cromarty Firth's area of special conservation and called for transparency about how many there are likely to be and where they will be located. Complaints are still been received about rig noise.	
13.6	EQ had been contacted about setting up a collection for surgery staff before the end of June. It was <b>agreed</b> EQ would put notice on the PO and JR will post on Facebook.	<b>EQ &amp; JR</b>
13.7	JR congratulated <b>Fraser Thomson</b> on being a finalist for Part Time Youth Worker of the Year Scotland Wide at the Youth Links Awards Ceremony. This is great recognition for him and the work he is involved in.	
13.8	DB or EQ to Chair the AGM and next meeting in JR's absence. CF to be asked if he will take the Chair for the election of Office Bearers.	<b>GM</b>
13	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> <b>AGM on Monday 26th June 2017 @ 7pm, followed by an ordinary C&amp;DCC meeting @ 7.30pm, Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty</b>	
	JR thanked everyone for attending and for their input. The meeting concluded at 8.35pm.	

## Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
(13)	Jacquie	Assist with proposal for submission to Great Place Scheme and circulate draft to Members, requesting feedback
(13)	Estelle	Send local Heritage contacts to Nigel
5	Gabriele	Send message about rogue traders from Area Inspector to CL Website
6.2	Jacquie	Contact Neil Cameron at Resolis CC about a Housing needs survey
6.4	Craig	Follow up on broken fence around football park
6.5	Jacquie	Follow up request for meeting with Iain Moncrieff
6.6	Craig	Follow up on repairs to padlocked gate
6.8	Jacquie	Follow up on proposed Whitedykes site meeting
6.11	Estelle	Update Members on Business Development Team with any new information
6.13	Craig	Continue to highlight responsibilities of Landowners with regard to water and debris flowing from land onto roads
6.14	Craig	Continue following up on issues raised in his report
7.2	Estelle	Re-label as agreed Christmas Fund donation tins around town
8	Jacquie, Estelle, Kenneth, Rosemarie & Alan	Read Articles and meet for discussions about CCDT Public Meeting
10.1	Jacquie & Kenneth	Follow up on Slipway emergency repairs
10.2	Diane	Post Beatrice decommissioning information on CL website
10.2	Diane	Renew membership as agreed
10.5	Rosemarie	Inform Members with costs for repair/redesign of existing Links bus shelter when available
12.3	Estelle, Diane & Jacquie	RSVP Primary School invitation
12.4	Estelle	Put Tree Charter for signatures in the Library and PO
13.1	Jacquie	Pass on decision about Marine Terrace pruning to Wanda
13.6	Jacquie and Estelle	Notice on facebook and PO regarding collection for Surgery Staff
13.8	Gillian	Ask Craig to take the Chair at AGM for election of Office Bearers.

### Appendix A

## Agenda item 5

POLICE REPORT 24/04/17 to 28/05/17

During the months of April and May police have dealt with numerous calls in the Cromarty area. These calls included reported domestic issues, civil matters, medical matters, road traffic matters and dishonesties. Incidents of note which are worthy of highlighting to you are as follows.

On 27/05/17 a youth reported having had his wallet stolen by two unknown males whilst he was camping in the South Sutor's area of Cromarty. Enquiries are currently ongoing in order to try and identify the suspects.

On 28/05/17 a small amount of suspected controlled drugs were recovered from the Victoria Park area of Cromarty.

From review of the last two months you will be glad to know that there does not appear to be any emerging crime trends for the Cromarty area and the level of crime again remains low.

PC Calum Reid

*The days are getting longer again and with that brings more activity outside for longer periods. This can lead to an increase in noise calls, socialising outside by way of garden parties etc and as a result, more calls to the police for assistance. The better weather also brings with it the potential for bogus workers to visit homes and try to take advantage of people obviously needing some work done in or around their homes whether that be paving/tarring work or roof cleaning etc.*

*Sometimes, bogus callers try to get into vulnerable adults homes or obtain personal details by pretending they're someone they are not intending to steal cash or valuables. Rogue traders usually cold call at homes and over charge for unnecessary work, damage property deliberately and use intimidating behaviour to extort money. If in doubt, turn them away politely but firmly, note any details you can (vehicles/names etc) without putting yourself at risk and call the police and/or local Trading Standards.*

*Finally, the recently highlighted issues regarding telephone/online scams has not gone away. Sadly, some people are still falling victim to scam artists on the telephone pretending to be someone they are not, no matter what the situation is you should never pay any money to any cold caller to "release" funds and you should never be persuaded to move funds to a "safe" account because someone is on the phone telling you that your account has been "hacked" or similar. Banks will simply NOT do this to their customers, nor will companies like Microsoft etc. If you are unsure at all, hang up, wait a moment, pick up the phone again, CHECK FOR A DIAL TONE, then call your bank/card issuer or whoever to confirm they want to speak to you.*

*We continue to live in one of the safest most beautiful parts of the world, there is no need to be scared of crime, you just have to remain vigilant and weigh up any questionable situation with great care.*

*Stay safe out there! David Ogilvie, Area Inspector.*



## Appendix B

### Agenda item 7

<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: 21/04/17-27/05/17</u></b>				
<b><u>General Income</u></b>				
Publications Income - Emporium	£	21.55		
Less:				
<b><u>General Expenditure</u></b>				
Secretarial Services - April	£	50.00		
CCDT company registration	£	55.00		
Stamps	£	3.90		
Fortrose hustings	£	15.00		
<b>Increase/Decrease in Accumulated Fund</b>	<b>-£</b>	<b>102.35</b>		
<b><u>Fund Income</u></b>				
Cromarty Rising Fund - sale	£	500.00		
	£	500.00		
Less:				
<b><u>Fund Expenditure</u></b>				
Monday Club Fund - April lunches	£	143.50		
Splash & Dash Fund - website renewal	£	29.95		
Cromarty Rising Fund - coach hire	£	585.00		
Cromarty Rising Fund - legal fees	£	1,425.00		
	£	2,183.45		
<b>Increase/Decrease in Other Funds</b>	<b>-£</b>	<b>1,683.45</b>		
<b><u>Net Assets</u></b>				
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 27/05/17	£	20,294.99		
Paypal - website sales	£	5.83		
<b>Total Net Assets at 27/05/17</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>20,300.82</b>		
<b><i>Comprising:</i></b>				
Community Council Accumulated Fund	£	1,722.87		
Provision for Guide Book reprinting	£	604.30		
Seaplane Plinth Fund	£	48.93		
Bonfire Night Fund	£	1,045.25		
Splash & Dash Fund	£	637.82		
Monday Club Fund	£	845.00		
Community Christmas Fund	£	121.57		
Gala Day Fund	£	5,214.69		
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	£	9,208.75		
	<b>£</b>	<b>20,300.82</b>		
Estelle Quick 27/05/17				

**Appendix C**  
**Agenda item 9**

**Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting - 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report**

- 1. Finances and Bookings** Despite all best efforts, we still await some important figures to complete this year's accounts. These are costs for work completed prior to the year end and form a material part of last year's total costs. It would be inappropriate to estimate these figures. However the Hall's finances continue to remain healthy.

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

- 2. Repairs and Maintenance** Since the last report, it has been necessary to replace another major part on the boiler. This fault was also caused by the original overheating. Ahead of the forthcoming VIP visit, some redecoration work is being undertaken, including the replacement blinds, in the main hall.

**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.

But all outstanding repairs, currently with the Highland Council, remain outstanding.

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

- 4. Emergency Resilience Project** As it contains related financial issues, the promised final completion report will now be circulated to Members with the draft Hall accounts.

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

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

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

Alan Plampton

VHMC

**Appendix D**  
**Agenda item 11**

Dear residents,

I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank all electors of the Black Isle for re-electing me. I have the drive, passion and enthusiasm to improve the well-being of all residents of the Black Isle. I will continue to make myself available for residents to discuss their issue at the monthly community markets that are held in Cromarty, Culbokie and North Kessock. I also extend my best wishes to my fellow councillors Jennifer and Gordon, I am sure that we will work well as a team for all of the residents of the Black Isle.

Craig Fraser  
SNP Councillor  
The West Wing Bellevue House  
Church Street  
Cromarty

**FOCUS**

- **GAELIC CHAPEL** - Restart the restoration/stabilisation project for the Gaelic Chapel this has been dormant for a period. The idea is working with Highland Council, Cromarty Community Council and Cromarty Estate is to set up a working trust to obtain funds to stabilise the fabric of the Gaelic Chapel and bring it back into community use.
- **Links grass cutting regime** - to protect the shore - needs to be discussed with Highland Council who are now responsible for grass maintenance.
- **Links signage for the loos** located in Allen Square- this was promised but not actioned.
- **Tidy scruffy area** at the Ice House

The above points are carried over from the lengthy list of issues that had been advised to Highland Council, did not manage to address previously. I have requested that a meeting be arranged with Highland Council officials to see what progress can be made.

**Update** - Reported sunken manhole outside 15 the Denny - This is now on Scottish Water work programme - cc has been copied into service requests with photos.

**Lighting Issues** - reported over the past months should all have been fixed.