



Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 27th July 2020, 7.30pm
via video link due to Covid-19 restrictions

Present

Community Councillors: Peter Ratcliffe (PR) Chair, Diane Brawn (DB) Secretary, Alan Plampton (AP) Treasurer, Gregor Fox (GF), Tiffany Jones (TJ), Kari Macgee (KM), Gabriele Pearson (GP) & Nigel Shapcott (NS)

Youth Representative(s): -

Highland Councillor(s): Cllr Craig Fraser (CF)

Police Scotland: -

Member(s) of the public: Fraser Thomson (FT), Assistant Youth Worker

Community Council Minute Secretary: Gillian McNaught

Minutes
Adopted
31.8.2020

1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome</u> PR welcomed everyone to the video conference meeting.</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u> None</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interests</u></p> <p>End No new declarations.</p>	
3	<p><u>Approval of Previous Minutes.</u></p> <p>3.1 The following corrections were raised by NS and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Item 6a.12</i> - “NS” was replaced with “CCP”. • <i>Item 9.2</i> - “The Nigg slipway has been condemned and there is no indication of when the Ferry service may resume” was corrected to “ The Nigg slipway is currently condemned but following slipway repairs scheduled for this year, it is anticipated the Ferry will resume normal service in Spring 2021”. <p>3.2 Following the agreed corrections, the minutes of 29.6.2020 were approved by DB and seconded by AP.</p> <p>End</p>	
4	<p><u>Youth Issues</u></p> <p>4.1 GF reported his youth survey (<i>Minutes 29.6.20, item 6a.2</i>) had 8 respondents to questions about wellbeing during the Covid-19 lockdown. It was agreed FT would extend the reach of the survey by posting on the Youth Café Instagram and DB will send information for inclusion in the Cromarty Newsletter. Members thanked GF for his input.</p> <p>(cont) GF left the meeting at 7.50pm due to other commitments.</p>	GF & DB

(cont)	Fraser Thomson (FT) then reported on issues that had been brought to him.	
4.2	The green bin at Townlands removed by HC to access rubbish at Whitedykes has not been reinstated. KM will enquire with HC.	KM
4.3	Complaints received about the length of grass at the burial ground/war memorial area. CF will inform HC.	CF
4.4	Concerns have been raised about parked vehicles causing a safety hazard at the Townlands junction. Members recognised other areas of Cromarty are similarly affected and agreed DB will draft a notice to request residents to park safely and with consideration.	DB
4.5	Several residents have requested that Townlands Park have parking spaces white lined. CF will contact HC to ask if this is possible.	CF
4.6	Residents have been concerned about the number of camper vans parked on the grass area on Shore Street. NS reminded Members that the camper van site planned at Whitedykes will alleviate this in future.	
4.7	Over grown grass at a sheltered housing property made access difficult for emergency services attending. CF will raise as a health and safety issue with HC.	CF
	FT was thanked by Members for his input and his work outlined in his Assistant Youth Worker weekly reports to the C&DCC.	
End		
5	<u>Police Report</u>	
5.1	PC Scott Cameron provide a report by email prior to the meeting. (Appendix A).	
End		
6	<u>Matters Arising from previous minutes, 29th June 2020</u>	
	<i>C-19 items can only be dealt with after Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.</i>	
6.1	(6.1 Update on a community designed “Welcome to Cromarty’ sign on the Shore Road, with design involvement from Youth Cafe). FT agreed to organise a design competition through Youth Café. GP has passed this item to TJ. Ongoing.	TJ & FT
6.2	(6.2 Report when work is proposed to start on East Church repairs). Victoria Collison-Owen from Historic Churches Scotland sent an update to CF who summarised the main points (Appendix B). Ongoing.	CF
(cont)		

(cont)		
6.3	(6.3 Report back on road issues/repairs progress). CF emailed Iain Moncrieff at HC today. Ongoing.	CF
6.4	(6.4 Confirm whether Community Payback Scheme can tidy up the burial ground and sheltered housing paths in current climate). CF has contacted Di Agnew at HC. Ongoing.	CF
6.5	(6.5 Diane follow up with Jacquie Ross for update on Traffic Management Proposals for Cromarty). The proposal is with HC and DB has updated KM for transfer of portfolio. Ongoing.	KM
6.6	(6.6 Continue to liaise with HC about a survey of the Links Shrubbery). Ongoing. C-19	CF
6.7	(6.7 Report back on request for information re: discrepancy of ownership records for Hugh Miller Monument). Member of staff dealing with this still furloughed. Ongoing. C-19	AP
6.8	(6.8 Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate). To be dealt with after lockdown. Ongoing. C-19	AP
6.9	(6.9 Report back on progress of Bank of Scotland Mandates changes). To be dealt with after lockdown. Ongoing. C-19	AP
6.10	(6.10 Report back after lockdown, on repair of roof leaks in the Hall and proposed Carbon Neutral project). Although thought to be delayed until after Covid-19 delays, as reported under Agenda Item 8, the Hall roof repairs have been completed by the Highland Council. Discharged.	
6.11	(6.11 Report back on any progress from HC Planning regarding a Liaison group to monitor Nigg Development and impact on communities). Ongoing. C-19	CF
6.12	(6.12 Review the Links closure at each C&DCC meeting). Done. Discharged.	
6.13	(6.13 Revisit discussions with C&DCC sub committee Events groups once current situation eased). Ongoing. C-19	AP
6.14	(6.14 Report back on any progress with HC the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road). CF has emailed Iain Moncrieff for an update. Ongoing.	CF
6.15	(6.15 Update Members on rescheduling of the A9/Munlochy junction road safety meeting). CF raising at HC meetings to keep issue highlighted. Ongoing. C-19	PR
(cont)		

(cont) 6.16	(6.16 Report back on request to HC to fill potholes at burial ground). Ongoing. C-19	CF
6.17	(6.17 Follow up for a response from HC about damage to the steps at start of Ladies Walk). No further progress. Ongoing. C-19	CF
6.18	(6.18 Consider the changes suggested by Jon, Gillian & Gregor for updating CL website). GM forwarded the proposals to Members. Ongoing.	ALL
6.19	(6.19 Report back when architect plans for Townlands Housing are received from Albyn Housing). No progress due to current circumstances. Ongoing. C-19	DB
6.20	(6.20 Join PoCF CC July virtual meeting). Done. Discharged.	
6.21	(6.28 Reschedule AGM when Covid restrictions allow public meeting). Delayed until further notice. Ongoing. C-19	ALL
6.22	(9.1a Report back on response from HC to new track at Farness). Iain Moncreiff is dealing with the submission of a road opening permit and a design that is adequate to prevent mud and water being deposited on the public road. He will report back to CC. Ongoing.	GP
6.23	(9.3 KM Take on Tourism and TMP portfolio items). Done. Discharged.	
6.24	(9.4 Discuss support for Gabriele's portfolio items). TJ & GP discussions Ongoing.	TJ & GP
6.25	(11.3 Write to P of CF regarding rig noise as minuted). Done. Discussed under <i>item 12</i>). Discharged.	
6.26	(11.4 AP Ask the AYW to research the need for printing facilities for young people). The printer needs of young folk in Cromarty has been looked at and apart from a couple of requests there seems little need to create a community printing facility, although the AYW will keep this under review. Done. Discharged.	
6.27	(12.1 Email Craig regarding request for extra waste bins and uplifts in relation to increase in takeaway food trade). DB emailed HC for these services and the request is under consideration. Ongoing.	DB & CF
6.28	(12.1 Raise issue of increase in use of takeaway food cartons at HC weekly meeting). PR apologised that this was not raised at the HC but TJ reported that businesses are making efforts to minimise littering by encouraging customers to take items back for disposal. Discharged.	
6.29 (cont)	(12.2 Confirm meeting dates at July Meeting). See <i>item 12</i> . Discharged.	

(cont) 6.30	(12.3 Be ready to take part in an emergency meeting at short notice if required). Agreed. Discharged.	
6.31	(12.4 Continue to conduct C&DCC business by email between meetings and be proactive in response. Agreed. Discharged.	
6.32	(6a.1 Report back to Members on weekly HC meetings. Discussed under <i>item 12</i> . Discharged.	
6.33	(6a.2 Progress on youth survey drafted by Gregor). Discussed under <i>item 4.1</i> . Discharged.	
6.34	(6a.5 Report on AYW matters, including MT funding as minuted). See Victoria Hall Report, <i>Appendix C</i> . Discharged.	
6.35	(6a.6 Report back on voluntary services). Grocery deliveries have been cut back and are supporting those in most need. Voluntary newspaper deliveries have stopped but there may be enough demand for a young person to take this on as a job. NS to discuss with FT. Ongoing.	NS
6.36	(6a.7 Report on clearance of remaining fly tipping clearance at Whitedykes). KM reported the job is partially done and will contact HC in a month with a view to completing. Ongoing.	KM
6.37	(6a.8 Follow up the quote requested for initial tree surgery on 100 Steps). KM reported the tree felling has been completed and the path is clear. Discharged.	
6.38	(6a.9 Submit package of funding once quote received (<i>6a.8</i>)) AP expecting applications, for both 100 steps project and Covid-19 costs, to be submitted on Tuesday 28th July. Ongoing.	AP
6.39	(6a.10 Follow up with Zurich insurance once quote for tree work on 100 Steps has been received (<i>6a.8</i>)) KM has completed a construction schedule. AP expects final Risk Evaluation to be submitted on Tuesday 28th July. Black Isle Tree Services have been paid for the tree felling work. Ongoing.	AP
6.40	(6a.11 Report back on reinstatement of First Responders). GP received letter from David Roger, Scottish Ambulance Service. No definitive date for CFR return but work is ongoing to put measures in place for a safe return. Ongoing.	GP
6.41	(6a.12 Report back on any update of requirement at the Primary school for the CCP funds). CCP awaiting further information from the school. Ongoing.	NS
6.42	(5.3 Report on progress on Tesco Bags of Help project). AP awaiting confirmation of supply dates from Munro's Nursery on packs to be distributed. Expected by Wednesday 29th July. Ongoing.	AP
End		

7	<p><u>Treasurer’s Report</u></p> <p>7.1 AP circulated the following reports prior to the meeting; Treasurer’s Report (Appendix C). There were no further questions and AP was thanked for his report.</p> <p>End</p>	
8	<p><u>Victoria Hall Management Committee (VHMC) Report</u></p> <p>8.1 AP circulated the VHMC Report prior to the meeting (Appendix D) AP was thanked for his input.</p> <p>End</p>	
9	<p><u>Community Councillors’ Portfolios</u></p> <p>9.1 <u>Gabriele Pearson</u> Planning applications - one new application: Beech Croft Peddieston Cromarty IV11 8XX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ref. No: 20/02558/FUL Received: Fri 10 Jul 2020 Validated: Thu 16 Jul 2020 Status: Under Consideration <p>9.1a Update on CCDT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they hope to have the final go ahead for the slips . Everything is in place and works will hopefully go ahead next month. Contractor has been appointed and will start with the Nigg slip in August. • campsite still with planning • some discussion about possible application for round three of the RTIF fund <p>9.2 <u>Nigel Shapcott</u> Cromarty Care Project - Funds are available to assist families whose incomes have reduced due to Covid-19 with the costs of ‘back to school or college’. CCP have put together a momento booklet that looks back on the challenges of 2020. CCP have been nominated for a Queen’s Award for Voluntary groups.</p> <p>9.2a Discussions are ongoing about a Rural Transport Hub in Cromarty, initiated by the CCDT. The proposal, which would co-ordinate environmentally friendly travel by bicycle, bus, ferry and car was given general support by the C&DCC.</p> <p>9.3 <u>Diane Brawn</u> Members agreed the dog poo bins should remain out of use.</p> <p>End</p>	DB
10	<p><u>Craig Fraser, Highland Councillor (HC) Report</u></p> <p>10.1 CF reported that a dialogue is ongoing with HC regarding complaints of CCTV cameras sited on a property in Townlands.</p> <p>End</p>	CF

<p>11</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>DB received an email from local resident asking that the Links should be cut less frequently. The maintenance schedule is operated by HC and DB will reply to this effect.</p> <p>Cllr Gordon Adams has raised the matter of a litter ‘crises’ on the Black Isle with caravan/camping waste, food cartons, fly tipping etc. It was agreed to ask in the August Newsletter if there were willing volunteers in Cromarty to do some litter picking/beach cleaning and organise uplift by HC.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>
<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p> <p>12.3</p> <p>12.4</p> <p>12.5</p> <p>12.6</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>Members agreed the proposed meeting dates for 2020-2021. Ten meetings will be held, except for July and December on the last Monday of the month. The exception to this is the 2021 AGM which will be held a week earlier to avoid the school summer holidays. (Appendix E)</p> <p>Members agreed the Links should remain closed to vehicular access.</p> <p>Following discussion of recent rig noise issues, Members agreed to request feedback from residents through the August Newsletter.</p> <p>Complaints have been received about broken fencing and poor animal husbandry at the Reeds Loop. CF will email the HC Access Office as this is a Core Path and PR will email a letter of concern to John Nightingale.</p> <p>NS reported the weekly HC/BIP meeting was positive. An agreement was reached to formalise the group in some way.</p> <p>Concerns raised that the Cromarty Public Toilets, run by HC, do not conform to current hygiene standards. Members will research Covid-19 government guidance and discuss by email. In the meantime NS will make available hand sanitiser for public use.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AP</p> <p>CF & PR</p> <p>ALL & NS</p>
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Date of next meeting(s)</u></p> <p>Next Ordinary Meeting, Monday, 31st August @ 7.30pm via Whereby video conference.</p> <p>It was agreed to call an emergency meeting before then if required.</p>	
	<p>PR thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 22.00 hours.</p>	

Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
4.1	Gregor & Diane	Gregor report back on progress of youth survey and Diane post information for August Newsletter
4.2	Kari	Enquire with HC about reinstatement of green bin removed
4.3	Craig	Inform HC about poor grass cutting around war memorial/burial ground
4.4	Diane	Submit request through August newsletter for residents to park with consideration to others and within the law
4.5	Craig	Ask HC about possibility of Townlands parking areas being white lined
4.7	Craig	Raise with HC the health and safety aspect of overgrown vegetation and access at sheltered housing
6.1	Tiffany	Liaise with Fraser/YC on progress of design completion for shore road 'welcome' sign
6.2	Craig	Report on progress of work to repair the East Church
6.3	Craig	Report back on email to HC requesting update on progress of road issues/repairs
6.4	Craig	Report on response to email asking if Community Payback Scheme can tidy up the burial ground and sheltered housing paths
6.5	Kari	Await HC's Traffic Management Proposals for Cromarty
6.6	Craig C-19	Continue to liaise with HC about a survey of the Links Shrubbery
6.7	Alan C-19	Report back on request for information re: discrepancy of ownership records for Hugh Miller Monument
6.8	Alan C-19	Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate
6.9	Alan C-19	Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland Mandates after lockdown
6.11	Craig C-19	Report back on any progress from HC Planning regarding a Liaison group to monitor Nigg Development and impact on communities
6.13	Alan C-19	Revisit discussions with C&DCC sub committee Events groups once current situation eased
6.14	Craig	Report back on HC response ref the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road
6.15	Peter C-19	Update Members on rescheduling of the A9/Munlochy junction road safety meeting
6.16	Craig C-19	Report back on request to HC to fill potholes at burial ground
6.17	Craig C-19	Follow up for a response from HC about damage to the steps at start of Ladies Walk

6.18	ALL	Consider changes suggested by Jon, Gillian & Gregor for updating CL website
6.19	Diane C-19	Report back when architect plans for Townlands Housing are received from Albyn Housing
6.21	ALL C-19	Reschedule AGM when Covid restrictions allow public meeting
6.22	Gabriele	Report back on response from HC ref; permit for new track at Farness
6.24	Tiffany & Gabriele	Continue discussions on Tiffany's support for Gabriele's portfolio items
6.27	Craig	Report back on HC decision for request to install extra bin near harbour and increase uplifts
6.35	Nigel	Discuss possible newspaper delivery job for a young person with Fraser
6.36	Kari	Follow up with HC about completion of waste removal at Whitedykes
6.38	Alan	Report on progress of funding package sent to BIP for Covid support projects
6.39	Alan	Report on response from Zurich Insurance to 100 steps project risk assessment
6.40	Gabriele	Report on updates from SAS of First Responders reinstatement
6.41	Nigel	Update on progress of Primary School's requirements from CCP funds
6.42	Alan	Report on update from Munro's nursery regarding Tesco Bags of Help funded project
9.3	Diane	Review the Members' 'out of use' decision on dog poo bins as required
10.1	Craig	Update on issue of CCTV cameras on Townlands property
11.1	Diane	Write to resident as minuted ref: links grass cutting
11.2	Diane	Send information for inclusion August newsletter about voluntary co-ordination of litter picking
12.1	Gillian	Circulate 2020-21 meeting dates as appropriate
12.2	ALL	Review Links closure to vehicle access each meeting
12.3	Alan	Send for inclusion in August newsletter a request for residents' feedback to rig noise
12.4	Craig	Contact Core Path officer about reeds loop
12.4	Peter	Write letter of concern to John Nightingale about broken fencing at Reeds Loop
12.6	ALL	Research hygiene standards required by government guidelines for the Public Toilets
12.6	Nigel	Put hand sanitiser for use at the public toilets

Agenda item 5.1

Appendix A

“POLICE REPORT 27/05/2020 TO 27/07/2020

Between 27/05/2020 and 27/07/2020 Police Scotland have been involved in hand full of incidents in the Cromarty area.

Calls/complaints of note are as follows –

There was a number of complaints regarding the Cromarty Arms operation out with Covid-19 guidelines before the easing of pubs guides were passed - no breaches were detected by Police Scotland in relation to this. The nature of the complaints were that people were attending and entering the premises – upon checking with the licensing department the Cromarty Arms was and is allowed to sell food and drink as a take away option. Further to this complaint there was a complaint that patrons were visiting and staying within the premises. Upon each Police visit the premises was found to be fully closed and no persons within.

A public nuisance call was recorded for persons entering the disused military compound at South Sutor – there was no formal complaint made but evidence was observed of persons forcing their way into the area – broken fencing and tracks within long grass. This will of more than likely of been youths doing what youths do but the complainer in this instance was concerned that livestock she keeps in this area may be harmed. Worthy of note that if anyone in the council has children or grandchildren to make mention that it is not worth the trouble visiting this area as it is being watched and maintained by someone. Damage etc. will not go un-noticed.

Police were also involved in a neighbour dispute in the Townlands Park area which resulted in formal charges being made for anti-social behaviour. This issue in particular seems to of been bubbling under for a while now and tensions have reached a peak. There is no concerns to the community as a whole as this incident is specific to the nominals involved.

Lastly as restrictions ease and we slowly move into the ‘new normal’ it is still important that up to date guidelines are followed – Cromarty as an area will be an attractive option for visitors and should any concerns become apparent please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards

PC Scott Cameron N0377

Agenda item 6.2

Appendix B

Update on East Church Repairs

- Overhauling of the roof has now been completed: replacing a few slipped slates and clearing all gutters and down pipes. The roofing contractor has cleared as much moss and vegetation as possible where they had safe access.
- The areas of the roof worst affected by moss were prioritised due to cost. The cost of fully scaffolding all of the church was prohibitive as this alone would have been more than the £10,000 funds available. (scaffolding cost can be and normally are extortionate and can stop projects even starting)
- Masonry contractor will be starting on site later this week to carry out approx 4-5 days of masonry and harling repair and maintenance. Scaffolding is expected to begin coming down w/c 10 August.
- The church will then need to be cleaned and prepared for reopening to the public (Covid signage and precautions, hand sanitiser, removal of 'high-touch' items such as visitors book, etc). Assuming that everything goes according to plan the church should be reopening by the weekend of 22-23 August.
- Masonry contractor has been asked to provide a method statement and cost for cleaning and limewashing of the Church Street boundary wall of the graveyard.

Cllr Craig Fraser

Agenda item 7
Appendix C

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting				
Held on Monday 27th July 2020				
Agenda Item No 7 - Treasurer's Report				
Statement of Financial Position at 26th July 2020				
	£	£	£	
Net Assets		Movement	at 28/6/20	
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 26th July 2020	13,630.26	-417.87	14,048.13	
Paypal Balance as at 26th July 2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Amounts Receivable	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Amounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Net Assets at 26th July 2020	£13,630.26	-417.87	£14,048.13	
	£	£	£	
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2020 ***	2,620.63	0.00	2,620.63	
Surplus/Deficit for the year to date	-382.47	2.13	-384.60	
	2,238.16	2.13	2,236.03	
Community Amenities Fund (formerly CDF)	1,063.67	0.00	1,063.67	
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund	87.66	0.00	87.66	
Covid-19 Resilience Fund	-270.79	-420.00	149.21	
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 26th July 2020	78.75	0.00	78.75	
Net C&DCC Reserves	3,197.45	-417.87	3,615.32	
Cromarty Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,072.14	0.00	2,072.14	
Seaplane Plinth Fund	48.93	0.00	48.93	
Gala Fund	4,446.13	0.00	4,446.13	
Splash & Dash Fund	126.00	0.00	126.00	
Open Gardens Fund	6.86	0.00	6.86	
Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06	0.00	202.06	
Other Community Funds				
Monday Lunch Club Fund	422.75	0.00	422.75	
Cromarty Rising Fund	2,298.42	0.00	2,298.42	
Gritting Fund	809.52	0.00	809.52	
	£13,630.26	-417.87	£14,048.13	
*** Subject to change in Final 2019/20 Accounts				
Alan Plampton 26/07/2020				

Agenda item 8
Appendix D

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 27th July 2020

Agenda Item 8 – Victoria Hall Report

1. **Highland Council** It is with great pleasure and surprise that we can now report all the outstanding roof repairs have been completed! Internal redecoration is now being completed.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

2. **Victoria Hall Storage Unit (Sheddie)** We are now able to confirm that, as previously agreed, the CCP is using this facility to store a Trike. As previously reported, the cost of any electricity to recharge the unit is currently being donated by the Victoria Hall. This financial commitment will be reviewed annually on 1st April. Next review is due on 1st April 2021.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

3. **Youth Cafe** Discussions have been taking place with the Middleton Trust to confirm their commitment to fund the Assistant Youth Worker post. Following the appointment of Fraser Thomson to the post on 1st July, we have now been able to extend the initial contract to 31st March 2021. In October, the Middleton Trust will consider our application for more long term funding of this post and if successful, we shall hopefully be able to extend the contract further.

Fraser has been very busy since taking post and a summary of his reports, so far, to the Youth Cafe Committee are attached.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

Alan Plampton

VHMC

26/07/20

Agenda item 12
Appendix E

C&DCC Meeting dates 2020-2021

Last Monday of the month @ 7.30pm,
via video conference until further notice due to Covid-19

No July meeting

31st August **2020**

28th September

26th October

30th November

No December meeting

25th January **2021**

22nd February

29th March

26th April

31st May

21st June, AGM @ 7pm, followed by an ordinary meeting at 7.30pm * *NB this meeting date has been changed to fall within school term time*