



# Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on  
Monday 27th May 2019, 7.30pm  
in the Hugh Miller Institute

**Minutes**  
**Adopted**  
**24.6.2019**

## Present

**Community Councillors:** Jacquie Ross (JR) Chair, Diane Brawn (DB) Secretary, Rosemarie Hogg (RH), Kenneth MacFarlane (KM), Gabriele Pearson (GP)

**Youth Representatives:** Tilly Grist (TG) Youth Representative

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

**Police Scotland: -**

**Member(s) of the public:** Natalie Murray (NM), Assistant Youth Worker, Jon Palmer & Tom Henderson

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

1	<b><u>Chairman's Welcome</u></b> JR welcomed everyone to the meeting.  <b><u>Apologies:</u></b> Estelle Quick (EQ) Treasurer, Teagan Young (TY), Youth Representative & PC Scott Cameron (PC SC).	
2 End	<b><u>Declarations of Interests</u></b>  None	
3  3.1  3.2 End	<b><u>Approval of previous Minutes, 29th April 2019</u></b>  Two points were raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the date at the top of Page 1 was corrected</li><li>CF wished recorded that as part of general discussions about the Links in 10.4, mention was made of a height barrier</li></ul> The minutes were then approved by RH and seconded by GP.	
4  4.1  4.2  (cont)	<b><u>Youth Issues</u></b>  4.1 <b>Seagull Nuisance</b> - TG reported this was ongoing. Members urged residents seek guidance about seagull control on the HC website.  4.2 <b>Speeding in Townlands</b> has been highlighted as a problem and danger to children and others. JR proposed NM involves the Youth Cafe Juniors to produce an A3 poster asking drivers to slow down.	<b>NM &amp; JR</b>

(cont)		
4.3	Congratulations were extended to the <b>Cromarty Youth Rowing</b> team on their recent Regatta successes.	
4.4	Members are disappointed to note HLH Youth workers can no longer supervise youth rowing crews due to changes in their employer's risk assessment criteria.  TG & NM were thanked for their input and left the meeting.	
End		
5	<b><u>Police Report</u></b>	
5.1	<i>(Minute secretary's note: Report submitted to Members following the meeting and included as <b>Appendix A</b>)</i>	
End		
6	<b><u>Matters Arising</u></b>	
6.1	(4.1 Look into cost and production of 'No Dogs Allowed' signs for the Victoria Park). McBride Signs quoted £90 and an order has been confirmed. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.2	(6.2 Reply to Chris Ratter requesting CFPA information about rig movements is passed onto C&DCC & community). DB has emailed and awaits a reply. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>DB</b>
6.3	(6.3 Pinpoint exact location of proposed benches at sheltered housing for HC). Proposed siting under the cherry tree, east facing. CF awaiting response. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.4	(6.4 Note to self to look again at volunteer help to maintain graveyards in September). <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.5	(6.5 Request deer warning signs for Glenurquhart). A sign has gone up just before Davidson. After discussion, CF will ask for additional signs for siting nearer to Learnie Red Rocks. <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>CF</b>
6.6	(6.7 Contact HC to have seagull nests removed from HMI). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.7	(6.8 Continue to liaise with gritting squad over outcome of hand gritter test and purchase of best option). <b>Ongoing.</b>	<b>EQ</b>
(cont)		

(cont)		
6.8	(6.9 Follow up with school and YC on proposal for skate or bike park provision). <b>Ongoing.</b>	NM
6.9	(6.10 Continue to monitor burial procedures). No issues. <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR
6.10	(6.11 Organise a visit to Youth Cafe ref CCDT). <b>Ongoing.</b>	EQ
6.11	(6.13 Continue to monitor the emptying of graveyard waste bin). Regularly put out on collection day by a volunteer. JR to contact HC for removal of bags of ivy cuttings. <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR
6.12	(6.14 Follow up on alternative market stalls storage). <b>Ongoing.</b>	RH & EQ
6.13	(6.15 Keep Members informed of ‘Choose Life’ events). JR will update Members following meeting tomorrow and detail how the group would like to engage CCs. <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR & All
6.14	(6.16 Members to send views on Community Council Scheme Review to JR, who will submit on C&DCC’s behalf by 31st May). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.15	(6.17 Follow up Tractor Insurance reimbursement from HC). <b>Ongoing.</b>	EQ
6.16	(6.18 Update members on Biomass retrospective planning progress). Discussed under <i>item 10.2(a)</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.17	( 6.19 Write to Craig supporting the ‘sensible’ allocation of Council Housing to support needs of the Community). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.18	(6.20 Update Members on any progress from SNH ref: interpretive panels in poor condition). <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.19	(6.21 Inform Members on the RTIF application decision). Decisions will be announced on <u>6th June 2019</u> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.20	(6.22 Keep Members informed of Townlands Barn Architect visit and plans). <b>Ongoing.</b>	EQ
6.21	(6.23 Report to Members once Townlands Barn plans received). <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR &EQ
6.22	(6.25 Pass details about existing information panels to CFPA and contact Footpath Trust about poor condition of theirs). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.23	(6.26 Liaise with Jon Palmer and produce a trial run of hard copies of the May Cromarty Newsletter). Trial run done and EQ compiling a record of requests at the PO. Similar trial to go ahead with the June Newsletter.	JR & EQ
(cont)		

(cont)	(6.27 Check that information about accessing CCDT minutes etc is shared and included in the Cromarty Newsletter). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.24		
6.25	(6.28 Update on service of the Tractor and future plans as minuted). Revisit in September. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.26	(8.2 Update Members on Beatrice Partnership match funding in relation to the RTIF application). A decision on match funding will be made after 6th June ( <i>item 6.19</i> ). <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.27	(8.3 Organise a pre meeting after August to bring CCDT & C&DCC together for discussions). <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR & EQ
6.28	(10.3 Attend and report back on joint CC CFPA meeting on 2nd May). Minuted under item <i>10.4(b)</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.29	(10.4 Contact John Nightingale(JN) about fencing off a section of Links to limit camper vans and discuss possible siting of portaloos). Discussed under <i>item 10.5</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.30	(10.4 Instruct temporary closure of Links to vehicle access and erect an explanatory sign). Discussed under <i>item 10.5(a)</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.31	(10.5 Get quotes for new print run of the Cromarty Guidebook). Guidebook reprint quote slightly less than last time. There is almost enough in the PRF to cover the cost, so EQ has given the go ahead. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.32	(11.1, 11.2 & 11.4 Report back on final road repairs at top of Fairy Glen, East Church harling & Braehead shrubbery). Discussed under <i>item 11</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.33	(12.1EQ book West Church Hall for beginning of June for public meeting to discuss proposed Traffic Management Plan and Nigg Development). This Public Meeting is confirmed to take place <u>Thursday 6th June, 7-8pm, West Church Hall</u> . JR will give a presentation and residents will have the opportunity to vote. <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR & ALL
6.34	(13.7 Request additional waste bins on the links from HC). Not able to secure more. DB write to resident. <b>Discharged.</b>	DB
6.35	(13.7 Send fly tipping link to resident). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.36	(14.2 Feedback comment on BI Tourism Strategy to Jon Palmer). A formal feedback request will be discussed at a future C&DCC meeting. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.37	(14.5 Provide assistance and contact point for Dull Boy Pictures film company as minuted). JR has signed a non disclosure and has been sent the script for comment. <b>Discharged.</b>	
End		



10	<p><b><u>Community Councillors' Portfolios</u></b></p>
10.1	<p><b><u>Rosemarie Hogg</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further complaints received about potholes on Braehead and about poor standard of grass cutting in the town.</li> </ul>
10.2 (a)	<p><b><u>Gabriele Pearson</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Planning Report</b></li> </ul> <p>Installation of biomass boilers(retrospective) Farness Poyntzfield Ref. No: 19/01888/FUL   Received: Fri 26 Apr 2019   Validated: Tue 07 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p>Alterations to house, including installation of replacement windows, erection of extension and installation of air source heat pump 60 Church Street Cromarty IV11 8Xa Ref. No: 19/01957/FUL   Received: Wed 01 May 2019   Validated: Thu 02 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p>Alterations to house, including installation of replacement windows, erection of extension and installation of air source heat pump 60 Church Street Cromarty IV11 8XA Ref. No: 19/01973/LBC   Received: Thu 02 May 2019   Validated: Thu 02 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p>Installation of biomass boilers(retrospective) Udale Farmhouse Poyntzfield Dingwall IV7 8LY Ref. No: 19/02236/FUL   Received: Fri 17 May 2019   Validated: Fri 17 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p>Installation of extractor fan outlet Old Schoolhouse Braehead Cromarty IV11 8XR Ref. No: 19/02249/LBC   Received: Fri 17 May 2019   Validated: Fri 17 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p><i>Out of area planning application</i> Installation of biomass boilers(retrospective) Poyntzfield Farm Poyntzfield Dingwall IV7 8LX Ref. No: 19/01884/FUL   Received: Fri 26 Apr 2019   Validated: Tue 07 May 2019   Status: Under Consideration</p> <p>(b) GP confirmed to Tom Henderson (TH) representing Udale Farm, that no complaints had been received recently. TH reported that once aware of the smoke nuisance, Udale Farm had changed their management of the boilers and continues to liaise with neighbours and community.</p> <p>(cont)</p>

<p>(cont)</p> <p>(c)</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>10.5</p> <p>(a)</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>End</p>	<p>After consideration of all the concerns raised with the C&amp;DCC over a 9 month period, Members confirmed the decision already <b>agreed</b> (Minutes 25.3.2019, item 7.23) to <i>object</i> to the biomass boiler applications on the grounds of the <i>accumulative impact</i> and <i>health concerns</i>.</p> <p>TH was thanked for his attendance and input.</p> <p><b><u>Diane Brawn</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Black Isle Community Council (BICC) meeting will take place soon (tbc)</li> <li>• DB attended the Joint Community Council Port Authority meeting. A new system has been introduced for community feedback regarding rigs and port activities. DB to send details to Jon Palmer for the Newsletter.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Jacquie Ross</u></b></p> <p><b>The Links</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Nightingale will review vehicle access to the Links in due course, but in the meantime JR will ensure an area is sectioned off for parking as a temporary measure.</li> <li>• Camper van numbers appear to be down but JR continues to monitor and manage to reduce their impact on others. JR asked for community patience while work continues on this issue.</li> <li>• Recent damage to the Links was reported to the Police (<i>see item 5.1 Appendix A</i>)</li> </ul> <p><b>The Harbour</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pat Haynes, Chair of the <b>Harbour Working Group</b> had sent an update of the renovation project to JR (<b>Appendix C</b>), who wished to record recognition and thanks for the work done.</li> <li>• <b>Cromarty Harbour Trustees</b> have accepted Tony Vandyke’s resignation as a Trustee and Chair of the Trust. Members expressed gratitude for the immense amount of work and time given in his 4 years in post. Trustees unanimously recommended to the C&amp;DCC, the current Cromarty Harbour Treasurer, Colin Dickie to the Chair’s position. Members welcomed this appointment and he will join Trustee Sarah Pern as a contact for C&amp;DCC.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GP</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>JR</b></p> <p><b>JR &amp; GM</b></p> <p><b>CF</b></p>
<p>11</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p><b><u>Highland Councillor (HC) Report</u></b></p> <p>The <b>Fairy Glen</b> stabilisation works are almost complete. CF thanked Ian Moncrieff and his team at HC for completing a crucial repair well and promptly.</p> <p>Victoria Collison-Owen of Historic Churches Scotland confirmed a family charitable foundation has awarded £10,000 towards repair and maintenance costs at the East Church, a proportion of which will be used for an initial package of roofing maintenance, including removal of moss and vegetation. The harling repairs will form part of a separate package of work for which HES financial and technical support is being sought.</p>	<p><b>CF</b></p>

(cont) <b>11.3</b>	Current and long term maintenance of the <b>Links Shrubbery</b> is ongoing.	<b>CF</b>
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Grass Cutting</b> in several areas has been inconsistent and CF is chasing with HC.	<b>CF</b>
<b>11.5</b>	A reversing bus has done further damage to the Links Shelter. CF will request Stagecoach go to their insurers and contact HC to move the kerb further away from shelter as advised.	<b>CF</b>
<b>11.6</b> End	CF will follow up again on the Braehead potholes.	<b>CF</b>
<b>12</b>	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	
<b>12.1</b>	Email received from Alison Brodie, <b>Storyvault Films Limited</b> , producers of the TV series <i>Landscape Artist of Year</i> ; proposing this year's semi final take place in Cromarty. The Artists' perspex pods would be set up on Monday 22nd July below the Buoy store and filming start on the 24th. JR met with the team and plans are in progress. JR to assist finding available accommodation.	<b>JR</b>
<b>12.2</b>	Email received with information about a new £11.5m <b>Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund</b> now open to help tackle disadvantage, poverty and inequality in communities. <u>Deadline 6pm on 14th June 2019.</u>	
<b>12.3</b>	Email received from Jeremy Price suggesting Cromarty considers BT's "Adopt a Kiosk for £1" scheme. DB will look into this further.	<b>DB</b>
<b>12.4</b>	The <b>Ross shire Voluntary Action</b> May newsletter received.	
<b>12.5</b>	Email received from Bruno Peek detailing 75th Anniversary celebrations of <b>VE Day</b> during the weekend of <u>8th - 10th May 2020.</u>	
<b>12.6</b>	Email received from Cllr Christie with information of a <b>Community Council Network Meeting</b> on <u>8th June 2019.</u>	
<b>12.7</b>	Information received about a Scottish Government consultation on the regulation of short-term lets. <u>Closing date 19th July 2019.</u>	
<b>12.8</b>	Email received from Jennifer Hainey, Researcher for <b>BBC Scotland's Debate Night</b> , encouraging people to apply as audience members so that as many different perspectives as possible are represented.	
<b>12.9</b>	Email link to the Interim Progress Reports for <b>Flood Risk Management Plans</b> received from Alan Fraser, HC Principal Engineer.	
<b>12.10</b>	Information received regarding <b>Volunteer's Week</b> , 1st - 7th June 2019 and an event in Dingwall Town Hall <u>Tuesday 4th June 10 - 2pm.</u>	
<b>12.11</b> End	JR received an email about rig noise on the East side of the town.	

<b>13</b>	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
<b>13.1</b>	<b>The Nigg Development</b> public meeting had a good turnout and JR reported that noise and light pollution were the main concerns of the community. In response to suggested Developer Contributions ( <i>See Minutes 29.4 2109, item 8.4</i> ), Global would not fund any annual commitment but would be open to supporting the community on an ad hoc basis. JR will request an arial image of the development to clarify the position of the proposal in relation to Cromarty.	<b>JR</b>
End		
	<b><u>Date of next meetings</u></b> <b>Monday 24th June 2019, C&amp;DCC AGM @ &amp; 7pm, followed@ 7.30pm by an ordinary C&amp;DCC Meeting at the Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty.</b>	
	JR thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 8.40pm.	

### Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
4.2	Natalie	Involve Juniors in making an A3 'slow down' sign for Townlands
4.2	Jacque	Laminate the above sign
6.2	Diane	Report back on request via Chris Ratter about CFPA keeping community informed in advance of rig movements
6.3	Craig	Follow up on a response from HC about siting of bench at sheltered housing
6.5	Craig	Request additional deer warning signs for Learnie
6.7	Estelle	Continue to liaise with gritting squad over outcome of hand gritter test and purchase of best option
6.8	Natalie	Follow up with school and YC on proposal for skate or bike park provision
6.9	Jacque	Continue to monitor burial procedures
6.10	Estelle	Organise a visit to Youth Cafe ref CCDT
6.11	Jacque	Continue to monitor the emptying of graveyard waste bin & request uplift of ivy cuttings
6.12	Estelle & Rosemarie	Follow up on alternative market stalls storage
6.13	Jacque	Update Members about CC's engagement in 'Choose Life'
6.15	Estelle	Follow up Tractor Insurance reimbursement from HC
6.20	Estelle	Keep Members informed of Townlands Barn Architect visit and plans
6.21	Jacque & Estelle	Report to Members once Townlands Barn plans received

6.23	Jacque	Liaise with Jon Palmer and produce a trial run of hard copies of the June Cromarty Newsletter
6.23	Estelle	Continue monitoring number of requests for newsletter hard copies at PO
6.27	Jacque & Estelle	Organise a pre meeting after August to bring CCDT & C&DCC together for discussions
6.33	Jacque & All	Prepare for Public Meeting to discuss proposed Traffic Management Plan and Nigg Development and opportunity for community to vote
6.34	Diane	Write to resident as minuted about extra waste bins
8.4	Diane	Register C&DCC as consultee for Inner Moray Firth Plan
8.5	Craig	Organise meeting with Tim Stott & C&DCC
10.2(c)	Gabrielle	Object on behalf of C&DCC to Biomass Boiler planning as minuted
10.4 (b)	Diane	Send details to Cromarty Newsletter editor of new CFPA reporting system for rig issues
10.5(a)	Jacque	Organise temporary cordon to manage Links parking
10.5(b)	Jacque & Gillian	Jacque pass on details and Gillian email C&DCC representative Harbour Trustees in order to send them C&DCC meeting information
11.2	Craig	Update Members on progress of East Church repairs
11.3	Craig	Progress maintenance of Links shrubbery
11.4	Craig	Follow up poor grass cutting with HC
11.5	Craig	Contact Stagecoach about their insurance covering links bus shelter damage and ask HC about moving kerb
11.6	Craig	Follow up on Braehead potholes
12.1	Jacque	Follow up on what is required and then sourcing accommodation for tv series
12.3	Diane	Look further into the BT Adopt a Kiosk scheme
13.1	Jacque	Request an arial view of Nigg development for clarity

## **Agenda item 7.1**

### **Appendix A**

“POLICE REPORT 24/03/19 TO 28/05/19”

Between 24/03/19 and 26/05/19 Police Scotland were involved in 21 separate incidents. Within the Cromarty area.

The details of the incidents are as follows – 10 road traffic/vehicle related calls with nothing major to report or outstanding - all incidents were either minor or advice calls.

There was a total of 9 calls requiring assistance/advice with again nothing of note to report bar one standing complaint that is still under enquiry - NE1988/19 Refs. this relates to a house breaking of an outbuilding at the Cromarty House Estate. This incident took place on between 1015 and 1600 hours on 24/04/2019 at an outbuilding at the old fort about 100 metres beyond the South Sutor car park. The door has been overcome and nothing of value has been taken, never the less any information for further enquiry is more than welcome.

I have also been made aware of an incident/complaint regarding a Grey Toyota Hilux VRM –SY11 SSU reportedly doing donuts and causing a nuisance on the grassy area at the links on the evening of Monday the 20th of May 2019. Any further information or witnesses please contact myself.

Unfortunately I was not able to attend the meeting due to my current shift commitments but any issues that the Community Council may have or wish to raise please do not hesitate to get in touch.

PC Scott Cameron N0377

## **Agenda item 9.1**

### **Appendix B**

VERY QUIET MONTH - NOTHING NEW TO REPORT!

Alan Plampton

VHMC

**Agenda item 10.5 (b)**  
**Appendix C**

Further to our last update I am happy to be able to report that Historic Environment Scotland have assessed our detailed proposals and budgets for phase one of the harbour restoration project and confirmed their initial grant offer of £300,000 towards the restoration project. After detailed discussion with them and at their request, we have approached all our other grant providers and also the Beatrice fund for additional financial support. Whilst we await the outcome of our submission to the Beatrice Fund, HES have agreed that despite their severely constrained funds they will be prepared to meet any shortfall in funding based on our current tender prices and estimates and as you can imagine we are immensely grateful for their support.

On that basis we have awarded the concrete repairs contract to the specialist concrete repairs company, the Fraser Bruce Group and the new deck platform (under where the replacement sheds will be sited) to Lochshell, who undertook the recent stone work repairs project. We are awaiting tender returns for the new greenheart fendering system to be located on the inner side of the Smeaton Mole, this work, together with the concrete repairs to the supporting columns should allow for up to two larger vessels to be moored alongside the Mole.

These contract works will be ongoing throughout the summer and into the autumn and the West Pier and Mole will therefore be mostly closed to the public during that time.

The harbour sheds are to be removed in the next couple of weeks to allow for the repairs contracts to commence (hopefully within the next four weeks) and they will be replaced later in the year. We are hoping to reclaim some of the better timbers to re-purpose, in liaison with local crafts folk, potentially making benches, picture frames and other small mementos which will be offered for sale to raise funds for the restoration and improvements project.

We should also add that a research project into the options for wave attenuation and small scale renewable energy generation will be getting underway shortly led by the University of the Highlands and Islands, funded by an Innovation grant sourced through Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The equipment for this study will be deployed in the general area west of the harbour bridge.

To allow the town to say goodbye to the sheds and also launch our new booklet on the history of the harbour we are holding an open gathering on the harbour on Monday 27 May from 6pm until 8 pm.

Pat Haynes  
Chair, Cromarty Harbour Trust Working Group