



Cromarty and District Community Council

Approved
Minutes
29/03/21

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 22nd February 2021, 7.30pm
via video link due to Covid-19 restrictions

Present

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) - Chair, Alan Plampton (AP) - Treasurer, Peter Ratcliffe (PR) - Secretary, Kari Magee (KM), Gregor Fox (GF) – Youth Member, Tilly Grist (TG) – Youth Member & Nigel Shapcott (NS).

Youth Representative(s): Fraser Thomson (FT) - Assistant Youth Worker

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

Member(s) of the public: - Gillian McNaught (GM)

Community Council Minute Secretary: Claire Fraser

1	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome & Apologies</u> PS welcomed everyone to the video conference meeting.</p> <p>Apologies received from Teagan Young (TY) – Youth Representative.</p>	
2	<p><u>Declarations of Interests</u></p> <p>2.1 Declarations unchanged from meeting of 26th October 2020.</p> <p>End</p>	
3	<p><u>Approval of Previous Minutes, 25th January 2021</u></p> <p>3.1 The minutes were approved by AP and seconded by PR.</p> <p>End</p>	
4	<p><u>Matters Arising from previous minutes, 25 January 2021</u></p> <p><i>Minute secretary note – CF dealt with matters arising and all other agenda items at the start of the meeting. He then left at 19.43pm.</i></p> <p><i>Please note that any reference to THC relates to The Highland Council.</i></p> <p>4.1 (4.1 Discuss proposals for shortening meeting times with new Minute Secretary). Proposals on going. Ongoing.</p> <p>4.2 (4.2 Report back on follow up with THC about possibility of Townlands parking areas being white lined). CF asked FT if this should still be pursued. It was agreed. CF to talk to parking officers when time available. Ongoing.</p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p>AP, PS & NS</p> <p>CF</p>

(cont)		
4.3	(4.3 Report on response to email asking if Community Payback Scheme can tidy up burial ground and sheltered housing paths). Ongoing.	CF
4.4	(4.4 Report back on THC response to TMP proposals as minuted). No response from THC to emails. KM to chase in March 21. Ongoing.	KM
4.5	(4.5 Progress Welcome sign for Cromarty). FT and CF to discuss re. progressing this further (too much detail currently shown). Ongoing.	CF & FT
4.6	(4.6 Alan & Peter edit existing data on CL website and contact groups to do similar with existing files. Then contact Plexus for a quote to upgrade the site). Ongoing.	AP & PR
4.7	(4.7 Report back on response from THC ref; permit for new track at Farness). CF reported this is with THC Planning. CF to chase. Ongoing.	CF
4.8	(4.8 Report back of progress of waste to be removed at Whitedykes). No update to ticket raised via the THC website. KM to visit to take up to date photos and re-submit. Ongoing.	KM
4.9	(4.9 Put together plan for 100 steps works in Spring). Ongoing.	KM
4.10	(4.11 Update on response from John Nightingale (JN) about broken fencing at Reeds Loop). PR received a reply from JN in Jan 21(email dated Oct 20) agreeing to repair the fence on the shore path with farmer but didn't agree to close off the open areas of the fencing. PR to go back to JN and ask him to commit to dates for repairs, and all members agreed to request full fence is repaired. Ongoing.	PR
4.11	(4.12 Report back on progress of free-standing hand sanitizer units). AP to chase – quotes still awaited. Ongoing.	AP
4.12	(4.13 Report back with P of CF information re: Freeport status). P of CF have very recently taken no responsibility/involvement and have advised we deal directly with Global Energy Group (GEG) at Nigg. KM to draft up a letter to GEG and run it by all members for approval first. KM may also need to speak to Cromarty Rising (CR). Ongoing.	KM
4.13	(4.14 Decision on Asset Transfers). Ongoing.	ALL
4.14	(4.16 Report on progress of links bus shelter proposals). JN confirmed ok to move. CF has taken recent photos and spoken to architect. Awaiting drawings. CF to chase. Ongoing.	CF
4.15	(4.17 Write to GP Surgery and ask about their emergency response protocols). Response received from surgery and NS to circulate to those who brought it up. Ongoing.	NS
(cont)		

(cont)		
4.16	(4.17 Report on status of local 1 st Responders during Covid 19). PR confirmed that 1 st responders are still stood down. PR to follow up. Ongoing.	PR
4.17	(4.18 Keep members informed of re-opening of Victoria Hall and Youth Café). Ongoing.	AP
4.18	(4.19 Request THC provide CCs with local weekly covid updates). Ongoing.	CF
4.19	(4.20 Follow up Bump Track costs that can be reduced with Ronan. Nigel & Alan provide support role.). GF circulated report from Ronan. It was agreed that it needed to be looked at further before reaching a decision. Ongoing.	GF, AP & NS
4.20	(4.22 Inform Members when dog bin rota is complete). Rota being updated. THC advise dog waste to be dumped in town bins. Local map also to be prepared detailing the location of all town bins. Ongoing.	PR
4.21	(4.23 Report back on possibility of water supply located in the Sheddie to clean grit machines). Awaiting results of feasibility inspection by plumber. Problem with providing adequate insulation against cold weather and risk of creating icy areas. Ongoing.	AP & NS
4.22	(4.24 Request Action Group minutes from the PoCF). Minutes received and circulated to members. Discharged.	
4.23	(4.25 Circulate funding source information to Members). Circulated by others. Discharged.	
4.24	(4.26 Contact Di Agnew for response to C&DCC's letter to highlight document omission re: charging points). No confirmed date yet for re-evaluation of the current proposal. Ongoing.	PS
4.25	(C-19 4.6 Continue to liaise with THC about a survey of the Links shrubbery). CF has contact to do an environmental report but needs more thought as the shrubbery holds large amounts of wildlife. Ongoing-Covid.	ALL
4.26	(Liaise with P of CF regarding Water Safety Signs). Correspondence received from Port of Cromarty Firth re. the firths 'Water Safety Forum' and safety signs that are to be erect. NS and PS to follow up to see if planning permission needed and advise who manages the suggested site for the sign to be installed on the Cromarty Links. Ongoing.	NS & PS
End		

<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Youth Issues, Presented by Fraser Thomson (FT)</u></p> <p>FT asked if it would be ok for GF and TG to leave the meeting after this point (if they wish) as they have other important commitments (Schoolwork, University applications etc). This was agreed by all members.</p> <p>KM mentioned an email re. S1 & S2 information evening. The deadline to apply for the Skills Development evening is Thursday 25th February 2021.</p> <p>PS thanked FT for all his hard work.</p>	
<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>The Treasurer's Report Notes (Appendix A) and Treasurer's Report (Appendix B) were prepared by AP and were circulated prior to the meeting by The Minute Secretary.</p> <p>AP to prepare 1 page document summarising figures for future reference.</p> <p>There were no further questions and AP was thanked for his reports.</p>	<p>AP</p>
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Victoria Hall Report including Youth Café</u></p> <p>The Victoria Hall Report (Appendix C) that was prepared by AP and a presentation that was prepared by FT were both circulated prior to the meeting by The Minute Secretary.</p> <p>AP to schedule meeting with returning officer to arrange a 1-way system for the May elections.</p> <p>THC are asking a lot of us as a community when both the C&DCC and the VHMC are voluntary roles. AP to circulate email to members re. responses to THC and can discuss the next steps, including any further action needed.</p> <p>There were no further questions and AP was thanked for his reports.</p>	<p>AP</p> <p>AP</p>

8	<u>Members' Reports</u>	
8.1	<u>Portfolios</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio Reports (Appendix D) prepared by NS and PR (Appendix E) were circulated prior to the meeting by The Minute Secretary. • NS advised members at the meeting that the Harbour Trust has received a large award recently for further repairs (in the region of £30k) • PR advised that he has emailed JN re. the event on the links in 2022 and members agreed must receive permission from landlord before making further arrangements. PR to chase JN. <p>There were no further comments and NS and PR were thanked for their efforts.</p>	PR
8.2	Highland Council - Cllr Craig Fraser <p>Planning application at the Daffodil Field was recently refused. See Press Release written by CF for public information (Appendix F).</p>	
8.3	Correspondence Received <p>-</p>	
End		

9	<u>AOB</u>	
9.1	AP prepared a document for social media/newsletter re. the CCTV cameras on buildings in Cromarty (Appendix G). It will give guidance to residents as to what they can and can't do, and also details their rights. It was Agreed by All Members that AP was to give to Estelle in PO, pass for inclusion in the Cromarty Live Newsletter and send to Diane Brawn for inclusion on Facebook and CC noticeboard.	AP
9.2	It was mentioned re. thanking the young volunteers for their hard work in the recent spell of bad weather (even more so since the last meeting). PS to write a message for social media and AP to write a section for the newsletter.	AP & PS
9.3	Received recent correspondence re. dog fouling in Cromarty. PR wrote to Diane Agnew who confirmed there is no official dog fouling warden since recent retirement. Must be dealt with in the community. Agreed we cannot control dogs/owners behaviour but can discuss how to tidy it up and keep the streets clean. PR to reply to resident.	PR
9.4	Litter – there is a survey going around that members were encouraged to fill out and share around with others. AP to circulate to Members and PS to send to Diane to share on our C&DCC FB page.	AP & PS
9.5	Local news – Catriona Mallows is the new editor of the Cromarty Newsletter.	
9.6	Zoom meeting on Tuesday 23 January 2021 at 6.30pm regarding the Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan – with Tim Stott, Principal Planner at THC. All members were invited to attend by NS. PS, AP, PR and NS all advised they were attending.	
9.7	Finally, this was the last C&DCC meeting for Gillian. All Members thanked her for all the support over the last 7+ years, and All Members agreed that she has been a huge asset to C&DCC. Three cheers and a round of applause! AP mentioned that GM was offered an associate member position, but GM would like to have a break for a while and enjoy the peace and quiet!	
End		
10	<u>Date of next meeting(s)</u>	
10.1	Next Ordinary Meeting, Monday, 29th March 2021 @ 7.30pm via Whereby video conference.	
End	PS thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded shortly after 9pm	

Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
4.1	Alan, Paige & Nigel	Continue to discuss how to further shorten meeting times with new Minute Secretary
4.2	Craig	Report back on follow up with HC about possibility of Townlands parking areas being white lined
4.3	Craig	Report on response to email asking if Community Payback Scheme can tidy up burial ground and sheltered housing paths
4.4	Kari	Report back on HC response to TMP proposals as minuted
4.5	Craig and Fraser	Progress Welcome sign for Cromarty
4.6	Alan & Peter	Alan & Peter edit existing data on CL website and contact groups to do similar with existing files. then contact Plexus for a quote to upgrade the site
4.7	Craig	Chase HC planning for a response ref; permit for new track at Farness
4.8	Kari	KM to take up to date photos of waste to be removed at Whitedykes and raise ticket with HC again.
4.9	Kari	Put together plan for 100 steps works in Spring
4.10	Peter	Respond to John Nightingale about broken fencing at Reeds Loop on well side and ask him to commit to dates for work to be carried out.
4.11	Alan	AP to chase quotes for free-standing hand sanitiser units
4.12	Kari	KM to draft up letter to Global Energy Group re: Freeport status
4.13	ALL	Decision on Asset Transfers
4.14	Craig	CF to chase architect for drawings of links bus shelter proposals.
4.15	Nigel	NS to circulate response to public who enquired about GP surgery emergency response protocols.
4.16	Peter	Follow up the status of 1 st responders with contact to have their duties restated.
4.17	Alan	Keep members informed of re-opening of Victoria Hall and Youth Café
4.18	Craig	Request HC provide CCs with local weekly covid case updates
4.19	Gregor Nigel & Alan	To come to a decision re. the report received from Ronan re. costs for bump track.
4.20	Peter	Inform Members when dog bin rota is complete and prepare local map detailing location of all bins.
4.21	Nigel & Alan	Receive results from plumber re. feasibility of water supply located in the Sheddie to clean grit machines
4.24	Paige	Contact Di Agnew for response to C&DCC's letter to highlight document omission re: charging points
4.25	All	More thought needed about survey of the Links shrubbery as haven for lots of wildlife
4.26	Nigel and Paige	Liaise with P of CF regarding Water Safety Signs

6.2	Alan	Prepare 1 page document summarising figures of reports for future reference.
7.2	Alan	Schedule meeting with returning officer to arrange a 1-way system ahead of May election
7.3	Alan	Circulate to members responses to HC re. the actions expected to C&DCC + VHMC ahead of elections
8.1	Peter	To chase response from JN re. event on the Links in 2022
9.1	Alan	CCTV document to be circulated to Estelle, Diane Brawn and Catriona re. newsletter.
9.2	Alan and Paige	To write up a message of thanks for social media and the newsletter
9.3	Peter	Respond to resident who raised concerns re. increased dog fouling in community
9.4	Alan and Paige	Survey re. litter to be circulated to members and community
	COVID 19 items from Minutes 30.11.20	C-19 Matters Arising can only be dealt with after restrictions are lifted.
4.6	Craig C-19	Continue to liaise with HC about a survey of the Links shrubbery.
4.7	Alan C-19	Report back on request for information re: discrepancy of ownership records for Hugh Miller Monument
4.8	Alan C-19	Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate
4.9	Alan C-19	Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland Mandates after lockdown
4.11	Alan C-19	Revisit discussions with C&DCC sub-committee Events groups once current situation eased
4.12	Craig C-19	Report back on HC response ref the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road
4.13	Craig C-19	Look at repairs to the damaged steps at start of Ladies Walk
4.15	ALL C-19	Reschedule AGM when Covid restrictions allow public meeting

Agenda item 6

Appendix A

Cromarty & District Community Council Ordinary Meeting - 22nd February 2021. Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report Notes.

1. **COVID-19 RESILIENCE FUND** is still due to receive approved funding from the BI Ward Covid Resilience Fund and the Common Good Fund (£385 showing in ‘Amounts Receivable’). **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. ‘Amounts Paid in Advance’ shows the C&DCC 2021/22 insurance premium. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
3. **CROMARTY RISING FUND** has paid out for professional services and donated £100 to the new Cromarty Live Fund. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
4. **CROMARTY LIVE FUND** This new fund has been established and the £100 Cromarty Rising donation has been received. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
5. **C&DCC ANNUAL GRANT FUNDING** Despite my optimism that our grant, for the year, should cover the current accumulated fund deficit to date for 2020/21, the meagre £472.07 received falls short of those expectations. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton
18/02/21

Appendix B

<u>Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting</u>				
<u>Held on Monday 22nd February 2021</u>				
<u>Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer's Report</u>				
<u>Statement of Financial Position at 18th February 2021</u>				
		£	£	£
Net Assets			Movement	at 23/01/21
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 18th February 2021		13,315.13	-131.23	13,446.36
Paypal Balance as at 18th February 2021		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		577.61	192.61	385.00
Amounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets at 18th February 2021		£13,892.74	61.38	£13,831.36
		£	£	£
<i>Represented by:</i>				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2020		2,620.63	0.00	2,620.63
Surplus/ Deficit for the year to date		-269.56	406.38	-675.94
		2,351.07	406.38	1,944.69
Community Amenities Fund (formerly CDF)		-11.86	0.00	-11.86
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		87.66	0.00	87.66
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		-25.29	0.00	-25.29
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 18th February 2021		78.75	0.00	78.75
Net C&DCC Reserves		2,480.33	406.38	2,073.95
Cromarty Event Funds				
Cromarty Live Fund	100.00		100.00	0.00
Bonfire Night Fund	2,272.14		0.00	2,272.14
Seaplane Plinth Fund	48.93		0.00	48.93
Gala Fund	4,215.73		0.00	4,215.73
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	6,971.72	0.00	202.06
Other Community Funds				
Community Defibrillator Fund		5.00	0.00	5.00
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Monday Lunch Club Fund		422.75	0.00	422.75
Cromarty Rising Fund		1,853.42	-445.00	2,298.42
Gritting Fund		809.52	0.00	809.52
		£13,892.74	61.38	£13,831.36
Alan Plampton 18th February 2021				

Agenda item 7

Appendix C

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 22nd February 2021

Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

1. **Hall Bookings** With no Scottish Government ‘routemap’ out of restrictions until after next week, any plans to review the Hall’s future is on hold. However following our last meeting, the Highland Council Election Office sent us over 27 pages of risk assessing to be completed within 5 days, because they could not manage to get to all Polling Stations during January! After ‘exchanges’, we had a clarification re their request, which was similar to an apology. We only had to complete one of the three forms by the deadline, with the others to follow. This has been done, although some attachments are to follow. To date, they have not even acknowledged receipt.

ACTION – Information only, no action required

2. **Repairs and Maintenance** The fire extinguishers have been serviced and the rodent traps have been refilled. The boiler room door had swollen, and could not close, but has now been eased. Further leaks have appeared in the kitchen ceiling due to damage caused by football retrievers. The kitchen door to the Park is rotten at the base and will need replacing (2 repairs already done) and wooden covers for the extractor fans need replacing. Work to commence soon.

ACTION – Information only, no action required

3. **Storage Unit/Sheddie** With milder weather approaching, storage hooks are being fitted to store the Gritters and shovels, for their summer recess. All the C&DCC equipment has been moved from their old home in Allan Square and the surplus Market stalls have found a new ‘home’ with the Culbokie Community Trust.

ACTION – Information only, no action required

4. **Vandalism** With recent bad weather, we have delayed the replacement of the damaged PIR security lights. Obviously, with nights getting shorter, the urgency to replace these is not as high as previously. However they will be replaced in due course.

ACTION – Information only, no action required

5. **Youth Cafe** Attached is the latest Report from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. Online activities continue and Fraser’s report gives the detail. With MFR funding we supplied every Youth Cafe member with supplies from the Stores. These bags contain a mixture of fun food to have in online sessions, as well as baking ingredients to facilitate the online Cookwell activities.

ACTION – Information only, no action required

Alan Plampton

VHMC

23/01/21

Agenda item 8

Appendix D

C&DCC Portfolio Report- N Shapcott- 18th February 2021

Cromarty Care Project

- Community Larder- Team of volunteers replenishing daily; surplus distribution being planned across Black Isle.
- Winter Warmth Grant- 44 people in the first round of £50 funding- 2nd round of funding in process, lots of interest.
- Wellbeing- Signposting to Government Benefits where appropriate/needed and contact (COVID-19)

Cromarty Community Development Trust

- Campsite development- revisiting Simpsons quote; new entrance causing paperwork problems with HC, which are expected to be resolved shortly.
- Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan Meeting Tuesday, 23rd February, 6.30pm

Covid-19

- All looks very good for reduction in rates- Feb 15th reported the rate of 58.5/100,000 in the Highlands, so it is coming down. Black Isle North and South have cases of 0-2. Yipee!
- Keep up the protocols so we can "Beat the Bug".

Gritting

- Repair to machine carried out under Peter's arrangements by Jonny Kerfoot at no charge- MacGregors, who supplied 3 machines which were under guarantee, offered no help at all and just held up local initiative.
- Conversion kit for 2nd Cemo (yellow) gritter just received will arrange for assembly which will then mean we have 5 gritters
- Gritting team did a fabulous job in the recent spell of very bad weather- DISCUSS AOB*

Harbour

- Stonework on mole has just received funding, Lochshiel Contractors
- Pontoon damaged in recent storm
- New pontoons to be fitted
- Additional funding to Lottery being planned now that the harbour is eligible.

Agenda item 8
Appendix E

Ref No.	Subject.	Action By	Comment
1	Cromarty Ferry	Peter Ratcliffe	No Change – Closed for the Season. Both slipways are completed but no information on final acceptance of the Projects for usage. (CCDT) No change.
2	Dog Fouling	Peter Ratcliffe	On preparing this report, I now realise that this would involve also the recent comments on fouling in the Town. For discussion. Bins - No change – Green bins being used as are specified by the Highland Council on their stickers. But also, local separate bins being used and emptied by locals. One on storage to be re-erected. Have not sent out a new rota as yet.
3	Links & Links Events Diary/ Beaches and Litter	Peter Ratcliffe (Bookings)	Spreadsheet prepared. No current entries. But need to discuss Town Parking. I will prepare a marked up map (Not done yet). The area in front of Bob Maclean’s where the old ice rink was is marked off by bollards, to allow the grass to grow? An approach from Smillie Music for a large event in 2022. Email sent off to John Nightingale for initial approval in principal. (No point in them proceeding with their planning if The Links would not be available for such an event.)
4	Nigg Liaison. Rig Noise & Freeport Proposal.	Peter Ratcliffe / Kari Magee.	Nigg Liaison – not aware/advised of a recent meeting. Global Energy are carrying out fabrication works on the Wind Turbines for the Offshore Windfarm. (Not aware yet of what.). Being subcontracted? [See Kari’s Report.] PoCF email copied to CC members. Virtual Meeting between PoCF and Local Community Councils attended. Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal. Media reporting appears to be increasing.

Agenda item 8
Appendix F

PRESS RELEASE – DAFFODIL FIELD

NPAC 26th November 2021 – Daffodil Field 17/03202/FUL) (PLN/003/21)

Embargoed until after the item has concluded.

DEBATE

I would like to thank Erica for the report before us today the fact it has taken over 3 years to get where we are is not a fault of Erica and her planning officers and associated teams. I would also like to point out that there was no pre-application consultation.

Before I make comment, I would like it noted that as a very visual councillor that lives in Cromarty and probably know most residents of Cromarty, I have found it very difficult in keeping my views on this application to myself over this period.

Since I have been on this committee when considering applications, I take notice and give weight to the responses from community councils and objectors/supporters when these comments amount to material planning considerations. This application is unusual in that the majority of the objectors are from Cromarty itself. Having read and reread the application and comments on the e-planning portal I agree with the reasons given for their objections. There has been consistent objection to the application over the past 3 and a bit years.

In the current Inner Moray Firth Plan the main area for development in Cromarty is the Sandilands site, which I can understand as this site is well positioned to the main centre of Cromarty. In contrast, the application site is on the edge of the settlement and I believe that its development will not add value to Cromarty's conservation area. The application site is within the Conservation Area which is designated as outstanding in recognition of its outstanding architectural and historical interest. The layout chosen – 3 houses in a cul de sac arrangement – does not reflect the streetscape of the Conservation Area and will look out of place despite the traditional design chosen for the proposed houses.

Although it is within the settlement development area, the application site is not specifically zoned for development, unlike the Sandilands site.

I am concerned that the proposed properties have the potential to be second or holiday homes, which we do not need, and will, more than likely not be affordable to local families.

I believe there would be more benefit in retaining the application site as open space giving unbroken views to the Cromarty Firth and a haven for wildlife. Once this area is lost to development it will never be recovered.

I remain concerned about the impacts on the application sites potential archaeological resource although I note that the Councils Historic Environment Team – Archaeology has no objections subject to a condition being imposed.

I will be putting forward a motion amendment that this application be refused by this committee as I believe that the application conflicts with the Highland wide Local Development Plan (HwLDP) and will ask for a seconder at that time.

Amendment

I acknowledge that the application site is within the Cromarty settlement development area identified in the Inner Moray Firth Local Development area and that policy 34 of the Highland-wide Local Development Plan indicates conditional support for development within the settlement development area, however, I am of the view that the application should be refused for the following reasons:

I consider that the proposed development does not demonstrate sensitive siting in keeping with the local character and historic environment as the cul de sac design and layout of the houses does not reflect the existing built development in the vicinity of the application site. In my opinion loss of the existing open space to this proposed development will not preserve the setting of the adjacent listed buildings and will not preserve or enhance the character of the Conservation Area. Instead, in my opinion, approval of the application would be significantly detrimental to these heritage assets and therefore should be considered contrary to Policies 57 (Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage), Policy 28 (Sustainable Design) and Policy 34 (Settlement Development Areas) of the HwLDP.

Agenda item 9
Appendix G

PRIVATE USE OF CCTV CAMERAS IN CROMARTY

The Community Council has had a number of requests for guidance with regard to the private use of CCTV cameras in Cromarty. It is a sensitive issue that covers both the personal security and privacy rights of many residents. It is also a difficult legal subject.

The Scottish Government guidance on regulations for the use of CCTV gives help, for Black Isle residents who are unsure of these regulations, and how they apply to them. This can be found on - <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-strategy-public-space-cctv-scotland/pages/2/>

We also include the link to a case history, which may be of interest, as it gives an insight into what can happen, if CCTV regulations are not followed. Users of CCTV have a duty of care to their neighbours and other residents, when using any surveillance technology, which may also include ‘smart’ door bells. Especially when the front door opens on to public property - <https://www.pinsentmasons.com/out-law/news/scottish-court-issues-damages-to-couple-over-distress-caused-by-neighbours-use-of-cctv>

But these are not the only information sources available, which is what makes it such a difficult subject, so we also suggest people, concerned with the use of CCTV, do their own research – Google **CCTV regulation Scotland**.

Whatever you read or think, we suggest that all residents in Cromarty read, and follow, the Scottish Government guidance, but above all, attempt to be a good neighbour, especially in these times when we all desperately need the support of each other.