



Cromarty and District Community Council
Draft minutes of meeting held on
Monday 29th November 2021, 7.30pm
via Whereby due to Covid-19 restrictions

Approved
Minutes
31/01/22

Present

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) - Chair, Alan Plampton (AP) - Treasurer, Peter Ratcliffe (PR) - Secretary, Kari Magee (KM), Tilly Grist (TG), Coll Fullarton (Coll) & Nigel Shapcott (NS).

Youth Representative(s): N/A

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

Member(s) of the public: - Anne Thomas

Minute Secretary: Claire Fraser

1. Chair's Welcome & Apologies

PS welcomed everyone to the video meeting.

Apologies received from Youth Representative, Teagan Young (TY).

2. Declarations of interest

Declarations unchanged from meeting of 26th October 2020.

3. Approval of previous minutes, 25th October 2021

The minutes were approved by NS and seconded by PR.

4. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 25th October 2021

Minute secretary note – THC means The Highland Council.

- 4.1 (4.1 - To continue to discuss the neighbourhood questionnaire re. Townlands parking areas being white lined). **Ongoing. Action CF & FT.**
- 4.2 (4.2 - Follow up with THC contact re. Community Pay Back Scheme). CF chased this up with THC today. **Ongoing. Action CF.**
- 4.3 (4.3 – Awaiting response re. TMP proposals after complaint rec'd was unsatisfactory). See KM report. **On hold.**
- 4.4 (4.4 - To continue to discuss redesign of the Welcome sign for Cromarty). **Ongoing. Action – CF & FT.**
- 4.5 (4.5 – Continue to update the data on Cromarty Live Website). **Ongoing. Action AP, PR, TG & Claire.**
- 4.6 (4.6 – Resubmit photos of fly-tipping at Whitedykes, plus rats at Townlands Park). Note there have been more reports of fly-tipping and is to be looked at alongside the rat issue. Contact called Cliff at THC is to be following this up (KM to continue submitting via the website for now). **Ongoing. Action – KM.**
- 4.7 (4.7 – Contact farmer (in writing) re. erecting fences at Reeds Loop). Letter posted to the farmer this morning. **Ongoing. Action – PS.**

- 4.8 (4.8 – Await delivery of outdoor free-standing hand sanitiser unit, for outside public toilets and TVH (New Year)). VH unit was installed in October. **Ongoing. Action – AP.**
- 4.9 (4.9 – Await guidance from the Scottish Government on the freeport/greenport proposals, before PoCF can conduct an Environment Impact Assessment). Still awaiting guidance – nothing further to report. **Ongoing. Action – KM.**
- 4.10 (4.10 – No progress yet re. training for Cromarty 1st responders – in discussion with previous member). New training officer has been appointed. Up to date training is being organized, awaiting further news. **Ongoing. Action – PR.**
- 4.11 (4.11 – Awaiting news re. funding for pump track). **Ongoing. Action AP.**
- 4.12 (4.12 – Continue to monitor emptying and use of bins). Demand has slowed currently. **Ongoing. Action – PR.**
- 4.13 (4.13 – Concerns re. outside water source at Sheddy in winter remain – to review options with plumber). NS going to speak to Bob the plumber this week, AP will however still have to go through the technicalities. **Ongoing. Action – AP.**
- 4.14 (4.14 - Confirm dates with Di Agnew re. previous letter in respect of omission of charging points). **Ongoing. Action – PS.**
- 4.15 (4.15 – To chase THC re. survey of the Links shrubbery and it's continuous maintenance). Timescales have been put in place to complete this work (2 months). Emails were forwarded to members. Kate at THC is coming out to survey the area. **Ongoing. Action – CF.**
- 4.16 (4.16 - Respond to residents when issues re. dog fouling in the community are raised (continuous)). **Ongoing. Action – PR.**
- 4.17 (4.17 - Organise contractor to repair damaged steps at the start of The Ladies Walk). **Ongoing. Action – CF.**
- 4.18 (4.18 – Hot spot areas identified, going to have to work with THC re. the Byelaw etc). **Ongoing. Action – PS.**
- 4.19 (4.19 – Noise report has been received, needs to be read in detail). Report attached (KM) **Ongoing. Action – KM.**
- 4.20 (4.20 – Litter pickup equipment distributed, with additions kept in The Sheddie). **Ongoing. Action – PR.**
- 4.21 (4.21 – To write a discretionary fund as finance needed to ensure regular servicing of gritters). **Ongoing. Action – NS.**
- 4.22 (4.22 – Draft letter for local businesses re. current vacancies drawn up – to be distributed to members for discussion.). **Ongoing. Action – PS.**
- 4.23 (4.25 – Goalposts delivered and should be put in place very soon). **DISCHARGED.**
- 4.24 (4.26 – To chase up bus shelter repair costs with builder). Have to look for a new contractor for this work. Will wait until the New Year. **Ongoing. Action – CF.**
- 4.25 (4.27 – Await outcome of responsibility for HMM before applying for discretionary ward funding). Funding has been granted. **Discharged.**

- 4.26 (4.28 – C&DCC decide how to proceed with bench for Martin Goswick). **Ongoing.**
Action – ALL.
- 4.27 (4.29 – To contact Di @ THC re. quote for Reeds Loop Maintenance. Ask if we should accept quote given). AP and NS advise there is enough in the budget just now for at least two cuts (per quote from Cromarty resident). Therefore, there is no need to contact Di just now. **On hold.**
- 4.28 (4.30 – To calculate figures for the maintenance of gritters/trikes to see how much funding is required). **Ongoing.** **Action – NS.**
- 4.29 (4.31 – Contact Di Agnew re. the repairs required to the fencing in The Victoria Park). Awaiting response. **Ongoing.** **Action – PS.**
- 4.30 (4.36 – To re-visit in the new year re. our approach for requests re. large events in the future). **Ongoing.** **Action – ALL.**
- 4.31 (7.4 – Discuss existing financial module with Di Agnew, early 2022). **Ongoing.** **Action – AP.**
- 4.32 (8.1.2 – To attend BICC meeting on 4 November 2021). **Discharged.**
- 4.33 (8.2.2 – To add link re. how to report a problem to THC to homepage of website). **Discharged.**
- 4.34 (8.2.3 – To organize Newhall Smiddy to carry out the work to HMM railings. To also follow up re. funding with Di to see how this will be received). Discretionary ward funding application has been done for this. PS to give the Smiddy the go ahead. **Action – PS.**
- 4.35 (8.2.5 – PS to send contacts details to CF re. tree in Townlands Park. CF to chase this up with THC). Emails received tonight re. this. It is being dealt with! **Discharged.**
- 4.36 (8.2.6 – To follow up the major maintenance issue with THC re. HMI). CF to chase this up. **Ongoing.** **Action – CF.**
- 4.37 (8.2.7 – Maintenance of the trees at burial ground to be followed up. Ivy pruning to be arranged). **Ongoing.** **Action – CF.**
- 4.38 (9.2.1 – Contact further resident re. initial plans for maintenance of gritters). **Ongoing.**
Action – NS.
- 4.39 (9.2.4 – Discuss offline re. the volunteer’s interested in taking over the gritter/trike organization as ages could affect the insurance covered by THC). **Ongoing.** **Action – AP & NS.**
- 4.40 (9.2.5 – Post on FB re. recruitment of volunteers for gritters/trikes). **Discharged.**
- 4.41 CV-19 4.8 – Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate). Training to be arranged when time allows (equipment is being serviced just now). **Ongoing.** **Action – AP.**
- 4.42 (CV-19 4.12 – Report back on THC responses re. the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road). CF reports that THC are going to get this repaired!
Ongoing. **Action – CF.**

5. Youth Issues

PS asked Coll and Tilly if there were any matters they'd like to discuss.

Tilly advised that there's lots going on but there's nothing to report. They made 50 afternoon tea boxes for The Black Isle Cares. Everything is positive which all members were happy to hear.

Nothing else to discussed and PS thanked them both for attending and their comments.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report Notes (**Appendix A**) & Treasurer's Report (**Appendix B**) were prepared by AP and circulated prior to the meeting.

- 6.1 Cromarty Care Project are taking over the over 60s lunch at The Cromarty Arms. They applied for funding and received a substantial sum, so it makes sense for them to take this on.
- 6.2 New Christmas lights have been purchased and put up and the Christmas tree will be going up very soon too.
- 6.3 Cromarty Rising have donated money in the past to keep the newsletter email running, however this is coming to an end in January 2022. The editorial team still feel the email has a role but need to find funding to keep this going.
- 6.4 Work has been carried out on Reed's Loop path, and there is still funding available for ongoing maintenance.

There were no further comments or questions, and AP was thanked for his reports.

7. Victoria Hall Report including Youth Café

The Victoria Hall Report (**Appendix C**) that was prepared by AP and The Youth Café Report, prepared by Fraser Thompson, was circulated prior to the meeting.

- 7.1 Bookings are still happening; cleaning protocols are still in place but there is much less interest than in the previous few years. Noticeable lack of confidence from members of groups to come back to classes/events that took place pre-Covid.
- 7.2 It was mentioned that the community are looking to restart the market soon – aware that people are still cautious but other markets that have restarted have been successful. Feedback has been mixed but with a plan put in place, organisers are hopeful to restart them in The New Year.
- 7.3 Members discussed if there is an emergency action plan for the town if/when there are future power cuts. AP advised that the regular users/key holders of the hall are the ones who are able to access, and the ones who should be in charge of, accessing the hall. AP to send the list of names of these people to PS for future use. **Action – AP.**
- 7.4 Emergency resilience equipment has been serviced, the power supply has been checked and given the OK. A check is being done to see if any of the procedures need

to be updated. AP also mentioned he's aware the refresher training on this equipment needs to happen for members – it will happen when time allows.

7.5 Nothing negative to report, the repairs are still ongoing, it's just a bit of a struggle with less income coming through the door.

7.6 Youth Café (YC) – donated to Early Learners (ELC) as they were looking to buy a new shed to increase storage. YC bought the shed on behalf of the ELC therefore and it is located at the primary school.

There were no further comments and PS thanked AP for his continuous hard work.

8. Members' Reports

8.1 Portfolios

Portfolio Reports prepared by NS (**Appendix D**), PR (**Appendix E**), AP (**Appendix F**), PS (**Appendix G**), and KM (**Appendix H**) were circulated prior to the meeting by The Members.

KM has attached items on her report re. the traffic management proposal, showing the email chain with THC. In short, they are just too busy to take any action just now. All members agreed that it should be put on hold.

No one had any additional comments to make. All were thanked by PS for their efforts and work done to date.

8.2 The Highland Council (Cllr Craig Fraser)

- The potholes on The Shore Road out of Cromarty are worse than ever. CF emphasised the importance of reporting to THC and demanding a reference when you complain. He also mentioned he is trying to arrange getting a 'time to wait' service set up on the answer phone for THC.
- There is a streetlight at Braehead that was damaged in the storm. CF has made this a public safety issue and so it should be sorted asap.
- There was then a discussion re. THC and the Area Committee (as per previous minutes). BICC have had a response from THC stating that they will respond in detail as soon as. All agree on the same thing, and all agree that C&DCC members should no longer attend the meetings (at least until full response received from THC).
- AT wondered if now is the time to restart the ward forum, and asked CF is this was something he could investigate. CF was aware this was being discussed by THC.
- PR also suggested that there should really be elections for Community Council members now. PS agreed with this and advised it is something that she is working on.

Thanks were expressed by all to CF for his continued support of the C&DCC and the local community.

8.3 Correspondence Received

Nothing received.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Electric charging points

- NS said he's aware there is a group in the Cromarty Development Trust working on this. Cromarty should be on the list for installation of charging ports for this financial year coming and wondered if there was a plan. PS advised it's on her list, and it's part of her portfolios. It comes under Roads, Flooding and Infrastructure with THC. She was told there was no update by THC in August but will chase this up now.
- CF is aware it was being discussed but will email to get an update. PS to forward her email to CF to enable him to contact the correct person. **Action – PS & CF.**

9.2 White Dykes

- Aware that the site at White Dykes is having an environmental survey done just now (Tim – planning (Inner Moray Firth Development Plan)). Good time to mention the rat/fly tipping issue.
- Members discussed the use of brown bins, aware there is a charge for 2021-22 (£46.35 per year). Is this an option to Cromarty if residents wanted a bin? PS to follow this up. **Action – PS.**
- Community composting was also mentioned (had been trialled in the past but no volunteers stepped forward). NS to speak to Sheila @ CDT about this for more information. **Action – NS.**

9.3 Anne Thomas

- Member of public at tonight's meeting. She plans to put herself up for election in May and is trying to meet with all Community Councils before that to see and hear all about the current issues. Has been a part of transition Black Isle for 12 years.

There was nothing else to report and the meeting was concluded.

10. Date of next meeting

Next meeting, **Monday 31st January 2021 @ 7.30pm** via Whereby.

PS thanked everyone for attending. Meeting ended at 20.49pm.

AGENDA ITEM A – TREASURER’S REPORT NOTES

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 29th November 2021

Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report Notes

1. **COMMUNITY AMENITIES FUND** reduction reflects work done Reeds Loop Path, advance funded by the Black Isle Ward Discretionary Fund. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. **CROMARTY LIVE FUND** reflects advance payment for emailing the Cromarty Live Newsletter. This should cover the next two editions but a new funding source needs to be found from February onwards. The December Newsletter will attempt to attract new funding. Although anecdotal, the Newsletter is felt to be worthwhile. **FOR INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**
3. **GALA FUND** shows the purchase of additional new Christmas lights for the Victoria Park trees. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
4. **MONDAY LUNCH CLUB** balance has now been transferred to the Cromarty Care Project, who have agreed to take over the future administration of this project held at the Cromarty Arms weekly, for over 60s in Cromarty. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton
27/11/21

Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer’s Report				
Statement of Financial Position at 27th November 2021				
		£	£	£
Net Assets			<u>Movement</u>	<u>at 23/10/21</u>
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 27th November 2021		12,855.94	-1,323.82	14,179.76
Paypal Balance as at 27th November 2021		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		17.00	0.00	17.00
Amounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets at 27th November 2021		£12,872.94	-1,323.82	£14,196.76
		£	£	£
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2021		2,077.44	0.00	2,077.44
Surplus/ Deficit for the year to date		408.07	-50.00	458.07
		2,485.51	-50.00	2,535.51
Community Amenities Fund		761.19	-260.00	1,021.19
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		87.66	0.00	87.66
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 27th November 2021		78.75	0.00	78.75
Gritting Fund		809.52	0.00	809.52
Cromarty Live Fund		0.01	-25.12	25.13
Community Defibrillator Fund		90.04	0.00	90.04
Net C&DCC Reserves		4,312.68	-335.12	4,647.80
Community Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,302.14		30.00	2,272.14
Gala Fund	3,744.78		-470.95	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	6,381.84	0.00	202.06
Designated Community Funds				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Monday Lunch Club Fund		0.00	-422.75	422.75
Cromarty Rising Fund		828.42	-125.00	953.42
		£12,872.94	-1,323.82	£14,196.76
Alan Plampton 27th November 2021				

AGENDA ITEM C – VICTORIA HALL REPORT

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 29th November 2021 Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

1. **Bookings and Opening** Gently restarting with regular user bookings. Protocols seem to be working.
ACTION – Information only, no action required

2. **Repairs & Maintenance/Cleaning** Repairs still ongoing and the cleaning protocols are covering all the current bookings. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

3. **Sheddie** The Trikes have been moved to their winter quarters to allow more space for the Gritter team operations. A new service and repair arrangement for the Gritters has been agreed with a local contractor. There is sufficient money, to cover this commitment, in the Gritting Fund. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

4. **Youth Cafe** The latest Report attached, from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. In addition, we should have reported previously that the Youth Cafe has donated, to the Early Learners Children, the finances for a new shed, at the Primary School, to store their toys, following their move from the East Church Hall.
ACTION – Information only, no action required

Alan Plampton - VHMC
27/11/21

AGENDA ITEM D – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (NIGE SHAPCOTT)

C&DCC Portfolio Report- N Shapcott- 28th November 2021

Cromarty Care Project

- Community Larder- Restarted in October reports continue that it is being used.
- The Queen's Award for Volunteer Groups was presented on November 4th by the Lord Lieutenant. In view of the outbreak of COVID this was by invitation only and deliberately kept small.
- The AGM was on the evening of 1st November.
- The Monday Lunch Club has restarted at the Cromarty Arms with 13-16 attending.

Cromarty Community Development Trust

- Campsite development- the application for minor revisions to the toilet block have been approved by the HC Planning Department.
- Reeds Loop shore path renovation report 1- A final report has been written and the report has been published by the local press.
- Reeds Loop shore path renovation report 2- Grass trimming on both sides of the path has been completed under the auspices of C&DCC. Early discussions on future maintenance are in progress. This will hopefully lead to an application for long term maintenance- DISCUSS.
- There is no update on the EV charging project- DISCUSS

Gritting

- Agreement in principle for future maintenance and assembly of gritters was confirmed by the Treasurer. The gritters were picked up on Tuesday 22nd November after approval for the work was received.
- Grant application- subject to the above, should we submit DISCUSS.
- Please see Peter Ratcliffe's report.

Harbour

- Some work on the stonework needed re-doing, this work is in progress.

AGENDA ITEM E – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (PETER RATCLIFFE)

Cromarty Ferry.

- Ongoing. But now it is Off Season, so no service.

Dog Fouling.

- Ongoing.
- New rota not distributed yet. The red bins were/are located out of town area. There are signs that the town bins are still being well used, as requested by Highland Council signs.
- Highland Council operatives are currently emptying these bins.
- Local volunteers emptying the red bins.
- The Red Bin that was located at the Bowling Green car park has been removed by Highland Council, but not yet returned.

Links & Links Events Diary / Beaches and Litter.

- Ongoing.
- Vehicular access to The Links still partially closed and locked, by C&DCC decision.. However, there are two removable stanchions at the Cinema end that can be removed at time of emergency to allow access, also there is more than one key to the padlock at the East End.
- The area in front of Bob Maclean’s house (old ice rink) is still marked off by bollards to stop parking and let the grass grow.

Litter.

Communication with H.C. (Katrina Taylor) ongoing.

- Additional H.C. Operative comes to town to “top off” the bins and empty, most days of the week. He also carries out litter picking on the streets. (South Sutor also). – Ongoing.
- The Bins most at issue are :-
 - The Harbour Area.
 - The Cinema Area.
 - The Bins (now 2) on Shore Street, in the vicinity of “Old Fish Store”.
- Proposal to be reviewed further is the use of Metal Enclosures as is done in places like Ullapool and Skye. But these would need to be sponsored locally, e.g. by local businesses. Needs to be planned and arranged for uptake. (Ongoing)
- Cromarty Litter Pickers – not up and running as a group yet, no volunteers for leading a group. Equipment has been distributed, some is on hold for use on other projects such as 100 Steps Project. Map was issued confirming where town bins are for offloading. There are a number of active individual litter pickers in the town. (Ongoing – no real change.)
- Additional equipment is stored in the Sheddie. Have received additional, yet to be distributed.

Nigg Liaison, Rig Noise & Freeport Proposal.

Main Report issued by Kari Magee.

Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal – ongoing.

Green Hydrogen Plant – planning and preparations continue.

PoCF – No recent virtual meeting.

Nigg Liaison Group Meetings - there is a Virtual one planned and announced for Thursday 10th December 2021 at 2:00pm.

Gritting and Machine Maintenance.

Main actors are Corrie and Nige. I will stand in to assist over the Festive Season.

Work activities to restart, some activities started. Same maps and areas will be used.

Looking for additional volunteers to make a new team of gritters.

Grit bins had been topped up by Highland Council.

Gritting Equipment is currently out undergoing maintenance at local Smithy.

Other.

Cromarty First Responders.

I had been advised that a new Training Officer has been appointed and that training was expected soon. The Cromarty First Responders are having a meeting on 10th December with the new training officer and the regional officer.

Cromarty Dog Waste Bins.

Ongoing. Also reported elsewhere here.

Issue at contention is that Highland Council do not want/intend to support these. Local intention is to continue using these bins with volunteers.

Dog waste is being dumped in town bins, which are collected on a Tuesday. All this waste goes to landfill.

John Nightingale Follow Ups.

No contact held recently.

Sutor Car Park.

Will we get the same numbers of incoming tourists next year?

No action ongoing at this time.

Are Cromarty Community Development Trust following up on this?

Craig Fraser Projects - 2021:- (Assisting with)

Hugh Miller Statue Enclosure.

Craig had received the painting quotation; work is expected to start next Spring.

Gaelic Chapel.

Virtual Meeting held. Craig has raised and passed on the Land Ownership documents from Land Sassines, now under review. (No change)

E.V. Charging points.

Emails – Craig Fraser has raised the issue. Needs to be followed up. (No change).

Are CCDT following up with this issue?

Other Meetings.

Black Isle Communities Zoom Meetings – a hold on these meetings at the moment.

Open to other C&DCC Members.

Discussion ongoing regarding the Black Isle Area Committee Issue by others.

AGENDA ITEM F – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (ALAN PLAMPTON)

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 29th November 2021

Agenda Item 8 – PORTFOLIOS

- Housing** Members have been circulated with a briefing on the Highland Council’s final proposals for the new Inner Moray Firth 10 year Development Plan. These proposals have been accepted by the Highland Council and will go forward to the Public Consultation process in the New Year, however it is unlikely there will be much change. It is now proposed to release this briefing to the community. There is still no decision from the Daffodil Field Arbitrator.




ACTION – Information only, no action required
- BICC** Members have been circulated with, and agreed to support, a joint BICC letter to the Leader of the Highland Council, the Chief Executive Officer and the Head of Governance, expressing serious concerns over the handling of the new Black Isle Area Committee, its structure, lack of democracy and conflicts of interest. We have now received an acknowledgement and a promise of a reply to our substantive issues raised, from both the Council Leader and the Head of Governance.

ACTION – Information only, no action required
- East Church Hall** The Highland Council trustees and the Common Good Fund have still as yet not made any suggestions. Their proposals are awaited, but we have been invited to participate with Nairn and other Highland Community Councils in seeking Scottish Government assistance in restoring control of Common Good Assets back to the communities in which they are situated.

ACTION – Information only, no action required
- Hugh Miller Institute Meeting Room** There has been no update regarding the urgent repair work required, before the Meeting Room becomes available in the future. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton
27/11/21

Paige’s Portfolios

<p><u>Planning</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="513 219 1334 293"> <p>• Erection of sunroom </p> <div data-bbox="561 331 1334 510" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Old Commercial 27 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE Ref. No: 21/05271/LBC Received: Fri 05 Nov 2021 Validated: Fri 05 Nov 2021 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="513 548 1334 622"> <p>• Erection of sunroom </p> <div data-bbox="561 660 1334 840" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Old Commercial 27 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE Ref. No: 21/05273/FUL Received: Fri 05 Nov 2021 Validated: Tue 16 Nov 2021 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="513 878 1334 1093"> <p>• Marine Shellfish Farm - Section 42 application to operate other than in accordance with the planning permission 15/02679/FUL - remove conditions 2 (10 year time limit on planning permission) and 5 (requirement for seabed and shoreline Environmental Monitoring) </p> <div data-bbox="561 1131 1334 1310" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Site In Cromarty Bay 1600M North Of Shoremill Cromarty Ref. No: 21/04834/S42 Received: Tue 05 Oct 2021 Validated: Tue 05 Oct 2021 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div>
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AGENDA ITEM H – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (KARI MAGEE).

28 Nov 2021

C&DCC

100 Steps Project

1. **Planned Event.** The litter pick and step replacement planned for October was postponed due to loss of key manpower. In light of the recent storm, a request for volunteers will be issued via Facebook for Sunday 5 December. The event will run from 1200-1500 and will include a litter pick, step replacement and an assessment of any damage to trees near the path.

Road Traffic Management

1. **Overview.** The proposals presented in 2019 appear to have been deferred and there is no indication when work may recommence. Mr Moncrieff stated in the original letter, which is attached to this report, that the proposals had been added to the technical programme but that some design work was still to be completed.

When asked about the possibility of a 20mph speed limit in Cromarty, which had been suggested by some, he indicated that this would take more work than the original proposals. When asked about Braehead, he indicated that the road was due to be resurfaced but that markings would be refreshed if resurfacing was delayed much longer.

2. **Correspondence.** The responses from the Highland Council have taken both letter and email form. The letter has been attached to this report and the key email correspondence has been included in this report.

Email from Highland Council dated 12 Nov 21

Dear Ms Magee,

Original FOI request: Road calming measures

The proposal was taken forward and added to the technical programme, please see the attached extract. (Please see table below - KM)

RC Tech Team Design Work									
Count	Priority	Ward	% Complete	Scheme	Location	Lead	Status	Entered Programme	Comments
1	2	9	30	Cromarty TMP	Road Design	Cromarty	IM	Defer	Amend plans following site meeting. Pass to AH to complete. IM to organise meet

Regarding a Cromarty wide speed limit of 20mph this would require additional work including a speed survey on various sites across Cromarty, traffic consultation where speeds exceed 20mph and design work. Once this work had been carried out the proposal would go before Councillors at a Ward Business Meeting. Following this a draft order would be prepared and a consultation would be held with the Community Council and other parties. There would an objection period and a period of time to resolve any objections raised. Overall, this would result in significantly more work than the original Traffic Consultation request.

The road markings at Braehead (outside Cromarty Primary School) resurfacing has been on the capital programme for some time, unfortunately this work has been deferred several times due to limited financial resources. It is on this year's capital work programme, 2021/22, and has been issued to a contractor. Due to the volume of work across both our roads teams and the contractors it will be at least Christmas before a start can be made on this work and due to this, we do not have a start date for when the work will be carried out.

The road markings at the school have been deferred until the road has been resurfaced. There is growing pressure for the road markings to be refreshed so if the resurfacing work is delayed much longer, we will refresh the road markings anyway, even though the road is due to be resurfaced...

Yours sincerely
Customer Resolution and Improvement Team

Email from Kari Magee dated 25 Oct 21

Dear Mr Howell,

I hope this finds you safe and well.

Apologies that it has taken me a while to respond ...

Please may I ask for further information as this letter doesn't really provide the answers for which I'm looking.

Background

When I was passed the road traffic management portfolio in 2020, I was told that a consultation process had been completed in 2019 but that no decisions appeared to have been made, no information was forthcoming and that the pandemic had likely changed the situation significantly.

I have been trying to find out what is going on ever since so that I can establish a baseline and understand what the next steps are so that I can keep the residents informed and support the Roads Team as a single point of contact for issues and potential complaints. Your letter suggests that the proposals are being acted on via a technical programme but that there is no timeframe for the works to commence. This suggests that that everything is far further progressed than anyone in Cromarty is aware.

Request for Information

What proposals were taken forward and put on the technical programme?

Is it possible to consider the suggestions made in my original email - a Cromarty-wide speed limit of 20mph and signage - or will this require another consultation? (Understand that signs alone won't change all behaviour or enforce a speed limit but it might provide some support to residents while we wait for the other proposed traffic calming measures to be put into place.)

What proposals were taken forward regarding the road and markings outside the school? (This is an area of confusion - some believe that it was mentioned in the consultation, others do not. It is, however, an area of significant concern because the road is now damaged and the markings outside the school are not clear.)

Reference

I have copied the original email from October 2020 below:

Dear Ms MacAllister and Mr Moncrieff,

I hope this email finds you safe and well.

I have been given the Road Traffic Management portfolio for the C&DCC and a proposal for road calming measures dating from 2019 was mentioned in the hand over.

I was just wondering what the outcome of the consultation was and what the plans moving forward were. I am working on the premise that Covid 19 has radically reduced the Highland Council's budget and manpower, and that many of the ideas mooted are now not feasible for the foreseeable future. At the last meeting, we discussed whether it might be possible to suggest a reduced range of measures for now that might be cheaper and quicker to implement, namely making the whole of Cromarty a 20mph area and adding signs to indicate a change of speed limit on entry to Cromarty.

I'd be very grateful for your guidance.

Very kindest regards,
Kari Magee