



Cromarty and District Community Council
Approved minutes of meeting held on
Monday 25th April 2022, 7pm
via Whereby due to Covid-19 restrictions

Approved
Minutes
30/05/22

Present

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

Youth Representative(s):

Highland Councillor(s): Craig Fraser

Member(s) of the public: Andy Thurgood (AT)

Minute Secretary: Claire Fraser

1. Chair's Welcome & Apologies

PS welcomed everyone to the video meeting.

Minute secretary note - meeting started at 7pm as previous meeting didn't meet the quorum. However, a few members didn't join until slightly later due to other commitments.

Nige joined at 19.23pm, Kari joined at 19.28pm, Peter joined at 19.29pm

Further note – Coll is no longer a Community Council youth member as he turned 18 prior to this meeting.

2. Declarations of interest

Declarations unchanged from meeting of 26th October 2020.

3. Co-optee proposal

AP nominated Andy Thurgood to become a co-opted member of the Cromarty & District Community Council. All details had been previously circulated (including Andy's CV).

All members agreed that he would offer so much to the community council and were delighted to have him aboard. Proposal seconded by NS and PR.

Minute secretary note – Andy left the meeting for a few minutes whilst this discussion was carried out.

4. Approval of previous minutes, 28th February 2022

The minutes were approved by AP and seconded by PR.

5. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 28th February 2022

Minute secretary note – THC means The Highland Council.

1. (4.1 - To continue to discuss the neighbourhood questionnaire re. Townlands parking areas being white lined). Needs further discussion but CF retiring from THC. **Discharged.**

2. (4.2 – On hold - Communication with THC re. TMP proposals). **On hold.**
3. (4.3 - To continue to discuss redesign of the Welcome sign for Cromarty). Ongoing. Paige to take this over from Craig and discuss with Fraser. **Action – PS & FT.**
4. (4.4 – Continue to update the data on Cromarty Live Website). Ongoing. **Action AP, PR, TG & Claire.**
5. (4.5 – More photos to be submitted to THC re. Whitedykes Fly Tipping (Rats dealt with by Cliff at THC already). Flytipping reported via website, await action/response. **Action – KM.**
6. (4.6 – Await response from farmer re. erecting fences at Reeds Loop). No response received. Discussion was held and PS/KM to discuss further. A level crossing system was suggested by KM and all members agreed this was a great idea but still need to confirm ok with John Nightingale. If we apply for funding for this work to be done, will need his written approval. **Action – PS/KM.**
7. (4.7 – Await repairs of toilets before installation of free-standing hand sanitiser unit). Discussion was had again. Is unit still required given that Covid restrictions have almost been lifted? All members agree to leave it for now. **On hold.**
8. (4.8 – Await guidance from the Scottish Government on the Green Freeport proposals, before PoCF can conduct an Environment Impact Assessment). No movement on this. Ongoing. **Action – KM.**
9. (4.9 – Albyn have shown renewed interest in CM01 site (where pump track was going to be built). Meeting to be held with C&DCC & Albyn to discuss further. See AP portfolio report re. housing for further action. **Discharged.**
10. (4.10 – Continue to monitor emptying and use of bins (demand slowed in winter)). Lower usage as expected but now seen to be increasing. As we are getting more visitors, there are signs of more food packaging deposits. **Discharged as is ongoing. See Peter’s portfolios.**
11. (4.11 – Plumber consulted re. outside water source at Sheddie. No imminent solution – suggested using harbour facilities in the interim). Ongoing but could be part of SSEN resilience funding application (see Victoria Hall). **Action – AP.**
12. (4.12 – Chased THC re. previous letter to Di Agnew in respect of omission of charging points (await response)). PS following this up. Response from Leona to confirm THC won’t be putting charging points in Cromarty and funding must be sought elsewhere. Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
13. (4.13 – Reports from THC received re. maintenance of Links Shrubbery - to be forwarded to members of C&DCC. Potential to involve the Primary School with its continuous maintenance). CF retiring but email will be sent to C&DCC when THC respond. Suspect will be August time when new term starts. **On hold for now.**
14. (4.14 - Respond to residents when issues re. dog fouling in the community are raised (continuous)). Ongoing issue – often raised via social media. **Discharged as appears in Peter’s portfolios.**
15. (4.15 - Organise contractor to repair damaged steps at the start of The Ladies Walk). No action taken. **Discharged.**
16. (4.16 – Hot spot areas identified, going to have to work with THC re. the Byelaw etc). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**

17. (4.17 – Further noise monitoring complaints to be dealt with. Also speak to Lighthouse re. noise monitoring equipment). Chris Ratter is aware. There have been 5 noise complaints relating to Nigg at 7 March 2022. They are during the day and night and are spread throughout Cromarty. The team have been out to monitor the noise but it proved a quiet week. They are hoping to put in a noise monitor soon. Will email again to find out when. **Action – KM.**
18. (4.18 – A number of litter pickup equipment has been distributed, with additional equipment kept in The Sheddie). Ongoing – expected to be more demand as we get more visitors. Recent social media comments also saw dead birds on the beach (one currently in front of Royal). **Discharged as is ongoing. See Peter’s portfolios.**
19. (4.19 – On hold for now - To write a discretionary fund as finance needed to ensure regular servicing of gritters). **Discharged.**
20. (4.20 – Draft letter for local businesses re. current vacancies to be submitted for approval). Draft letter to be checked and sent to members for approval. **Action – PS.**
21. (4.21 – New contractor being sought for the bus shelter repair). CF retiring so C&DCC are to follow this up. John Jack was contractor recommended. **Action – C&DCC.**
22. (4.22 – C&DCC decide how to proceed with bench for Martin Goswick). Ongoing. **Action – ALL.**
23. (4.23 – Finance will be needed from THC re. Reeds Loop maintenance, but enough in budget just now). **On hold until Summer 2022.**
24. (4.25 – Await response from Di Agnew re. the repairs required to the fencing in The Victoria Park). No response – to chase. HC have photos of gaps in Victoria chain link perimeter fence, suggest new photos taken (CF). **Action – PS.**
25. (4.26 – On hold for now - To calculate figures for the maintenance of gritters to see how much funding is required). **Discharged.**
26. (4.27 – Discuss existing financial module with Di Agnew in March 2022). Ongoing, see VH report. **Action – AP.**
27. (4.28 – To re-visit in the new year re. our approach for requests re. large events in the future). **Action – ALL.**
28. (4.28 – Painting of railings as HMM monument to be done in July 2022). Ongoing. **Action – CF.**
29. (4.29 – PS to ask CF re. the major maintenance issue with THC re. HMI). CF has chased this up, is now retiring but response will come to C&DCC. CF is disappointed with THC re. their response (or lack of) to correspondence. (Note – CF chased Mark Rodgers on 4th May 2022, copying in CC). **Action – C&DCC.**
30. (4.30 – Maintenance of the trees at burial ground to be followed up. Ivy pruning to be arranged). Ivy pruning will be done by CF. **Discharged.**
31. (4.33 – On hold for now - contact further resident re. initial plans for maintenance of gritters). **Discharged.**
32. (4.33 – Refresher resilience training to be arranged after financial year end (31 March 2022)). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
33. (4.34 – Confirm when repairs at Farness have been completed). **Discharged.**

34. (4.35 - Send a list of names of the regular users/key holders of the hall to PS post financial year end). Awaiting response from keyholders. Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
35. (4.36 - To chase up with THC re. electric charging points in the town). **Discharged (Same as 4.12).**
36. (4.37 – To speak to THC re. brown bins for residents). THC have advised that this won't be allowed as too far away from Inverness/Dingwall. **Discharged.**
37. (4.38 - Speak to Sheila @ CDT re. community composting). **Discharged.**
38. (4.39 – Send info to Coll re. pump track project team once position has been clarified with Albyn). **Discharged. See portfolio report re. housing.**
39. (4.41 – Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland mandates in April 2022). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
40. (4.42 – Revisit discussions with C&DCC subcommittee events groups in April 2022). **Action – AP.**
41. (5.2 – To discuss how to implement mentoring for the youth). Please see reports. **Discharged.**
42. (7.3 – Discuss with Wanda to see if the 'Fare Share' deliveries should be discussed with Cromarty Care project to avoid duplication). Fareshare report circulated by AP (attached to VH report). CCP making application to join scheme. Wanda/Jill discussing. **Discharged.**
43. (8.1.1 – Email CF re. the disabled toilets to see if one can be sorted in the interim). **Discharged as toilets repaired.**
44. (8.1.3 – Meet with Albyn housing to discuss their plans re. land where pump track was going to go). See portfolios report re. housing. **Discharged.**
45. (8.1.5 – Prepare a report re. the discussions had re. the Fortrose/Rosemarkie 20 mph meeting. Also, to try and receive copy of the presentation and send this round to members). See KM report. **Discharged.**
46. (8.2.1 – Confirm if Pat Munro need to return to complete the job at Braehead. KM to advise and PS to contact Craig if so). Has already been dealt with. **Discharged.**
47. (9.2 – Contact Jill Stoner re. organising something for the Queens Jubilee). **Discharged.** Event is already being organized.
48. (9.5 – Email Colin Dickie re. acceptance of the new harbour trustee). **Done – discharged.**

6. Youth Issues

- 6.1 Tilly mentioned Wanda is looking to fund the purchase of a beacon on the Links for the Queen's Jubilee (cost = circa £500). It was noted that there is going to be an event held, including the rowing boats etc on the night of 2 June 2022, and the beacon will be lit at around 21.45pm.

A discussion was had as to whether the C&DCC would fund the purchase (it could come from gala funds). Various comments were made:

- Highlands and islands seems to be excluded from the delivery options on the website.
- Is there a more sustainable approach, i.e. using natural fibres.
- What happens to the burner afterwards?

It was agreed that more information was needed before we could come to a conclusion. AP to report back to Wanda re. our discussion and advise members on options. See AP's portfolio report for more information re. the beacon/Queens Jubilee.

Following the meeting there were further discussions and under Chair's action the following proposal was circulated to voting Members.

At the meeting we made a decision not to agree to the purchase of a Beacon but to proceed with a more natural solution of a bonfire torch. However, after further discussion it was proposed, that given the organizational and H&S challenges of having a bonfire, we purchase the Beacon but use AT's suggestion of auctioning it off after the Jubilee weekend. The initial cost will be cash-flowed by Community Amenities Funds, which may well attract donations for this event. Following circulation to all, a majority of Members agreed with this proposal and given the time sensitive nature of ordering the Beacon, this has now been done and paid for as proposed. **No further action required.**

- 6.2 Tilly suggested a youth member to replace Coll. AP had already discussed the position with the resident, and also suggested a further resident himself. Tilly to discuss the position/role with them, answer any queries they have. **Action – TG.**

PS also suggested another resident which she will discuss further with Tilly offline. **Action - PS/TG.**

- 6.3 KM and TG are in talks re. the mentoring programme for the youth. KM is working on it and will be discussing it with TG very soon. AP mentioned that there is funding available if that would help at all. PS offered to help and thanked them both for working together on this. **Action – TG/KM.**

Paige thanked Tilly very much for all of her hard work and dedication to the C&DCC/Youth Café.

7. Treasurer's Report, including Draft Financial Statements to 31 March 2022

The Treasurer's Report Notes (**Appendix A**) & The Treasurer's Report (**Appendix B**), plus the Draft Financial Statements to 31 March 2022 (**Appendix C**) were prepared by AP and circulated prior to the meeting.

AP's comments based on financial statements:

- 7.1 The Victoria Hall has gone through a very difficult time over the last couple of years, plus there have been large costs incurred recently for hall maintenance, and larger repairs (including plumbing).

There is no guarantee that funds received will continue. Di Agnew (Ward Manager) has put money aside for the hall given that it's a common good building. AP is going to try and retrieve some of these funds to cover the more recent repairs. **Action – AP.**

- 7.2 There is now a cleaning levy added on to bookings, but the rate per hour remains the same.

Minute secretary note – NS mentioned that the harbour trust fees have gone up to cover future maintenance costs etc.

- 7.3 Hall is in a fixed contract for electric for 3 years so increased costs here isn't an issue. Oil however (for the heating) may become an issue if costs continue to increase. NS asked if more insulation could be added to the hall roof/windows. He knows a specialist and is happy to help. NS to put him in touch with AP. **Action – NS.**

7.4 It was also noted that the figures in relation to The Youth Café have improved. There has been a 70% increase in funding/activity even with Covid, which is incredible.

7.5 The final comment from AP was that the C&DCC is very steady, it mainly breaks even.

With no further questions, AP was thanked for everything.

8. Victoria Hall (VH) Report including Youth Café

The Victoria Hall Reports (**Appendix D & E**) that were prepared by AP and The Youth Café Reports, prepared by Fraser Thompson, was circulated prior to the meeting.

8.1 **Victoria Hall** - Application for funding via SSEN being filled out. Mainly for electrical enhancements to the hall but will include enough for an outside water source, plus the gritting etc. NS thanked AP hugely! **Action – AP.**

8.2 **Youth Café** – PS gave a special mention to Wanda, Fraser and John for all their hard-work. AP noted he'd had two other community councils ask about the youth café and the programming due to its success!

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

9. Members' Reports

9.1 Portfolios

Portfolio Reports prepared by PR, PS, AP, KM & NS (**Appendix F-L**) were circulated prior to the meeting by members.

No one had any additional comments and were thanked by PS for their efforts.

9.2 The Highland Council (Cllr Craig Fraser)

Minute secretary note – this is the last C&DCC meeting that Craig will attend as he retires from THC at the end of this month.

9.2.1 Scottish Water email containing some useful information (their ¼ update). To forward to members.

9.2.2 LED wall lights have been fitted around the town. There have been a couple of complaints which have been dealt with. Any harling that has come off the wall as a result of the installation will be made good.

9.2.3 Braehead has finally been sorted and signed off. CF wanted to mention that Pat Munro have done a really good job.

9.2.4 Hugh Miller railings have been repaired by Newhall Smiddy, chippings and matting are being done this week and the painting to be done in the summer.

9.2.5 East Church - £10k had been received from the historic church trust in 2021 for repairs. Craig emailed Victoria at Scottish Redundant Churches Trust (victoria@srct.org.uk) to advise that more repairs will be needed. Also self-seeded trees need to be removed to aid airflow around

the church. This needs to be chased up with Andrew Puls at THC (Andrew.puls@highland.gov.uk). **Action – C&DCC.**

9.2.6 East Church Hall – AP/NS were discussing this. AP has been promised an update via phone, but is still waiting. THC and Common Good are in discussions as far as he's aware.

CF thanked us all and **all members** thanked Craig for his continuous support of our meetings, and his assistance with chasing THC regarding issues on our behalf. Worth noting that CF is going to mentor the three candidates that will be elected in the local council elections on 5 May 2022.

9.3 Correspondence Received

Nothing to note.

10. Any Other Business

10.1 **Andy Thurgood (Port of Cromarty Firth)** – Has taken the concerns of the community and written a letter to Alcumus ISQAR, the Certification Body of PofCF, identifying potentially significant breaches in application of their ISO certificate. Response has been received which suggest an audit will be done. Currently awaiting word back, will send on to C&DCC once received. **Action – AT.**

PR suggested that Andy attends the next PofCF meeting on Wednesday 4th May 2022. PR to send details across. **Action – PR.**

Everyone thanked Andy for his efforts!

10.2 **Inner Moray Firth Development Plan (IMFDP)** – NS suggested he creates a poster to steer people towards the plan, and what it means for the community and the surrounding areas. To put it up as a private individual (non-C&DCC connected). He personally doesn't see how the IMFDP will benefit Cromarty. Discussions continued. Members agreed that the visual montage is usually very useful. NS to go ahead and put posted up on local noticeboards. **Action – NS.**

Minute secretary note – Craig left the meeting at 21.19pm.

To conclude the discussion AP suggested Tim Stott comes and speaks to the C&DCC but separate from our monthly meetings (he was meant to attend on 25th May). He should be able to answer any questions we have on IMFDP. KM suggested we invite residents from Nigg/members of Nigg Community Council to come along too. All members agreed a meeting with Tim Stott would be very helpful and should provide some clarity. AP to arrange this with him and will email Nigg CC too. He will suggest 2 or 3 dates at the back end of May. **Action – AP.**

10.3 **Chair's Action** – It was proposed that the C&DCC pay for some flowers to be sent to Dorrie, thanking her for lending us Craig for the last 15 years. PS to order and to be reimbursed by AP. **Action – PS/AP.**

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

11. Date of next meeting

Next meeting – Monday 30th May 2022 at 7pm, including the AGM.

Minute secretary note – a Highland Councillor will need to be present as an ex-officio (hopefully we know who our new councilors are by then).

PS thanked everyone for attending. Meeting ended at 21.28pm.

Agenda Item 7

Appendix A – Treasurer’s Report Notes

1. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** will be prepared very shortly for audit. Final drafts to be presented at 25th April meeting and audited version to be presented at AGM on 30th May 2022. The figures in this report are as at 31st March 2022 and reconciled to bank balances, however they are obviously subject to change in the process of preparing the Financial Statements as at that date. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. **COMMUNITY AMENITIES FUND** reflects the work done on the Hugh Miller Monument railings. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
3. **CROMARTY RISING FUND** reflects donations and payment of professional fees. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton
01/04/22

1. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** as at 31st March 2022 are attached separately in a final draft form and the audited version will be presented at the AGM on 30th May 2022. The figures in this report are since 31st March 2022 and reconciled to bank balances, however they are obviously subject to change in the preparation and audit of the Financial Statements as at that date. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. **COMMUNITY AMENITIES FUND** reflects the purchase of materials for the Hugh Miller Monument refurbishment. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
3. **CROMARTY DEFIBRILLATOR FUND** reflects donations from the Arms and Bakery Tins. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
4. **EMERGENCY RESILIENCE CENTRE FUND** reflects the purchase Gas for the LPG cooker. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
5. **SURPLUS/DEFICIT MOVEMENT** reflects the payment of the C&DCC Insurance premium for 2022-23. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton
23/04/22

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting				
Held on Monday 4th April 2022				
Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer’s Report				
Statement of Financial Position at 31st March 2022				
		£	£	£
Net Assets			<u>Movement</u>	<u>at 25/02/22</u>
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 31st March 2022		15,523.53	-905.95	16,429.48
Paypal Balance as at 31st March 2022		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		76.50	8.50	68.00
Amounts Payable		-58.50	-58.50	0.00
Total Net Assets at 31st March 2022		£15,541.53	-955.95	£16,497.48
		£	£	£
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		254.72	-129.95	384.67
		2,332.16	-129.95	2,462.11
Community Amenities Fund		4,256.74	-576.00	4,832.74
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		69.96	0.00	69.96
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 25th February 2022		78.75	0.00	78.75
Gritting Fund		682.32	0.00	682.32
Cromarty Live Fund		100.01	0.00	100.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		207.28	0.00	207.28
Net C&DCC Reserves		7,727.22	-705.95	8,433.17
Community Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,302.14		0.00	2,302.14
Gala Fund	3,273.83		0.00	3,273.83
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	5,910.89	0.00	202.06
Designated Community Funds				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Cromarty Rising Fund		553.42	-250.00	803.42
		£15,541.53	-955.95	£16,497.48
Alan Plampton 1st April 2022				

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting				
Held on Monday 25th April 2022				
Agenda Item No 7 - Treasurer's Report				
Statement of Financial Position at 23rd April 2022				
		£	£	£
Net Assets			<u>Movement</u>	<u>at 31/03/22</u>
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 23rd April 2022		15,313.12	-210.41	15,523.53
Paypal Balance as at 23rd April 2022		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		76.50	0.00	76.50
Amounts Payable		0.00	58.50	-58.50
Total Net Assets at 23rd April 2022		£15,389.62	-151.91	£15,541.53
		£	£	£
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2022*		2,332.16	254.72	2,077.44
Surplus/ Deficit for the year to date		-193.91	-448.63	254.72
		2,138.25	-193.91	2,332.16
Community Amenities Fund		4,216.27	-40.47	4,256.74
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		19.97	-49.99	69.96
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 23rd April 2022		78.75	0.00	78.75
Gritting Fund		682.32	0.00	682.32
Cromarty Live Fund		100.01	0.00	100.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		339.74	132.46	207.28
Net C&DCC Reserves		7,575.31	-151.91	7,727.22
Community Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,302.14		0.00	2,302.14
Gala Fund	3,273.83		0.00	3,273.83
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	5,910.89	0.00	202.06
Designated Community Funds				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Cromarty Rising Fund		553.42	0.00	553.42
* Subject to Year End Audit		£15,389.62	-151.91	£15,541.53
Alan Plampton 23rd April 2022				

CROMARTY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (including Victoria Hall)
as at 31st March 2022

SUBJECT TO AUDIT

31 March 2021		31 March 2022
£	ASSETS	£
	Current Assets	
	Other Current Assets	
0.00	Hall Rental Income Debtors & Prepayments	1,650.00
243.40	C&DCC Debtors & Prepayments	76.50
243.40	Total Other Current Assets	1,726.50
	Cash at bank and in hand	
13,460.83	C&DCC Current Account 0305	15,113.72
109.48	Council Petty Cash	409.81
14,248.78	Hall BofS Account 1246	3,529.58
150.84	Hall Petty Cash Account	134.97
17,794.86	Youth Cafe Account 1254	12,988.70
45,764.79	Total Cash at bank and in hand	32,176.78
46,008.19	Total Current Assets	33,903.28
	Current Liabilities	
0.00	C&DCC Accounts Payable	58.50
4,384.78	Net Hall Accounts Payable/Advance Fees	817.02
4,384.78	Total Current Liabilities	875.52
41,623.41	Total Current Assets less Current Liabilities	33,027.76
£41,623.41		£33,027.76
	Represented by -	
	Capital and Reserves	
2,620.63	Accumulated Fund	2,270.05
(399.51)	Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	62.11
48.93	Refund of Memorial Underspend	0.00
2,270.05		2,332.16
0.00	Community Covid-19 Resilience Fund	0.00
0.00	Community Memorial Fund (previously Sea Plinth Fund)	0.00
21.19	Community Amenities Fund	4,256.74
809.52	Community Gritting Fund	682.32
78.75	Publications Reprinting Fund	78.75
87.66	Community Emergency Resilience Fund	69.96
5.00	Community Defibrillator Fund	207.28
92.58	Cromarty Live Fund	100.01
	Community Event Funds	
2,272.14	Bonfire Night Fund	2,302.14
126.00	Splash & Dash Fund	126.00
4,215.73	Community Gala Fund	3,273.83
202.06	Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06
6.86	Open Gardens Fund	6.86
	Designated Funds	
422.75	Monday Club Fund	0.00
1,350.00	West Church Playgroup Fund	1,350.00
1,853.42	Cromarty Rising Fund	553.42
	Other Funds	
17,794.86	Youth Café Projects Fund	12,988.70
13,303.82	Victoria Hall Fund	10,014.84
(3,288.98)	Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	(5,517.31)
10,014.84		4,497.53
£41,623.41		£33,027.76

AGENDA ITEM 8

Appendix D – VICTORIA HALL REPORT (March)

1. **Bookings** Members will be aware that the SG has started reducing its Covid legal restrictions on a phased basis. For the Hall this means that event 'Track & Trace' details are no longer required but the wearing of face masks remains in force until at least 18th April. The TBI Community Market will, after a delay caused by Covid, now recommence on 9th April. There will be no catering. Future finances for the Hall will now be considered after the Annual Financial Statements to 31st March 2022 have been prepared. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
2. **Repairs & Maintenance/Cleaning** Repairs still ongoing and our cleaning protocols are still covering all the current bookings. The fire equipment has been serviced. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
3. **Youth Cafe** The latest Report attached, from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. In addition, please find a report about the Youth Cafe's participation in the Fareshare scheme. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton - VHMC

01/04/22

AGENDA ITEM 8

Appendix E – VICTORIA HALL REPORT (April)

- 1. Bookings** The Community Market restarted and the Election is up and coming but the Bowls and Camera Club usual weekly meetings have stopped for the summer. Future finances for the Hall will now be considered after the Annual Financial Statements to 31st March 2022 have been prepared. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
- 2. Repairs & Maintenance/Cleaning** Repairs still ongoing and our cleaning protocols are still covering all the current bookings. The fire alarm system has been serviced. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
- 3. Trikes** It is proposed that we continue the existing arrangement to supply free housing and recharging facilities in the Hall's Sheddie during the summer. This should have been approved at the last meeting, so the Members' retrospective approval is sought. **ACTION – Members to agree retrospective approval**
- 4. Emergency Resilience Centre Upgrade** is being planned if a funding application to SSEN is approved. This will include a generator upgrade, electrical enhancements, outdoor water source, future gritter servicing along with a contingency for other resilience facilities at the Hall. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
- 5. Youth Cafe** The latest report attached, from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton - VHMC

23/04/22

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix F – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (PETER RATCLIFFE - MARCH)

Cromarty Ferry.

- Ongoing. But now it is Off Season, so no service. Boat is berthed in Harbour. Preparations ongoing for start of new season.

Dog Fouling. Ongoing.

- Red Bins are being emptied on a regular basis both by volunteers and by HC. The Reeds Path, Stoopie, The Links 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 now marked off by permanent embedded wooden bollards, and large stones to stop parking and let the grass grow.

Litter.

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

- Quiet season – bins are emptied on Tuesdays, Commercial Bin Day.
- The Bins most at issue (Due to takeaway food?) 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, or grant aided. Needs to be planned drawn up and arranged for uptake. (Ongoing)
- Cromarty Litter Pickers – not up and running as a group, no volunteers for leading a group. Volunteers are carrying out activities. Equipment has been distributed, some is on hold for use on other C&DCC 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 change.)
- Additional equipment is stored in the Sheddie. Have additional, yet to be distributed.

Nigg Liaison, Rig Noise & Freeport Proposal.

Main Report issued by Kari Magee.

Email received regarding

Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal – ongoing.

Green Hydrogen Plant – planning and preparations continue.

PoCF – Virtual Meeting – next one is awaited.

Nigg Liaison Group Meetings – await confirmation on next meeting.

Gritting and Machine Maintenance.

Main actors are Corrie and Nige. I anticipate that the snowfalls are over for the season. (???) Alan and Nige have agreed that the units will be serviced before the start of the next Winter season.

Grit bins will need to be topped up by Highland Council Offenders Scheme, before next season.

Gritting Equipment was washed and hung in The Sheddie. Nige raised the requirement for a washing unit at the Sheddie. Alan is arranging for this.

Other.

Cromarty First Responders.

The Cromarty First Responders have been having training in Aberdeen, members have been processed with IDs and documentation. Back in operation.

Cromarty Dog Waste Bins.

Ongoing. Also reported elsewhere here, under "Dog Fouling". There were no further volunteers after the last Facebook posts.

Local volunteers continue to empty the red bins.

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 with a larger Project?

Craig Fraser Projects - 2021:- (Assisting with)

Hugh Miller Statue Enclosure.

Metalwork has been completed. The Painting is yet to be done.

Clearing of the area is yet to be arranged and done.

Gaelic Chapel.

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

Site visited and stage photos taken. The bell is still in situ.

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? (No Change).

Cromarty Benches.

Mrs Munro has not yet started to install the one planned on the Links.

Other Meetings.

AGM of CCDT occurred on Saturday 12th March 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix G – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (PETER RATCLIFFE - APRIL)

Cromarty Ferry.

- Ongoing. The Owner and crew of the Cromarty to Nigg Ferry service have been working on the Boat in the harbour in preparation for the restart for the new season from 1st May 2022. Advertising and Social Media appear to be fully aware.

Dog Fouling. Ongoing.

There appear to have been less instances recently, however we watch and observe.

Links & Links Events Diary / Beaches and Litter.

- There was a booking from Cromarty Community Rowing Club for use of the Links on 16th to 18th September 2022. Confirmation email was already sent to Sophie Graham.
- There was a new booking for a BBC Radio 3 Breakfast Show on the weekend of Sunday 3rd June 2022.
- 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. (No Change)
- The area in front of Bob Maclean's house (old ice rink) is now marked off by permanent embedded wooden bollards, and large stones to stop parking and let the grass grow.
- No change regarding the installation of a new bench in the vicinity between the Salmon Bothy and the Links Houses.

Litter.

- It was the Quiet season – but has been getting busier, Town Bins are being monitored and recorded., The Main Town bins continue to be emptied on Tuesdays, Commercial Bin Day.
- The Bins most at issue (Due to takeaway food?) 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, or grant aided. Needs to be planned drawn up and arranged for uptake. (Ongoing).
- Local volunteers, and some from out of town, continue to uplift litter and dump in the Town Bins.
- Cromarty Litter Pickers – not up and running as a group, no volunteers for leading a group. Volunteers are carrying out activities. Equipment has been distributed, some is on hold for use on other C&DCC Projects such as 100 Steps Project. There are a number of active individual litter pickers in the town. (Ongoing – no change.)
- Some small additional equipment is stored in the Sheddie, yet to be distributed.

Nigg Liaison, Rig Noise & Freeport Proposal.

Main Report issued by Kari Magee.

Email received regarding next Community Meetings with PoCF.

Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal – ongoing.

Green Hydrogen Plant – planning and preparations continue.

Nigg Liaison Group Meetings – await confirmation on next meeting.

Gritting and Machine Maintenance.

Main actors are Corrie and Nige. The snowfalls are over for the season. Alan and Nige have agreed that the units will be serviced before the start of the next Winter season.

Grit bins will need to be topped up by Highland Council Offenders Scheme, before next season.

Gritting Equipment was washed and hung in The Sheddie. Nige raised the requirement for a washing unit at the Sheddie. Alan is looking into this.

Other.

Cromarty First Responders.

Find us on 

The Cromarty First Responders have been having training in Aberdeen, members are being processed with IDs and documentation. Expected to be back in operation soon.

Cromarty Dog Waste Bins.

Ongoing. There were no further volunteers after the last Facebook posts.

Red Bins are being emptied on a regular basis both by volunteers and by HC. Checking those at The Reeds Path, Stoopie, The Denny, The Links bins.

The Red Bin that was located at the Bowling Green car park that was removed by Highland Council, has not yet been returned.

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

John Nightingale Follow Ups.

No contact with self held recently.

Sutor Car Park.

Will we get the same numbers of incoming tourists next year? No action ongoing at this time.

Sutor Litter bin continues to be monitored by Nige and is being emptied by visiting HC worker.

Craig Fraser Projects - 2021:- (Assisting with.)

Hugh Miller Statue Enclosure.

Metalwork has been completed. The Painting is yet to be done.

Clearing of the area has been completed by Craig Fraser.

Access steps to be cleared and repaired. (Was going to clear leaves etc)

Gaelic Chapel.

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

Site visited and stage photos taken. The bell is still in situ.

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? (No Change).

Cromarty Benches.


Mrs Elsie Munro has not yet started to install the one planned on the Links.

Other Meetings.

None by self.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix H – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (PAIGE SHEPHERD)

<p><u>Planning</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of use from care home to residential  <p>Shoremill Care Home Cromarty IV11 8XU Ref. No: 22/01261/FUL Received: Fri 18 Mar 2022 Validated: Thu 24 Mar 2022 Status: Under Consideration</p>
<p><u>Police Update</u></p>	<p>This week I have been in contact with a new police officer for the area Daniel. He is taking over as the contact for the area. He is going to try and submit a report for our next meeting, and I have asked could he find out/provide us with an update regarding the toilet vandalism.</p>
<p><u>Good News!</u></p>	<p>The Public toilets are now open!! A massive thank you to residents for their patience and for their help regarding the repairs to the public toilets. We hope there is no repeat of the damage as it has a knock on effect for everyone in the community.</p>

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix I – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (ALAN PLAMPTON - MARCH)

1. **BICC** No further updates. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
2. **East Church Hall** There have been no further developments in March. However, we have been promised an update that could result in a verbal update at the meeting. **ACTION – Information only, no action required.**
3. **Housing** Paige, Peter and I met with Albyn Housing on site at Jock's Field. It was a constructive and frank meeting with Sean Currie, who joined Albyn in December. The important items discussed confirmed the following:
 - a) Albyn's renewed interest in the Jock's Field site had been instigated by the Housing Development management at the Highland Council who are keen to include this site for Housing Association Grant approval in 2022/23, despite the fact that the HC Planning Department in preparing the IMF Development Plan were unaware of this 'initiative' of their Housing Development Department.
 - b) Such approval would not see any development of the site until at least 2023/4.
 - c) The key issue for Albyn would be for Albyn's architects to find a site access solution and their preferred option was to use the previously acquired right of way at the south end of the Park on to the Denny. **As a result Sean Currie confirmed that Albyn could not now agree to our Pump Track Project proceeding.** Obviously this is very disappointing news.
 - d) We made it very clear that C&DCC supported a scheme that provided an affordable housing solution with no private market sales. Sean Currie confirmed that the last proposals he had seen surprisingly included some private market housing but he did not see that as being a likely proposal.
 - e) Albyn also confirmed that the Highland Council and certain interested parties had talked of a 'solution' to provide access by building on the Victoria Park instead of Jock's Field. We made it very clear, to Sean Currie, that this was totally unacceptable to the C&DCC as well as most people in Cromarty and any attempt to propose this would be vigorously resisted by the C&DCC and the community.
 - f) Sean Currie promised that he would keep the C&DCC informed of any developments and updates regarding the development of the Jock's Field site. The C&DCC confirmed that they would be using the Communities Housing Trust and other experts for advice.

Following this meeting the C&DCC received the final proposals for the Inner Moray Firth Development Plan, which broadly follow the proposals presented in November to the Black Isle Highland Councillors. However there have been some amendments that require clarification, including a new reference as mentioned in e) above. We need to agree our comments to be submitted and given the timetable it is proposed that C&DCC Members receive, consider and agree a proposal for these comments at our next meeting on 25th April. This will also include a discussion about the newly proposed development site (CM03) up past the Manse on MacBean farmland. This was not previously discussed by C&DCC because it was outside the existing Development boundary for Cromarty. When reading the published IMF Development Plan proposals (and it is appreciated at 174 pages this a 'big' read!), Members should know that the reference to Developer Requirements does not refer to the actual developer (e.g. Albyn Housing) but these are comments inserted by Highland Council's interested parties, like Planning and Housing Development.

Tim Stott, chief planner involved with creating the Plan, has agreed to come and speak to C&DCC Members, if needed, and it is hoped this can be arranged for the beginning of our meeting on

the 25th, to assist in deliberations to agree our formal comments. **ACTION – For Information, discussion and agreement**

Alan Plampton 01/04/22

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix J – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (ALAN PLAMPTON - APRIL)

1. **BICC** No further updates, next meeting scheduled for 19th May. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
2. **East Church Hall** There have been no further developments in April. However, we have again been promised an update that could result in a verbal update at the meeting. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
3. **Housing** It had been hoped to have a presentation by Tim Stott on the Proposed IMF Development Plan at this meeting. However following our abortive meeting on the 4th and the subsequent busier order of business tonight, this will now be delayed to a date in May, to assist our final deliberations in submitting our response by the June deadline. **ACTION – For Information only, no action required**
4. **Community Events**
 - a) **Open Gardens, Studios and Art & Flower Festival** is scheduled for 25th June to 3rd July 2022. Details available on Cromarty Live and final details (e.g. benefitting which good causes etc) to be published when available. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
 - b) **Platinum Jubilee** events are being planned and attached are some ideas that are being suggested. It is up to us whether we wish to take part. In particular whether we wish to be part of the Beacon project and the tree planting. Extracts re ideas from the Lord Lieutenant – “Beach Beacons: They are to be lit at 9.45 pm on Thursday 2nd June, and it was decided that we would have a string of beach beacons along the Moray Coast. So at present they are to be Chanonry Point (Ramsay is on that one I hope)/Nigg/Tarbatness/Fort George/Nairn/Findhorn/Burghead/Lossiemouth/Banff. And I thought as it would still be light at that time of night in June, it would be good to have one in both Nigg and Cromarty - so at least we could see each other. There is a specially designed gas burner costing £490 (I think) or you could just use firewood, it is up to you.” The Powers that Be are also keen to have a Piper and there is also a Commonwealth Song, which they are keen is sung.

You may also have heard that they are promoting Planting A Tree for the Jubilee, under the name of the Queen's Green Canopy. The idea is to plant a native tree or trees and to either give them a physical or a virtual plaque and again they are marked on an interactive map. **ACTION – For Information, discussion and agreement**

Alan Plampton 23/04/22

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix K – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (KARI MAGEE)

Life Skills and Mentorship Programme

1. **Overview.** Kari Magee and Tilly Grist discussed possible options for a Life Skills and Mentorship Programme for young people in Cromarty. Tilly believes that there is a need due to the negative impact of the pandemic on the exam season, work experience and careers advice. She also suggested that face-to-face training with real-time support would be more successful than online resources.
2. **Life Skills.** Kari will draft a series of training sessions on exam techniques, CV writing, personal statement writing and interview skills with an option to undertake mock interviews. Tilly will review the training sessions and resources before use, and reach out to Wanda and Fraser to identify how we can best deliver the sessions.
3. **Mentorship.** Kari will reach out to members of the community to develop a mentors network. Tilly will reach out to Wanda and Fraser to identify ways to link mentors with mentees.
4. **Timeline.** Kari will send the draft training sessions to Tilly no later than 30 April 22.

100 Steps Project

1. **Action.** The planned morning did not take place because I came down with COVID. It will be replanned for May 2022. The planned work will include the area at the beginning of the 100 Steps path as discussed in the last meeting (Nigel). It will also include a recce of the broken railing highlighted by a Cromarty resident (see photo below).
2. **Issue.** The state of the railing has deteriorated since the last 100 Steps weekend. It will likely need professional repair due to potential issues with liability. Ideas and recommendations would be very gratefully received.



20 MPH Presentation

1. **Overview.** Lisa MacKellaich, the Highland Council Principal Road Safety Officer spoke to the Black Isle Community regarding 20mph limits in urban areas. She highlighted the health improvements,

community and safety benefits of 20mph limits, and explained the process of identifying areas of risk, prioritisation, design and consultation processes. She also highlighted that the team are anticipating national direction from Scottish Government regarding the implementation of 20mph limits on all urban areas by 2025.

2. **Points to note.**

- a. Ms MacKellaich's team is very small, her area is vast and the demand for 20mph limits is high.
- b. There is currently no dedicated budget for 20mph implementation, although they have been successful in securing funding from Sustrans.
- c. Priorities are guided by collision data. If the accident is not reported, then the collision data does not exist; for example, collisions with walls or bridges are often not reported.
- d. 20mph design can be complicated as it must be self-enforcing. Signs and lines only do not routinely have the desired effect and often only reduce speeding on average by 1-1.5mph.
- e. Signs and line can be cost between £10,000 - £30,000. Additional traffic calming measures increase that cost.

4. **Presentation.** The presentation has not been made available. KM will chase.

AGENDA ITEM 9

Appendix L – PORTFOLIO REPORTS (NIGE SHAPCOTT)

Cromarty Care Project

Highland Home Cares: CCP are monitoring the situation. We are keeping the office for at least another three months for their use and further review.

Fuel costs: We have provided over £5,000 in fuel booster payments over the winter. A further grant application is/has been submitted for £5,000 for the same purpose.

Community Larder: It is being maintained and used and will continue to be supported.

Social Isolation: Cromarty Cinema has been hired for the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Lunch Club: Still well used with an average 12 people per Monday session

Trikes: Relaunch of Trikes they are ready to come down probably after Easter. Coordination needed to sort out the gritters storage so that Trikes can use the Sheddie. Plan to use the Trikes again for Open Gardens. We are looking for more volunteer “pilots” young or old, or in between”.

Table Tennis: Is popular and is going on every Monday morning.

Queens Award: to be displayed at the Cromarty Museum; two Trustees will be going to the garden party.

Gritters

The team is in the process of putting the gritting machines to bed. Hopefully the Trikes will soon be based in the Sheddie for the Summer season. Thanks to all the volunteers of all ages who make this service to the Community work.

The items below were copied from the Cromarty Newsletter of April 2022

Cromarty Harbour Trust

Colin Dickie writes:

The harbour is in the final stages of being ready for the summer season. The pontoons have been spruced up and will be put back into position later in April. We find ourselves in that transition phase of boats finishing their winter stay being slowly replaced with summer berthers. This year we have surplus berthing capacity as two of the smaller boats are not returning. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please get in touch with me at info@cromartyharbour or through the [website](#). Ideally, we are looking for two additional boats of up to 5 metres.

Finally, I'd like to give thanks to Sarah Pern who, after many years, has retired as a trustee. Over the years her input and guidance has been most valuable, and we are fortunate that she will still be on hand to help as a member of our working group, the volunteers! Her replacement is David Kent, also a volunteer and our resident photographer. David joins me as the Community Council's representatives amongst the trustees of Cromarty Harbour Trust.

Cromarty and Community Development Trust

Sheila Currie writes:

Thanks to the Trust members who came to our AGM the other week. The big news they heard about is that the Trust has got funding for a three year Development Officer post! This is for someone to help take forward the current projects, work with the community to develop a Community Plan, help put the Trust on a sounder financial footing and generally make more stuff happen. The funding is full-time, but other options may be available. We're currently pulling together the Job Description/Person Specification and will very soon be putting out a recruitment advert.

We have also resolved most of the problems relating to Planning and Building Control for the campervan site, and will soon be inviting tenders for the construction works, which should be happening 'soon'.

We also have one new Director, Matt Hall - welcome!

And as soon as the weather warms up (and, you know... covid...) the Thrift Shop volunteers are raring to get back into the shop. But you don't have to become a Director to become involved in any of our current projects - just ask. And as soon as feasible, we'd love to have a proper community meeting to chat through all of what's going on.