



**Cromarty and District Community Council**  
Approved minutes of meeting held on  
**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2022, 730pm**  
via Whereby due to Covid-19 restrictions

Approved  
Minutes  
03/10/22

**Present**

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

**Youth Representative(s):**

**Highland Councillor(s):** Lyndsey Johnston (LJ)

**Member(s) of the public:** Dominic Scott-Lodge (DSL), Julie MacRae, Development Officer – CDT (JM) & Andy Dorin (AD).

**Minute Secretary:** Claire Fraser (CF)

**1. Chair's Welcome & Apologies**

PS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

*Minute secretary note – PR, AP, NS and PS were all in attendance from The Victoria Hall. Lyndsey joined the meeting at 8pm (virtually).*

**2. Declarations of interest**

AT confirmed that no conflict of interest arises between his BSI employment & being a C&DCC member (see previous minutes).

No other changes to declarations since meeting of 26th October 2020.

**3. Approval of previous minutes, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The minutes were approved by AP and seconded by AT.

**4. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

*Minute secretary note – THC means The Highland Council.*

1. (4.1 – On hold - Communication with THC re. TMP proposals). **On hold.**
2. (4.2 - To discuss redesign of the Welcome sign for Cromarty). Ongoing. **Action – PS & FT.**
3. (4.3 – Continue to update the data on Cromarty Live Website). Ongoing. **Action AP, PR, TG & Claire.**
4. (4.4 – No response from THC re. fly tipping at Whitedykes – to resubmit). No update available yet – to re-submit. **Action – KM.**
5. (4.5 – To discuss action required re. progressing level-crossing system @ Reeds Loop (See May minutes for full info). Ongoing. **Action – PS/KM.**
6. (4.6 – On hold - installation of free-standing hand sanitiser unit at public toilets). **On hold.**

7. (4.7 – Still waiting guidance from TSG re. Green Freeport proposals). **Action – KM.**
8. (4.8 – Potential to involve the Primary School with Links Shrubbery continuous maintenance – on hold until August). **On hold.**
9. (4.9 – Hot spot areas identified, going to have to work with THC re. the Byelaw etc). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
- 10.(4.10 – Still awaiting update from noise monitoring team at THC re. installing the noise monitoring equipment). Noise complaints have risen recently – residents are submitting noise forms directly to THC. No feedback from THC – will email. **Action – KM.**
- 11.(4.11 – Draft letter for local businesses re. current vacancies to be submitted for approval). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
- 12.(4.12 – C&DCC to follow up seeking a new contractor for the bus shelter repair (Craig retiring)). **Action – C&DCC.**
- 13.(4.13 – C&DCC decide how to proceed with bench for Martin Goswick). Ongoing. **Action – ALL.**
- 14.(4.14 – Finance will be needed from THC re. Reeds Loop maintenance, but enough in budget just now). **On hold.**
- 15.(4.15 – Await repairs to be done to fencing in Victoria Park (advised is high priority). To be chased, grass cutting done but no fence repairs. **Action – PS.**
- 16.(4.16 – Re-visit our approach for requests re. large events in the future). **Action – ALL.**
- 17.(4.17 – Painting of railings as HMM monument to be done in July 2022). Now complete. **Discharged.**
- 18.(4.18 – Await response from THC re. the major maintenance issue re. Hugh Millers Institute. CF last emailed about this on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022). Chased via Di Agnew and new tests done in August but still no report or estimates. Meeting Room remains closed and not available for use. **Action – AP.**
- 19.(4.19 – Refresher resilience training to be arranged). Ongoing, outstanding re. 4.20. **Action – AP.**
- 20.(4.20 – Awaiting response from keyholders re. providing names of the regular users/key holders of the hall to PS post financial year end). Ongoing, see VH report. **Action – AP.**
- 21.(4.21 – Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland mandates). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
- 22.(4.22 – Revisit discussions with C&DCC subcommittee events groups in June 2022). **Action – AP.**
- 23.(4.23 – Location to be confirmed re. youth mentoring programme). Waiting for confirmation on location. **Action – KM & TG.**
- 24.(4.24 – To try and retrieve funds held back by Di Agnew (THC) for repairs to The Victoria Hall (Common Good) post AGM). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
- 25.(4.25 – Await decision on SSEN application). Funding unavailable. **Discharged.**

- 26.(4.26 – To chase Andrew Puls at THC re. self-seeding trees plus repairs to East Church). **Action C&DCC.**
- 27.(4.27 – Await response from Alcumus, send to members once received). **Action – AT.**
- 28.(4.28 – Potential to receive a grant for TVH for further insulation). Ongoing. Still outstanding until LVH finances agreed, see VH report. **Action – AP.**
- 29.(4.29 – Email sent to local contractor re. repairs @ the 100 steps). Weekend for work to be done = 8&9 October. Request for volunteers has been released. **Action – KM.**
- 30.(4.31 – More discussions to be had/conclusions to be sought re. parking at Townlands between C&DCC & THC). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
- 31.(4.34 – Burn weeds on Reeds Loop with flame gun). **Action – NS.**
- 32.(4.35 – Await response from THC re. electric vehicles charging point (original response not satisfactory so new Councillor following it up). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
- 33.(5.1 – Pass details of potential youth rep to PS so she can make contact). Done. **Discharged. Action – NS.**
- 34.(7.2.2 – Application being filled out for 3 year funding programme). Re. YC submitted – decision to be made in December. Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
- 35.(8.2.1 – Add consultation re. Munloch Junction to Facebook, website & include in the newsletter). **Discharged.**
- 36.(8.2.3 – Add consultation re. short term lets to Facebook, website and include in the newsletter). **Discharged.**
- 37.(8.2.5 – PS to pass Bruce (ferintosh) email to KM as he’s had recent conversation with the roads team at THC (hopefully will establish how to proceed with TMP). **Discharged.**
- 38.(9.1 – Contact John Nightingale to establish what the plans are re. the daffodil field and it’s maintenance). John Nightingale was contacted by email. Apart from some pruning no action has been taken to date. Ongoing monitoring required. **Action – PR.**
- 39.(9.3 – To discuss hedging options for The Victoria Park at future date). **Action – ALL.**

## 5. Youth Issues

AP proposed the appointment of Dominic Scott-Lodge as additional youth member.  
PR seconded this proposal.  
All members are delighted to have him on board and welcome Dominic to the team.

*Minute secretary note – appointment of Dominic has been fully endorsed by youth services and he was highly recommended.*

DSL raised the issue of the school bus service being unsatisfactory (and that it has been for a while). It breaks down a lot or is frequently late. Most importantly it was mentioned that the bus leaves Cromarty at 8:18, which is per the timetable, but even when on time the bus doesn’t arrive before 8:42 at the school (when the bell goes and when breakfast club ends). The result of this is that the kids that don’t get breakfast at home, are then also not able to get it at school. Note that the Cromarty bus is a service bus, rather than a contracted service.

Further comments were made, including the fact that adults and children are sharing this service (as it's a public bus) and so sometimes the children are left without seats and can be standing for long durations.

The bus should be leaving Cromarty with enough time to get to school ahead of breakfast club ending, or kids who haven't had should be able to access this when they get to school (if bus delayed, broken down etc). Need to see if Stagecoach can change the bus times (new timetable just released in July). Should also speak to Fortrose Academy. PS will follow this up. **Action – PS.**

There were no further comments.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

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

AP commented that not much has happened over the summer, other than various donations being received. There were no questions and AP was thanked for everything.

## **7. Victoria Hall (VH) Report including Youth Café**

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

### **7.1 The Victoria Hall**

7.1.1. AP proposed to increase the letting fees for users of the hall. There is an urgent need to significantly increase income, even just to break even. The fees have stayed the same for 12 years, so all agreed it was about time. Without breaking even, we'd not be able to run the hall and it would then be the responsibility/under the control of THC. AP has done some research and we charge much less than most of the other community run assets around the Black Isle. Members agreed costs are going to continue to rise and small businesses will suffer. All were in favour of the price increase. There is potential that THC will no longer use the hall as a polling station once the fees increase.

PS approved. NS seconded.

7.1.2. The booking conditions are being revised, and the capacity is going back up to 150.

7.1.3. AT asked re. the fire extinguisher. AP says a replacement has been ordered and it's awaiting delivery. All agreed there should probably be a spare kept in the cupboard in case this happens again.

### **7.2 The Youth Café:**

7.2.1 The Youth Café has had a very impressive summer. Lots of hard work went into the summer programme. PR expressed his thanks and well done to all involved and congratulated Fraser on his impressive powerpoint. All members agreed.

7.2.2 There has been a 40-50% increase in Youth Café activities/attendance since Covid started. MFR cash for kids are now also using the Youth Café as a way to distribute items to those kids in need.

- 7.2.3 AP noted that John had now left, and all members agreed it was a shame to lose him but appreciate all the hard work he put into the Youth Café. Discussion started re. the scope for hours for youth workers. John did 5 hours, Fraser does 10. They are looking for someone to come on as an assistant youth worker for 10 hours max, and Fraser's hours (youth worker) will be increased to 20. As everything is overseen by volunteers there isn't scope for anymore of an increase. If they work over their core hours for particular projects (such as the summer programme), there is a small amount of project funding that will cover their time.

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

## 8. Members' Reports

### 8.1 Portfolios

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

#### 8.1.1. Alan:

BICC – mentioned in report that he will give a verbal update, but he will give a written one instead to shorten the meeting. Report to follow within the week.

AP also confirmed that The West Church Hall is closing, and has had a response from planning to confirm if it will be used for housing. The email response was read out, and will be circulated to members. The response was that this is unlikely.

#### 8.1.2. Nige:

Open gardens made more than it's ever made before (£6k) and Nige would like to express his thanks to Jeremy Price and his team for all of their hardwork.

Also requested a slight change to the Agenda to make it easier to follow. CF to discuss with Nige ahead of the next meeting. **Action – CF/NS.**

#### 8.1.3. Andy:

Anticipating a response from Alcumus by the end of the week, will update the team when he can.

He attended a joint PoCF meeting with community councils, and has been advised that they are open to community councils applying for funding from them.

AT also confirmed that the next public meeting is on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

### 8.2 The Highland Council

PS thanked Lyndsey on behalf of the community for following up on the grass cutting issue and confirmed that both parks seem to be being maintained now, or have recently been.

Lyndsey then spoke on behalf of THC:

8.2.1 Munloch is now 20mph and Culbokie is proposing to have the same enforced..

8.2.2 Meetings are all now taking place again, so hopes progress will continue to be made.

- 8.2.3 Black Isle Area Committee – Lyndsey is now the chair of this committee. Talks are underway re. the playpark maintenance and also the winter maintenance (gritting etc).
- 8.2.4 Finally, Lyndsey advised she met with Ian Blackford and the main talking point was about the significant noise coming from Nigg. She’s aware of the impact it is having on residents on advises he is going to approach Global about it. She also emphasizes that everyone should continue to make their noise complaints via THC website.

### 8.3 Correspondence Received

Nothing to note.

## 9. Any Other Business

### 9.1 Business Energy Scotland

JM asked if TVH was registered with Business Energy Scotland and if not, recommended that they signed up. Once registered, an advisor can be provided to look at the building and then they might be able to advise on things that can be done/purchased to improve heating/insulating of the hall (for example), whilst keeping costs low. Thought it would be beneficial for over the coming months, particularly as the costs keep rising. AP will do this. **Action – AP.**

### 9.2 Warm bank

CDT have been discussing this, and wanted to know C&DCC’s thoughts. It would work like a food bank but would be a heated building in the town that can be provided to folk as a safe (and warm) space if/when they cannot afford to heat their own home. Discussion continued very much in favour of this. NS suggested using the West Church Hall. AP will pass the contact details for The West Church to PS and she will approach them about becoming the nominated premises. **Action – AP/PS.**

It was agreed that all three community organisations should work together on this. The Cromarty Development Trust, The Cromarty and District Community Council, plus the Cromarty Care Project. This will be in addition to the £50 vouchers given to residents over the winter to help towards their heating costs.

JM suggested we start to look for funding just now, so we’re ready once premises has been secured. She will also pass on details of any funding to us if she sees it.

Note AP also confirmed that The Victoria Hall is a nominated emergency resilience building & are able to provide shelter etc in the case of a big outage (not just power cuts etc), so more than just being utilized a warm-bank.

### 9.3 Inner Moray Firth Development Plan

Meeting with Tim Stott was successful, he went through all their questions and was very thorough with his responses. However it isn’t obvious from the new proposal that their comments were taken into consideration (particularly re. CM01 and CM03). NS was wondering how we will respond to this? AP says we can’t as it’s due to miscommunication between C&DCC, CDT and THC. Need to wait to see what CDT say, as Tim Stott will take instruction from them. Julie (Development Officer) says she wasn’t aware that this was the position. AP is hopeful that things will continue

to be discussed and a change will be made to the proposal now that the CDT & C&DCC, with Albyn Housing are working together with regards to Townlands Barn.

NS asked for help from Lyndsey (Councillor). AP advised however that the comments we made about IMFDP are the way of communicating with THC about things, and it's now out of their hands as it's being reviewed by an independent party. AT thinks we must be able to contact the independent party somehow. Julie has said she can see all submissions, as she's been able to see the one made by the C&DCC and so she thinks there must be a mechanism in place to be able to make changes.

Discussion continued re. CM01 and CM03. C&DCC asked Julie why CDT didn't back CM03 and she advised it as because they want CM01 to be done first, and were concerned that if both were approved neither would be prioritized. JM is waiting to be invited to a meeting with Albyn Housing and THC and has said that someone from C&DCC should also attend. She'd thought however that Albyn housing director has left, and the contacts in THC that were dealing with things had also left. AP confirmed this was correct and after an internal meeting on Friday (02/09) he is expecting an update from them.

The final part of the discussion concerned housing (all connected to CM01/CM03) and PS asked Lyndsey if it was worth applying for council housing even if aware you don't meet the criteria. Lyndsey confirmed it is important to continue to apply, as housing is based on demand, and she also advised it's not person specific re. location so you can actually select all locations on the form. PS to prepare a poster to encourage people to still apply for social housing regardless of their circumstance. **Action – PS.**

*Minute secretary note - DSL left the meeting at 21.13pm.*

PS asked for any further comments and Andy Dorin spoke. He said he just wanted to show his support to the Community Council, and become more involved with and aware of things going on around him. He also put his thanks to Lyndsey for attending on behalf of The Highland Council.

PS expressed her thanks to him for attending & there were no further comments.

## 10 **Date of next meeting**

Next meeting – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 730pm.

PS thanked everyone for attending. Meeting ended at 21.23pm.

## APPENDIX A

### Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report Notes

- 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** the Highland Council Community Council Grant for 2022 has not yet been funded. We made our claim in June. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 2. COMMUNITY DONATIONS** The figures reflect donations to the Defibrillator Fund as well as the Primary School and to Cromarty Rising. What a great community. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 3. Community Amenities Fund** reflects the final payment for funded work on the Hugh Miller Monument. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton



<b>Cromarty &amp; District Community Council Meeting</b>				
<b>Held on Monday 29th August 2022</b>				
<b>Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer’s Report</b>				
<b>Statement of Financial Position at 28th August 2022</b>				
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>			Movement	at 26/06/22
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 28th August 2022		12,639.74	690.07	11,949.67
Paypal Balance as at 28th August 2022		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		148.00	2.00	146.00
Amounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Net Assets at 28th August 2022</b>		<b>£12,787.74</b>	692.07	<b>£12,095.67</b>
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2022		2,332.16	0.00	2,332.16
Surplus/Deficit for the year to date		-161.35	51.25	-212.60
		2,170.81	51.25	2,119.56
Community Amenities Fund		583.70	-430.00	1,013.70
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		24.96	0.00	24.96
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 28th August 2022		78.75	0.00	78.75
Gritting Fund		682.32	0.00	682.32
Cromarty Live Fund		16.01	0.00	16.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		1,116.88	770.82	346.06
<b>Net C&amp;DCC Reserves</b>		<b>4,673.43</b>	<b>392.07</b>	<b>4,281.36</b>
<b>Community Event Funds</b>				
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	206.86		200.00	6.86
Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06	6,110.89	0.00	202.06
<b>Designated Community Funds</b>				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Cromarty Rising Fund		653.42	100.00	553.42
		<b>£12,787.74</b>	692.07	<b>£12,095.67</b>
Alan Plampton 28th August 2022				

## APPENDIX C

### Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

- 1. Review of Finances** Regardless of any outside funding support, the financial review has to take account of the massive rises in energy prices. Obviously this cannot be an exact calculation because nobody knows where prices will end up nor does anybody have an accurate indication of future Hall usage. However, if we first discard the financial data since the start of the pandemic, we have gone back to the last 'normal' financial year to do the calculations for this review. The two energy costs are electricity and heating oil. Taking the figures for our 'normal' year and factoring in the new increased price per unit, it will be necessary for the Hall to find another £3,000 per annum, at the current levels, to break even. Obviously this is going to be subject to continuous scrutiny but we need to take action now. If further changes are necessary then that will happen when needed. The Hall's only source of income, to pay for energy costs, is our Lettings Income from the Hall rentals. In an attempt to support the community, the present Letting Fees have not changed since the C&DCC took over management of the Hall in 2010! The C&DCC should be proud that with sensible cost control and re-investment in the Hall's internal well-being, over 12 years, we have managed to keep the Fees at this level and survived (so far!) the financial blows inflicted by the pandemic. However now has to be the time for change or risk the future of the Hall. Attached is a proposed increase to our scale of Letting Fees to be applied from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022. This is based on raising £3k from a 'normal' full year of lettings. This requires an average increase of 35%. Members are asked to endorse this Hall proposal. **ACTION – Members to consider the proposal**
- 2. Review of Booking Conditions** As we move ahead in to the 'post-pandemic' era, the booking conditions have been reviewed. Although some Covid specific conditions will be dropped from the Booking Form, it seems prudent to keep some form of Risk Assessment for each booking, even if that only satisfies insurance needs. The cleaning regimes will be scaled down, although there is currently no new Scottish Government guidance on contact transmission. Rather than regular cleaning protocols we shall use targeted cleaning sessions in between relevant bookings, with the cost covered by a small cleaning levy added to rental invoices. In addition the maximum permitted capacity, at any event, will be increased from 100 to 150, which seems a sensible level. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
- 3. Maintenance** The ageing Hall boiler has now been serviced by the new HC contractors. Sadly somebody discharged the kitchen fire extinguisher, tried to hide the event and not report it. As a result the kitchen facilities are not usable until a replacement is received. Various plumbing repairs have also been required and have been completed. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
- 4. Youth Cafe** The hugely successful Summer Programme Report is attached, from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. Sadly we have lost the services of John Munro who has moved on to new challenges at Raigmore Hospital!! Thank you John for all your hard work. We wish you well and you will be sorely missed. The future recruitment of a replacement is delayed as the Youth Cafe management considers all its funding options to meet enhanced Youth Worker commitments to meet the needs of greatly increased Youth Cafe activity and needs. We are looking for a longer term solution supported by funding rather than one off grants for specific projects. These are gratefully received and enormously important but require constant resources to make them deliverable. Volunteer resources can only go so far. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton – VHMC


**PROPOSED INCREASED  
VICTORIA HALL LETTING FEES  
From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

		<b>CURRENT since 2010</b>	<b>PROPOSED NEW</b>
<b>HOURLY HIRE</b>			
Use of Hall including light use of kitchen Use of Meeting Room including light use of kitchen	<b>Hourly Rate</b>	£8.00 (residents) £10.00 (non-resident)	£11.00 (residents) £13.50 (non-resident)
<b>DAILY HIRE</b>			
Private Functions e.g. Party/Wedding Use of Hall (+ kitchen if required)	<b>Per Day</b>	£80.00 (residents) £100.00 (non-residents)	£110.00 (residents) £135.00 (non-residents)
Public Functions (i.e. entry by ticket) Use of Hall (+ kitchen if required)	<b>Per Day</b>	£100.00	£135.00
Political Elections	<b>All Day</b>	£150.00	£200.00

**APPENDIX D**  
**PORTFOLIO REPORT – Peter Ratcliffe**

<b>Ref No.</b>	<b>Subject.</b>	<b>Action By</b>	<b>Comment</b>
1	<b>Cromarty Ferry</b>	Peter Ratcliffe	Current plan is understood to be on the 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2021. Await confirmation from Highland Ferries. No change – Ongoing. Possible conflict with Cromarty Boat Club Boat-In.
2	<b>Dog Fouling</b>	Peter Ratcliffe	Ongoing. Lot of Facebook Action regarding the problem. . <b>Bins</b> - 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 bin being stored locally. Needs to be re-erected. Have not sent out a new rota as yet.
3	<b>Links &amp; Links Events Diary/ Beaches and Litter</b>	Peter Ratcliffe (Bookings)	Spreadsheet prepared. No current entries.  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?  Recent email correspondence on the plans for Smillie Music to hold a concert on The Links in 2022. Have asked Euan Smillie for a copy of his planning in order to review and assist. C&DCC to discuss and need to make a decision on whether to support the Project. ..
4	<b>Nigg Liaison. Rig Noise &amp; Freeport Proposal.</b>	Peter Ratcliffe / Kari Magee.	Report issued from Kari Magee.  PoCF Community Meetings - email and presentation copied to CC members. Recent email regarding additional rig on Cromarty berthing. Rig now located on site.  Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal. Media reporting appears to be increasing.
5	<b>Gritting and Machine Maintenance</b>	Nigel Shapcott Peter Ratcliffe	Work activities on hold for the season. Gritters now being stored by Nige. Maintenance needed to the equipment for storage, being planned.
6	<b>Litter</b>		Regular contact made with Katrina Taylor – Highland Council. Sutor bin monitored. Additional litter collecting kit stored at The Sheddie. Discussions to be held on Litter and Waste Disposal at next Tuesday Morning Black Isle Communities / BIP Zoom meeting – Highland Council representation to be there.

**APPENDIX E**  
**PORTFOLIO REPORT – Paige Shepherd**

<p><u>Planning</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Change of use from office and internal alterations to form one house</u></a> </li> </ul> <p>25/27 High Street Cromarty IV11 8YR          Ref. No: 22/03589/FUL   Received: Thu 11 Aug 2022   Validated: Wed 24 Aug 2022   Status: Under Consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Internal alterations to form one house from ground-floor flat and upper-floors offices</u></a></li> </ul> <p>25/27 High Street Cromarty IV11 8YR          Ref. No: 22/02950/LBC   Received: Wed 29 Jun 2022   Validated: Wed 29 Jun 2022   Status: Decided</p>
<p><u>Police Update</u></p>	<p>No Update</p>
<p><u>General Town Maintenance</u></p>	<p>Grass cutting at both parks seems to have taken place and the grass cutting around play equipment and benches has been done around the Victoria Park. Still awaiting repairs to the fence.</p>
<p><u>Parking</u></p>	<p>I have also received an email from a resident about off street parking so have asked for advice on rules for off street parking. Parking around the town, especially in summer is becoming increasingly difficult.</p>

**APPENDIX F**  
**PORTFOLIO REPORT – Alan Plampton**

1. **BICC** A verbal report will be given at the meeting.

**ACTION – Information only, no action required**

2. **East Church Hall** Although there are no new developments on the future use of the East Church Hall, the C&DCC have been promised an HC/Common Good update in person. Representatives will meet with the C&DCC in late September to explain the situation.

**ACTION – Information only, no action required**

3. **Housing** Paige and I met with Julie Macrae, the new Development Trust’s Development Officer, who wished to introduce herself and exchange information regarding the CM01 (Jock’s Field/Townlands Barn) site. We explained the C&DCC position as submitted to the IMF Development Plan where we had agreed to equally support both CM01 and CM03 for Affordable Housing. Julie explained that the Development Trust had opposed CM03 in their submission. We expressed our disappointment at this news and asked if the Development Trust was willing to share a copy of this submission. Julie agreed to try and facilitate this (this has now been received and THC have also made all submissions available to everyone). With reference to CM01, we agreed that the C&DCC would be willing to assist the Development Trust in any way possible, in their discussions with Albyn over possible development of the Barn and providing alternative access, between Barn and Hall, if needed.

Members may already be aware that the Cromarty West Church is permanently closing and the land to be sold, once it is confirmed who should benefit from the proceeds. As this site is likely to become housing, C&DCC is seeking clarification as to how THC ‘view’ this land, given that it will not be in the Final Proposed New IMF Development Plan.

**ACTION – Information only, no action required**

4. **Community Events**

- a) **Open Gardens etc** was very successful and well supported by our community and the general public, from near and far. Out of the proceeds raised £600 was received by both the Community Defibrillator Fund and the Youth Cafe’s Hunger+ Project. £200 is also being held for a future Primary School project.

**ACTION – For Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton 28/08/22

## APPENDIX G

### PORTFOLIO REPORT – Andy Thurgood

#### GE Group, Joint Councils Meeting, Nigg 01/07/22

I attended, with Peter, (albeit in my case virtually). I forwarded screenshots of the slides post-meeting to CDCC members. Items of interest arising:

a. It is noted that GE Group have made a charitable donation to the Cromarty Arts Trust (specifically details were not discussed).

b. It was identified that a new steel rolling facility is to be installed at Nigg. I sought assurance around the control of future noise arising from this process, and this was provided, in theory.

c. I asked the meeting about control of low frequency noise and the impact on local residents; Rory Gunn declined to answer within the meeting, preferring to pursue this as an offline conversation.

I pursued a response from Rory Gunn, by email, on 8<sup>th</sup> July, this being received the same morning. After absorbing the content, I requested a greater level of granular detail than provided, by email the following day. The reply was received 14<sup>th</sup> July. My response to this email was sent 20<sup>th</sup> July (and copied to CDCC members) – my belief is that GE Group is not managing the Low Frequency Noise element of its activities. To date, there has been no reply to this email.

#### Port of Cromarty Firth, Joint Councils Meeting, 03/08/22

I attended the meeting, again providing screenshots for CDCC members. It was interesting to note, that within the meeting, there was no mention of the investigation being undertaken by ISOQAR Alcumus with regards to alleged breaches of their ISO certification.

**An item of note arising from this meeting, concerned the provision of community awards/grants.** The cut-off period for this annually is currently 31<sup>st</sup> March. Alex Johnson reported that these can be requested at anytime.

#### Communications with ISOQAR Alcumus (Certification Body for PoCF)

Following postponement in the original date of the “special audit” of Port of Cromarty Firth, I received an email update 23<sup>rd</sup> August, from the Senior Technical Officer, Norbert Wilfer, confirming that the audit has now been undertaken, and is awaiting technical review – this was to have been prior to w/e 26<sup>th</sup> August. On the 26<sup>th</sup> August, another email from Norbert reported that this is delayed. I have responded, promoting a reported outcome by 2<sup>nd</sup> September. (The review panel at ISO Alcumus is reported to consist of Head of Technical Operations, Senior Technical Officer, Technical Team Manager, and the Environmental Sector Manager).

#### Displayed Artwork at the Denny Corner

A community complaint concerning restricted visibility for road users, and potential harm to young children in this area, was resolved through liaison with Cromarty Arts Trust and the Youth Café. The displayed artwork has now been removed.

## APPENDIX H

### PORTFOLIO REPORT – Kari Magee

1. **Background.** A recce of the damaged fencing and two damaged bridges has been conducted with a local contractor. He has provided two quotes; one with volunteers assisting him to bring down stores and materials to the task sites and one without. The former option is feasible and a call for volunteers has been sent out.
2. **Action.** A 100 steps weekend is planned for 8-9 October 22. We will need a minimum of 2 volunteers to support the contractor with the repairs. If we have more than 2 volunteers, we will also conduct a litter pick and clear some of the windfall.



## APPENDIX I PORTFOLIO REPORT – Nigel Shapcott

### Cromarty Care Project (CCP)

**Barge Trip-** A few weeks ago the CCP took 6 individuals to a barge trip along the Caledonian canal, hosted by the Seagull Trust. This was very well received and will be repeated on 21st September.

**Home Care in Cromarty** - Maxine from Topcare has been in touch - there are more people in Cromarty needing care than they have carers for and have asked us to help with recruitment. I have asked Shirley to put something on Cromarty FB and in the PO. They are paying £11 per hour and 30p extra per hour at weekends.

**Larder** - we have been approached by Julie Macrae ,project worker with the Cromarty Community Development trust about excess garden produce being put into the larder /distributed into the community. I have asked Denise to meet with her in my absence.

**Trikes-** they are in use but only sporadically.

### Cromarty Harbour Trust

Note that I (NS) have edited/shortened the article about to appear in the Newsletter.

**Social asset.** The Chair, Colin Dickie is thinking about the 'social asset value' of our harbour. He states that as trustees and volunteers of the harbour, we undertake this role because of our belief that the harbour is such a focal point for our town and therefore needs to be maintained and promoted for the benefit of the community. It has a social value. More on this in the Newsletter.

Harbour Safety. On mackerel and wider safety issues we have now implemented additional fencing on the north side of The Mole. This is our most structurally fatigued area and safety issues are being ignored during the fishing season. Further, vessels are being impacted by careless casting leading to damage. On some occasions the users of these vessels are being abused when the dangerousness of where some are casting is pointed out to them. Additionally some people are ignoring signage. We cannot allow our users to be impacted like this.

### Cromarty Development Trust

This portfolio responsibility has been dropped as the new Development Officer will be attending all future C&DCC meetings.

### Reeds Loop Path

This has been recently inspected and new maintenance instructions given to the contractor. The flaming of weeks has not been possible for safety reasons due the long dry period we are experiencing.