



**Cromarty and District Community Council**  
Approved minutes of meeting held on  
**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 730pm**  
via Whereby due to Covid-19 restrictions

Approved  
Minutes  
27/06/22

**Present**

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

**Youth Representative(s):**

**Highland Councillor(s):** Sarah Atkin, Lyndsey Johnston, Morven-May MacCallum

**Member(s) of the public:**

**Minute Secretary:** Claire Fraser

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

PS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Declarations of interest**

Declarations unchanged from meeting of 26th October 2020.

**3. Approval of previous minutes, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

The minutes were approved by AP and seconded by PR.

**4. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

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

1. (5.2 – On hold - Communication with THC re. TMP proposals). **On hold.**
2. (5.3 - To discuss redesign of the Welcome sign for Cromarty). Ongoing. **Action – PS & FT.**
3. (5.4 – Continue to update the data on Cromarty Live Website). Ongoing. **Action AP, PR, TG & Claire.**
4. (5.5 – Flytipping at Whitedykes reported via website. Await response/action. No response from THC to report submitted. To resubmit. **Action – KM.**
5. (5.6 – To discuss level crossing system (fencing) at Reeds Loop and how to approach John Nightingale. Funding to be sought once written approval received). Ongoing. **Action – PS/KM.**
6. (5.7 – On hold - installation of free-standing hand sanitiser unit at public toilets). **On hold.**
7. (5.8 – Await guidance from the Scottish Government on the Green Freeport proposals, before PoCF can conduct an Environment Impact Assessment). Ongoing. **Action – KM.**
8. (5.11 – SSEN resilience application to include funding for installation of an outside water source at The Sheddie). Ongoing but part of 8.1 so discharged.

9. (5.12 – Response from THC to confirm no ECV points being installed in Cromarty and funding must be sought elsewhere). PS following this up with new councillors (see portfolio report). **Discharged.**
10. (5.13 – Potential to involve the Primary School with Links Shrubbery continuous maintenance – on hold until August). **On hold.**
11. (5.16 – Hot spot areas identified, going to have to work with THC re. the Byelaw etc). Ongoing. **Action – PS.**
12. (5.17 – To email noise monitoring team at THC to find out when they are installing the noise monitoring equipment). **Action – KM.**
13. (5.20 – Draft letter for local businesses re. current vacancies to be submitted for approval). **Action – PS.**
14. (5.21 – C&DCC to follow up seeking a new contractor for the bus shelter repair). **Action – C&DCC.**
15. (5.22 – C&DCC decide how to proceed with bench for Martin Goswick). Ongoing. **Action – ALL.**
16. (5.23 – Finance will be needed from THC re. Reeds Loop maintenance, but enough in budget just now). **On hold until Summer 2022.**
17. (5.24 – Craig suggests new photos are taken of fencing in The Victoria Park and resent to Di Agnew re. repairs). Reply from Di passed to the maintenance team at THC with further email chasing it up. Marked as priority. **Action – PS.**
18. (5.26 – Continue to discuss existing financial module with Di Agnew). **Discharged – see 7.1 (VH report).**
19. (5.27 – Re-visit our approach for requests re. large events in the future). **Action – ALL.**
20. (5.28 – Painting of railings as HMM monument to be done in July 2022). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
21. (5.29 – 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). **Action – C&DCC.**
22. (5.32 – Refresher resilience training to be arranged after financial year end (31 March 2022)). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
23. (5.34 – Awaiting response from keyholders re. providing names of the regular users/key holders of the hall to PS post financial year end). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
24. (5.39 – Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland mandates in April 2022). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
25. (5.40 – Revisit discussions with C&DCC subcommittee events groups in April 2022). Delayed to June 2022. **Action – AP.**
26. (6.2 – To discuss additional youth members offline). Discussion had via Wanda. **Discharged.**
27. (6.3 – To discuss the mentoring programme for the youth). Plan agreed and resources being developed. Dates and locations to be confirmed. **Action – Kari & Tilly.**

28. (7.1 – To try and retrieve funds held back by Di Agnew (THC) for repairs to THC (common good). Ongoing – awaiting audited financial statements post AGM. **Action – AP.**
29. (7.3 – Provide contact information to AP for roof/window insulation specialist for TVH). **Discharged.**
30. (8.1 – SSEN application being filled out). Ongoing – awaiting decision. **Action – AP.**
31. (9.2.5 – To chase Andrew Puls at THC re. self-seeding trees plus repairs to East Church). **Action C&DCC.**
32. (10.1 – Await response from Alcumus, send to members once received). **Action – AT.**
33. (10.1 – Send information to Andy re. PoCF meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022). Done (Peter missed meeting due to tech issues). **Discharged.**
34. (10.2 – Create a poster re. IMFDP and put in Post Office/on noticeboards). Done. **Discharged.**
35. (10.2 – Arrange a meeting with Tim Stott). Arranged for 1 June 2022. **Discharged.**
36. (10.3 – Flowers to be sent to Dorrie to thank her for Craigs services over the last 15 years). Done. **Discharged.**

## 5. Youth Issues

Paige spoke on behalf of the youth team as Tilly was absent from tonights meeting.

Aware that the C&DCC are still looking for a youth member(s). PS has a couple she will speak to. They are needed to replace Coll and Tilly (come November).

Discussion opened re. why they must be between 16 & 18. Stated that it went Highland Council/Scotland wide when the voting age was changed to 16. They can be youth representatives if under 16 but not youth members (i.e. no voting rights). NS will pass a name on to PS for potential youth rep.

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

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

AP asked for questions.

- 6.1 AT asked how we are to recoup the expense of the beacon. AP clarified that donations for the event are 2/3 of the way there (still a few to come in). Costs are almost covered just from donations. By auctioning off the beacon, there will be a little surplus which will be put back into community funds.

With no further questions, 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:

- Summer tends to be a quiet month
- Small hall grant claim to be done (£500).
- Common good will contribute towards hall repairs etc.
- Effect of deficit should be minimized by the above. The future is however unknown.
- There is also a possibility of going for a grant for further insulation for the hall. **Action - AP.**

## 7.2 The Youth Café:

- There are currently 50 kids that attend (split between primary/secondary).
- Are also providing support to 2 x Ukranian families.
- During Covid there was actually 60% more funding/transactions going through the books than pre-pandemic.

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. *Nige:*

Cromarty Development Trust have a new director & he's aware they'd like to participate/attend one of the C&DCC's meetings once she's found her feet. All members agreed that she'd be more than welcome.

#### 8.1.2. *Kari:*

Needs to source a professional carpenter/joiner to discuss the repairs needed to the bridge @ the 100 steps. Smaller 'one man band' type businesses will have an issue with liability due to the severity of the repairs required. PS and CF mentioned a couple of names from a local village and details were passed on to Kari. KM to make contact. **Action – KM.**

#### 8.1.3. *Peter:*

Alan asked if still looking for a litter picker co-ordinator (which PR confirmed we are). AP to pass details on to PR. **Action – AP.**

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

### 8.2 The Highland Council

We welcomed the three new councillors for Black Isle to the meeting.

MMM – very excited to work with us & hopes we can work closely together moving forward.

SA – induction with THC seems to be going on for a while. She is looking forward to getting started.

LJ – agreed with the above and encourages fighting for your community.

Various topics were discussed (which are detailed in AOB).

All members agreed and are equally looking forward to working with the new councillors and hope that they can be our voice to The Highland Council.

### 8.3 Correspondence Received

Nothing to note.

## 9. Any Other Business

### 9.1 Townland's Park

Lyndsey reported that there is a limited budget. All three councillors were out this week viewing the park (and all others on the BI) and they are in discussions with THC as to changes that can be made. She is aware that the fence at Townlands doesn't currently allow the grass cutting machine to come through & that it's on a different rota to the VH park. They also noted that the play matting needs replaced. Conclusion – removal of fence will create more space.

Members stated that the grass was always cut before Covid – fence was never an issue.

Councillors went on – removing the fence could potentially increase the need for more equipment, or could give room for parking spaces (which they are also aware is an issue), although keen to keep as much green space as possible. The fence does however need to be removed as it's unsafe (not just for the grass cutting machine). There is potential that under used parks will be taken away, and so funding will then be put into well used parks (such as Townland's). PR mentioned that the park was once a landfill site so caution would be needed whatever the outcome.

KM finished up by saying that compromise must be had due to the near miss of a child last month by a car (due to lack of parking/play space). Green space might need to go to ensure the safety of the residents!

PS concluded the discussion stating she's glad they're aware something needs to happen. Long term solution - more parking. Short term solution - park maintenance.

The Councillors are going to discuss further with THC and PS will discuss the parking issue with them at a future date. **Action – PS.**

### 9.2 Victoria Park

Been made aware that the gym equipment in the Victoria Park is unsafe to use and it will cost more to fix than to replace. There are regulations to be met – it's a legal minefield! The gym equipment is not likely to pass the next safety inspection.

KM said that this is entirely the fault of THC as they've not maintained it so it's not that it's come to end of its life naturally, it's that it's not been looked after!

NS said that we've been receiving the 'no money' response for years and that action is needed! AP suggested that C&DCC could try and raise funds to replace the equipment but would THC then be willing to maintain it? AT would like to know the answer to this as well. The Councillors are to look into this for us and report back.

In addition to the gym equipment, the fences have needed repaired for a while now too (see 4.17). KM suggested (as part of the Queens Jubilee) that hedges could be planted instead of having a fence. Is worth looking into. **Action – KM.**

### 9.3 Inner Moray Firth Development Plan (IMFDP)

NS asked about background on the meeting to be held with Tim Stott. AP has arranged it so that he can answer ALL questions we might have in relation to the IMFDP before we respond to the proposal. Discussion was opened. Submissions don't actually go to THC they go to an independent arbitor. AT and KM both agreed that there's been no clear answers given from Nigg/PoCF. NS asks the councillors for help and to support us with this. MMM states that they're working as a team to come up with the best solution for everyone.

NS prepared a poster showing the injustice of IMFDP and would like the C&DCC to support the poster. All members agreed. CF to update poster to include C&DCC logo & send it to Nige. **Action – CF.**

*Minute secretary note – Councillors Sarah Atkin and Lyndsey Johnston left at 9pm due to other commitments.*

NS/PR asked for an update on CM01/CM03 (housing developments) ahead of the meeting with Tim Stott. AP explained the latest situation (between Albyn/THC), as previously minuted.

AP concluded the conversation by saying that Tim Stott is expecting ALL questions and comments to do with IMFDP on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

### 9.4 Reeds Loop

NS asked for permission to burn the weeds on reeds loop (as previously discussed with Craig Fraser in previous minutes). Flame gun has been received now as we can't use weed killer. NS proposed, PR seconded. AT added that there must be deployment of a fire extinguisher to support the use of the flame gun. **Action – NS.**

### 9.5 Charging points (Electric vehicles)

All members agreed that this should be provided by THC, especially as the focus is on making the country 'green' and that electric vehicles are more common.

MMM asked that PS forward the emails to her (re. the response from THC) and she will follow this up. **Action – PS.**

There were no further comments.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Next meeting – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 730pm.

PS thanked everyone for attending. Meeting ended at 21.16pm.

## APPENDIX A

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

1. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were audited without amendment from the Final Draft, as were presented at tonight’s AGM. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. **COMMUNITY AMENITIES FUND** reflects the purchase of materials for the Hugh Miller Monument refurbishment (funded by Black Isle Ward) and cash-flowing of the Jubilee Beacon, for which over £200 have already received in donations and benefit in kind. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
3. **CROMARTY LIVE FUND** reflects purchase of credits to pay the 3<sup>rd</sup> party mailing company used by the newsletter. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
4. **EMERGENCY RESILIENCE CENTRE FUND** reflects discount, donated by Cromarty resident, received on previous cost. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
5. **SURPLUS/DEFICIT MOVEMENT** reflects the the 2022-23 C&DCC Insurance premium, gratuity gift re outgoing ex-officio Member less Publications income. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton  
29/05/22

<b>Cromarty &amp; District Community Council Meeting</b>				
<b>Held on Monday 30th May 2022</b>				
<b>Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer’s Report</b>				
<b>Statement of Financial Position at 29th May 2022</b>				
		£	£	£
<b>Net Assets</b>			Movement	at 23/04/22
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 29th May 2022		14,498.26	-814.86	15,313.12
Paypal Balance as at 29th May 2022		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		140.50	64.00	76.50
Amounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Net Assets at 29th May 2022</b>		<b>£14,638.76</b>	<b>-750.86</b>	<b>£15,389.62</b>
		£	£	£
<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		-145.90	48.01	-193.91
		2,186.26	48.01	2,138.25
Community Amenities Fund		3,496.41	-719.86	4,216.27
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		24.96	4.99	19.97
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 29th May 2022		78.75	0.00	78.75
Gritting Fund		682.32	0.00	682.32
Cromarty Live Fund		16.01	-84.00	100.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		339.74	0.00	339.74
<b>Net C&amp;DCC Reserves</b>		<b>6,824.45</b>	<b>-750.86</b>	<b>7,575.31</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	6.86		0.00	6.86
Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06	5,910.89	0.00	202.06
<b>Designated Community Funds</b>				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Cromarty Rising Fund		553.42	0.00	553.42
		<b>£14,638.76</b>	<b>-750.86</b>	<b>£15,389.62</b>
Alan Plampton 29th May 2022				



## APPENDIX C

### Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

1. **Bookings** Some bookings have been received for the summer months but this is always a quiet period.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required**
2. **Repairs & Maintenance/Cleaning** Yet more maintenance costs are putting pressure on the Hall's finances but it is hoped that some support will be received, now we have the audited financial statements to clarify the position. Our cleaning protocols are still covering all the current bookings.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required**
3. **Youth Cafe** The latest Report attached, from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker. Huge summer programme in full swing. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton - VHMC  
29/05/22

## APPENDIX D PORTFOLIO REPORT – Peter Ratcliffe

### **Cromarty Ferry.**

- Ongoing. The Ferry Service is now in operation, and appears to be running successfully. This is of course apart from occasions where bad weather and low tides prove hazardous for the service, when the service is cancelled. 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 is a booking for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, for the Beacon Event on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.
- There is a booking for a BBC Radio 3 Breakfast Show on the weekend of Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- There is a booking for Cromarty Open Gardens, mainly for car parking, from Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.
- There is a booking from Cromarty Community Rowing Club for use of the Links on 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- There is a Provisional Booking (by me) for the potential Bonfire Night.
- 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. Mrs Elsie Munro is proceeding with the installation, and contacting a local contractor.

### **Litter.**

- It was the Quiet season – but has been getting busier, with food containers etc and dog waste, 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. Another local comment about pushing for the Freeport in a press media interview with the Chairman of Global Energy recently.

Green Hydrogen Plant – according to news comments 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.**

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. (Ongoing)

#### **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 Roadie, The Denny, The Links bins.

The Red Bin previously located at the Bowling Green car park that was removed by Highland Council, has been returned, photo was posted for information on Facebook also.

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 myself held recently. An email comment regarding the Links Booking for the Open Gardens.

#### **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:- ( Ongoing.)**

##### **Hugh Miller Statue Enclosure.**

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

Laying of chips was arranged by Alan.

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 received the bench and fittings. Await local contractor to install the one planned on the Links.

##### **Other Meetings.**

None by self.

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

<p><u>Planning</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Erection of Garage</a> </li> </ul> <p>8 Sutor Court Cromarty Mains Cromarty IV11 8WW          Ref. No: 22/01823/FUL   Received: Wed 20 Apr 2022   Validated: Sun 01 May 2022   Status: Under Consideration</p>
<p><u>Police Update</u></p>	<p>No Update</p>
<p><u>Townlands Park</u></p>	<p>I have been contacted by several residents regarding the condition of the little park in townlands. I have been in touch with the Highland Council and have had a reply from each of the new counsellors for the Black Isle and each have agreed it needs some attention. I will be following up with them in the coming weeks regarding maintenance and possible repair of equipment.</p>

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

1. **BICC 19<sup>th</sup> May Meeting** was held at Findon Hall. C&DCC were not present. Draft minutes, when agreed, will be circulated to our Members, when available.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required**
  
2. **East Church Hall** There have been no further developments.  
**ACTION – Information only, no action required**
  
3. **Housing** Our meeting with Tim Stott is confirmed for Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Meeting instructions will be circulated to Members, who have confirmed attendance, once received from THC.  
**ACTION – For Information only, no action required**
  
4. **Community Events**
  - a) **Platinum Jubilee** event on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June will be held on the Links. Details have been widely circulated and, as reported in the Treasurer’s Report, donations have already started to be received. **ACTION – For Information, discussion and agreement**

Alan Plampton 29/05/22

## APPENDIX G

### PORTFOLIO REPORT – Andy Thurgood

1. I attended the PoCF Joint Community Council Meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Their presentation is attached. Of particular interest is progress towards gaining Green FreePort status and the proposed bid by Opportunity Cromarty Firth (OCF) [*Note: In this last week there have been three additional partners joining this bid*].

From the perspective of the Councils, Invergordon were vocal on the use completed laybys adjacent to the West Harbour, and the channelling of 'Cruise traffic' into the town to support their retail outlets.

2. Independent from my Council activities, Duncan Bowers and I met virtually with Tim Peatfield, Environmental Sector Manager, at Alcumus ISOQAR on 17/05/22/, to discuss impacts arising from the activities of PoCF on the Cromarty Community. This was the second meeting with Alcumus ISOQAR, the PoCF's Certification Body, the prior meeting being with James Williams, Head of Technical Operations. Tim confirmed that PoCF would be subject to a 'special audit' in July, from an impartial auditor, with specialist oil and gas experience. Duncan and I had a detailed technical conversation with him, and with post-meeting reflection, were pleased with the way that we credibly presented our case, and with the subject matter expertise of Mr. Peatfield. Post meeting, an anonymised set of personal impact statements was forwarded, to enable greater insight.

Andy Thurgood  
28/05/22.

**APPENDIX G**  
**PORTFOLIO REPORT – Kari Magee**

**100 Steps Project**

1. **Action.** A 100 steps morning is planned for the 12 June 22 between 0900-1200. A call-out for volunteers will be posted on Facebook in early June. The aim will be to conduct a litter pick, general weeding and a recce of the railing.
2. **Issue.** *From April report: 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. Will raise during AOB to ask for advice.*



**Wildflower Meadow Project**

1. **Action.** There are a number of tasks to be completed. The project will be dependent on volunteers but should not require any funding as there are some stores remaining from the 100 steps project.
  - a. Areas of the slope will need excavation and the spoil used to smooth the slope.
  - b. Wooden boards and stakes will be used to create a footpath and the soil compacted.
  - c. Drainage channels will be dug either side of the footpath.
2. **Issue.** Direct access to the proposed wildflower meadow at the Hugh Miller monument from the Ladies Walk is via an undulating grassy slope, which can be difficult to walk up.

### **Cromarty Harbour Trust**

The Harbour is totally run on a **volunteer basis** and we are on constant lookout for additional forms of income and volunteers to keep this community asset in a sound physical and financial state for the long term. Check the website for contact information.

Despite being at maximum capacity for the summer, the persistent windy weather has delayed many in launching their boats for the season.

We remain very busy effecting improvements to the facilities around the harbour. In recent weeks we have replaced the hinges on the finger pontoons to improve safety and to mitigate the effects of our weather; you may have seen the board additions to the finger pontoons which improves the protection offered to boats; the access ramp has been painted and water access on the pontoon has been improved and is now less susceptible to being damaged. One thing going on this week is that we will attend to the wellbeing of the pillar supporting the pontoon bridge. It has not had a coat of paint for nearly twenty years, so by next weekend it will return to its former glory. Finally, thank you to a couple of individuals who answered our appeal for any redundant or damaged aluminium ladders, these turned out to be perfect for adapting as safety ladders to help anyone who may have had the misfortune to have fallen into the water to exit via the pontoon.

### **Cromarty Care Project**

We have a **new care provider in Cromarty- Top Care** - based in Inverness . Very keen to get to know the community and we are continuing to provide an office space for them. They intend to be at the next community market to raise their profile here - recruit and to explain what they can offer.

**Fuel payments** - we have been successful in gaining another grant and will be giving out fuel payments to about 45 households in early June - we hope to be able to give out £100 per household.

**The Community Larder** - continues to be used . Volunteers are checking it every day.

**The Trikes** - have been serviced and are getting back out again. We are always keen to have new pilots. Call Shirley Matheson 01381 600451 to arrange volunteering and training.

### **Cromarty Community Development Trust**

**The Thrift shop is OPEN** after a massive and prolonged effort by Estelle Quick to get the electricity turned on, SSE will never be the same again! Open on weekends and receiving donations on Tuesdays. See local notices.

Directors are SOOOO delighted to be able to announce that we've appointed a Development Officer on a three-year post for the Trust.

Julie Macrae is from Inverness and has a LOT of experience as an Architect (she helped Gairloch And Loch Ewe get their fabby new community buildings) and as a 'making things happen' person with local projects such as a womens cycling group and a school garden. She has a lot of enthusiasm and we were very encouraged by her need to work with the community to make things happen.

She starts on 1 June and her main priorities will be to get the Campervan project actually started (we have all the permissions), getting to know what the Trust has already done and hopes to do, getting to know the different groups in Cromarty; and getting a feel for what else could be done and supported in our Town. A lot to do! Watch this space.



She'll be doing a mix of working from home and being in Cromarty, so we're working out all the practicalities and getting her set up as the Trust's first employ

**Slipways** - There was an article on 21st May 2022, in the Ross-shire Journal. To cut a long story short, CCDT director Jacquie Ross said: "The contractors have been fantastic at coming back out and we are working with them to get the issues rectified. It is not unexpected. The contractor knew that this was likely to happen, so we had all the mitigations in place. We just had to see how the tides were going to affect it.

A spokeswoman for the contractor said: "Simpson Builders were delighted to have been involved in the Cromarty and Nigg slipways project, working alongside a wonderful community and the development trust. We have undertaken some minor remedial works, which were not unforeseen given the nature of the project, and have some minor remedial works to attend to later this year when the tides allow."

**And finally:** Anyone who wants to become a member can get a form at the Post Office - it's only a £1 a year - and anyone who might want to become a Director, contact us at [cromartydevelopmenttrust@gmail.com](mailto:cromartydevelopmenttrust@gmail.com).