



Cromarty and District Community Council
Approved minutes of meeting held on
Monday 26th June 2023, 730pm
Virtually via Whereby and in person at The Victoria Hall

Present

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) - Chairwoman, Alan Plampton (AP) – Treasurer, Peter Ratcliffe (PR) - Secretary, Kari Magee (KM) and Nigel Shapcott (NS).

Highland Councillor(s): Sarah Atkin (SA)

Member(s) of the public: Bev & Morag – Raddery House Ltd (representatives)

Minute Secretary: Claire Fraser (CF)

1. Chair's Welcome & Apologies

PS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies from Dominic Scott-Lodge - Youth Member and Andy Thurgood (AT).

PS, PR, AP and NS were all present from The Victoria Hall.

9. Any Other Business (brought forward by Chair Woman)

9.1 Raddery House Limited

Bev and Morag from Raddery House Ltd came and spoke to us about the proposals that are planned for The Black Isle Education Centre and the surrounding land/woodland in Raddery.

The plan is to buy the asset from common good and open a respite facility for the following:

- Dementia sufferers, in line with the Kirry project – to give the suffering the opportunity to live a fulfilled life.
- Families with children with cancer/life shortening illness
- Young carers

The hub is planned to be very vibrant with a café, a growing project (to regenerate the current woodland), there's already a gym there and they'd also utilise polytunnels etc. Other things are planned but these are the main focus for just now.

The centre was gifted to the community originally, but The Highland Council have the rights to its sale. As it was put on the open market Raddery House Ltd are now competing against other external interested parties meaning that the bid/finance required will be much higher than a straight forward community asset transfer.

Discussion continued around the full plans, requirements etc and how we can help. Advised them to put a notice in the monthly newsletter (by the time of the next meeting (July).

Decision has been postponed until September as feasibility study should be done by then. Trying to get their name out as much as possible to gain the support of the local communities!
Minute secretary note – Bev and Morag left the meeting at 810pm. Sarah Atkin (Highland councillor) was welcomed a few minutes later.

2. Declarations of interest

No changes to declarations since meeting of 26th October 2020

3. Approval of previous minutes, 29th May 2023

The minutes were approved by AP and seconded by PR.

4. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 29th May 2023

1. (4.1 – On hold – Waiting for more directions re. TMP in 2025.) **On hold.**
2. (4.2 – PS to speak to Fraser & Wanda re. the youth redesigning the Welcome to Cromarty sign). **Action – PS.**
3. (4.3 – To resubmit photos of fly tipping at Whitedykes to THC (more recent reports)). Ongoing. **Action – KM.**
4. (4.4 – To discuss action required re. progressing level-crossing system @ Reeds Loop (see May minutes for full info). Ongoing. **Action – PS/KM.**
5. (4.5 – Awaiting guidance from TSG re. Green Freeport proposals). **Action – ALL.**
6. (4.6 – Potential to involve the Primary School with Links Shrubbery continuous maintenance). **On hold.**
7. (4.8 – Letter for local businesses attached – to be approved). Letter approved at meeting so PS to distribute. **Action – PS.**
8. (4.9 – Planning application fee paid, to apply for re-imburement by Stagecoach). **Action – PR.**
9. (4.10 – On hold - finance needed from THC re. Reeds Loop maintenance, but enough in budget just now).
10. (4.11 – To continue to chase Di re. Victoria Park fence repairs). No reply as yet – might have to find alternative solution. **Action – PS.**
11. (4.12 – Re-visit our approach for requests re. large events in the future). **Action – ALL.**
12. (4.13 – Still awaiting reports re. major maintenance issue at Hugh Millers Institute). Ongoing. **Action - AP.**
13. (4.14 – Refresher resilience training planned for summer (late June or July)). **Action – AP.**
14. (4.15 – KM to follow up the youth mentoring programme with Dom post exams). **Action – KM**
15. (4.16 – Retrieve funds held back by Di Agnew for repairs to TVH (Common Good) post AGM). **Action – AP.**
16. (4.17 – To chase Andrew Puls at THC re. self-seeding trees plus repairs to East Church). **Action C&DCC.**
17. (4.18 – Weed burning to be completed once weather improves). Ongoing. **Action – NS.**

18. (4.20 – Paige to contact Lyndsey at THC to clarify some points regarding housing qualification for social housing poster). **Action – PS.**
19. (4.21 – Continue to look into raising funds to replace gym equipment in The Victoria Park). **Action – AP.**
20. (4.22 – Await response from newsletter team re. POCF regular contribution). Port Authority issuing updates through other sources. **Discharged.**
21. (4.23 – Final discussions re. the website taking place with Alan and Andy). **Action – CF.**
22. (4.24 – To discuss action/how to approach THC re. reason for toilet closure/community options etc). **Action – ALL.**
23. (4.25 – To give details to contact re. Hole at Pirates Graveyard so they can contact John Nightingale). Draft email to be approved by Paige and other contact. **Action – KM.**
24. (4.26 – PS to ask Di at THC who is responsible for the sign at the bus shelter). Email to be sent. **Action – PS.**
25. (4.28 – To email JN re. the repairs required to The Ladies Walk). Ongoing. **Action – AP.**
26. (4.29 – Emailed Dougie @ Highland Ferries to arrange a meeting). **Action – PS.**
27. (4.31 - Construct response to Nairn CC re. Removal of vaccines from surgery). Ongoing but might be discharged as now not required. **Action - AP.**
28. (4.32 – To discuss the re-wording of the sub-events committee group document). Essential members now not available. **Discharged.**
29. (5.1 – To Link Fraser’s Youth Cafe report into the minutes so it can be seen by residents). **Discharged.**
30. (7.1 – To share application form for funding from Port of Cromarty Firth). **Discharged.**
31. (7.2 – To arrange collection of snow sweeper to store outside of Cromarty for the summer). Stored in my garage! **Discharged.**
32. (8.1.1 – To speak to Denis (resident) re. Hedge options to see if he can offer advice on what we should order for the park). Ongoing. **Action – KM**
33. (8.1.2 – To discuss with AP where shouldn’t be mowed at The Hugh Miller Monument so stakes can go in, and posters put up to stop THC). Ongoing. **Action – KM**
34. (8.1.3 – To continue to discuss with all three councillors re. The use of wee killer in the town, plus the ‘maintenance’ of the graveyards). Ongoing. **Action – PS**
35. (9.1 – To send details re. Black Isle Place Plan to Matt Hall). **Discharged. Action – AP**
36. (9.2 – To be the first to attend CCDT monthly meeting (first monday of the month). Juen’s meeting was earlier than expected (same as C&DCC), but PS shall attend going forward. **Action – PS**

37. (9.3 – To send email on behalf of C&DCC to support additional funding via The Harbour Trust). Done. **Discharged**.
38. (To advise on the spare capacity of links usage before deciding the next steps re. Traders). Booking calendar sent out. Bookings made on application. For further discussion. **Action - PR**

5. **Youth Issues**

Dominic not present but no one aware there's anything to report.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

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

There's not a lot happening. The users of the West Church Hall have been told to vacate by the end of July so trying to accommodate them at The Victoria Hall.

There were no further comments or questions.

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

The Victoria Hall Report (**Appendix C**) that was prepared by AP were circulated prior to the meeting.

The Victoria Hall

The lock for the sheddie is being replaced, original was too old to be repaired and just disintegrated.

As discovered today, grants for halls have been abandoned by The Highland Council (due to continuous monitoring/reviewing of the budgets). For 2023/24 AP advised that advice is to apply via Ward Discretion Fund (and also that it will be up to £1k whereas in prior years it was only £500). SA advised that Rosemarkie/Resolis were given different advice - she will come back to AP and advise best course of action.

The Youth Café

No report this month as Fraser pre-occupied.

Summer programme can be seen however. Note this is fully funded and available to children from all over the Black Isle and further afield.

Interviews for the Youth Worker Position are being done imminently – PS will be one of the interviewers. This will allow for an additional 5 hours per week of work to be given to the youth workers, funding has been received to cover the extra staff costs. There will also be a member of the senior youngsters taking part in the interview process.

It was questioned if any of the local organisations donate anything towards the summer programme, AP advised not but rdue to all the other funding received it's actually not needed.

There were no further comments or questions.

8. Members' Reports

8.1 Portfolios

Portfolio Reports prepared by PR, PS, AT, NS and KM (**Appendix D-H**) were circulated prior to the meeting.

Paige:

Elephant Sessions – were approached again by this folk band to arrange an event in Cromarty, sometime in 2024. PS advised she emailed the landowner (John Nightingale) as we spent a lot of time on this last year, and if he's not interested in this event going ahead then we won't waste anymore time.

The request came via The Arts Trust so presume they are organising it, and just looking for C&DCC to act on behalf of the community. Will arrange a meeting with all parties involved once given the go ahead from JN.

Harbour Trust – received complaints about the gate. Advised some people were being allowed access on harbour but wasn't the same for everyone. As far as we're aware the gate has been locked but this isn't what was agreed. We need to seek clarification from Colin Dickie (trustee). PS to email CD to ask for an update.

Kari:

Poster re. hedging (sent around prior to meeting):

Needs to have an additional contact on it other than just email. All members agreed. Kari to put a box in the Post Office or the shop asking for feedback. Will print and distribute poster to residents.

Hedging in park:

There needs to be a project plan, and we need to get landowners permission. AP sent email to THC re. the proposal today and 7 councillors have replied with vested interest – need to prepare some kind of risk assessment document and sent it on to them.

Andy:

Not present but had asked for feedback/questions he should be taking to the meeting with the Port on Thursday 29th.

Suggested we flip the complaint about the cruise liners on its head. They aren't dealing with the most important issue – which is the noise complaints in Cromarty (from Port activities), however they have proved they can react to complaints in the way they have reacted to the complaint received re. The cruise liners and their horns.

Everyone agreed that they have full confidence in AT and his capabilities that there were no further suggestions or comments to make.

There were no further comments or questions on any portfolio.

8.2 The Highland Council

Sarah reported:

- The Highland Council has a new CEO!
- The use of weedkiller was mentioned but agreed it needs a bigger discussion so was put on hold until August meeting. AP advised that he did notice signs had gone up at the HMM re. no strimming etc!
- SA agreed that the communication between all departments sucks!
- Roads – good and bad news.
- Re-iterated what LJ had advised in prior meeting about being too late to order the top layer of protection for the roads, but is confident this means that the resurfacing will be done well!
- All members are looking forward to working with Sarah and asked SA to pass on our regards to MMM.

There were no further comments and SA was thanked for everything.

8.3 Correspondence Received

Nothing to note.

9. Any Other Business (continued)...

9.2. *Town Parking*

Complaints received re. Inappropriate parking/caravan parking etc.

AP repeated the conversation we'd had re. Parking orders etc (was looked into for the Cromarty Campsite). Can we put up signs pointing people to the campsite? Could we install an invitation to pay meter, similar to what Highlife Highland have installed?

PS and AP need to revisit the town parking

All members agree that C&DCC should publicise their position so residents/community have an understanding as to the role that the Community Council plays and what we can and can't do. **To action this when we can – ALL.**

9.3. *Sea the Value Workshop*

Catriona Mallows (resident) can't attend on behalf of C&DCC now. Aware that Sarah Macdonald Taylor (Avoch & Killen CC) is going to attend however, and has offered to feedback to all Community Councils. Aware a further Cromarty resident is going to be attending also.

NS recommended that Travis Potts (organiser of workshop) be invited to the next meeting. **Action – CF.**

10. Date of next meeting

Next meeting – Monday 28th August 2023 at 730pm.

PS thanked everyone for attending. Meeting ended at 2145pm.

APPENDIX A

Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report Notes

- 1) **AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE/PAID IN ADVANCE** reflects Meeting Whereby costs yet to be funded and Internet costs paid in advance plus the planning fee to be repaid by Stagecoach.
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 2) **CROMARTY FUNDS** reflect the new Sheddie door lock from the Emergency Resilience Fund (now exhausted) and an addition to the Playgroup’s Fund. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Alan Plampton
25/06/23

APPENDIX B
Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report

		£	£	£
Net Assets			<u>Movement</u>	<u>at 27/05/23</u>
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 25th June 2023		11,876.02	-140.11	12,016.13
Paypal Balance as at 25th June 2023		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		397.20	150.00	247.20
Amounts Payable		0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Net Assets at 25th June 2023		£12,273.22	9.89	£12,263.33
		£	£	£
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2023		2,093.28	0.00	2,093.28
Surplus/ Deficit for the year to date		-287.66	-44.50	-243.16
		1,805.62	-44.50	1,850.12
Community Amenities Fund		161.60	0.00	161.60
Emergency Resilience Fund		-6.53	-31.49	24.96
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 1st April 2023		211.75	0.00	211.75
Gritting Fund		574.32	0.00	574.32
Cromarty Live Fund		46.01	0.00	46.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		1,016.39	0.00	1,016.39
Net C&DCC Reserves		3,809.16	-75.99	3,885.15
Community Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,302.14		0.00	2,302.14
Gala Fund	2,677.70		0.00	2,677.70
Splash & Dash Fund	126.00	5,105.84	0.00	126.00
Open Gardens Fund	1,206.86		0.00	1,206.86
Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06	1,408.92	0.00	202.06
Designated Community Funds				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,435.88	85.88	1,350.00
Cromarty Rising Fund		513.42	0.00	513.42
		£12,273.22	9.89	£12,263.33
Alan Plampton 25th June 2023				

APPENDIX C

Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

1. **Bookings** Summer is currently the Hall's quiet period but activity will increase after the West Church closes and their activities are potentially transferred to the Hall. The History Society has already moved with the Playgroup and Table Tennis to follow. **ACTION – Information only, no action required**
2. **Repairs & Maintenance** A new Sheddie door lock has been ordered.
ACTION – Information only, no action required
3. **Youth Cafe** The monthly report including the Summer Programme, taking place from the 1st, will be circulated during July. The latest report is always available on [Cromarty Live](#). We are in the middle of recruiting for a new 5hr Assistant Youth Worker. Interviews within the next week and it is hoped the successful applicant will be able to gain valuable experience at the Summer Programme events (programme attached and on [Cromarty Live](#)). **ACTION – Information only, no action required**

Alan Plampton - VHMC
25/06/23

This Report is a Combination of Historical (Past History) and as an Update.

Cromarty Ferry.

- The Ferry Service has restarted its Summer Service on a shuttling basis. As ever it is very successful, well appreciated and is well used by holidaymakers, with many choosing their route based on using the Ferry Service.
- Paige is following up on the proposal for extending the Ferry Service, following discussions.

Dog Fouling. (Overall). Ongoing.

There are still instances, however, the green town bins are being used for disposal of the bags. We can but hope, watch and observe! [**Ongoing**]

Links & Links Events Diary / Beaches and Litter.

- Bookings have been successful to date, well managed by the users and without incident.
- Over this current weekend the Links have been well managed and used for parking facilities for the Cromarty Open Gardens Festival.
- Vehicular access to The Links still partially closed and locked, by Community and 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 marked off by permanent embedded wooden bollards, and large stones to stop parking and to let the grass, trees and wild flowers grow. Mainly donated by a local resident, (Fran Sadler); all flower seeds and plants gratefully received. [**Ongoing – and looking good**]
- The 2 Dog Waste Bins on the Links continue to be emptied, by Craig Fraser, by others, and myself. There have been no noticeable incidents. Photographic records kept.
- There is an old wooden bench, actually up on Braehead, that needs to be repaired or replaced. [Had various comments on Facebook but no positive action taken to date, and no action by others. Need to sort out ownership?]. Did not approach Avoch men’s shed yet. (No Change)

Litter.

- Highland Council have removed a number of bins. Town Bins continue to be being monitored and recorded. The Main Town bins continue to be emptied on Tuesdays, Commercial Bin Day. (No change – Ongoing).
- As we are now in the Summer Season, the current situation is being reassessed and an approach will be made again to The Highland Council Department for restoration of the refuse bins to the previous numbers.
- Highland Council have changed the type of bin in a number of cases to those with restricted opening. This is causing issues, as to the size of deposits. (e.g. Pizza Boxes) , with take away foodstuffs, Survey of the bins to be updated. Email was sent to Highland Council Department on this and the number that were removed, and was responded to. (Ongoing – to be actioned in this current “busy “season.). Highland Council did not get increased “**Visitor Management**” **Budget**, but still have operative working, with transport, in Cromarty.
- The Bins which are most at issue (Due to takeaway food / motorhomes/ other rubbish?) are (No change):-
The Harbour Area.(currently reduced to 1 bin) / The Cinema Area. / The Toilets Bin / The Bins on Shore Street in the vicinity of “Old Fish Store”. (Date stamped photos are available.) We also have an issue with the sole rubbish bin at the Sutor Car Park getting emptied. [But this was previously emptied THC Operative. This would depend on the available THC budget]

- Local volunteers, and some from out of town, continue to uplift litter and dump in the Town Bins. (Cromarty Litter Pickers – some equipment had been distributed previously.)
- Some small additional tools and equipment were stored in The Sheddie, to be distributed, and to be used by litter expeditions, such as local projects.

PoCF, Nigg Liaison, Rig Noise & Freeport Proposal.

Nigg Liaison Meetings – Currently virtual Meetings, by Teams attended by Andy Thurgood, Kari Magee and self.

PoCF - Emails being received regarding next Community Meetings with PoCF, next a physical meeting at the POCF Offices in Invergordon on 29th June 2023.

Cromarty Firth Freeport Proposal – Opportunity Cromarty Firth are now Inverness and Cromarty Firth Green Freeport. (No Change.)

Noise Complaints – handled by Andy Thurgood and Kari Magee.

Green Hydrogen Processing Plant – according to news comments, Twitter etc, planning and preparations continue. No further news.

Global Energy have planning application submitted for a new Cable Manufacturing Plant at the Nigg Site. Public Meetings were held and attended. No decision on their planning application is as yet available.

The existing Tank Farm, that was used for the Beatrice Oli Field, is proposed to be demolished. Await confirmation of action, but not expected to affect Cromarty.

There has been no further information given on the proposed Green Hydrogen Processing Plant, e.g. how will the processed hydrogen be transported to the proposed processing plant, by pipeline or tanker? If by tanker it raises the question of increased shipping traffic past Cromarty.

Gritting and Machine Maintenance.

The gritter equipment has been cleaned and hung up in The Sheddie for the summer season. A further 5 no. grit bins had been supplied by Highland Council and were located around the town as required. The principle being for the members of the community to have access to grit for their use, to improve better Community Effort.

An updated Survey is required to be done on the Grit Bins, with an updated map.

There was a snow brushing machine/plough donated to the town by Simon and Jenny Gunn. After further discussion at the last C&DCC Meeting the machine will be relocated, thanks to our Minute Secretary, Claire Fraser.

The matter of selling the equipment was discussed at a previous C&DCC meeting. Following that I had a discussion with Mrs Jenny Gunn, who had no objection to C&DCC selling the equipment and using the monies raised for a Community Good Cause.

No information on the progress on the water supply for rinsing the units at the Sheddie? (Ongoing) (The gritters were previously taken to Allan Square for washing by self).

Cromarty Dog Waste Bins.

Ongoing.

Red Bins (6 No.) are being emptied on a regular basis both by some volunteers, and the Highland Council Operative, with regular checking those at:-

The Links (2); The Reeds Walk Path; Cromarty Bowling Club Car Park; Stroopie Roadie, The Denny. The Links ones are done regularly, mainly by Craig Fraser. The Denny one is emptied. The Reeds Walk and Bowling Green Car Park ones are emptied, mainly by myself. (Sometimes advised as full by Jeremy Price) The Stroopie Roadie one is also emptied. There was no rota raised, following email traffic, the principle being that the bins which are nearby would be emptied. However, I will redo an email for transmission hopefully for volunteers? (Not yet done).

Dog waste continues to be dumped in town bins, I do check, and it is reassuring that those concerned do this in most cases, rather than leave lying on the ground or around, except for the occasional time.

Though I am sure that people rely on the bins (all types) being available. The industrial town bins are emptied on a Tuesday and all this waste also goes to landfill.

John Nightingale Follow Ups.

Clearance works to the Daffodil Field area has since been carried out and recorded. This item has been removed from the "Action Points".

Sutor Car Park.

No changes recently.

Sutor Litter bin was being monitored by Nige (on his daily walks) and is being previously emptied by visiting THC Operative worker.

Previous Craig Fraser Projects – From 2021:- (Ongoing.)

Gaelic Chapel. [No change – ongoing.]

Previous virtual Meeting had been held. Craig had raised and discussed the Land Ownership documents from Land Sassines, to be reviewed. (No change). The main scope required is for clarification on the actual ownership of the building.

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

There had been signs of the area being used and visited. (By Teenagers?) [No change].

Graveyards in General. No. 1,2,3,4. (No change – ongoing.)

Consideration to be given to vegetation clearing and review of work carried out by Highland Council. The grass cutting issue, "Meadows", was raised at the previous C&DCC Meeting.

Consideration on Trees at Side of Road on The Denny.

Previously, the Trees on the Denny at the roadside have been commented on for safety reasons – issue needs to be reviewed and revisited.

A.O.C.B.

E.V. Charging points.

Project is being carried out by CCDT.

Cromarty Benches.

Survey needs to be updated.

No progress on the dilapidated bench on Braehead whether it is to be renovated or replaced?

Bus Stop Shelter on The Links. (No recent progress recorded)

There appears to have been more damage done to the shelter. The issue was also raised in recent Social Media (Facebook) Postings.

Current:-

Planning application has been submitted for the required planning permission, and the fee has been paid by C&DCC. The matter is awaiting a decision by THC Planning Department.

History – (For Information.)

An email was sent to Stagecoach, who responded. A site meeting was held with concerned personnel, Stagecoach/C&DCC (Self)/local contractor, with favourable response, Stagecoach Manager has confirmed to take on the Work, with Local Contractor (Colin Keith). Copies of emails were sent to concerned personnel. Previous plan to relocate the shelter has been agreed in principle, with Stagecoach taking on the Project.

Emails copied to personnel.

The Highland Council Planning Department (Erica McArthur) had advised that, as before, planning permission is required. Action was taken, with submittal by C&DCC,. The cost was reduced to £150.00 as application was made by C&DCC. Mr. Alex. Flanagan of Stagecoach had confirmed by email that Stagecoach will cover the cost of the planning application fees.

John Nightingale, as before, had agreed with the proposal with conditions, such as clarification regarding planning permission, and action on the re-siting of the bins. (No change.)

Mary Peteranna (Salmon Bothy owner) had offered to assist with arranging with the renovation of the local guide notice. I have asked about ownership of the existing notice, with no confirmation to date. Also, enquired what progress has been made on the replacement Cromarty sign for the Shore Road. (This could be included ?) (No Change to this.)

Cromarty Streets.

Mr. Colin Dunn had sent an email asking when the two missing cover plates, 1 at Allan Square/Denoon Place and 1 at The Denny are to be replaced by Highland Council. An email with photos was sent to THC Roads Department Manager for review and resolution. There has been no response as yet. Colin had used the THC Procedure with action number without success, but I did not. I have sent a follow up email.

I will need to follow this up with preferably co-ordinates. But we are looking for confirmation that they would be replaced/fixed. (**Ongoing** – no further action has been taken)

There had been emails referencing and complaining about the use of weedkiller on certain areas in the town, e.g. at bench bases, partition posts. There has been no further action taken by anyone to cut back the overgrowth.

Other Meetings. (Previously Reported On.)







Since the last C&DCC Meeting.

“Sea the Value” – presentation made by Zoom. More meetings in June, at Public Meeting in Dingwall, C&DCC Representatives to be agreed.

Open Day at Nigg – Arranged by Global Energy.

Attachments:-

None at this time.

<p>Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Erection of rear extension, installation of replacement windows, installation of new roof lights, external cladding and re-harling of walls and installation of air source heat pump</u>  <div data-bbox="549 454 1347 595" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>The Chapel Shore Street Cromarty IV11 8XL Ref. No: 23/02778/FUL Received: Fri 09 Jun 2023 Validated: Fri 09 Jun 2023 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Erection of house (renewal of 20/00601/PIP)</u>  <div data-bbox="549 752 1347 893" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>Kenavara House Cromarty Mains Cromarty IV11 8XS Ref. No: 23/02759/PIP Received: Thu 08 Jun 2023 Validated: Tue 13 Jun 2023 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Addition of porch and garden room to rear of house</u>  <div data-bbox="549 1050 1347 1191" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>The Old Manse Causeway Cromarty IV11 8XJ Ref. No: 23/02709/LBC Received: Mon 05 Jun 2023 Validated: Mon 05 Jun 2023 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Replacement extension and alterations</u>  <div data-bbox="549 1348 1347 1489" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>York House 9 Duke Street Cromarty IV11 8YH Ref. No: 23/02541/LBC Received: Thu 25 May 2023 Validated: Tue 20 Jun 2023 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Replacement extension and alterations</u>  <div data-bbox="549 1646 1347 1787" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>York House 9 Duke Street Cromarty IV11 8YH Ref. No: 23/02542/FUL Received: Thu 25 May 2023 Validated: Tue 20 Jun 2023 Status: Under Consideration</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Relocation of bus shelter</u>  <div data-bbox="549 1944 1347 2018" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>The Links Forsyth Place Cromarty Ref. No: 23/02249/FUL Received: Fri 05 May 2023 Validated:</p> </div>
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	Tue 30 May 2023 Status: Under Consideration
<u>Letter to Businesses</u>	I have attached the final copy of the letter to Cromarty Businesses regarding the job board. If members are happy, I will distribute.
<u>Cromarty Music Festival</u>	We have been contacted by Euan Smilie of the Elephant Sessions in regard to holding a festival on the links next year, We did some work with Smile music in the last couple of years and I have emailed Mr Nightingale in regards to using the links for this event.
<u>Cromarty Harbour</u>	I have been contacted by several locals regarding the closure of the gate at the harbour. I have emailed the Harbour Trust for clarification.
<u>Meeting Platform</u>	Discussion to be had on if we are continuing the blended meetings and if we are, which platform we are going to use going forward.

Meetings Attended

No meetings attended in the month, to date.

I will be attending the Port of Cromarty Firth Communities Council liaison meeting on Thursday 29th June. Questions are invited in advance of this meeting.

Action: All – agree any questions to be taken forward to the meeting.

Noise Complaints in the Firth

One noise complaint identified in the month, arising from the use of cruise ship horns when leaving the Firth at Cromarty. The Port Authority reacted quickly with an immediate ban on the use of horns in this way (very well publicised in national media), that provoked an immediate backlash from the broader community, resulting in a petition, and a backdown by the Port Authority, based on the community outcry.

I am also aware that Highland Council EHOs have been in contact with one resident, concerning continuing low frequency noise issues, to understand the situation for that individual, and the personal impact.

Town Parking

I have received various complaints (from multiple complainants) on town parking this month:

- Parking on the corner at the junction of the Denny with Bayview Crescent (forcing the driver driving towards the Denny to be on the wrong side of the road approaching the junction).
- Parking generally close to junctions, contravening the Highway Code.
- Parking of motorhomes along Shore Street.
- The broader need for additional town parking for visitors. (Do CDT have a position on this?)

Thanks to Peter Ratcliffe for forwarding the legacy documentation on this issue.

Andy Thurgood
23/06/23

APPENDIX G
AGENDA ITEM 8
PORTFOLIO REPORT – Nigel Shapcott

Cromarty Harbour Trust (CHT)

The Harbour is now filling up with leisure and commercial craft. A verbal complaint has been received about the harbour gate being shut to the Admirals Pier. This was passed on to the C&DCC Chair and the Harbour Trust Chair.

Reeds Loop Path

Mowing was started but the mower hit a large stone which caused substantial damage. About 1/3rd of the path was mowed up to this point and we await repairs to be completed.

Cromarty Care Project (CCP)

1. Seagull Trust Cruises - Volunteer drivers are being recruited.
2. Trikes - Trikes are available for trips around Cromarty - It is becoming even more urgent to move at least one Trike to the Sheddie as CCP would like to move them to the Sheddie asap to start taking people out. Peter/Alan requested to provide a date when one or both can be moved in.
3. At West Church Hall, Table Tennis continues on a Monday morning, the Church closes on 31st July. Alan has therefore been approached for access to Victoria Hall and a reply is awaited after he recovers from his 70th birthday celebrations.
4. Callout for Carers - Need for more local carers - please consider even if only for a few hours per week. As before.
5. The Community Larder continues.
6. Thank You! - We appreciate the kindness and compassion of our donors.

Grants:

Grant submitted: for a part time Development Officer to the Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund (ScotGov). The definitive grant was submitted by the deadline at the end of April and the award notification is due 5th - 7th July

END

Cromarty and District Community Council Victoria Park Hedging Project

Ideas for replacing part of the chain link fence!

What are we asking to do?

We'd like to know your views on replacing the chain link fence that borders Victoria Park and the Denny Road with a hedge.

How would we do it?

We would use the Woodland Trust's Free trees for schools and communities initiative. They provide hedging and tree packs free of charge twice a year to schools and communities.

You can find more information here on the Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/

The hedge would be planted by volunteers in a day and checked regularly by the community council.

The hedge could take up to 5 years to establish itself as a proper barrier so the chain link fence would remain in place until the hedge was ready.

Why do we think it's important?

The hedge would:

- increase the number of trees in Cromarty and help towards net-zero.
- support safe routes and hiding places for wildlife.
- provide a sustainable alternative to the chain link fence.

Please tell us what you think by contacting cromartydistrictcc@gmail.com by 1 August 2023.