



Cromarty and District Community Council
Approved Minutes of the AGM held on
Monday 27th May 2024, 7pm
Virtually via Microsoft Teams and in person at The Victoria Hall



Present:

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) - Chair, Alan Plampton (AP) - Treasurer, Nigel Shapcott (NS), Andy Thurgood (AT) - Vice Chair and Alan Rycroft (AR).

Highland Councillors: Sarah Atkin (SA)

Members of the public: Andy Dorin (AD)

Minute Secretary: Claire Fraser (CF)

1) Chairwoman's welcome & apologies

PS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

AT, AP, PS, NS and SA were in attendance at The Victoria Hall.

CF, AR and AD were in present online via teams

Apologies – Dominic Scott-Lodge (DSL)

Paige Shepherd, Alan Plampton and Andy Thurgood stood down and Highland Councillor Sarah Atkin stood as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

2) Approval of AGM minutes – 29th May 2023

Approved by PS and seconded by AT.

3) Matters arising from previous minutes – 29th May 2023

No matters arising.

4) Chairwoman's Annual Report

PS presented the 2023/24 Chair's report (**Appendix A**). It had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

5) Treasurer's Annual Report

AP presented the Audited Final accounts for year 2023/24 (**Appendix B**).

Margi Campbell was thanked for independently auditing and certifying as correct the C&DCC Final Accounts. AP confirmed that she has been given a small gift from the C&DCC as a token of our appreciation.

6) Election of Office Bearers

It was agreed that as all current members were elected in November there's no need for them to be re-elected at this year's AGM. All elected members to remain unchanged until the next AGM in May 2025.

The positions are as follows:

Chair: Paige Shepherd

Vice-Chair: Andy Thurgood

Treasurer: Alan Plampton

Secretary: Claire Fraser (non-voting)

Dominic Scott-Lodge will continue as the Youth Member but it's noted that his last meeting will be June 2024 as he is turning 18.

7) Set C&DCC Meeting Dates 2024/25

PS proposed that as usual 10 meetings would take place on the last Monday of each month in The Victoria Hall with the option to join online via Microsoft Teams.

Members agreed to continue to not hold meetings in July and December.

The dates are as follows:

24th June 2024, 26th August 2024, 30th September 2024, 28th October 2024,
25th November 2024, 27th January 2025, 24th February 2025, 31st March 2025,
28th April 2025 plus 26th May 2025 (AGM @ 7pm, followed by ordinary meeting at 7.30pm).

8) AOB:

AD expressed his thanks to all and the appreciation he has for all the work done by the council.

9) Date of next AGM:

The next C&DCC AGM will be held on: **Monday 26th May 2025 @ 7pm**

SA handed back to PS who thanked everyone for attending. The meeting concluded at 7.15pm.

APPENDIX A

AGENDA ITEM 4

Chairwoman's Report 2024

A little over 4 years ago I decided to join the Community Council. Little did I know then I would be sitting writing my 4th report as chair!

Now that the Community Council elections have taken place, we said goodbye to a long serving face who i must mention personally. Peter Ratcliffe was a long serving member of the Community Council who went above and beyond for his community. From organising the gritting rotas to ensuring the town bins were always emptied to leading the litter picking group, Peter has done it all. He was a tremendous asset to the Community Council, and we thank him very much for his service to the town.

We also welcomed some new faces to the fold in the form of Alan Rycroft. Alan has slotted well into the team and has given some valuable contributions so far. Thanks so much to Alan for joining the team.

To say it has been business as usual for the Community Council would sell us massively short. With large Highland Council budget cuts there is more pressure on communities to fill the void. We have a very good relationship with our 3 local community councillors Sarah, Lyndsey and Morven-May who are always willing to listen to our views and offer support and advice where possible.

Maintenance around the town has been a hot topic and we are actively working with The Highland Council to address these issues. We have also been working on the Black Isle Place Plan. Cromarty and the other Community Councils (Black Isle Community Councils) worked hard to form a governance proposal that would fit the plan. Not all Community Councils agreed with the proposal, but the majority view was put forward and since then the plan has been submitted and we await a reply from The Highland Council.

The Freeport Bid remains a hot topic within the town but at the moment not a huge amount of information has been shared. We remain vigilant for more updates. The Inner Moray Firth document is due out in the Autumn, and we will endeavour to engage with this to our fullest capacity.

This year also saw the launch of our new and improved Cromarty Live Website which has been a huge hit. It was a labour of love for some of our members, but we are pleased with the launch and new design. I would like to thank Alan, Viv, Claire, and Andy for all their hard work on this.

I was absolutely delighted to receive the news that The Youth Cafe has received a £20k grant from the 'National Lottery Awards for All' to cover a 2-year period ending 31st March 2026. This grant combined with other funds (including those from the Middleton Trust) will help to fund 20 hours a week of paid Youth Worker time until the same date. The Youth Cafe has had another busy year with an exciting summer program to follow. Massive thank you to Wanda, Fraser, and Michelle for all their continued hard work.

Cromarty is so very fortunate to have the volunteer pool it has. We have lots of amazing groups all pushing for the betterment of the town. Volunteers are in short supply but we always welcome new members and continue to encourage people along to our meetings. They are held face to face and can be available online for those that may not make it to The Victoria Hall. All members of the public are welcome to join.

Once again, I must thank my incredible team and the Community Councils around me. Knowledge in abundance, patience and encouraging. You are all an asset to this place, and we are one heck of a team. Thank you would never be enough, but I am grateful for each one of you.

Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much” – **Helen Keller**

Paige

Chairwoman for the C&DCC

CROMARTY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

I have audited the financial statements relating to the above for the year to 31st March 2024 and have examined the books and documentation relating thereto and have received all the information and explanations which allow me to report that the Financial Statements for the year reflect a true and fair statement of the Cromarty & District Community Council (including the Victoria Hall) intromissions at the foregoing date.

Signed M Campbell LLB CA ATT CTA
6 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE
21st May 2024

CROMARTY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (including Victoria Hall)
as at 31st March 2024

<u>31 March 2023</u>		<u>31 March 2024</u>
£		£
	ASSETS	
	Current Assets	
	Other Current Assets	
221.70	Council Accounts Receivable	171.60
979.25	Victoria Hall Accounts Receivable	1,255.75
<u>1,200.95</u>	Total Other Current Assets	1,427.35
	Cash at Bank and in hand	
13,536.75	Council BoS Current Account	10,968.13
888.04	Council Petty Cash	979.10
2,917.27	Hall BoS Current Account	7,639.53
112.66	Hall Petty Cash	0.00
<u>20,297.96</u>	Youth Cafe BoS Current Account and Cash	38,189.02
<u>37,752.68</u>	Total Cash at bank and in hand	57,775.78
£ 38,953.63	Total Current Assets	£ 59,203.13
	LIABILITIES	
	Current Liabilities	
3,250.00	Council Accounts Payable	200.00
577.91	Victoria Hall Accounts Payable	5,110.38
£ 3,827.91	Total Current Liabilities	£ 5,310.38
£ 35,125.72	Total Current Assets less Current Liabilities	£ 53,892.75
	Represented by -	
	Capital and Reserves	
2,332.16	Council Accumulated Fund	2,093.28
(238.88)	Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	(496.59)
2,093.28		1,596.69
196.60	Community Amenities Fund	1,609.69
2,302.14	Community Event Fund ex Bonfire Night	2,302.14
126.00	Community Event Fund ex Splash & Dash	126.00
2,677.70	Community Event Fund ex Gala	2,645.70
599.28	Community Resilience Fund (formerly ERF and Gritting)	5,073.84
211.75	Publications Reprinting Fund	336.10
1,071.39	Community Defibrillator Fund	211.75
46.01	Cromarty Live Fund	1,014.98
	Designated Community Funds	4.01
202.06	Gluren bij de Buren Fund	202.06
6.86	Open Gardens Fund	0.00
1,350.00	Cromarty Toddler Playgroup Fund (formerly West Church Playgroup Fund)	1,476.29
513.42	Cromarty Rising Fund	393.42
	Other Funds	2,071.77
20,297.96	Youth Cafe Projects Fund	38,189.02
	Victoria Hall Fund	3,431.27
3,431.27	Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	353.63
		3,784.90
£ 35,125.72	Total Capital and Reserves	£ 53,892.75

CROMARTY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Consolidated Statement of Financial Performance (including Victoria Hall)
for year ended 31st March 2024

Year to 31st March 2023		Year to 31st March 2024
£		£
	INCOME	
672.82	Total Community Council Income	656.49
9,847.25	Total Victoria Hall Income	12,773.25
£ 10,520.07	TOTAL CONSOLIDATED INCOME	£ 13,429.74
	EXPENDITURE	
778.70	Total Community Council Administration Costs	1,136.63
133.00	Total Council Other Costs	16.45
£ 911.70		£ 1,153.08
10,913.51	Total Victoria Hall Costs	12,419.62
£ 10,913.51		£ 12,419.62
£ 11,825.21	TOTAL CONSOLIDATED EXPENDITURE	£ 13,572.70
£ (1,305.14)	CONSOLIDATED SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	£ (142.96)
	Analysed by -	
(238.88)	COMMUNITY COUNCIL	(496.59)
(1,066.26)	VICTORIA HALL	353.63
£ (1,305.14)		£ (142.96)

Independent Examiners Certificate

I hereby certify that the Financial Statements to the 31st March 2024 are an accurate summary of the underlying books and records of Cromarty & District Community Council.

Signature: M Campbell LLB CA ATT CTA Date: 21st May 2024
 Print Name M Campbell LLB CA ATT CTA, 6 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE