

# Cromarty and District Community Council Approved minutes of meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 730pm Virtually via Microsoft Teams and in person at The Victoria Hall

# **Present**

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) – Chairwoman, Alan Plampton (AP) – Treasurer, Alan Rycroft (AR) and Andy Thurgood (AT) – Vice Chair. Youth Member: Allan Munro (AM) & newly appointed Orlagh MacIver (OM) Highland Councillor(s): Sarah Atkin (SA) Member(s) of the public: Matt Hall on behalf of CCDT (MH) & Sheila Campbell-Lloyd on behalf of Ardross Community Council (SC-L)

# 1. Chair's Welcome & Apologies

PS welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Nigel Shapcott (NS). PS, AT, MH, AM, Cllr SA and AP were present from The Victoria Hall. AR, OM and SC-L attended online via Microsoft Teams.

# 2. Declarations of Interest

No changes to declarations of interest since last meeting

# 3. Approval of previous minutes, 27th January 2025

The minutes were proposed by AP and seconded by AT

# 4. Matters Arising from previous minutes, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025

- 1. (4.1 Little movement with THC on TMP and 20mph in urban areas until 2025.) On hold.
- 2. (4.2 To speak to Wanda re. redesign of Cromarty Sign). Ongoing. Action PS.
- (4.4 Potential to involve the Primary School with Links Shrubbery continuous maintenance).
  On hold.
- 4. (4.5 To confirm when funding from Stagecoach has been received). Action AP.
- 5. (4.6 To follow up the youth mentoring program with Dom post exams). **DISCHARGED.**
- 6. (4.7 Public information notice to be prepared re. social housing). Ongoing. Action PS.
- 7. (4.8 Meeting due with Ingrid at THC re. replacing equipment in Victoria Park). Townlands has been taken on by SA. **DISCHARGED.**
- 8. (4.9 To catch up with Kari re. email to J Nightingale about Pirates Graveyard). Action PS.
- 9. (4.10 Who's responsible for Cromarty sign at bus shelter? meeting with SA to be arranged). Action PS.
- 10. (4.11 To speak to Denis (resident) re. hedge options for the park). Ongoing. Action KM

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- 11. (4.12 Stakes to go in at The Hugh Miller Monument, and posters put up to stop contractors mowing/maintaining area). Action KM
- 12. (4.14 To discuss later the idea of a composting toilet at The South Sutor Car Park). **DISCHARGED.**
- 13. (4.15 Public meeting to be held re. parking byelaws around Cromarty (include alongside Place Plan meeting)). Action ALL.
- 14. (4.16 To see if Kari is willing to be involved in tourism portfolio). Ongoing. Action PS.
- 15. (4.17 Meeting re. Townlands Park to happen with SA/Ingrid). Townlands being taken on by SA. **DISCHARGED.**
- 16. (4.18 To follow up with Ian Moncrieffe at THC re. state of Farness Rd). Ongoing. Action PS.
- 17. (4.19 To discuss recruitment for TVH committee). Volunteers are needed. Action CF.
- (4.20 Potential sub-committee to be created re. Freeport etc (long-term project)). Action -AT.
- 19. (4.21 Continue to be voice of the community re. Highland Broadband). Action AT.
- 20. (4.22 To contact waste management re. the oil spill kit that was dropped off to TVH). Action SA.
- 21. (4.23 To arrange a separate meeting re. noise monitoring). Action ALL
- 22. (4.24 To recruit litter picker volunteers for 2025 season). Action AP.
- 23. (4.25 To gather ideas to celebrate 50 years of community councils (in 2027))! Action ALL.
- 24. (4.27 To follow up on items still outstanding with THC after meeting regarding town maintenance). Action AP/AT.
- 25. (4.28 To pass on details re. terra tracking to help identify responsibilities). **DISCHARGED**.
- 26. (4.29 Rota being prepared for dog-bin emptying for 2025 season). Action AP.
- 27. (4.30 SA to check if there's any preventative action we can take re. dogs in the park). Action PS.
- 28. (4.31 To speak to Stagecoach, SA and acting rector of Fortrose Academy re. the continuing bus lateness). Ongoing matter. Action PS.
- 29. (4.35 PS to seek contact details from resident re. owner of Nigg Pier). Action PS.
- 30. (4.36 Contact Nigg & Shandwick CC to involve them in our discussion re. the pier). **DISCHARGED.**
- (5.1 (Nov) To speak in more detail about the youth being involved in the work of AoBP offline). Action SA/AM
- 32. (5.2 (Nov) Contact Vitek to repair one of the gritters chains). DISCHARGED.
- (8.1 (Nov) Ask for job description from chair of Harbour Trust to aid us in finding a replacement). Action – NS.



- 34. (8.2 (Nov) To get in touch with Alison Clark at THC re. matters concerning BICC/BIPP). DISCHARGED
- 35. (8.3 (Nov) To request local Cllr's receive the report re. Shore St TMP once it has been prepared by John Stewart) Requested but not received from JS). Action AT.
- 36. (8.4 (Nov) To chase up the loose/missing drain cover at Clunes House with John Stewart once contact details have been received (via AT). Action NS.
- 37. (8.5 (Nov) To chase up Albyn Housing for a response to our emails). DISCHARGED.
- 38. (8.6 (Nov) To reply to resident re. our comments regarding request for support in relation to funding for Cromarty Cinema). **DISCHARGED.**
- 39. (9.1 (Nov) To chase a response from THC re. ECH as it's taking too long to process things). **DISCHARGED.**
- 40. (5.1 (Jan) To report the missed refill of grit bin to THC (Via Fraser T). DISCHARGED.
- 41. (5.2 (Jan) To arrange to have holes drilled into grit bin at Harbour). DISCHARGED.
- 42. (5.2 (Jan) Potential to move grit bin from harbour or reposition it to prevent water build up. Review once holes done). Will be done when no grit in bin **DISCHARGED**.
- 43. (5.3 (Jan) To contact Vitek about the gritters as they are difficult to manoeuver). **DISCHARGED.**
- 44. (5.4 (Jan) To provide Allan's contact details to The Chatterbox!). DISCHARGED.
- 45. (8.1 (Jan) To circulate CVs of nominees to members post meeting). DISCHARGED.
- 46. (8.2 (Jan) To look into alternative funds for defib purposes for Arts Trust once cost is known). **DISCHARGED.**
- 47. (8.3 (Jan) Ward discretionary fund applications to go in to make us of leftover funds). **DISCHARGED.**
- 48. (8.4 (Jan) To follow up with Rory @ PoCF re. the shore power feasibility study). **DISCHARGED.**
- 49. (8.5 (Jan) To arrange the community consultations from March onwards. WIP. Action AT.
- 50. (8.6 (Jan) To speak to the Cromarty Estate Office to see best way to contact John Nightingale). **DISCHARGED.**
- 51. (8.7 (Jan) To make contact with contact at Land Registry re. Well Lane issues (as previously minuted). No response **DISCHARGED.**
- 52. (9.1 (Jan) To arrange clearance of ECH grounds/maintenance etc sometime in March (mid to late). Ongoing. Action AP.
- 53. (9.2 (Jan) To put Tim Morris @ AoBP in touch with Wanda at CYC so they can discuss involving the youth in future plans. **DISCHARGED.**
- 5. Youth Issues



*Minute secretary note – PS opened the discussion with AM and OM after SC-L left the meeting, ahead of the discussion with Cromarty Development Trust.* 

## a) New Youth Member

Prior to the meeting AP circulated round information re. Orlagh and her outstanding contribution to the community to date, for the members to consider before proposing her as a youth member. At tonight's meeting **PS proposed** Orlagh be appointed and **all members** agreed. She will be a great addition to the Community Council. We are very lucky to have both her and Allan on board.

## b) School bus

Can the Cromarty bus go back to being run via D&E/The Council now? SA will raise but think it's a contract they won't change until it's run it has course (potentially the end of the school year). Action – SA.

## c) <u>Gritters</u>

One of the bins by TVH keeps being missed from the refill (nothing has changed since last meeting). AP to look into the reason for this. Action – AP.

#### d) Community Events/CCDT

MH advised they have just appointed someone who will be involved in organising community events (as previously minuted). The trust is keen to involve the youth in these future events and MH was looking for confirmation that this was something our youth members would be keen to support. They both agreed.

Also confirmed there has been a small amount of anti-social behaviour at the campsite of late, the individuals were identified and their parents alerted, however they are also keen to speak to AM/OM and see if there's better ways of going about this. Again, both members were happy to discuss this further with CCDT.

*No further comments - OM left the meeting at 815pm.* 

# 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 were no comments other than what is already detailed.

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

The Victoria Hall Report (**Appendix C**) that was prepared by AP, plus the Youth Café Powerpoint presentation prepared by Fraser Thompson (**available on Cromarty Live**) were circulated prior to the meeting.

Youth Café want to create a 'snug' – a quiet gentle space for residents and their families. Everything in 'schedule of works' is to be approved and quotes are to go out for tender.

Need to recruit a new assistant youth support worker as the funding is there until March 2026 atleast. There are also lots of projects/events coming up that will require the manpower.

# 8. <u>Replacement of Chairperson for Cromarty Harbour Trust</u>



A member had approached a Cromarty resident about this position, but they've unfortunately turned it down. They have, however, agreed to meet with the members and suggest an additional couple of candidates who may be more suitable.

#### 9. **Reports**

# 9.1 - Portfolio Reports:

Portfolio Reports prepared by AR, AP and AT (Appendix D-F) were circulated prior to the meeting.

# **Alan Plampton**

# a) BICC

Going ahead with 4 nominations for the governance body.

# b) BIPP

Meeting with The Highland Council to talk about a Community Partnership Agreement (where we will take over certain responsibilities from THC). A Scheme Establishment Review is being held where we will submit our views on the wording updates and changes.

c) Albyn Housing

5 members now in the sub-committee, 3 with extensive experience in social housing, 1 to represent the youth and the final (newest) member a long-term resident who has experience with Albyn and the purchase of the particular site!

# Alan Rycroft

d) Police Scotland

Met with the community liaison officer. Aren't going to receive monthly reports anymore but have agreed to speak with us every month ahead of our meeting.

# **Paige Shepherd**

- e) Pothole by campsite has been filled but a terrible job has been done.
- f) Speeding in Bayview has increased. We are going to be keeping this under review. Action PS.

# Andy Thurgood

g) Nigg – Port of Cromarty Firth

They've entered a renewable energy contract that will start at the end of 2025 and run until 2028.

Ocean Endeavour in dock for a couple of months but no complaints appear to have come from Cromarty residents.

Feasibility study on shore power – they are going to be upgrading but they won't be able to use shore power until 2028 at the earliest.

# h) One Cromarty Presentation

Members are happy for Andy to send round the initial email to each of the identified community groups containing the power point and gauge interest. Action – AT.

There were no further comments on members' portfolios.



#### 9.2 - The Highland Council:

Report prepared by SA **(Appendix G)** was circulated before the meeting. There was nothing discussed in addition to this.

SA left the meeting at 10pm.

## 9.3 - Correspondence Received:

Nothing received this month

#### 10. Any Other Business

Minute secretary note – as in previous minutes, some of these were discussed at the beginning of the meeting, to allow some of the attendees to head home.

## 10.1 - Ardross Community Council

Discussion opened at 730pm.

SC-L is looking for the community councils to work together to prevent/reduce the impact of renewables on individual communities. Presentation detailed the position/size of the turbines in comparison to external factors.

Looking for 10 community councils to support them in their argument.

They are keen to challenge the height of the re-build in relation to Novar 1 & 2 (re-powering) to keep the turbines below 150m to prevent the need for the lights, however as infrastructure is already in place - it makes sense to upgrade it.

They are going to argue against the build of Ceislein however for a variety of reasons:

- Too close to Fyrish monument
- 250m height (anything over 150m requires lighting). They'd be the biggest turbines in Europe.
- Adjacent to special protected area for wildlife
- Roads/infrastructure etc would need to go through private water supply etc!

SC-L is going to send us the documents so we can go away and do our own research. We will let her know if we are in support of their argument or not at a later date (no deadline just yet). Action – ALL (once presentation has been received).

Sheila Campbell-Lloyd left the meeting at 8pm.

# 10.2 - Cromarty Community Development Trust

Update given by Matt Hall (after agenda item 5 – youth issues):

#### Community Events Job Role:

Prioritising the campsite booking system and automating things as much as possible as her priority. She will then move on to planning/re-organising Cromarty events. MH suggested that Hayley attend the next meeting but AT thought a more informal meeting over coffee with Members might be more productive. All agreed. To be arranged. Action – PS.



## East Church Hall

Not going to follow through with a community asset transfer (CAT) Common Good hold the building but on the basis that it will be used for the benefit of the **youth**. Produced a new business plan (with broad specifications), they are now awaiting feedback on it and are keen to also send it to the community council to look over. By August it will be sent to The Highland Council who will confirm if the proposed plan is ok, before sending it to court to be passed as a new use for the building.

*Minute secretary note – Matt and Allan M left the meeting about 830pm.* 

## 10.3 - Visitor levy consultation

Approached by a resident encouraging us to fill in the consultation. Members can't view the questions to discuss without submitting the form however so we're to go back to resident for feedback and ask them to share the questions with us before we can take any further action. Action – PS.

There were no further comments or questions.

## 11. Date of next meeting

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 at 730pm

Meeting ended at 1015pm.



## APPENDIX A AGENDA ITEM 6 TREASURER'S REPORT NOTES

- 1. **AMOUNTS RECEIVABLE/PAID IN ADVANCE** still reflects the £150 planning fee to be repaid by Stagecoach. Should be cleared before year end. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 2. **AMOUNTS PAYABLE** still reflects £200 that is to be used on a Primary School project possibly towards new goalposts or maybe their 150<sup>th</sup> celebration event (ex OG donation). **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- **3. COMMUNITY AMENITIES/EVENT FUNDS** reflect donations and further maintenance of the Reeds Loop Path, as per our 'partnership' agreement with THC. A meeting is being arranged to extend this Community Partnership Agreement to become more formalised and, to begin with, include other 'amenities' work, e.g. grass cutting. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 4. **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND** reflects cost of more gritter repairs. See VH Report for more details. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 5. CROMARTY LIVE FUND reflects the end of C&DCC involvement in the production of the new Cromarty News. The unspent donation of £11 was returned to the donor, who has indicated that it will be donated to RNLI funds. The remaining 1p balance has been transferred to the Community Amenities Fund. FOR INFORMATION ONLY
- 6. **COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR FUND** reflects donation replacement pads needed for Hall unit which had expired. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
- 7. CROMARTY RISING AND TODDLER FUNDS both reflect donations, invoice paid and net takings received. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Alan Plampton

23/02/25



Statement of Financial Position at	2510 rebindly			
		<u><u>£</u></u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Net Assets			<u>Movement</u>	at 27/01/25
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 23rd February 2025		13,521.73	-363.65	13,885.38
Paypal Balance as at 23rd February 2025		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable/Paid in Advance		150.00	0.00	150.00
Amounts Payable		-200.00	0.00	-200.00
Total Net Assets at 23rd February 2025		£13,471.73	-363.65	£13,835.38
		<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	£
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st Ap	oril 2024	1,596.69	0.00	1,596.69
Surplus/Deficit for the year to date		-106.33	-18.82	-87.51
		1,490.36	-18.82	1,509.18
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 1st Apri	2024	211.75	0.00	211.75
C&DCC Amenity & Event Funds				
Community Amenities/Event Funds		6,408.72	6.70	6,402.02
Community Resilience Fund		366.38	-264.52	630.90
Cromarty Live Fund		0.00	-35.01	35.01
Community Defibrillator Fund		1,676.05	-60.00	1,736.05
Net C&DCC Reserves		10,153.26	-371.65	10,524.91
Designated Community Funds				
Gluren bij de Buren Fund		125.26	0.00	125.26
Toddler Playgroup Fund		1,877.29	20.50	1,856.79
Cromarty Rising Fund		1,315.92	-12.50	1,328.42
		£13,471.73	-363.65	£13,835.38

# APPENDIX C AGENDA ITEM 7 VICTORIA HALL REPORT

- 1. **Bookings** The busy winter season with regular user bookings continuing to give us a full diary. Income is higher than the previous YTD. Projection for year could be 10-15% higher. **ACTION Information only, no action required**
- 2. Repairs & Maintenance THC Boiler service has been completed with no major concerns. Next one due in April. A schedule of works has been prepared for repairs to the back offices currently hired out to the Youth Café. Mainly making good and decorating, the work also replaces the floor covering, but all within our licence to occupy obligations to maintain the internal Hall spaces. However, there it is also needed to get THC to repair skylight water penetration before works begin. These internal works are all part of the Youth Café's Snug Project and will be financed by funding provided from funding for this project. ACTION Information only, no action required
- 3. **Sheddie** Gritters have had more repairs after further structural failures. Now all back in action although it is likely that replacement may be the next remedy. Allan M's patience and diligence is to be thanked. We have retained one the campsite donated gritters in case of further problems with the main ones. The Emergency Resilience electrical service is booked for April and will be funded by the recent SSE grant money. **ACTION Information only, no action required**
- 4. Youth Cafe Latest report is attached. Sadly, we have just received a resignation notice from our Assistant Youth Worker, Michelle. Reluctantly we have accepted Michelle's decision, thanking her and wishing all our support in her future, but we respect her decision. This is very disappointing news ahead of what was planned to be a very busy time with full Easter, Summer, October programmes as well as the new Snug Project. The YC committee will be meeting urgently to discuss recruitment and support for the remaining resources. ACTION Information only, no action required

Alan Plampton - VHMC 23/02/25



#### APPENDIX D AGENDA ITEM 8 - PORTFOLIO REPORTS ALAN RYCROFT

#### Police Liaison

I met with the Police Community Liaison Officer, **Constable Robin Brown**, in Cromarty on Monday 10 February 2025. He explained that the issue of community liaison within the Black Isle (and, indeed, throughout *Police Scotland*) is currently under review by the Force's senior management team and, pending the outcome, it is not currently appropriate to reinstate a formal, monthly written report, specific to Cromarty, such as we used to receive from his predecessor. Constable Brown is hopeful that this is only a temporary measure. Meanwhile he has agreed that we will liaise, by 'phone, on a monthly basis, in order to exchange any relevant information. I will therefore ensure that I make contact with Constable Brown each month, as we approach the date of our regular meeting.

As regards our forthcoming February meeting, Constable Brown had nothing to report, other than his view that crime in Cromarty remains currently quite low.



## APPENDIX E AGENDA ITEM 8 - PORTFOLIO REPORTS ALAN PLAMPTON

#### 1. BICC

Following C&DCC Members' decision for the BICC to represent the C&DCC in consultation discussions with the Highland Council, over the Scheme of Establishment Review, and the need for sustainable financing of Community Councils, the BICC have now met with a leading HC manager involved in the review who is keen to explore the BICC's involvement, and specific interests needed, in the review. Although this is yet to be discussed by the full BICC, a report is to be circulated that explains how the 'Review' is specifically about the updating of wording within the 'Scheme of Establishment'. It also confirms that this review should automatically happen on a '4 year' basis (interrupted by Covid), to coincide with the Community Council elections. Thereby having a 'reviewed' Scheme for new CCs to 'sign up' to. It has been requested that individual CC responses (rather than a BICC one) will carry more weight in the Review of the existing scheme. It is recommended that we accept this request. However important issues like sustainability and planning, which are being raised as part of the review can more effectively come through as important topics with a BICC approach. These topics will then be discussed with the wider Highland Council. Again, it is recommended that this advice is accepted. Finally, an interesting 'take out' from the meeting was that the Scheme is 'guidance' and cannot be enforced by THC. Interesting and not widely appreciated, although not following the guidance is unlikely to form a working relationship with THC!

#### **BILPP/OBI Governance**

After C&DCC confirmed approval of final BICC nominations, for Community Council Directors, short 'CVs' were requested and are now attached. However, following Conon Bridge CC's failure to avoid abeyance in recent Interim CC elections, the BICC accepted nominations has now been reduced to Helen Barton, Rebecca Richmond, Paige Shepherd and Theo Stratton. Rather than trying to seek a replacement, the recommendation is to proceed with 4 for now, and keep the momentum/proposed timeline going, and hopefully things will change at Conon Bridge in August, thereby allowing the original approved nomination to be included.

The next BICC meeting is now proposed for the second half of March, although reports and recommendations will be considered by BICC members before then. These will be shared with C&DCC Members, to ensure transparency. **ACTION** – **Information only, no action required although discussion and/or asking questions is encouraged.** 

#### 2. Affordable Housing

We can now confirm that the C&DCC sub-committee is now 80% complete with the confirmed addition of Jane Ashcroft and Dave Stewart to join Paige and I in representing the community, in our discussions with the relevant staff at Albyn Housing (responsible for the development of CM01). Representing the community, Cromarty is lucky to have three individuals with varied and extensive social housing experience. It is hoped that the final sub-committee member will be confirmed very soon and will add to representing Cromarty's needs. Albyn have now responded and proposed discussions on updating community opinions of the development's needs. We have confirmed that these discussions will now be with our new sub-committee, representing that community. Transparent updates will then be included, on at least monthly basis through these reports in our minutes, as well as on Cromarty Live. **ACTION – Information only, no action required.** 

#### 3. Defibrillators

Following discussion with our suppliers, it has been agreed there is no 'added value' in attempting to include the proposed Stables installation (without separate funding) in addition to the one in Townlands. Discussions for the siting of the Townlands unit are still ongoing with our Supplier and THC. Hopefully to be finalised soon. **ACTION – Information only, no action required.** 

Alan Plampton 27/01/25



## APPENDIX F AGENDA ITEM 8 - PORTFOLIO REPORTS ANDY THURGOOD

#### **Meetings attended**

I attended the Port of Nigg Community Councils liaison meeting 13<sup>th</sup> February. A key piece of information, was the feedback on the feasibility study for shore power. Full details are included in their presentation, that accompanies this report.

I attended Local Place Plan training being virtually hosted by *Community Councils* in association with *Place at the Table* and *Imagine If.* I attach the slides for both sessions (I attended the first) with this report.

I attended a Teams meeting with Clair Nichols, Chief Officer at Youth Highland, to discuss Associated British Ports project for YH to undertake interviews and surveys, with Cromarty and Black Isle youth. With Cooperation from Wanda MacKay, this is planned to be undertaken next month at Fortrose Academy.

#### Correspondence

Outstanding remedial works with Highland Broadband have now been addressed.

A complaint about newly installed LED street lighting in Church Street was received by a resident and was supported by their neighbour. I provided feedback on a similar situation further along Church Street last year. Sarah Atkin has managed to contact the relevant senior officer at THC, but awaits an opportunity to discuss the matter fully with them until 24<sup>th</sup> February.

#### Noise and other nuisance from the Firth

Rory Gunn reported one noise complaint (from Nigg side) due to the recent arrival of the Ocean Endeavour at Nigg.

#### **Projects**

I have now circulated the third version of the project 'One Cromarty' presentation, to allow for discussion at our meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Andy Thurgood 21/02/25



## APPENDIX G AGENDA ITEM 8 – HIGHLAND COUNCIL CLLR SARAH ATKIN

**Note for February 2025 CDCC meeting** (please note – this is from THC from my personal perspective as a local member.)

## Highland Council level (strategy):

**Budget:** Priority is discussion/meetings around the budget. Not just the setting of a budget and savings but also decisions on investment, where reserves and funds allow and where income can be generated. Note: **Budget meeting 6<sup>th</sup> March.** 

Key issues we've lobbied for is more investment in the amenities service (for grass cutting etc.) Seasonal rangers too. ASN/schools is always a big issue strategically.

**Buses:** With the purchase of D & E (which will save considerable sums), the Council's service is now a bigger player in the market. This is positive.

**Council Rents:** an 8% rise was agreed (see papers). There's a need for more money for maintenance of common areas and repairs.

**Area Committee level:** We have an upcoming meeting re forthcoming community regeneration funding – how it will work; likely sums available. FYI/for noting.

#### Ward Level:

Partnership working: follow up meeting led by Becky & Bruce from Ferintosh CC. Action: to 'test' a couple of projects with THC facilitating community action. CDCC's wish to have some control over amenity activity – in partnership with the service – was one of two suggested 'pilots' (given this is one you've come to me with.) I have asked the Community Development Officer, Lynn Bauermeister, to make contact and begin to build the 'on the ground' relationship with CDCC.

BICC: alongside a commitment to more community transport from THC, there's an argument for a Black Isle Wide transport strategy. Perhaps a first 'project' for any BIPP governance board? *Personal view: Communities in Motion (transport company) provides a great 'model' through which very localised schemes can be facilitated. Bottom-up, rather than 'top down'. This can only be done with analysis of demand and identifying the gaps that need to be filled.* 

Lead Councillor 25/26: Cllr Morven-May MacCallum will be taking CDCC after recess.

#### Cromarty

Townlands:

- Work is moving forward in the park.
- John Nightingale has responded to my email re: permission to put up a tool sharing shed (a resident has asked for this and it's a great idea.)
- Roofs: I've been around the estate with officers. There is now a plan. This work has begun but it won't happen quickly. Everything is dependent upon money.

In due course, I'll put a 'round robin again to canvass views on what else can be done at a lower level to make improvements.

**Common Good Fund:** there was discussion about the implications of lost rental when the Trust takes the hall. Just 'flagging' up. For noting.

ENDS.

