



Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes
Approved
30.11.2020

Minutes of the meeting held on
Monday 26th October 2020, 7.30pm
via video link due to Covid-19 restrictions

Present

Community Councillors: Paige Shepherd (PS) Chair, Alan Plampton (AP) Treasurer, Peter Ratcliffe (PR) Secretary, Gregor Fox (GF), Kari Magee (KM) & Nigel Shapcott (NS)

Youth Representative(s): Fraser Thomson (FT), Assistant Youth Worker

Highland Councillor(s): Cllr Craig Fraser (CF)

Member(s) of the public:

Community Council Minute Secretary: Gillian McNaught

1	<u>Chairman's Welcome & Apologies</u> PS welcomed everyone to the video conference meeting. No apologies received.	
2	<u>Declarations of Interests</u>	
2.1	As C&DCC Chair, PS automatically becomes a Trustee of the Middleton Trust.	
2.2	Declarations unchanged from meeting of 28th September 2020.	
End		
3	<u>Approval of Previous Minutes, 28th September 2020</u>	
3.1	Approved by NS and seconded by PR.	
3.2	PS thanked GM for temporarily stepping into Minute Secretary role after Della Matheson's resignation on 30th September 2020.	
End		
4	<u>Matters Arising from previous minutes, 28th September 2020</u> <i>C-19 items can only be dealt with after Covid 19 restrictions are lifted.</i>	
4.1	(4 Propose suggestions on shortening meeting times to the Members). Proposals made	AP, PS & NS
4.2	(6 Police reports See 4 re Proposals made for reports to come to PR as Secretary. Decision due in December. Ongoing.	AP, PS & NS
4.3	(6.5 Ask HC about possibility of Townlands parking areas being white lined). CF followed up with HC 28.8.20. Ongoing.	CF
(cont)		

(cont)		
4.4	(6.10 Report on response to email asking if Community Payback Scheme can tidy up burial ground and sheltered housing paths). Ongoing.	CF
4.5	(6.11 Give Kari contact details for Traffic management HC details). Discharged.	
4.6	(6.11 Traffic Management Plan proposals for Cromarty). KM sent a query regarding the 2019 Traffic Management Consultation to Iain Moncrieff and Laura MacAllister at the Highland Council (HC). The impact of COVID 19 on the HC budget means that it is unlikely that the objectives discussed last year will be feasible in the near future. The suggestion to reduce speed limits within Cromarty to 20mph and to improve the signs on the entry to Cromarty has been raised as an interim proposal. Awaiting response. Ongoing.	KM
4.7	(6.12 Continue to liaise with HC about a survey of the Links Shrubbery) C-19	CF
4.8	(6.13 Report back on request for information re: discrepancy of ownership records for Hugh Miller Monument) C-19	AP
4.9	(6.14 Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate C-19	AP
4.10	(6.15 Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland Mandates after lockdown). C-19	CF
4.11	(6.17 Update on a community designed “Welcome to Cromarty’ sign on the Shore Road, with design involvement from Youth Cafe). Ongoing.	CF
4.12	(6.18 Revisit discussions with C&DCC sub committee Events groups once current situation eased). Ongoing. C-19	AP
4.13	(6.19 Report back on HC response ref the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road). Followed up with Ian Moncreiff. C-19	CF
4.14	(6.20 Look at including local councils again on the A9/Munlochy junction road safety and impact of Free Trade Zone on traffic). Letter of support for Cllr Gordon Adam’s proposal to reduce the speed limit at the Munlochy junction. Members agreed and PS to sign on behalf of the C&DCC. (Appendix A)	PS
4.15	(6.21 Report back on request to HC to fill potholes at burial ground). Discharged.	
4.16	(6.22 Follow up for a response from HC about damage to the steps at start of Ladies Walk). No budget for repairs, CF will follow up. Ongoing. C-19	
(cont)		CF

(cont) 4.17	(6.23 Alan & Peter, with help from Fraser edit existing data on CL website and contact groups to do similar with their existing files. Following completion of these tasks, request quote from Plexus for upgrading website format). Ongoing.	AP & PR
4.18	(6.25 Reschedule AGM when Covid restrictions allow public meeting). Delayed until further notice. Ongoing. C-19	ALL
4.19	(6.26 Report back on response from HC ref; permit for new track at Farness). CF reported this is with HC Planning. Ongoing.	CF
4.20	(6.30 Check if waste removal at Whitedykes site complete). An email has been sent via the Highland Council (HC) website. No response yet and no removal of the waste. Another email will be sent w/c 26 October 20. Ongoing.	KM
4.21	(6.31 Look at other funding sources for the 100 steps project). Proposal in Treasurer's Notes, item 6, Appendix C. Discharged.	
4.22	(6.31 Piecemeal the 100 steps work into smaller projects). Following the rejection for funding from BIP, the original proposal has been divided into routine maintenance tasks and a series of renovation tasks for consideration by the C&DCC. KM sent her proposal to members prior to the meeting. Members agreed KM propose works with a budget of £1000 from the C&DCC Amenities fund. Ongoing.	KM
4.23	(6.32 Report on response from Zurich Insurance to 100 steps project risk assessment Insurance once scheme decided but no cover refusal yet) Proposal in Treasurer's Notes, <i>item 6, Appendix C.</i> Discharged.	
4.24	(6.34 Primary School's requirements - warm fleeces for classrooms over winter. Funding sources ongoing). NS reported that as a result of COVID-19, the Education Minister has asked that rooms are well aired with children spending as much time outside as possible to reduce the threat of the virus spreading. The Cromarty Care Project will sponsor this and reports that the headteacher is going ahead with purchasing waterproof clothing for all the children attending the Cromarty Primary School – the bill will be just over £1000 approx. The Black Isle Partnership was approached for this project on a Black Isle wide basis, but was instructed by HIE that it was not covered. This was unsuccessfully appealed. Discharged.	
4.25	(6.36 Request volunteer list from Tiffany /Peter and source volunteer to co-ordinate emptying of dog poo bins). PR has sent email to volunteers and had two responses. Ongoing.	PR
(cont)		

(cont)	(6.36 Paige and Nigel have now been added to the litter group on facebook).	NS & PS
4.26	Tiffany advised it was on an ad-hoc basis but the peak of tourist in the summer is now over so might not be as much requirement over the winter. Information given on where supplies could be found eg gloves litter pickers etc. Ongoing.	
4.27	(6.43 Contact Core Path officer about reeds loop). Dealt with under <i>item 4.28</i> . Discharged.	
4.28	(6.44 Write letter of concern to John Nightingale about broken fencing at Reeds Loop). PR finalising letter. Ongoing.	PR
4.29	(6.46 Research suggestion of free standing hand sanitiser unit outside the public toilets). Research reveals that no other Black Isle CC has installed units. Received guidance from Clifford Smith of the HC's Environmental Heath and AP has now approached 3 companies and invited them to quote to supply suitable units. FOR INFORMATION. Ongoing.	AP
4.30	(10.3 Report back on complaint to HC about overgrown grass at the HMI). Grass trimmed. Discharged.	
4.31	(10.4 Feedback on HC response to report on rats at Shore Street). A month of monitoring and baiting took place by HC between 15th September and 12th October with success. The matter is now closed unless further issues arise. Discharged.	
4.32	(12.4 Kari awaiting responses to Freeport questions put to P of CF). Following the intervention by Kate Forbes MSP's team, the Port of Cromarty Firth (PoCF) responded to the questions sent by email in September 2020. KM is drafting a response to Pof CF for further clarity. Ongoing.	KM
4.33	(13 Community asset transfer decision making). Ongoing.	ALL
4.34	(13 Report on grit bins). Report submitted to C&DCC and to HC in due course.	PR
4.35	(13 Report back on formal complaint after bus shelter damaged again and CF progressed to Stagecoach and HC). CF sent photographs to Stagecoach and proposes moving the shelter to west of current site. CF to research landowner to request permission. Ongoing.	CF
4.36	(13 Report back on finding team of volunteers for the gritting team). NS circulated a detailed report to Members prior to the meeting. A volunteer gritting co-ordinator and team of 9 residents has come forward to use the 5 hand machines, including young people helping after school. Ongoing.	NS
4.37	(6.40 Report on updates from SAS of First Responders reinstatement). Ongoing.	action tbc
End		

<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Youth Issues, Presented by Fraser Thomson (FT)</u></p> <p>Assistant Youth Worker reports will now be issued monthly instead of weekly.</p> <p>CF thanked FT and the young people of Cromarty who tidied up the leaves at the cenotaph with torches after dark.</p> <p>AP reported that from next week a covered outdoor facility will be set up near the Victoria Hall to hold events safely for young people during the winter months.</p> <p>The Victoria Hall extension roof has been mended and leaks repaired. Young people are to be discouraged from climbing onto this area as it is both dangerous and may damage the essential repair works completed.</p> <p>GF will put together a new proposal for a temporary bicycle Bump Track on an alternative site for discussion at November's meeting. The idea was first mooted in Minutes 26.8.2019.</p> <p>FT was thanked by Members for his input. Other issues raised under <i>item 4</i> at the July meeting are discussed under <i>item 6</i>.</p>	<p>GF</p>
<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>AP circulated the Treasurer's Report (Appendix B) and Treasurer's Notes (Appendix C) prior to the meeting.</p> <p>There were no further questions and AP was thanked for his reports.</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>End</p>	<p><u>Victoria Hall Report including Youth Café</u></p> <p>AP circulated the following prior to the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Hall Report (Appendix D) • An update on the Youth Cafe Covid-19 projects, funded by the Middleton Trust • The Assistant Youth Worker's report w/c 5th October <p>There were no further questions and AP was thanked for his reports.</p>	

8	<u>Members' Reports</u>	
8.1	Portfolios - The Portfolio List was updated (Appendix E).	GM
8.2	PS contact Gabrielle Pearson for advice on Planing Portfolio	PS
8.3	Highland Council -	
8.4	Correspondence Received -	
End		
9	<u>AOB</u>	
9.1	Review Links access - AP proposed the Links remain closed to vehicle access until further notice. Agreed.	
9.2	Some concern raised from residents about coach trips to Cromarty where social distancing and mask protocols are not being followed. PS will ask CF for advice.	PS
End		
13	<u>Date of next meeting(s)</u>	
13.1	Next Ordinary Meeting, Monday, 30th November @ 7.30pm via Whereby video conference.	
13.2	It was agreed to call an emergency meeting before then if required.	
End		
	PS thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 9.20pm	

Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
4.1	Alan, Paige & Nigel	Report back proposals for shortening meeting times etc
4.2	Alan, Paige & Nigel	Confirm administration of police reports
4.3	Craig	Report back on follow up with HC about possibility of Townlands parking areas being white lined
4.4	Craig	Report on response to email asking if Community Payback Scheme can tidy up burial ground and sheltered housing paths
4.6	Kari	Report back on HC response to TMP proposals as minuted
4.7	Craig C-19	Continue to liaise with HC about a survey of the Links Shrubbery
4.8	Alan C-19	Report back on request for information re: discrepancy of ownership records for Hugh Miller Monument

4.9	Alan C-19	Arrange for refresher resilience training workshop for the C&DCC when appropriate
4.10	Alan C-19	Report back on progress of the change of Bank of Scotland Mandates after lockdown
4.11	Craig	Progress Welcome sign for Cromarty
6.16	Craig C-19	Report back on any progress from HC Planning regarding a Liaison group to monitor Nigg Development and impact on communities
4.12	Alan C-19	Revisit discussions with C&DCC sub committee Events groups once current situation eased
4.13	Craig C-19	Report back on HC response ref the repairs required urgently on the Davidston to Farness Road
4.14	Paige	Sign letter (Appendix A) re: safety at the A9 junction on behalf of the C&DCC
4.16	Craig C-19	Look at repairs to the damaged steps at start of Ladies Walk
4.17	Alan & Peter	Alan & Peter edit existing data on CL website and contact groups to do similar with existing files. then contact Pexus for a quote to upgrade the site
4.18	ALL C-19	Reschedule AGM when Covid restrictions allow public meeting
4.19	Craig	Report back on response from HC ref; permit for new track at Farness
4.20	Kari	Report back of progress of waste to be removed at Whitedykes
4.22	Kari	Put forward proposal for 100 steps repairs, within a budget of £1000
4.25	Peter	Finalise volunteers for dog poo bins rota
4.26	Paige and Peter	Update on litter picking group as required
4.28	Peter	Write letter of concern to John Nightingale about broken fencing at Reeds Loop
4.29	Alan	Report back when quotes come in from companies to supply free standing hand sanitiser units
4.32	Kari	Respond to P of CF for further clarity re: Freeport status
4.33	ALL	Decision on Asset Transfers
4.34	Peter	Submit grit bin information to HC
4.35	Craig	Progress proposal to move the links bus shelter to make safer as minuted
4.36	Nigel	Keep Members informed of voluntary road/pavement gritting
5.5	Gregor	Bring to November meeting a proposal for a new Bump track site, including overall size

8.1	Gillian	Update portfolio list
8.2	Paige	Contact Gabrielle Pearson for advice on Planning Portfolio
6.33	Tiffany	Report on updates from SAS of First Responders reinstatement
9.2	Paige	Ask CF advice ref; concerns raised about coach visitors and social distancing

Agenda item 4.14

Appendix A

PROPOSED LETTER OF SUPPORT

Black Isle Partnership Registered address: Marowan, Munlochry IV8 8PF Date

We, the undersigned, write in support of a proposal by Cllr Gordon Adam to reduce the speed limit on A9 at the Munlochry junction. Namely:

“extend the 50mph speed limit on a temporary basis from the delimit sign before the North Kessock junction (northbound) to beyond the Artafallie junction 1.5 miles further north, and the same on the southbound lane, so that vehicles entering or leaving the B9161 to Munlochry from either north or south do not face traffic speeding towards them at over 70 mph.”

This junction has been the cause of numerous incidents in recent times, including a fatal accident within the last twelve months. Whilst we appreciate the need for the detailed consultation that is ongoing, we are concerned that any permanent solutions to the problem will be a long time coming. With the clocks changing at the end of the week and the more hazardous driving conditions of winter imminent we demand this temporary solution be implemented with immediate effect. We further request that it remain in place until such time as a permanent solution is found.

Yours faithfully, Cromarty and District Community Council

Agenda item 6
Appendix B

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting				
Held on Monday 26th October 2020				
Agenda Item No 6 - Treasurer's Report				
Statement of Financial Position at 25th October 2020				
		£	£	£
Net Assets			Movement	at 27/09/20
Bank & Cash in hand balances as at 25th October 2020		14,288.29	4.50	14,283.79
Paypal Balance as at 25th October 2020		0.00	0.00	0.00
Amounts Receivable		0.00	-38.50	38.50
Amounts Payable		-8.50	-8.50	0.00
Total Net Assets at 25th October 2020		£14,279.79	-42.50	£14,322.29
		£	£	£
Represented by:				
C&DCC Accumulated Fund Reserves at 1st April 2020 ***		2,620.63	0.00	2,620.63
Surplus/Deficit for the year to date		-543.97	0.00	-543.97
		2,076.66	0.00	2,076.66
Community Amenities Fund (formerly CDF)		1,067.20	0.00	1,067.20
Emergency Resilience Centre Fund		87.66	0.00	87.66
Covid-19 Resilience Fund		-813.29	-42.50	-770.79
Provision for Guidebook reprinting at 25th October 2020		78.75	0.00	78.75
Net C&DCC Reserves		2,496.98	-42.50	2,539.48
Cromarty Event Funds				
Bonfire Night Fund	2,072.14		0.00	2,072.14
Seaplane Plinth Fund	48.93		0.00	48.93
Gala Fund	4,446.13		0.00	4,446.13
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	6,902.12	0.00	202.06
Other Community Funds				
West Church Playgroup Fund		1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00
Monday Lunch Club Fund		422.75	0.00	422.75
Cromarty Rising Fund		2,298.42	0.00	2,298.42
Gritting Fund		809.52	0.00	809.52
		£14,279.79	-42.50	£14,322.29
*** Subject to change in Final 2019/20 Accounts				
Alan Plampton 25/10/2020				

Agenda item 6
Appendix C

Cromarty & District Community Council Ordinary Meeting – 26th October 2020

Agenda Item 6 – Treasurer’s Report Notes

1. The Covid-19 Resilience Fund remains in deficit following the Black Isle Partnership refusal to fund our Emergency Costs because they did not meet the eligibility criteria applied by HIE funding. However The Black Isle Ward Discretionary Fund/Common Good Fund is now willing to consider funding these costs, now that BIP will not. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
2. Please note that Accumulated Fund figures at 1st April are subject to change in the Final 2019/20 Accounts. **FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
3. **100 STEPS REVISED PROJECT** I propose that we immediately agree to start work, as per Kari’s latest Pro/Con report, and that this is financed from our Community Amenities Fund, which has enough funds. **FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

Alan Plampton

25/10/20

Agenda item 7

Appendix D

Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting – 26th October 2020

Agenda Item 7 – Victoria Hall Report

- 1. Hall Bookings** The reaction to our decision that the Hall will not reopen before January 2021, seems to have been accepted by the community as the only decision that could be taken. Wedding bookings etc in the first half of 2021 have been contacted re the hirer possibly looking at alternative venues however most have said they were grateful for the contact but would wait until January before changing plans.

ACTION – For Information Only – No Action Required

- 2. Security** PIR security lights have been fitted, to cover the Oil Tank, the Sheddie and the Sports Multicourt.

ACTION – For Information Only – No Action Required

- 3. Youth Cafe** Attached is the last Report from Fraser, the Assistant Youth Worker, before his recent absence from frontline duties. He is now back in full operation organising the remainder of the Autumn Break programme as well as other projects.

The Middleton Trust Covid-19 Resilience Fund projects have started (Attached is an update supplied to the Funder). The application to the Middleton Trust for future funding of the AYW post has still not been finalised. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

The C&DCC Tesco Bags of Help funded project for the Cromarty Primary School was successfully completed before the Autumn Break. Hopefully Members have seen the photos and publicity from the event. It was very well received by everyone but most especially the children. The similar project for Academy pupils, funded by the Middleton Trust Covid-19 Resilience Fund, has been started and the first bags delivered to undergo quarantine, before a presentation to the 65 Academy pupils resident in Cromarty.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

Alan Plampton

VHMC

Agenda item 7

Appendix E

Councillors' Ex-Officio Portfolios

*Non Councillor support role only

ITEM	Lead Role	Supported By
Cromarty Care Project	Nigel Shapcott	
Cromarty Community Development Trust	Nigel Shapcott	
Cromarty Ferry	Peter Ratcliffe	
Cromarty Leaflets & Booklets	(Estelle Quick)*	
Communications (CC Facebook CC gmail account)	(Diane Brawn)*	Alan Plampton
Community Groups & Events	Alan Plampton	
Community Noticeboard	(Diane Brawn)*	
Covid-19	Nigel Shapcott	
Bus Services & Road Surfaces	Paige Shepherd	
Dog Fouling	Peter Ratcliffe	
Gritting	Nigel Shapcott	
Harbour	Nigel Shapcott	
Hugh Miller Institute Bookings & Keys	(Estelle Quick)*	Alan Plampton
Links & Links Events Diary/ Beaches and Litter	Peter Ratcliffe	
Middleton Trust	Paige Shepherd	
Nigg Liaison , Rig Noise & Freeport proposal	Peter Ratcliffe	Kari Magee
Parking	?	?
Planning	Paige Shepherd	
Police Liaison	Paige Shepherd	
Tourism	Kari Magee	(Jon Palmer)*
Traffic Management Plan, Cromarty	Kari Magee	
Victoria Hall	Alan Plampton	