



CROMARTY AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES
APPROVED
31st March 2014

DRAFT Minutes of meeting held on Monday 24th February 2014 in the Hugh Miller Institute

Community Councillors: Ronald Young (Chair), Vivienne Plampton, Anne Short, Gabriele Pearson, Diane Brawn, Andrew Hulse
Highland Councillors: David Alston, Craig Fraser
Youth Representative: Paige Shepherd
Community Council Minute Secretary: Jeremy Price
Guest speakers: Torquil Macleod (Harbour Master) and Victoria Smith (Marketing and Public Relations Manager) Cromarty Firth Port Authority
One member of the public was also present

Item	Details	Action
1	<u>Chairman's Welcome and apologies</u> Ronald welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Sgt MacNeil, Police Scotland	
2	<u>Approval of previous minutes</u>	
2.1	The minutes of the meeting on 13 th January 2014 were approved. Proposed: Anne Short Seconded: Diane Brawn	
3	<u>Youth issues</u>	
3.1	Paige reported that most of what she would have said was contained in Fraser's report which is at Appendix C. She did say that she had received further complaints about the state of the path to the graveyard.	
3.2	Paige said that this would be her last meeting as Youth Representative. She was now in full-time employment and found herself more distant from the youth issues. An advertisement was being placed in several places to look for a replacement.	
3.3	Ronald commended her in the highest possible terms and said that for some years now, Paige had been an extraordinarily valuable member of the council and that she would be missed greatly by all members of the council.	
3.4	Paige responded by thanking Members for their support and listening to the voice of the youth of Cromarty through her.	

<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p>	<p><u>Police Report</u></p> <p>There was no police representative present. Gabriele said that she had received a written report from Sgt MacNeil. This is attached as Appendix D.</p>	
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p> <p>5.5</p> <p>5.6</p> <p>5.7</p>	<p><u>Guests: Torquil Macleod and Victoria Smith</u></p> <p>Ronald introduced Torquil and Victoria from Cromarty Firth Port Authority. Torquil is the Harbour Master and Victoria the Marketing and Public Relations Manager.</p> <p>Torquil thanked Members for inviting him and gave an informative presentation on the CFPA – its staff, role in the various industries and the future. He talked about the extensions and improvements to both Nigg and Invergordon, illustrated with a number of fascinating statistics, diagrams and photos.</p> <p>At the end, he was asked about the noise on the oil rigs anchored in the firth and explained that from time to time it was necessary for them to undergo sea trials and stability testing. He said that to his knowledge maybe only one was scheduled for this year. If the noise was troublesome, complaints could be made 24hrs a day on 01349 852308.</p> <p>Ronald made the point that Cromarty bears the brunt of much of the inconvenience but nothing comes back to the town in recompense.</p> <p>David suggested that the CFPA could assist in local issues such as dredging the harbour and also made the point that as a town and authority we should make more of tapping into the Coastal Communities Fund.</p> <p>Torquil was asked about the 6 legs still in the firth. He said that the owner is adamant that he will have a use for them in due course although the application is limited because of their size.</p> <p>Ronald thanked Torquil and Victoria for attending and said that both he and David Alston would keep in touch with them.</p>	
<p>6</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p>	<p><u>Matters arising from previous minutes</u></p> <p>(5.8 – disabled parking space, Townlands) – David confirmed the exact spot on a map and it will now be dealt with</p> <p>(8.8 - leaflets) – Vivienne has now looked at the Gluren bij de Duren leaflets and a short discussion ensued about their viability and the possibility of a bigger leaflet and what could be advertised on it. The cost was around £72 for 800. Vivienne to continue looking at options.</p> <p>(10.3 – bus shelter) – this has now been removed by Alex Graham and Vivienne is awaiting the invoice.</p> <p>(11.2 – sea defences, rear of Clunes House) – Jeremy confirmed that Scottish Water will pay the full bill and invoice Highland Council for its share. David said he and Craig had been there and met with Scottish Water and confirmed work would commence in the near future. He was also exploring ‘community benefits’ from Scottish Water and they were looking for suggestions such as replacing the sign at Burnside or similar small projects.</p>	<p>VP</p>

<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p>	<p><u>Gaelic Chapel</u></p> <p>Craig reported on the progress. He said that Highland Council was discussing the Trust issues. He said that Gaelic Implementation Committee at Highland Council was supporting the project and might help with publicity at an exhibition.</p> <p>Craig mentioned the problems being caused by the ivy and wondered if a local community working part might be set up to tackle it. He said he would take pictures of the health and safety issues around the building.</p> <p>Craig said that he was encouraged that Kirkmichael had received funding which shows that with the right package and application, money was still available for such projects.</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p> <p>8.5</p>	<p><u>Review and update on Councillors' portfolios</u></p> <p>Gabriele said that she had attended a recent meeting of the Black Isle Community Councils group which had three main discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services for the elderly on Black Isle which were felt to be lacking. David said a comprehensive report was completed 3 years ago and a booklet for individuals printed and is available. Gabrielle said she would take this information back to the forum • TEC Services and the different levels of support from the department. A meeting with the new director was being sought to standardise the level of support across communities. • Woodlands Wind Farm. Information had been sent to all members about the proposed application. The developer had said that he had consulted Cromarty and District Community Council, but this was not the case. <p>Andrew said that he'd contacted Highland Council for a replacement dog bin as the one on Marine Terrace had been damaged in the storms.</p> <p>Diane said that she would represent the council at the next Nigg Liaison Group meeting.</p> <p>Anne said she was going to contact Sam Lowe about the Links car park shrubbery but Craig was dealing with the matter and she'd leave it with him.</p> <p>Ronald pointed out that the mess on Marine Terrace, Shore Road, Bayview Crescent and Shore Street that had been blown in by the storms was still not cleared up. Andrew said that there was also a considerable amount of rubbish on the beaches as well.</p>	

<p>9</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.2</p> <p>9.3</p> <p>9.4</p> <p>9.5</p> <p>9.6</p>	<p><u>Victoria Hall report</u></p> <p>Vivienne had circulated her report (Appendix A) and also read Fraser's report.</p> <p>Ronald said that he'd received a letter from Laura Shepherd on behalf of the Gala Committee asking if it would be possible to waive the booking fee for the hall on Gala Day as it was a community event.</p> <p>Members discussed it at length and all agreed that it would very likely set a precedent for other events in the future. Because of the running costs associated with what is effectively a 24hr booking (with the opening and next day cleaning, etc) it would not be possible to waive the fee.</p> <p>The Treasurer pointed out that the Gala Day fund has over £2,600 at present and the hall needs the income in order to survive. Some members said that most events at the hall could be considered community events, which is what the hall is principally there for, and were loathe to set such a precedent.</p> <p>It was suggested that if the Gala Day committee was going to have difficulties paying for the hall hire, it could apply to various funds, such as the Common Good Fund, which would consider a grant to cover the costs.</p> <p>Jeremy was asked to write to Laura and advise her of the decision. <i>[Sec's note: done]</i></p>	<p>JP</p>
<p>10</p> <p>10.1</p> <p>10.2</p> <p>10.3</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>10.5</p>	<p><u>Treasurer's report</u></p> <p>Vivienne had circulated her report and there were no questions raised about it. (Appendix C).</p> <p>Vivienne asked that the AGM be held at the late May meeting in order that she can get the accounts prepared and audited.</p> <p>Vivienne asked that Members ratify her request to allocate the Christmas Charity disbursement amount of £21 received from the Highland Council to the Monday Lunch club as the Benevolent Fund has been wound up. This was agreed.</p> <p>She also asked for agreement to cash flow the Homes & Heritage Final Report printing cost of £257.25 for a short period until all expenditure is received back from those who ordered a copy of the report (NB £147.00 of the amount already received). This was also agreed.</p> <p>Ronald thanked Vivienne for her work on the hall and accounts.</p>	

11	<u>Highland Councillors' reports</u>	
11.1	Craig asked if it was worth inviting Cameron Kemp (Highland Council) to the next meeting as many of the issues were to be resolved outwith the meetings. It was agreed he need not be invited.	
11.2	Craig reported on several matters including lights fixed and he said the bus stop at the Links was looking tatty and was in need of some minor repairs. Vivienne said she would arrange for someone to look at it and quote. David suggested the same people who are replacing the bus shelter on Shore Road.	VP
11.3	Craig also said the shrubbery at the Links was in a tatty state and although Cameron Kemp may be able to help, he said he'd speak with the Cromarty Allotments and Gardens Society. David reminded everyone that the planting scheme was still on record in the Courthouse.	CF
11.4	David reported that the cost of the 'Smiley' speed monitoring and notification signs had reduced considerably in the last 5/6 years and suggested the matter could be revisited. It would require some volunteers to move it between locations.	
11.5	Members were fully in agreement and David said he would pursue it, possibly looking for finance through the ward discretionary fund or Common Good fund.	DA
11.6	David referred to an email circulation about the closure of Service Points. He produced statistics showing the change in methods of contact over the last 5 years and the projected statistics. Face to face contact (visits) had plummeted from around 75% to around 30% and would continue to fall to less than 10%, whereas the telephone had risen from about 20% to nearly 60%. e-Transactions were likely to increase and staff were spending more time training than actually delivering the services.	
11.7	He said that libraries would provide help in the same way as the Service Points and Cromarty could effectively have a better service as currently people had to go to Fortrose.	
11.8	These changes would be introduced over the next 15 months.	
11.9	Gabriele made an observation that the library was very cold and when last in, it was 11 degrees, below the legal minimum for staff to work in. It was not comfortable for visitors and staff alike. David said he would look into this matter.	DA
11.10	Gabriele also said that not only was the online reporting system for road faults not working, but the e-planning webpage had been down all of one weekend. David said he would follow this up. She said that if Highland Council wants residents to use its services more, the system should be more robust.	

<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p> <p>12.3</p>	<p><u>Community fuel-buying co-operatives</u></p> <p>Gabriele said she had done some more research which indicated that there were a variety of schemes, some of which demanded a good deal of work from someone acting as a co-ordinator. Others made a premium charge for using credit cards and some did not have such a scheme as it was a competitive market.</p> <p>Vivienne agreed that it seemed quite onerous to set up and for one person to take it on and run it. It was certainly not a community council responsibility.</p> <p>Members agreed that it was a lot of work for little in the way of savings. Gabriele agreed to do a piece for the Cromarty Live website advising people what had been done and also a piece about incidents on buses.</p>	<p>GP</p>
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>13.3</p> <p>13.4</p> <p>13.5</p> <p>13.6</p> <p>13.7</p> <p>13.8</p>	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>Martin Gostwick had written, essentially to advise Members that he would be applying for some funding for the 'We Are Cromarty' Festival later in the year from the Common Good Fund. This was noted.</p> <p>Gabriele said she'd received some messages following the collision between the car of one of Cromarty's residents and a bus last month. There was clearly concern about the speed of buses still and Craig said he would collate concerns and pass them on to Steve Walker from Stagecoach.</p> <p>Ronald commented that because of cutbacks, the Fire Service could not attend the collision from Fortrose and Cromarty had not been called. He said it was a serious situation and he'd expressed concerns as the time from Inverness, especially in view of the road works, could have been crucial.</p> <p>A letter from Scottish Water referring to an event in Inverness had been received. Jeremy will advertise this on Cromarty Live.</p> <p>Gabriele had received a communication about the child care in Cromarty. The afternoon club will now not take place on Mondays and CARLA was considering stopping the service.</p> <p>There was a question of the viability for child care in Cromarty and the council would be advised of any other options. The main problem seems to be that people are just not using it and the numbers do not justify the facility.</p> <p>Gabriele said she'd had a letter from a visitor from Windemere about 39 Gordon's Lane – the semi-derelict cottage on the front of Shore Street. The ownership is unverified and minutes from some years ago indicated that the council was looking into the matter.</p> <p>Anne expressed an interest and declared she was one of a number of multi-owners. She'd met with David and the current situation is that there is an officer of the Highland Council responsible for empty properties who is currently working on the matter.</p>	<p>JP</p>

<p>14</p> <p>14.1</p> <p>14.2</p> <p>14.3</p> <p>14.4</p> <p>14.5</p> <p>14.6</p>	<p><u>Any other business</u></p> <p>There was nothing to report on the subject of the Seaplane Memorial.</p> <p>Gabriele said she would be attending a meeting about community wind farms in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Under this heading, both Anne and Ronald said they wanted to give notice that at an appropriate time during the year they would both be standing down from the council for a number of reasons.</p> <p>Vivienne said that she would be considering standing down in 2015 and therefore a new Treasurer would be needed. With that role came the responsibility for the management of the Victoria Hall. She would like to be 'shadowed' in the role before handing it over. A plan needed to be formulated in advance as to the future of both the role and Victoria Hall management.</p> <p>Ronald asked if any applications had been made to pay for memorial benches at the harbour. Jeremy confirmed that he'd received none.</p> <p>Ronald said that Bobby MacKay was unwell and Anne was asked if she would send him a card wishing him a speedy recovery.</p>	<p>AS</p>
<p>16</p>	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>This was agreed as Monday 31st March 2014</p>	

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Planning

Please note: the Highland Councillors did not participate in any planning related discussions and left the meeting for this agenda item

17.1

New Planning Application

Demolition and erection of replacement extension, internal alterations and installation of dormer and replacement windows (listed building consent)

88 Little Vennel Cromarty IV11 8XF Ref. No: 14/00456/LBC | Received: Tue 04 Feb 2014 | Validated: Thu 06 Feb 2014 | Status: Pending Consideration

Erection of replacement extension and installation of dormer window (planning permission)

88 Little Vennel Cromarty IV11 8XF Ref. No: 14/00410/FUL | Received: Fri 31 Jan 2014 | Validated: Thu 06 Feb 2014 | Status: Pending Consideration

Refurbishment of existing building and erection of extension (listed building consent)

Cromarty Primary School Braehead Cromarty IV11 8XR Ref. No: 14/00307/LBC
Received: Mon 27 Jan 2014 | Validated: Mon 27 Jan 2014 | Status: Pending Consideration

Erection of extension to building and formation of extended playground (planning permission)

Cromarty Primary School Braehead Cromarty IV11 8XR Ref. No: 14/00141/FUL | Received: Wed 15 Jan 2014 | Validated: Mon 03 Feb 2014 | Status: Pending Consideration

Erection of replacement extension to house

Jalidor Bayview Crescent Cromarty IV11 8YP Ref. No: 14/00113/FUL | Received: Tue 14 Jan 2014 | Validated: Tue 14 Jan /Status: Permission Granted

Update on Planning Applications

13/03948/LBC | Internal works to house | 6 Allan Square Cromarty IV11 8YF - Permission Granted

Update on out of area Planning Applications

Ref. No: 13/04695/FUL /Amended proposal for an extension to the south quayside and new berthing to accommodate vessels of dead weight of up to 35,000 tonnes, including areas of hard standing and temporary lay down areas, together with tower lighting facilities. Includes dredging to depths of -10m Chart Datum; smaller scale and altered geometry (to that granted under permission, ref No. 13/01825/ FUL); displaced 50m to the west and now 40m in width. | Nigg Fabrication Yard Nigg Tain IV19 1QY Received: Fri 13 Dec 2013 | Validated: Fri 13 Dec 2013 | Status: Permission Granted

	The meeting concluded at 21.50hrs. Ronald thanked everyone for their attendance.	
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Summary of Action Points from meeting

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
6.2	Vivienne	Researching options for new town leaflets
9.6	Jeremy	To write to Gala Committee
11.2	Vivienne	Arrange quote for repairs to bus stop at Links
11.3	Craig	Investigate options to tidy up shrubbery at Links
11.5	David	To look at acquiring a 'Smiley' speed monitoring sign
11.9	David	Look at heating issues in the library
11.10	David	To look at the road fault reporting system at Highland Council
12.3	Gabriele	To do a piece for Cromarty Live about the fuel buying co-operatives
13.4	Jeremy	Scottish Water event in Inverness to be advertised on Cromarty Live
(Ongoing)	All	Improve/increase communication with residents

Cromarty & District Community Council

Committee Meeting 24th February 2014

Agenda Item 9 – Victoria Hall Report

1. Victoria Hall finances are stable. Bookings remain strong.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

2. External funding, from the Common Good Fund, has been successfully received to cover the cost of the electrical work required for the Public Entertainments Licence Renewal.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

3. A meeting of interested parties is being arranged to discuss the refurbishment and re-hanging of the artwork panels. This still outstanding but will hopefully be arranged soon.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

4. Youth Café Report – To follow.

ACTION – Information only, no action required.

Vivienne Plampton

Finance Report – Cromarty & District Community Council

Agenda Item No 10 - Treasurer’s Report

Period: 13th January to 23rd February 2014

General Income

Less:

General Expenditure

Secretarial Services - January meeting £50.00

Increase/(Decrease) in Accumulated Fund **£(50.00)**

Fund Income

Gala Day Fund - Raffle Proceeds £80.00

Less:

Fund Expenditure

Monday Club Fund - Jan Lunches £120.25

Splash & Dash Fund - Volunteer Lunches £75.00

Splash & Dash Fund - Flags £227.92

Splash & Dash Fund - G McLeod Expenses £339.55

Increase/(Decrease) in Other Funds **£(682.72)**

Net Assets

Accounts Receivable @ 23.02.14 £-

Accounts Payable @ 23.02.14 £-

Bank & Cash in hand balances as @ 23.02.14 £8,458.85

Total Net Assets at 23rd February 2014 **£8,458.85**

Comprising:

Community Council Accumulated Fund £1,688.39

Provision for Guide Book reprinting £667.50

Seaplane Plinth Fund £820.13

Bonfire Night Fund £742.84

Splash & Dash (formerly Cromarty 2007) Fund £945.74

Monday Club Fund £807.55

Lonna's Lights Fund £154.14

Gala Day Fund £2,632.56

Homes & Heritage Project Fund £-

£8,458.85

Vivienne Plampton 23.02.14

Cromarty Youth Café report - Feb 2014

The Junior Youth Café have taken part in a wide range of activities – Planning and creating Valentine cards, making deco-page hearts, a range of baking, Plant Pot decorating, Football, Badminton, Dodgeball, jewellery making, team challenges, lots of fun games , man overboard, duck- duck goose.

Wanda’s Diamond Divas – around fifteen young girls attend weekly 3 of the young girls have created their own individual dances and have been instructing the class, then each week adding more to the routine, check out Facebook .They have also created valentine’s crafts, enjoyed baking and sweetie making as well as nail decorating.

Hockey class – is going really well with around 8 young people turning up each week, the young leaders are doing brilliantly. They are also gaining hours for their Saltire Award.

Badminton – is going really well with around 8 young people each week as well, the young sports leader is doing great.

Chanter Class – The class is going really well and we are amazed with the progress that the young people are making, with all of them at the stage of playing the pipes.

Fujitsu & Reboot Computer Project – this project went really well, 10 young people turned up to both the days and learned about computers, how they are built on the inside, they got to take the computers apart to see what the different parts of the computers do. They also learned how to install different processers onto the computer. At the end of the project they got to take the computer home with them.

Three Corners of Cromarty Project - a planning day was held on 18th Feb in the hall. 8 young people turned up to see what the project was going to involve, the young people discussed what they wanted the project to be about and what they wanted out of the project, the 3 corners that were discussed and are going to be part of the project are: The Harbour, Bus Shelter and The Gaelic Chapel. Jon Palmer is also going to continue to meet the Divas group on a Monday night.

Each week at the Youth Café they can have up to 5 Volunteers taking part in the Saltire Award.

Fraser Thomson - Assistant Youth Worker

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORM

Command Area	Ross & Cromarty	Community Group	Cromarty Community Council
Station	Dingwall	Officer Attending	PS 588 D MacNeil
Date of Meeting	24/02/2014	Location	Hugh Miller Institute, Cromarty

Meeting Preparation

Ward and Local Policing Plan Priorities.	Activities conducted over the reporting period to support those priorities.
1. Road Safety	This has been identified as a Police Scotland priority and will continue to be a National focus. A number of Police operations have been run, including Operation Route (Speed checks), Festive Drink Drive Campaign and Mobile Phone/Seatbelt Campaign
2. Alcohol Abuse	No issues of note in the Cromarty area.
3. Anti-social behaviour	1 Person reported in relation to an allegation of assault.
Update on Previously Agreed Actions – See previous OP 55/8 & Relevant Reference on the Area Command Action Tracking Table	
None outstanding	
Update on any local community safety issues / trends within the community and any assistance / information requested from the community. Review IMPACT / intelligence etc	
In the period since the last meeting on the 13/01/14 to 21/02/14 there have been a total of 17 Incidents which were of a routine nature with no significant matters of note.	
Any local / Area Command / Divisional / Police Scotland updates / key messages	
None	