



# Cromarty and District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on  
Monday 25th June 2018, 7.30pm in the Hugh Miller  
Institute

**Minutes**  
**Approved**  
**27.8.2018**

## Present

**Community Councillors:** Jacquie Ross (JR) Chair, Estelle Quick (EQ)  
Treasurer, Kenneth MacFarlane (KM), Rosemarie Hogg (RH)

**Youth Representative:** Bryn Leyshon (BL)

**Highland Councillor(s):** Cllr Gordon Adam (GA)

**Police Scotland:** -

**Member(s) of the public:** Pat Haynes, Representing the Harbour Trust & two members of the public

**Community Council Minute Secretary:** Gillian McNaught (GM)

1	<p><b><u>Chairman's Welcome</u></b> JR welcomed Councillors and representatives.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> Diane Brawn (DB) Secretary, Cllr Craig Fraser (CF), Alan McDonald (AM), Gabriele Pearson (GP), PC Michael Cosh (PC MC).</p>	
2 End	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interests</u></b> None</p>	
3 End	<p><b><u>Approval of previous Minutes, 28th May 2018</u></b></p> <p>Approved by RH and seconded by EQ.</p>	
End	<p>(4a) <i>Minute Secretary's note : Chair's decision to discuss at this point in the meeting.</i> <b><u>Harbour Trust (HT), represented by Pat Haynes (PH)</u></b></p> <p>(4a.1) PH gave an update to Members on the current and future plans and funding requirements to upgrade the Harbour.</p> <p>(4a.2) Following a recent successful application to SSE's Community Fund, the Trust was one of 15 groups (out of a total of 90 applicants) who was successful and awarded the full amount requested of £60,000.</p> <p>(4a.3) PH thanked everyone on the HT team for their efforts. There is still much more fundraising and work to do and more volunteers to help would be welcomed. JR will post this request on Facebook.</p> <p>JR thanked PH and the team for their outstanding funding success and all the hard work and effort contributed. PH left the meeting at 7.40pm</p>	JR

<p>(4b)</p> <p>(4b.1)</p> <p>(4b.2)</p> <p>End</p>	<p><i>Minute Secretary's note : Chair's decision to discuss at this point in the meeting.</i></p> <p><b><u>Snooker Club</u></b></p> <p>Two residents attended the meeting to ask if the Snooker Club could be back up and running again and offered their help with this.</p> <p>After discussions, JR proposed the Snooker Club respond to the queries raised by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. highlighting that although it is a private club, anyone can become a member</li> <li>2. clarifying the process for people to become members</li> <li>3. inform residents that the club room is currently unplayable due to various issues including damp, but that work is underway and hopefully ready for this winter.</li> </ol> <p>JR extended thanks to all and members of the public left the meeting at 7.50pm</p>	<p><b>KM</b></p>
<p>4</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>End</p>	<p><b><u>Youth issues</u></b></p> <p>BL informed Members that this is his last meeting as Youth Representative. JR will contact Wanda to discuss a new representative.</p> <p>Numerous reports of seagull mess and nuisance, particularly in Townlands Park.</p> <p><b>Cromarty Primary Head Teacher post</b> - BL requested further information on this. GA confirmed the post is being re-advertised by 21st August with interviews scheduled during the week beginning the 10th or 17th September. GA noted that the HC must advertise Teaching posts in a particular way but that the School/ community can put together additional information to attract Head Teachers to apply, as other communities have done.</p> <p><b>Grass Cutting</b> - Complaint received about grass overgrown in Townlands and issues relating to the maintenance of the Graveyard. (discussed under <i>item 6.6</i>)</p> <p><b>Cromarty Surgery</b> - BL raised a concern that appointments at the surgery are set to 15 minutes only. In addition, he queried why an older resident was recently asked to attend Raigmore for a routine blood test, when these procedures had previously been undertaken at the Practice. JR will request information from David Alston, Chair NHS Highland.</p> <p><b>Good news</b> -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cromarty was the location for a successful Black Isle Regatta hosted by Cromarty and Avoch Community Rowing Clubs, with 16 clubs from all over Scotland competing</li> <li>• The Choose Life event at Fortrose Academy was well attended by pupils and families and was an effective start to further discussions.</li> </ul> <p>JR expressed thanks to Bryn for his two years of excellent service as the C&amp;DCC Youth Representative. She hoped the experience in the role would inspire involvement in similar things and wished him well in the future. BL left the meeting at 8pm.</p>	<p><b>JR</b></p> <p><b>JR</b></p>

<p><b>5</b></p> <p>End</p>	<p><b><u>Police Report</u></b></p> <p>No report this month.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>6.1</b></p> <p><b>6.2</b></p> <p><b>6.3</b></p> <p><b>6.4</b></p> <p><b>6.5</b></p> <p><b>6.6</b></p> <p><b>6.7</b></p> <p><b>6.8</b></p> <p><b>6.9</b></p> <p><b>6.10</b></p> <p><b>6.11</b></p> <p>(cont)</p>	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>((4a.2) Contact Alan for Christmas lights update and HC for installation requirements. Pass info to Laura Shepherd). EQ contacted the relevant Department regarding installation and was then directed to the Ward Manager. EQ will follow up for a response, but currently this is at a standstill. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(4.3 Bryn Organise 6 more ‘do not feed the seagull’ signs and Diane to display round town). Done. <b>Discharged.</b></p> <p>(4.4 Bryn pass on complaints about increased bus pricing to Craig. Done <b>Discharged.</b> Craig collate information with Cllr Gordon Adam and send to bus companies). CF has organised a meeting with the Chief Executive of D&amp;E coaches. GA will liaise. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.1 Once additional information in place about road repairs, feedback to Members, Minutes 26.3.2018, appendix D). <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.3 Post HC Seagull Nuisance link on Facebook). <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.4 Send details of complaints about Graveyard burial procedures). Further issues reported. JR will contact HC. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.6 Follow up on Public Toilet complaints and maintenance issues). Further complaint received since last meeting. JR to follow up with CF. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.9 Request further clarity from John Nightingale about maintenance of fences etc to contain livestock at reeds loop. Done and awaiting a reply. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.12 Organise a visit to Youth Cafe ref CCDT). Once the date for the AGM is confirmed, EQ will arrange a visit beforehand. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.13 Report back with an update on Whitedykes site soil survey, once HC has responded). JR re-capped on this issue for the benefit of GA and reported that HC have now surveyed the soil several times. HC confirmed the soil is free of flatworm and propose to simply take it away. JR expressed disappointment and frustration that promises made about this site by HC have been broken and the community let down. JR will forward correspondence to GA, he will follow up with CF and speak with relevant staff at HC. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(6.14 Inform Members of any slipway repair progress). Discussed under <i>item 10.3</i>. <b>Discharged.</b></p>	<p><b>EQ</b></p> <p><b>EQ</b></p> <p><b>CF &amp; GA</b></p> <p><b>CF</b></p> <p><b>JR</b></p> <p><b>JR</b></p> <p><b>JR &amp; CF</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>EQ</b></p> <p><b>JR, GA &amp; CF</b></p>

(cont)		
6.12	(6.17 Progress solution to the Links bus shelter as proposed in Minutes 28.5.2018). <b>Ongoing.</b>	CF
6.13	(6.19 Note to self, cutting back of ivy at Gaelic Chapel after nesting season). <b>Ongoing.</b>	CF
6.14	(6.21 Follow up urgent request for directional signs on Links to public toilets for Regatta). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.15	(6.22 Send to HC locations of grit bins for replacement). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.16	(6.23 Write to CFPA regarding noise and high rig density around Cromarty). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.17	(6.24 Update signs on Links to avoid motorhomes parking too close to Residents' properties) JR will do this and monitor. <b>Ongoing.</b>	JR
6.18	(6.25 Ask for response to first email to Beatrice Partnership about Cromarty not eligible to apply for their grant funding). Done and still awaiting replies. <b>Ongoing.</b>	DB
6.19	(6.26 Update Members on finalised data protection laws for CCs and other voluntary groups). Forwarded an email containing C&DCC privacy statement to Miles Watters and contacted Ward Manager Di Agnew. No response to date. <b>Ongoing.</b>	DB
6.20	(7.3 Thank camping group for donation to C&DCC Christmas lights fund). Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.21	(8.2 Discuss Planning Permission for Thrift Shop at next meeting). EQ will look into the possibility of sourcing funds for an application for 'reinstatement of retail use' as a fundraiser for the CCDT in the Old Dairy. <b>Ongoing.</b>	EQ
6.22	(10.2 Ask Planning about planning concerns raised). Discussed under <i>item 10.1</i> . Done. <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.23	(10.2 Contact Lynne Sproull for Planning advice). Dealt with under <i>item 10.1</i> . <b>Discharged.</b>	
6.24	(13.1 Write to Mr Buskie highlighting compensation disparity between communities in relation to wind farm noise and noise from industrial operations in the Firth). DB has written to Angela Constance, SNP politician and Cabinet Secretary for Communities, Social Services and Equalities and asked her advice. <b>Ongoing.</b>	DB
(cont)		

<p>(cont)</p> <p><b>6.25</b></p> <p><b>6.26</b></p> <p><b>6.27</b></p> <p><b>6.28</b></p> <p>End</p>	<p>(13.5 Send CFPA Phase 4 information for posting on CL website). Done. <b>Discharged.</b></p> <p>(14.1 Letter of support’ policy decide at next meeting). JR asked Members to share their views. Following discussion and in the light of the majority of requests for letters to support are for funding applications to the Cromarty Firth Port Authority, it was <b>agreed</b> C&amp;DCC would continue their existing stance - that every application from the District will have full C&amp;DCC support. JR will write to Joanne Allday at the CFPA to re-iterate this. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>(14.5 Contact Alan about standing down from CC due to moving from the C&amp;DCC area). AM has resigned. JR thanked AM for his contribution to the CC and DB will send letters of thanks to both Alan and Bryn. <b>Ongoing.</b></p> <p>AM’s resignation has given rise to a vacancy. All <b>agreed</b> to co-opt a new Member with full voting rights in accordance with CC constitution. GM will put together a poster. <b>Ongoing.</b></p>	<p><b>JR</b></p> <p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>GM</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>End</p>	<p><b><u>Treasurer’s Report</u></b></p> <p>No report this month as no financial activity since last meeting.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>8.1</b></p> <p>End</p>	<p><b><u>Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT)</u></b></p> <p>Fundraising Thrift Shop discussed under <i>item 6.21</i>. RH asked the Community Council (on behalf of the Thrift Shop group) to pay for the necessary planning application required for re-instatement of the dairy shop as a retail unit. The group would refund the fees. The shop would be a local focus for the entire project and let the community see that the Trust is making attempts to raise funds for the Townlands Barn project.</p>	
<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>9.1</b></p> <p>End</p>	<p><b><u>Victoria Hall (VH) Report</u></b></p> <p>Alan Plampton (AP) circulated the VH Report (<b>Appendix A</b>) and Cromarty Youth Cafe report (<b>Appendix B</b>) prior to the meeting.</p> <p>AP was thanked for his reports.</p>	

10	<b><u>Community Councillors' Portfolios</u></b>	
10.1	<b><u>Gabriele Pearson</u></b> <b>Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No new applications and no updates on previous.</li> <li>Erection of extension to restaurant and formation of outside seating area 21 Bank Street Cromarty IV11 8YE. Ref. No: 18/02518/FUL   Received: Mon 04 Jun 2018   Validated: Thu 07 Jun 2018   Status: Under Consideration</li> <li>GP passed on the two items that were discussed at the last meeting to HC planning who have passed them on to the Enforcement Team.</li> </ul>	GP
10.2	<b><u>Rosemarie Hogg</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complaints received about poor grounds maintenance that allowed areas of grass to get a foot high and cuttings not raked.</li> </ul>	
10.3	<b><u>Kenneth MacFarlane</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Ferry</b> is now operating its summer timetable but concerns remain about the poor repair of the slipways. A site visit for a realistic, cost effective method of repair from a Transport Scotland (TS) specialist engineer has been requested. GA has asked to be copied into correspondence and will urge TS to have this done urgently.</li> </ul>	JR, KM & GA
10.4	<b><u>Estelle Quick</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A reprint of the <b>Cromarty Guidebook</b> will be required for 2019. EQ will research costs and funding.</li> <li>There was a recent hiccup with the Dog poo bin emptying rota, but this has now been sorted.</li> </ul>	EQ
10.5	<b><u>Jacquie Ross</u></b> <b>Links</b> - Concerns from Resident about the <i>number</i> of camper vans parked overnight. Discussed under <i>item 6.18</i> .	
End		
11	<b><u>Highland Councillor (HC) Report</u></b>	
11.1	CF sent a report ( <b>Appendix C</b> ) and is also currently working on the following:	
11.2	<b>Reeds Loop</b> - A complaint raised about the path being very overgrown.	CF
11.3	<b>Links Car park area</b> - Complaints about overgrown shrubbery at the ice house where members of the public have been seen using this area as a loo and poor sight lines at the entrance to the Links carpark due to vegetation.	CF
11.4	A suggestion from a resident for a bench in the Townlands sheltered housing courtyard area.	CF
End		

<b>12</b>	<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	
<b>12.1</b>	<b>Public Toilets</b> - email of complaint received. Discussed under <i>item 6.7</i> .	
<b>12.2</b>	Email received from <b>Susy MacAuley, Local Democracy Reporter</b> for the P&J and BBC, whose job it is to scrutinise the work of Highland Council. She requested to visit CCs across the region and prepare podcasts and interviews with those the CC would like her to meet.	
<b>12.3</b>	Email received from <b>Criminal Justice Services</b> (Alness) about the nationally agreed focus on clearing plastic for Community Payback Teams and will take place from 9 -15th July in this area. CCs have been offered the possibility of this service in their area, if required .	
<b>12.4</b>	Email from the <b>The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust Board of Directors</b> seeking nominations from the C&DCC for Community Elected Director Nominations.	
<b>12.5</b>	Email from <b>Steve Barron, CEX of The Highland Council</b> requesting Community Groups to nominate HC staff (individual or team) for the HC Quality Awards 2018. Deadline <u>Monday 24th September 2018</u> .	
End		
<b>13</b>	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
<b>13.1</b>	<b>Graveyard Wheelie Bin</b> - EQ noted this bin has not been put out for collection recently and was overflowing. EQ will contact CF to find out who is responsible for emptying.	<b>EQ</b>
End		
<b>14</b>	<b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b> <b>Monday 27th August 2018 @ 7.30pm, Hugh Miller Institute, Church Street, Cromarty.</b>	
	JR thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 8.45pm.	

## Summary of Matters Arising & Action Points

Reference	To whom allocated	Notes
(4a.3)	Jacque	Post on Facebook the Harbour Trust's request for more volunteer support
(4b.2)	Kenneth	Report back about queries put to the Snooker Club as minuted
4.1	Jacque	Speak with Wanda about a new Youth Representative

4.5	Jacquie	Follow up points raised about Cromarty Surgery with David Alston
6.1	Estelle	Follow up with Ward Manager about Xmas light installation
6.3	Craig & Gordon	Collate bus complaints. Craig meet with D&E coaches to discuss
6.4	Craig	Report back on road repairs highlighted on his March report
6.5	Jacquie	Post HC Seagull Nuisance link on Facebook
6.6	Jacquie	Send details of all complaints about Graveyard burial procedures and maintenance to HC
6.7	Jacquie & Craig	Jacquie follow up on Public Toilet complaints and maintenance issues with Craig
6.8	Diane	Follow up for a response to written request for further clarity from John Nightingale about maintenance of fences etc to contain livestock at Reeds Loop
6.9	Estelle	Organise a visit to Youth Cafe before CCDT AGM
6.10	Jacquie, Gordon & Craig	Forward correspondence to Gordon about the dumping of soil at the Whitedykes site. Gordon liaise with Craig, who will then both contact relevant HC staff
6.12	Craig	Progress solution to the Links bus shelter as detailed in May Minutes
6.13	Craig	Note to self, cutting back of ivy at Gaelic Chapel after nesting season
6.17	Jacquie	Update signs on Links to avoid motorhomes parking too close to Residents' properties and monitor
6.18	Diane	Ask again for a response to written request to Beatrice Partnership about Cromarty not eligible to apply for their grant funding
6.19	Diane	Request responses to email regarding data protection laws for CCs and other voluntary groups
6.21	Estelle	Look at sourcing the £200 required to pay for the application to HC for reinstatement of use for the Old Dairy for a CCDT fundraising Thrift Shop.
6.24	Diane	Report back on request for advice regarding compensation disparity between communities in relation to wind farm noise and noise from industrial operations in the Firth
6.26	Jacquie	Write to CFPA to re-iterate C&DCC support for all funding applications from the District
6.27	Diane	Write letters of thanks to Alan Macdonald and Bryn Leyshon
6.28	Gillian	Put together poster to advertise CC vacancy
10.1	Gabriele	Report back about Planning queries
10.3	Jacquie & Kenneth	Forward slipway information to Gordon



10.3	Gordon	Urge Transport Scotland to urgently send a specialist engineer to assess the slipways
10.4	Estelle	Research costs for re-publishing Cromarty Guidebook
11.1	Craig	Report back on overgrown Reeds Loop path complaint
11.2	Craig	Follow up on Links shrubbery issues
11.3	Craig	Follow up an the suggestion for a bench in sheltered housing courtyard
13.1	Estelle	Ask Craig for further information on emptying of graveyard wheelie bin

## **Agenda item 9**

### **Appendix A**

## **Cromarty & District Community Council Meeting - 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

### **Agenda Item 9 - Victoria Hall Report**

#### **1. Finances and Bookings Nothing new to report.**

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

#### **2. Repairs and Maintenance Sadly, it was necessary to replace a smashed power socket, which had obviously been kicked as some of the panelling is also broken.**

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

#### **3. Highland Council/Highlife Highland Still nothing new to report. However the Highland Council has replaced Richard Irvin with a new tenderer, from Northern Ireland! Luckily they have had to take on Irvin's engineers who were laid off after losing the contract.**

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

#### **4. Youth Café We shortly hope to interview 3 applicants. Attached is the Youth Café report that has been submitted to their main funder, the Middleton Trust.**

**ACTION - Information only, no action required.**

Alan Plampton, VHMC

## Cromarty Youth Café Report to the Trustees of The Middleton Trust October 2017 to June 2018

### ENGAGEMENT - WHAT THE CROMARTY YOUTH CAFE HAS BEEN DOING

Over the past 10 months Cromarty Youth Café has worked with over 100 different young people at various different activities and community events.

#### Benefits to Young people in Cromarty

- Increased **opportunities** for young people
- Increased **participation** within the community
- Increased **confidence** through involvement in activities
- Increased **self-esteem** for young people
- **Supporting** with transition into the Academy
- Young people are **involved** and **included** in decisions that affect them
- Young people are able to be:
  - **Safe**
  - **Healthy**
  - **Achieving**
  - **Nurtured**
  - **Active**
  - **Respected**
  - **Responsible**
  - **Included**
- Young people are able to attend activities and try out new sports, and step out of their **comfort zone**.
- **Achievement** - Saltire Awards, Summit Awards, Highlife Highland (HLH) Leaders Award, I Can Lead/Go Lead course that young people complete as they take part in volunteering or leading.
- **Improvements** in performance, **attendance**, **health**, homework, **behaviour**, **confidence** - shown by the data we collect. Reduction in crime, gaining **skills for life and work**, improving **life chances**, improved quality of life through opportunities, improved **health and well-being**, better chances of employment.
- Impact on Local Community - Positive reports from - Police, School, parents, partner agencies. **Breaking down barriers** between older and young people. Working with the policy makers. **Active citizenship** - especially working with those at greater risk.

<b>Cromarty Junior Youth Café</b>	<p>Runs for 25 weeks x 2 hours. We have, at times, up to 40 members. Most weeks there are about 25 young people attending. Young people are able to take part in a range of different activities -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Themed Arts and Crafts</li> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Dodgeball</li> <li>• Multi Sports</li> <li>• Movie Nights</li> <li>• First Aid</li> </ul> <p>During November and December the Juniors took part in a block of creative arts sessions - creating monuments from WW1 supported by HLH arts worker.</p>
<b>Self Defence</b>	<p>All the young people that were attending each week really enjoyed taking part in this class. 20 young people attended each week, learning about how to protect themselves safely, about bullying and peer-pressure. This class ended in December.</p>
<b>Cromarty Senior Youth Café</b>	<p>Runs on a Monday evening from 6 - 8pm, 25 weeks so far this year. At each session there can be from 7 - 15 young people. Most weeks there are about 10 young people attending -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• PS4 Nights</li> <li>• Games Nights</li> <li>• Arts and Crafts.</li> <li>• Movie Nights</li> </ul>
<b>Mountain Biking</b>	<p>Runs on a Tuesday night 7pm - 8.30pm for 45 weeks of the year. 18 people from Cromarty have attended mountain biking sessions, with various biking days out at the weekends throughout the year.</p> <p>The club is run by the Black Isle Mountain Biking Club, but is supported by Highlife Highland Staff.</p>
<b>Cookwell/Bakewell</b>	<p>30 Cookwell or Bakewell sessions have been delivered on a Monday night from 5 - 7.30pm, 8 young people turning up to each session.</p> <p>On a few different occasions the Cookwell/Bakewell class has provided meals/baking for community events. The class has also hosted meals for funders, as a thank you for their support.</p>
<b>Chanter &amp; Pipe Class</b>	<p>This runs for 25 weeks on Tuesdays from 3.30 - 5.30pm, with up to 6 young people turning up each week. This class, run by Father Mel and Vicky, who are volunteers, is supported by the Cromarty Arts Trust. The group has played at community events such as Cromarty Gala and a Christening.</p>

<b>I Can Lead Course</b>	5 Volunteers from Cromarty took part in the I Can Lead Course, The participants are now leading a - Dance Class with 20 young people weekly Football Coaching Group with 15 young people Dodgeball Group with 15 - 20 young people
<b>Fusion</b>	Fusions have happened in Cromarty on a Monday night once a month, where young people have had the opportunity to take part in Diversionary activities.
<b>Rowing</b>	Each week up to 20 young people have been taking part in Coastal Rowing. Rowing has been taking place every Monday, when the weather was bad the young people would take part in Indoor Rowing. Over the past 3 months all of the young people have been working really hard for the Regatta in June 2018, which they are now getting very excited about.
<b>Tennis Coaching</b>	On Saturday mornings from 9am - 12noon, for 8 weeks, tennis coaching was delivered to 30 young people. 1 week intensive programme planned for July with Cookwell class also!
<b>Employability</b>	Each week 1-1 sessions with a number of young people either supporting, volunteering opportunities, leading and working with young people to help plan their future, build CVs, plan work experience, fill in job applications etc.
<b>Volunteers</b>	Up to 16 young people volunteer at the Cromarty Junior Youth Café, supporting young people, planning and delivering activities to them. Meet with the volunteers regularly to update their Saltire diaries, and to plan for the following weeks. During the festive period young people from the Youth Café, supported with the Feeding Families Project, delivered meals to families in Cromarty. Also donating food left from Cookwell sessions.
<b>Christmas Party</b>	This year's Christmas party was planned and organised by young volunteers.
<b>Easter Programme</b>	This year's Easter programme was very busy with various different activities taking place, including hosting a meal for MFR Cash for Kids, to show them the Youth Café, so they could meet the young people and find out about the Club and how their funding is well spent.

<p><b>Young People's Voices</b></p>	<p>Each month had 1-1 with the Youth Rep on Cromarty Community Council, to discuss any issues that young people feel they wanted reported to the Community Council. Once a month there is a planning meeting held in the Youth Café with Volunteers so they are able to plan ahead for the Youth Café with a PLAN, DO, REVIEW approach. Young people on Cromarty Community Rowing Club (CCRC) Equality Group Highland Youth Parliament -3 Young people from Cromarty Youth Café have attended the Highland Youth Parliament Conference, where they presented the work that they had been doing with the Peer Mental Health Project.</p>
<p><b>Training</b></p>	<p>20 young people and 20 adults have taken part in First Aid Training, delivered by the Red Cross. Coxing course - 30 people, 5 young. Dementia Friends training every 6 months - Families and young people.</p>
<p><b>Choices For Life</b></p>	<p>With what has been happening in the Black Isle over the past 6 months, with 6 suicides in 6 months, there is a huge focus on Mental Health. In June, all pupils across the Black Isle received talks from Police Scotland Choices for Life Team - Choose Life Conversation Café. All services involved and very well attended. Choices For Life delivered a very interactive session on substance misuse, lots of talking and a good wee film. Lots of questions about Choices and the consequences. Display with young ones using the booze goggles and doing an activity. Lots about peer pressure and how to use a code to get a parent to collect you, keeping people safe. 1 day workshops on Drugs Misuse - Internet Safety - Road Safety - Performance.</p>

### Priorities for Future Developments

This last year has been tough, with six suicides, locally in our ward, mostly young men. Also a number of young people have attempted to take their own lives, which is deeply concerning for all of us. This affects the immediate family, school and community.

Health indicators show that, in Mid Ross, there are high levels of logged cases with depression and mental health issues. In addition, the figures show a notable number of Black Isle residents have been hospitalised with an alcohol related illness. Child obesity is a concern, as the Black Isle North has the highest levels noted within the Mid Ross area. These health indicators emphasise that, although the area is not in a low Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivations (SIMD), there are pockets of deprivation across the Black Isle.

Cromarty has been identified as one of the areas with pockets of deprivation and, within this community, the recently formed Cromarty Community Development Trust (CCDT) have been established with an aim of improving outcomes for young people. They have

recognised a need for family support and have the aim of developing programmes or projects to engage and support the vulnerable young people in the community. There is recognition that, due to the lack of funding for early years development, issues including substance misuse, mental health issues and obesity arise in many young people when they reach primary and secondary age.

Cromarty Primary School has the biggest percentage of Free School Meals on the Black Isle. Last year, the school renovation caused a lot of stress, and we are now without a permanent head teacher, which is another concern for parents, and the young people themselves.

Fortrose Academy is a high achieving school with 12 pupils, in S5, who achieved 5 'A' passes in 2017. This was the highest level of attainment throughout the Highlands. Also Fortrose sees a slightly lower level of unauthorised absences and a lower exclusion rate than the rest Highlands. Pupils in the lowest 20% continually underperform (lower than the virtual comparator), and this can often be due to mental health issues, lack of confidence as well as social and behavioural issues.

At the Academy, free school meals are taken up by only 74% of those that are entitled where a total of 43 pupils are registered for free school meals. Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) of £30,000 was received, and most Free School Meals (FSM) pupils are punching above their weight in terms of attainment in literacy and numeracy, however many have Social, Emotional, and Behavioural Needs. Hence the need for Nurture groups and other support.

The number of leavers who are unemployed and not seeking work is above both the Highland and National average. This highlights the need for a service to ensure young people can be assisted to improve confidence and build employability skills.

Fortrose Academy has currently 288 Additional Support Needs (ASN) pupils, stages 1-4, and approximately 5.8% of these are graded at level 3 or 4. ASN pupils struggle with achievement in literacy and numeracy so there is a need to assist the Academy in developing skills through activities. 2.8 % of pupils attending do not have English as a first language.

### **School Risk Matrix**

Highland Council (HC) has devised this around specific factors, e.g. attendance, SIMD, ASN levels etc. This tool allows the school to identify pupils and gives a focus/highlights pupils at risk of not achieving/attaining/moving onto positive destinations. Currently Fortrose Academy has approximately 74 pupils in S1-S4 who are identified as 'at risk' on the Risk Matrix.

## **The Economy**

The Black Isle relies very heavily on tourism, and many pupils on the risk matrix have parents who are locally employed and work in the tourist industry. This can mean pupils have very little support during the summer months as parents work long hours and that deprivation can become an issue during the winter months when there is no work.

### **Key issues**

High numbers of pupils with ASN

High numbers of pupils with Social, Emotional and Behavioural Needs

High level of pupils leaving school to be unemployed and not seeking employment

Increasing number of pupils suffering from anxiety and stress related illness

Sexuality and sexual health issues

High levels of obesity

High rate of alcohol misuse

Seasonality of local employment opportunities

Together the Needs Analysis and Self Evaluation will guide the subsequent decisions taken by the partners, including prioritisation and the design, implementation and delivery, monitoring and evaluation of Youth Work programmes and projects.

### **Ward and Local Policing**

Plan Priorities -

Activities conducted over the reporting period to support those priorities.

1. Road Safety

2. Anti-social behaviour

3. Alcohol Abuse

### **How can the Cromarty Youth Café make a difference?**

Having no one in the Assistant Youth Worker Post, as yet, has meant that the Cromarty Primary School has had no work done in the school. They would normally have received a weekly 2 hour session, plus a 7 hour slot once a month and an 8 week slot for a Bike Ability Training Scheme.

Resilient Kids and Resilience for Life are 2 programmes that the Assistant Youth Worker supported for 6 weeks at a time with Social work.

Many services make referrals to be supported by our work - Primary Mental Health, Social work, Children's Service worker, guidance and both schools. Without an Assistant Youth Worker we cannot respond to these referrals.

The CCDT has been formed with the aim of improving outcomes for our young people - they recognise for early year's development the need for family support, developing

programmes, activities, projects to engage and support the vulnerable young people in the community, this is recognition of the lack of funding in early years.

With the Assistant Youth Worker we can start to identify local issues such as substance misuse, mental health issues, sexual health and eating disorders.

Work has been done with all Primary 7s and every year group in the Academy through the Choose Life Team ( Police Scotland ) The Conversation Café with community consultation was very well attended with all of the 'partners' in attendance. It is just the beginning of a way forward.

Work can continue with the Ross-shire Drug and Alcohol Forum - lots of diversionary activities provided.

Celebrate young People's success.

Use Facebook and other social media platforms.

Newsletters, posters, school awards ceremonies, HLH 6 monthly newsletter, community events, Community Council, District Partnership meetings.

Around 95 young people taking part in Saltire Awards. Volunteering from 10 up to 500 hours - Totalling 5,551½ hours over 1 year! - 190 awards presented. Young people with over 200 hours making an exceptional contribution are nominated and have won - 11 Summit Awards.

In addition young people have received

16 Lord Lieutenant Youth Awards (LLYA) and 24 HLH Leaders' Awards

5 young members are also doing I Can Lead.

Collate information weekly for reporting every 6 months and attendance at yearly meeting.



Middleton Trust (MT) funding has made a difference, but it can do more! A 2 year accounting of how the MT money has been spent follows, and we are hugely grateful for the support. But we need to do more to address the issues raised in this report. We hope we can continue to receive this invaluable MT support. We can make a difference together.

**CROMARTY YOUTH CAFE**  
**Middleton Trust Funding**  
**Income and Expenditure**  
**1st April 2016 to 31st March 2018**

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Youth Cafe Running Costs	8,328.00	
Assistant Youth Worker Salary	10,960.79	
Assistant Youth Worker Training	75.00	
	<hr/>	19,363.79
 <b>INCOME</b>		
<u>Middleton Trust Grants Received</u>		
1st April to 30th September 2016	6,480.00	
1st October 2016 to 31st March 2017	6,016.80	
1st April to 30th September 2017	5,358.50	
1st October 2017 to 31st March 2018	1,420.00	
	<hr/>	19,275.30
 <b>DEFICIT FUNDED FROM YOUTH CAFE FUNDS</b>	 <b>£</b>	 <b>88.49</b>
		<hr/>

**SINCE THE 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL WE HAVE SPENT OVER £500 ADVERTISING FOR A NEW ASSISTANT YOUTH WORKER. THIS HAS BEEN FUNDED FROM YOUTH CAFE FUNDS.**

## Agenda item 11.1

### Appendix C

Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

Location - Cromarty

Topic - Amenity areas maintenance

In attendance - John Mackay (HC Community Works Manager) Ingrid Jamieson (Amenities Manager) Councillor Craig Fraser (Black Isle Ward 9)

This meeting was arranged to discuss issues raised from previous reports.

- Burial grounds maintenance
- Links grass cutting regime - signage to public for loos at Allen Square
- Other grassed areas
- Reeds Loop path
- **Additional item** - amenity areas Townlands Park and old folks housing area

#### Observations way forward

- Burial grounds maintenance - Remove overgrown ivy from walls - volunteers may be available to remove ivy and have this collected by HC. Remove Holly tree that is re-growing between headstones, prune large Cherry bottom of burial ground, prune large tree at the top of burial ground, suggest some paths be naturalised, weed killer where appropriate. (Cromarty Wester Burial Ground. Remove dead Yew tree at entrance to (New Cromarty Wester Burial ground). Clean headstones after strimming?
- Links cutting regime - as per map previously provided supply of signage to public loos (previously promised)
- Other grassed areas - ??
- Reeds Loop - Strim shore-side engage community pay back to do this work along with litter pick around shore and whole Reeds Loop
- **Additional item** - Townlands Park - old folks area, prune large tree, clear paths, grassed area, and play area all out of specification to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

There has been improvement to the standard of grass cutting on the Links and Victoria Park, it is hope that has the season progresses the issues raised on maintenance standards over the past years will be addressed.

Cllr Craig Fraser

Find us on 