



**Minutes of the 406<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm  
on Monday, 04 December 2023 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

D Hay	Chairperson
D Quarm	Vice Chair
A Rintoul	Secretary
J Lauchlan	Treasurer
R Baxter	
E Fearn	
S Ballinger	
S Gibbons	

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Glen	Fife Council
4 members of the public	

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence had been received from J Matson, R Brougham, A Hibbert and Cllr Boubaker-Calder

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Inaugural post-election meeting held on 23rd October and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by J Lauchlan and seconded by R Baxter. Additionally, the Minutes of the normal meeting held on 23rd October and previously distributed were also agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by S Ballinger and seconded by J Lauchlan.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

Police Report

PC Morrison of the Community Police Team reported that:

For the months of October and November there were a total of 45 calls made to Police.

From these calls 8 offences were identified and recorded.

1. Vandalism x 3 (2 incidents linked, damage to window wipers on vehicle)
2. Assault x 1
3. Theft (dishonesties) x 3
4. Misuse of Drugs Offence (Personal use, person traced within vehicle)

In relation to the concerns raised regarding speeding vehicles in Crossford, Sgt Crawford has contacted Safety Cameras Scotland to request a camera enforcement van be deployed within the area. The data collected in the area met the criteria they have for enforcement by their cameras. They are now taking steps to try and identify a suitable location to site a mobile camera van. If they can identify a suitable location they will look at assessing the other factors in the flexible deployment criteria.

PC Morrison reported that there was nothing of any concern to share. She was thanked by the meeting for her attendance.

#### Pitconochie Proposal.

There was no further news on the Pitconochie planning proposal.

#### Carnegie's Way

Discussions continue between Sustrans, Stantec and Fife Council on the proposed route. A meeting was held between the landowner, farmer, Stantec, and Fife Council. At this meeting, it was suggested by the landowner that he might be prepared to agree to a route which followed the line of the current road A994. As a consequence of this, Stantec will have to look seriously at this route, and do a full assessment to compare costs, suitability and deliverability with the existing options. It is known that the A994 route will be more expensive than the alternatives, and has greater inclines, but if it is more deliverable due to landowner support, that will be taken into account.

It is understood that Stage 0 has been completed, and that Stage 1 will be completed by Christmas, with Stage 2 following on from that in January, for completion by the end of March. Stage 3 will follow that, and it is during this stage that costings of all options will be reassessed. There will be a further public consultation at this stage.

In response to a comment by a Community Council member, it was noted that the tarmaced footpath from the east end of Crossford to the Urquhart Cut is very overgrown and this is causing problems for users. Cllr Glen will contact Stephen Duffy with a view to getting him to cut back the vegetation at the side of the pavement and build-up of soil at the side of the pavement so that it is easier to use. He also noted that Fife Council have cut back vegetation alongside the Urquhart Cut in the past, most recently a few years ago.

### Footpath repairs

Gallowhill Path: There was no further news on this and the Secretary, A Rintoul, will contact the factor to Broomhall Estate for an update.

Regarding the Knockhouse to Milesmark Right of Way: The Secretary, A Rintoul, reported that a meeting had been held with Sarah Johnson, Fife Council Access Officer responsible for footpaths and Rights of Way. Cllr Glen and D Hay were also in attendance.

It was generally helpful. Sarah Johnson has no budget for path maintenance, but she has undertaken to contact various voluntary bodies to see if any of them can help with clearance of the footpath to make it passable again.

A Rintoul is meeting up with her on 19 December to walk the footpath with her, and to see whether we get any reaction from the owner of the stables

Regarding rerouting the footpath, she is happy to approach Jim Wylie with a view to trying to agree to the use or acquisition of some land to divert the footpath, although at D Hay's request she will not do that until we have sorted out the use of the woodland areas next to the allotments for footpath extensions with Jim Wylie. We think it will be better to do one thing at a time with him.

We also discussed Rights of Way in general, and if Cllr Glen asks, she will see if she can review the Rights of Way and Core Paths in our area sooner than otherwise, but she needs to be asked by him (which he has now done). Thus, there has been some progress and at least we now have Sarah Johnson engaged on this.

Woodland Walk: S Gibbons is still to speak to her contact in West Fife Woodlands to ask for their advice regarding the bench, and report back to the Community Council.

### Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

This was discussed in part in the Police Report. A Rintoul noted that Cllr Boubaker-Calder had had a disappointingly negative response from Fife Council to the suggestion that there be a reduction in speed on the stretch between Crossford and Cairneyhill from 60mph to 40mph. She will consider whether to raise this at Area Committee, in order to get the support of other Councillors.

### The A985 Junction:

The Secretary noted that he had not yet had a response from Jimmy MacLean of BEAR to the suggestion that the black and white posts with reflectors, which had been removed some time ago, could be replaced. He will contact him again.

### Cut down shrubs at Waggon Rd:

It was noted at the previous meeting that the contractors had left some shrubs which had been cut down, and the Secretary has now removed half of these, and will return for the remainder soon.

#### Waggon Rd parking:

Cllr Glen has contacted Transportation, and they have said that they are not prepared to extend the double yellow lines further to the south. We need to demonstrate that the current position is causing an impediment.

#### Drinking in KGV Park:

J Lauchlan reported that he has raised this with Fife Council. Any further instances should be reported to Police Scotland.

#### Damage to grass at KGV Park:

Cllr Glen has contacted the Area Officer, who will talk to the street cleaning crew to ensure that this does not happen again.

### **3. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

A Rintoul reported that the Consultation Document had been available online (through the Crossford Residents' Facebook page) and in hard copy in the Post Office. A number of responses had been received, both online and in hard copy. The Consultation Event of 18 November in the Village Hall, attended by A Rintoul and A Hibbert, produced some interest, and discussions were held with interested residents. The Chairman, D Hay, also attended the Fife Council Community Event in the Scout Hall on the same day, and more Consultation documents were picked up at both events.

Regarding the new nursery school building proposed as part of the LPP by the Community Council, J Lauchlan reported that the Parent Teacher Council, at its meeting of 27 November, had discussed this, and they agree that this has long been needed, as the current building is not fit for purpose. They have asked the Headteacher to contact Fife Council to ask if there are any plans to replace the building, as they must carry out inspections to ensure safety.

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that Fife Council had now delayed the deadline for submission of Local Place Plans from January to the end of June. This gives more time to write the LPP, and to do more public consultation.

S Gibbons noted that she had attended an online event on LPPs, and wondered if boundary maps need to be included. She is correct in this, as the LPP has to state the boundaries to which the LPP applies. She also wondered whether it could be used to preserve areas from development, such as existing green space, and the area previously proposed by Wimpey for development. A Rintoul suggested that they discuss this further, outside the Community Council meeting.

#### **4. UKRAINE EVACUATION SCHEME REPORT**

There was no report on the Ukraine evacuees. It is understood that some have moved out but we have no information on numbers or future plans.

#### **5. COMMUNITY RECOVERY SCHEME – ALLOTMENTS**

The Chairman, D Hay, reported on progress in this. A member of the public questioned the extent of the consultation on this, and D Hay responded that consultation had happened with landowners, the Keavil, the Allotment Society, Jim Wylie and others. The questioner was not entirely happy with this; She pointed out that as an allotment holder, she had not been asked about it by the Allotment Society. She was also concerned with a possible increase in dog fouling if the new paths were formed, as there was already a significant problem. D Hay suggested that Fife Council's dog warden should perhaps be contacted regarding this. Also, it might be possible to put a dog waste bin at the hammerhead, or where the sycamore tree is. Cllr Glen suggested that these concerns should be taken to Peter Duncan.

There was also an issue with the access through the Steadings, which would be made worse.

Concern was also expressed with the wetlands area; D Hay noted that a specialist adviser, John Forbes, was advising on this. One of the reasons for doing this was to rid the area of hogweed, which has been pervasive for some years.

D Hay agreed that it needed to proceed with caution and ensure proper mitigation measures for these issues were put in place. He will speak to Peter Duncan about these points, when he meets with him in January.

#### **6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

##### Bedding plants:

D Hay has been approached by the Allotment Society who ask whether we want to order the same amount of bedding plants for next spring as we did last year. The Community Council agreed to repeat that order.

##### MUGA:

There is an issue with the lease to the MUGA, as it is likely that, when CREATE was wound up, the lease ceased to operate, because in order to continue, CREATE should have asked Fife Council for consent to transfer the lease to the Community Council. Fife Council were made aware of the winding up of CREATE in the Community council Minutes, but this was presumably overlooked. As consent to transfer was not requested, the lease was not transferred. Cllr Glen suggested that we should arrange a meeting with Shirley Melville (he would provide contact details) to discuss whether Fife Council could become responsible for the MUGA, or whether they require the Community Council to take a new lease over it. Also we need to discuss whether we would also need a new Management Agreement. D Hay will arrange a meeting.

There was a question over whether a Community Council could own property, but the Secretary, A Rintoul, pointed out that, according to paragraph 10.1 of the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Fife (11 March 2021), “The Community Council may, with the consent of Fife Council, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld, acquire and hold heritable property”. Thus it is clear that we may own or lease property in our name, with Fife Council consent.

## **7. TREASURER`S REPORT**

*[Redacted from online publication]*

## **8. PROPOSED COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, reported on the proposed website, which he has been investigating. It is proposed that we use it for our meeting Agendas and Minutes (although without the financial information), and put Community Council members' contact details on it. It could also have, for example, tabs for Local Place Plan and other Community Council issues, with perhaps a link to the Core Paths site.

Also, it was suggested that we could put the link to Community Maps Scotland onto it (if we sign up to this, it is free for a twelve month period, and we can continue or pull out after that period).

The possibility of putting past Chronicle issues on it was discussed, but it was agreed that there would be data protection issues with those who were no longer on the Community Council, although future issues could be put onto it.

We could also put on details of Village Hall hire, with contact details.

It was noted that the website was being set up by a volunteer. It was agreed to provide an advert for free in recompense.

There has also been a generic Community Council email address set up, into which various Fife Council emails are sent, and it was agreed that the Secretary would be responsible for monitoring this.

With regard to the Minutes, S Gibbons asked whether it was in order to put the Minutes out to the public before they were formally agreed by the Community Council. The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that according to paragraph 6.19 of the Scheme for Community Councils, “Minutes should be drafted and circulated to Community Council members within seven days\_of a meeting”, and under paragraph 6.20, “Non-confidential draft Minutes will be made available at this time, by posting Minutes of meetings in public places”. Thus, we can do so, but it should note that the Minutes are in Draft form until formally approved.

## **9. EDITOR`S REPORT**

The Editor, S Gibbons, noted that discussions had been held with Limekilns Church regarding the possibility of the Chronicle being printed by them as previously, but they had turned this down, so we will carry on as we are.

The Chronicles are printed and ready for delivery.

S Ballinger noted that many of the “posties” had been doing this for many years, without any formal recognition, and he proposed that we give them each a Gift Voucher in recognition of their service. This was agreed by the Community Council, and S Ballinger will organise this.

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE

1. FVA weekly news.271023
2. Fife Centre for Equalities weekly digese.301023
3. Weekly planning update.291023
4. Derek Glen to ABR re KGV park damage.021123
5. Dunfermline Press re Remembrance Service.021123
6. Fife Centre for Equalities Equality Monthly.021123
7. FVA Weekly Newsletter.021123
8. Weekly planning update.051123
9. Fife centre for Equalities weekly digest.061123
10. FVA Children etc.091123
11. FVA 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.101123
12. Weekly planning update.121123
13. Equalities Digest weekly.131123
14. Weekly planning update.151123
15. FVA 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.171123
16. Equalities Digest 201123
17. FVA Voluntary action.241123
18. FVA Equalities Digest 271123
19. FVA Children etc.281123
20. Forth Estuary Forum AGM Notice.291123
21. FVA 011223
22. Community Police Report 041223
23. FVA Equalities digest weekly.041223

## 11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### Applications registered

<u>Date</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Address</u>
None			

### Applications Determined

<u>Decision Date</u>	<u>Reference/Decision</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Address</u>
31/10/2023	23/03032/FULL; permitted with conditions	2 storey extension to side	3 Dean Dr
28/11/23	23/02232/FULL	1 storey extension To rear	1 Kilburn Rd

02/11/23	23/02016/FULL	erection of boundary Fence (retrospective)	20 Keavil PI
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Work Commenced

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date Commenced</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Address</u>
23/01203/FULL		Dormer extension To side	11 Lundin Rd

Work Completed

<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date Completed</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Address</u>
None.			

## 12. AOB

- i) S Ballinger raised the issue of the Culvert grid at Katrine Dr (also raised by A Hibbert). It is not in good condition, part of the grid having come away from the concrete and part of the side having started to subside. It was agreed that repairs are necessary. Cllr Glen will raise this with Stephen Duffy and ask him to sort it out.
- ii) S Gibbons asked whether it would be possible to get a group together to do the floral displays, as happens in Cairneyhill. It was agreed that this would be a useful improvement on the current position, and it was suggested that S Gibbons put an article in the next Chronicle asking for volunteers to assist.
- iii) S Ballinger raised the issue of dogs in the MUGA; it is clearly stated that dogs are not permitted, and he has challenged someone who had let their dog run free in the MUGA. He asked that others also challenge those whom they see doing this.
- iv) A Rintoul noted that he had been asked by a member of the public with a disability whether it would be possible to put a seat in the bus shelter to the East of Green's, on the eastbound side of the road, similar to that in the shelter outside the Adamson, as she and others with a disability find it difficult to stand for long period while waiting for a bus. Cllr Glen will contact Transportation to investigate.
- v) A Rintoul noted that, despite it having been raised on a number of occasions by J Matson, nothing seemed to have been done about the MUGA lights, one of which glares up to Kirkwood Cres, and it looks like it needs to be redirected downwards. D Hay will discuss with Shirley Melville when he meets her.

## 13. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on

**Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford.**

**Summary of Matters Arising from the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**



<b>MINUTE AREA</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>	<b>OWNER</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>	<b>STATUS/COMPLETION DATE</b>
<b>Chairman's Report</b>	Pitconochie proposals.	CCC	None required at present.	SMH withdrawn, replacement not yet known.
<b>Matters Arising</b>	Ukrainian Refugees	CCC	<u>M Ramage</u> and <u>M Prince</u> to continue liaising with FC Community Engagement Team	Work in Progress
	Footpath improvement needed from Crossford to Dunfermline.	CCC steering group.	Recent discussion with Sustrans and FC Lead Consultant. Funding agreed for stages 0-2.	Work in progress
	Use of CCC ROW funds for path repairs.	CCC	Ongoing	Work in progress
	Local Place Plan	CCC	<u>A Rintoul</u> noted that Consultation event took place on 18 November. Also noted that date for submission now extended to end of June. AR and DH to continue work on LPP.	.Work in Progress

	Re-alignment of ROW to west of Milesmark Croft.	Fife Council	Meeting held with Access Officer Sarah Johnson, and progress made. Site visit now arranged.	Work in progress.
	Traffic Management - Main Street/Cairneyhill Road.	Fife Council	<u>Cllr BC</u> is liaising with residents on Cairneyhill Rd. Transportation has refused to reduce speed to 40mph, and <u>Cllr Boubaker-Calder</u> may raise this at Area Committee.	Work in Progress

#### Additional Action Points

1. Councillor Boubaker-Calder and the Chair, D Hay, to contact Stephen Duffy re placement of Woodland Walk bench
2. S Gibbons to contact member of West Fife Woodlands for advice re placement of bench
3. S Gibbons to include item in next Chronicle re forming a group to help with the floral displays in the village
4. Secretary to remove remainder of cut down shrubs at traffic lights
5. D Hay to follow up regarding resiting of Memorial Bench
6. Cllr Glen to contact Stephen Duffy re cutting back vegetation and soil build-up adjacent to footpath between east end of Crossford and Urquhart Cut
7. A Rintoul to contact Factor, Broomhall Estate, re flooding at start of footpath at west end of Gallowhill ridge
8. A Rintoul to meet Sarah Johnson to walk Milesmark Croft footpath through the stables
9. A Rintoul to contact Jimmy Maclean of BEAR Scotland re posts at Waggon Rd/A985 junction
10. D Hay to speak to Peter Duncan re points raised by member of public re allotments and wetlands development
11. D Hay to arrange meeting with Shirley Melville re MUGA lease (and lighting)
12. S Ballinger to organise gift vouchers for "posties"
13. Cllr Glen to speak to Stephen Duffy re Katrine Dr culvert
14. Cllr Glen to speak to Transportation re possibility of putting seat in eastbound bus stop, to east of Green's