

**Minutes of the 419th Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm on Monday, 7th April 2025 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

 A Rintoul Secretary

 J Lauchlan Treasurer

 D Hay Chair

 R Baxter

 E Fearn

 A Hibbert

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

 3 members of the public

 Councillor Glen

**APOLOGIES:**

 Apologies for absence were received from R Brougham, D Quarm, S Ballinger and Cllr Boubaker-Calder.

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th February and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by A Hibbert and seconded by E Fearn.

2. **POLICE REPORT**

Neither Community Police Officers was able to attend, as both were on Rest Days. However, they did provide a report for the period since the previous meeting.

“**24th February -28th February 2025 there were**

2 calls made to police via 101/999 or online “Contact-us”

No crimes were identified/recorded

**Between 1st and 31th March 2025 there were:**

19 calls made to Police via 101/999 or online “Contact-us”

4 crimes were recorded which were,

1 x Threatening and abusive behaviour and 1 x assault (related incident )

1 x Theft

1 x Road Traffic offence – no MOT

**Between 01st and 5th April 2025 there were**

5 calls made to police via 101/999 or online “Contact-us;

No crimes were identified/recorded

Again, nothing to report of having any adverse community impact.

They did suggest that if anything arose from the meeting which required their attention, the Community Council should get in touch.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Pitconochie Proposal

D Hay noted that Barratt Homes had begun the development west of Pitconochie Farm. A complaint had been made to Fife Council Planning regarding excessive noise levels. Other matters of note are:

* D Hay has heard nothing from “A Z Cairns” to whom he had reached out regarding a possible meeting.
* It is therefore not possible to confirm whether all the points which he makes in his emails are accurate.
* There has been a complaint to Planning Enforcement regarding working hours – it is noted that on some days, work began before the designated hour of 08.00.
* There is a possible issue with the access, which does not seem to us to be in the agreed location.
* We will try to arrange site meetings on a regular basis with the Barratt Site Manager, and D Hay will contact them once a Site Manager appears to be on site.
* There is also a possible complaint regarding inadequate arrangements for cyclists using the cyclepath between Crossford and Cairneyhill.
* We also want to discuss the Play Equipment which is to go on the site, as well as A Hibbert’s proposal regarding a new route through the site for the cyclepath.
* We will also want to raise the issue of access to the Bogwood area for educational purposes by e.g. local Primary Schools.

Carnegie’s Way

A Hibbert reported that the landowner still hasn’t responded to the draft proposals regarding the route which were presented to him and to the tenant farmer. Fife Council are to speak to Jonathan Hunt “in a formal manner” at a meeting later this week, and the Community Council representatives will have an online meeting with Fife Council shortly afterwards. It was noted by A Hibbert that it is now 5 months since they were provided with a copy of the Final Report from Stantec, and they have not provided a response in all that time.

Footpath repairs

Woodland Walk: D Hay reported that the Woodland Walk work has now been completed, at a cost of £600, although at the time of the meeting it had still to be invoiced. Unfortunately, it appears that Ronnie Collins and his team of volunteers from West Fife Woodlands had received some complaints from members of the public when carrying out the work, which is disappointing, to say the least.

 We have received the pipes for improving the drainage under the path to the burn, but this work is still to be carried out.

Targate Rd: It had previously been noted that proposals for the possible Milesmark Croft realignment will have to wait for agreement with Jim Wylie on the Wetlands footpath. However, another problem is that A Rintoul has been informed (in his capacity as a member of Dunfermline and West Fife Ramblers) that Fife Coast and Countryside Trust are “providing an Outdoor Access officer function” for Fife Council. He has emailed that organisation regarding the Targate Rd footpath and is awaiting a reply.

R671 (Waggon Rd) footpath: This will also be discussed by D Hay with Jim Wylie in due course.

Gallowhill footpath: A Rintoul noted that he had informed Mark Burns of Fife Council that the Elgin Estate had finally given their consent for the Community Council and Fife Council to provide and lay surfacing materials at the Waggon Rd end of the footpath. Mark Burns will arrange for it to be spread and tamped down through the “Community Payback” scheme. We await a response from Mark Burns.

Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

We are still to hear from Lesley Craig regarding the date when the new speed limits will take effect. A Rintoul will contact her again to find out when this will take effect.

MUGA :

D Hay reported that Shaun Crosbie had hit a snag regarding the funds for the MUGA. It is difficult for Fife Council to retain ring fenced funds such as this, so he felt that it might be easier if the money stayed with the Community Council, to be drawn on when necessary. After discussion, the Community Council agreed that it would do this, much in the same way that it retains funds for other bodies and purposes.

D Hay also noted that the invoices for the MUGA from Fife Council had now been paid, and we would reclaim through the LCP application.

Keavil House Hotel:

A Rintoul noted that the trees which had been leaning on the south wall of King George V Park had now been removed.

Katrine Dr Culvert:

Fife Council has now had new grilles fitted with smaller gaps.

The Orchard

With regard to the water leak, some progress is being made. Masterchef and Greens are obtaining quotes to carry out the work. However, the road repairs will take some time, as agreement will have to be reached between all of those who have a liability for costs including all the householders in the Orchard. A Hibbert will investigate enforcement regarding the water leak.

Cllr Boubaker-Calder is dealing with the issue of the mediation required to deal with the condition of the road, and we await an update from her.

Morar Rd green area trees

 Cllr Boubaker-Calder has contacted Wimpey regarding this, to see whether they are willing to carry out some pollarding on these trees. We await an update from her.

Cairn Grove lighting

Cllr Glen has been in touch with Transportation and we are still to hear whether the budget allows for new lighting here. It is likely to be later in April before we hear whether there is a budget available for this.

Cairn Grove footpath tree root: Cllr Glen has been in touch with Paul McLelland, who will look into this.

4. **TIME BANKING**

The Secretary, A Rintoul, is waiting to hear from Morag Prince of the Rotary Club regarding this. She expected to be able to spend some time on this after she retired at the end of March.

5**. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND**

D Hay reported that the work was mostly completed, and the invoice from Peter Duncan is still awaited.

**6. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

D Hay reported that the Gala Committee is hoping to meet the Keavil management with a view to reinstating the Gala Family Day. A meeting is to be arranged between the Keavil and the Gala Committee. D Hay will also try to arrange a meeting between Community Council representatives and the Keavil.

He also noted that, as the Allotment Association is now unable to supply the Community Council with bedding plants, we will investigate purchasing them from Lady Helen Nurseries, in Cardenden, and A Rintoul will contact them to discuss.

**7. TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented his Report:

**Funds at 6th April 2025**

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| **Opening Balance** |  | **£68,960.02** |
|  |  |  |
| **Income** |  |  |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** |  |
|  | **£0.00** | **£68,960.02** |
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| **Expenditure** |  |  |
| **MUGA Rental Charge from Fife Council** | **£192.95** |  |
| **MUGA Electricity for 2024** | **£259.88** |  |
| **Bank of Scotland Account Service Charge** | **£4.25** |  |
|  | **-£457.08** | **£68,502.94** |
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| **Monies Held in Trust** |  |  |
| **Fife Council CRF (Allotment & Wetland Park Project)** | **£60,000.00** |  |
| **Dunfermline & West Fife Rights of Way** | **£2,890.91** |  |
| **CREATE (Funds for Surface Renewal)** | **£2,309.46** |  |
| **Rotary Donation for Bird & Bat boxes** | **£500.00** |  |
|  | **-£65,700.37** | **£2,802.57** |
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| **Community Council Balance** | **=** | **£2,802.57** |
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| **Unpresented Cheques** |  |  |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** |  |
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 The Treasurer noted that there is now a monthly charge by Bank of Scotland, but there is nothing we can do about this, as all banks are introducing this for accounts from bodies such as ours.

He noted that we have still to deduct the £600 for the woodland walk work.

After discussion, it was agreed that the Treasurer would set aside a sum from this year’s accounts for the Chronicle, as the Spring edition will be delayed our financial year.

D Hay noted that the play equipment in King George V Park is in need of refurbishment. We could set aside some funds for this, but what is really needed is a fund-raising effort from various sources to refurbish or replace. He will speak to Kevin O’Kane of Fife Council to discuss this, and the possible sources of funding. The play equipment is now 20 – 25 years old.

Cllr Glen pointed out that Carnock had managed to get funding for some “accessible equipment” and this will also be discussed.

It is expected that the expenditure for the allotments and wetland works will leave the account soon. Discussion will be had with Peter Duncan on what remains of the £60,000, and what can be done with any remaining funds.

**8. COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

J Lauchlan has given access to the Fife Council Community Council website to D Hay.

He has also added AGM Minutes and further sets of Community Council Meeting Minutes to the website, as well as the Local Place Plan.

A Rintoul passed out hard copies of the Local Crossford Walks leaflet to those attending who wanted a copy, and he will provide a copy to D Quarm who was absent at this meeting.

**9. CROSSFORD CHRONICLE REPORT**

 D Quarm is still to contact Sandra Gibbons to arrange a meeting with interested parties to co-ordinate production of the Chronicle, and produce an edition in the near future. E Fearn will, in David’s absence, contact Sandra.

**10. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

A Rintoul will keep working on the Local Place Plan, and hopes to have carried out some additional work by the time of the next meeting. and the intention is that a full draft will be available for public Consultation for around Gala Week

J Lauchlan will set up a meeting with the School PTA so that something can be included about a permanent replacement Nursery building.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Note from Cllr Glen re Carn Grove footpath tree root.240325
2. SEPA Note on Consultation.280225
3. FVA Children etc Bulletin.050325
4. MUGA Invoice.030325
5. Weekly Planning List.020325
6. FVA Weekly Update.280225
7. FVA Health and Social Care.270225
8. FVA Weekly update.070325
9. Amey email re Halbeath resurfacing.070325
10. Correspondence re tree route at Cairn Gr footpath.080325
11. Weekly Planning List.090325
12. FCE Weekly news.090325
13. Correspondence with Peter Duncan re allotment footpath gates.130325
14. MUGA Invoice 24.120325
15. FVA Newsletter.120325
16. Correspondence re giant hogweed on new allotment footpath.120325
17. FVA Weekly roundup.140325
18. FVA Carers connexct.140325
19. FVA Children’s etc.180325
20. FVA Roundup.210325
21. Amey re Halbeath roundabout work.210325
22. FVA Bulletin 240325
23. FVA PVG Disclosure changes.240325
24. FVA Awards.250325
25. Amey newsletter.280325
26. FVA Newsletter.280325
27. Amey re Halbeath roundabout.010425
28. FVA Children’s.010425
29. Amey planned roadworks.040425
30. FVA Weekly newsletter.040425
31. SEPA Consultation.040425
32. Police Report.050425
33. Weekly Development List.070425
34. Treasurer’s report.070425

**12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

*Applications registered*

Date Reference Proposal Address

21/03/25 22/00590/NMV1 Non-material variation – remove Pitconochie site

 Headwall; partial removal of

 Surface water sewer

24/02/25 25/00443/TPO request to carry out tree works 14 Knowehead Rd

 TPO W0027

*Applications Determined*

Decision Date Reference/Decision Proposal Address

None

*Work Commenced*

Reference Date Commenced Proposal Address

None

*Work Completed*

Reference Date Completed Proposal Address

None.

It was agreed A Rintoul will contact Jamie Penman and ask him to set out the sequence of events for linking up drainage.

**13. AOCB**

i) Barratt seem to have been investigating drainage pipes etc to check out depth etc. A Rintoul and D Hay to contact Barratt when site office set up, to arrange regular meetings.

ii) R Baxter raised a problem with the drainage outside the Adamson Hotel. A Hibbert will investigate.

iii) Cllr Glen raised the issue of public art at the Barratt site, and suggested that we discuss this with Barratt, with the possibility of incorporating e.g. the Witches Stone into the public art.

iv) D Hay asked Cllr Glen who decides what type of “Community Gain” is appropriate in the planning process. Cllr Glen responded that it would have been Planning who would have decided and co-ordinated this. He will look into the Community Benefit for the Pitconochie development.

v) A Rintoul will contact Jamie Penman regarding the traffic lights: does he know whether Stewart Milne Homes paid any money to Fife Council for this, as it was a planning condition. If not, will Barratt be asked to contribute?

vi) A Rintoul to send out Notice of AGM within required timescale.

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

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on **Monday, 12th May, 2025, following the AGM, which will be at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford**

**ADDITIONAL ACTION POINTS**

1. A Rintoul to check with Planning re Barratt access point, and possible inadequate arrangements for cyclists between Crossford and Cairneyhill.
2. A Rintoul and D Hay to contact representatives of Barratt Homes to set up regular meetings regarding their Pitconochie proposals.
3. A Rintoul to follow up with Fife Coast and Countryside Trust re Targate Rd footpath.
4. A Rintoul to arrange delivery of surface materials with Mark Burns for Gallowhill footpath.
5. D Hay to discuss R671 (Waggon Rd) path and Targate Rd path with Jim Wylie, once path through wetlands agreed and completed satisfactorily.
6. A Rintoul to contact Lesley Craig re implementation of new speed limits.
7. A Hibbert to investigate enforcement re the water leak at The Orchard
8. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to report back on progress re The Orchard mediation
9. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to report back on contact with Wimpey re trees at Morar Rd green space
10. D Hay to discuss completion of wetland works and clearance of the areas adjacent to the path with Peter Duncan, and to discuss what can be done with the funds remaining, and also to make arrangements for payment.
11. A Rintoul to investigate cost of obtaining bedding plants from Lady Helen Nurseries.
12. A Rintoul to provide hard copy of Crossford Local Walks leaflet to D Quarm, who will put onto Community Council website.
13. D Quarm to arrange meeting with interested parties regarding the production of the next edition of the Crossford Chronicle.
14. E Fearn to speak to S Gibbons re meeting re Crossford Chronicle
15. A Rintoul to continue drafting Local Place Plan
16. J Lauchlan to set up meeting with School PTA re information for Local Place Plan
17. A Hibbert to investigate Adamson Hotel drainage issues
18. Cllr Glen to look into Community Benefit at Pitconochie development
19. A Rintoul to check with Jamie Penman re traffic lights and SMH/Barratt payment
20. A Rintoul to send out notification of AGM within required timescale.