

**Minutes of the 413th Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm on Monday, 12 August 2024 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

D Hay Chairperson

A Rintoul Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

R Brougham

S Ballinger

E Fearn

A Hibbert

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

3 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence had been received from D Quarm, R Baxter, Cllr Glen and Cllr Boubaker-Calder

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by J Lauchlan and seconded by S Ballinger

2. **POLICE REPORT**

Apologies had been received from both PCs Ailsa Morrison and Colin Lynch, who were unable to attend due to operational requirements, but they did provide a report.

“JUNE 2024

Between 1st and 30th June 2024, within the ward area which includes Crossford there were a total of 23 calls/enquiries raised with police using either 101/999 or online “Contactus” form, or external agencies.

From these 4 crimes have been identified/recorded. Two of these have been detected/warned/reported, the remaining two remain enquiry ongoing. Crime types as follows:

Threatening and abusive behaviour – 2

Road traffic offences – 1

Theft – 1

JULY 2024

Between 1st and 31st July 2024, within the ward area which includes Crossford there were a total of 9 calls/enquiries raised with police using either 101/999 or online “Contactus” form, or external agencies.

From these calls, 2 crimes were identified/recorded both of which remaining enquiry on-going. Crimes types:

Breach of non-harassment order – 1

Threatening and abusive behaviour – 1

PC’s Lynch and Morrison deployed with the Unipar speed detection device on 24/07/24 on Main Street, Crossford for a 30-minute period. No drivers were detected driving over prescribed limits during this time.

There is nothing to report of any concern in regard to any community impact.”

It was noted that the Report is for the “Ward area which includes Crossford”. The Secretary, A Rintoul, is to write to PC Morrison and ask whether a Report can be provided just for Crossford, rather than the whole Ward area.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Pitconochie Proposal

The recent report in the Dunfermline Press was discussed. Although it seems likely that nothing has really changed as the four planning applications in December 2023 were intended to purify some planning conditions, there is still concern over the surface water outfall. The Press report states that the development has “lawfully commenced”. However, it was a condition of the Planning Permission that “no development can commence until an enforceable mechanism is in place for the surface water outfall”. The Press report notes that Robert Forrester, across whose land the proposed outfall passes, states that “he hadn't been approached by the developer and wouldn't give permission”.

The Secretary, A Rintoul, will email Fife Council’s Planning and Legal departments to enquire about this.

Carnegie’s Way

A Hibbert reported on the Draft Report on Carnegie’s Way which has been produced by Stantec. It is currently under consideration by Fife Council, and the contents are still confidential, although from an initial look it appears to be a fair and balanced report. It is hoped that we will soon be able to provide full information to Community Council members and the public.

There are some concerns over the transfer of responsibilities from Sustrans to Transport Scotland, and how this will affect both timescales and funding for projects, and clarification is still needed on this.

It was also noted that, in accordance with the agreement at our previous meeting, D Hay and A Rintoul had argued forcefully for Fife Council Estates and Legals to become involved at this stage in order to reduce potential time slippage.

Footpath repairs

The surface of the path through the woods, parallel to the southern boundary of the King George V Park, was considered. D Hay has discussed it with Ronnie Collins from West Fife Woodlands, who suggested that a top layer of whin dust could be applied, possibly as an initial trial on part of the path. Stephen Duffy of Fife Council will also enquire about a top layer of the “red burr” used on the Waggon Rd footpath at the chicken farm. It is likely that the cost of applying a top layer would be an additional £600 or thereby.

It was also noted that the drainage of the area to the south of the path needs to be addressed, as at present water pools and this is affecting the roots and stability of trees. D Hay will enquire whether Fife Council can provide lengths of perforated pipes, and the Community Council could organise a work party to dig trenches to improve the drainage.

Chicken Farm footpath: It was also noted that the footpath between the Chicken Farm and the Gallowhill footpath was already affected by weed growth. The Secretary, A Rintoul, will email Keith Johnston about this to find out their plans to control weed growth, presumably by spraying weedkiller. A Rintoul also to pass Keith Johnston’s contact details to the Chair, D Hay.

Targate Rd: It was noted that there is a substantial amount of brambles and other plants growing over this footpath, and making it impassable at present. D Hay will contact Neil Henderson to ask if he will co-ordinate a work party to clear this and make it passable once more. D Hay noted that proposals for the possible Milesmark Croft realignment will have to wait for agreement with Jim Wylie on the Wetlands footpath.

R671 (Waggon Rd) footpath: This will be discussed soon by D Hay and Mr Wylie, following a meeting scheduled to take place on the 14th August regarding the footpaths through the wetlands area, involving D Hay, Peter Duncan, John Ford and Jim Wylie.

Gallowhill footpath: A Rintoul has contacted Elgin Estate again regarding this, and is still awaiting a response. There has been a delay on their side due to a change in personnel.

Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

The Chairman, D Hay, noted that in Wales a study suggests that the 20mph limit appears to have resulted in a drop of around one third in road traffic accident casualties, and a drop of half in the number of deaths.

The Secretary, A Rintoul, will contact Lesley Craig to find out about the timetable for the Consultation on this issue.

MUGA :

No further progress, but A Rintoul to remind Cllr Boubaker-Calder that she has an action point to discuss with Shaun Crosby of Fife Council Legal.

Keavil House Hotel:

A Rintoul had thought that the fallen tree had been removed, but this is apparently not so. He will again contact Jason Doga to try to get some progress on this matter, as it is important from a Health and Safety viewpoint. He has already provided Jason Doga with Paul McLelland’s contact details.

Cllr Boubaker-Calder still to speak to Transportation re the pothole at the entrance at Cairneyhill Rd, and in her absence A Rintoul to remind her.

Flooding at Urquhart Bridge:

Cllr Boubaker-Calder is to report back to the Meeting regarding her contact with Fife Council officials regarding the repeated blocking of the drain, probably through a build up of silt, which leads to frequent flooding at this location.

Katrine Dr Culvert:

A Rintoul to remind Cllr Boubaker-Calder that she is to speak to Paul McLelland regarding this.

Flooding at Lundin Rd

Cllr Glen to report back to meeting on this. The farmer’s view is that the problem is not a broken field drain, but a blocked culvert, which is the responsibility of Fife Council. Cllr Glen has followed up with Fife Council Transportation and is awaiting their response.

Community Recovery Fund funding for Scout Hall roof

The Chair, D Hay, to pass information on possible Common Good Fund funding for Scout Hall roof.

Water at Chip Shop:

The Secretary, A Rintoul, to remind Cllr Boubaker-Calder, that she is to discuss with Fife Council officials whether they can – through their “Mutual Owners’ Scheme – suggest a Mediator to find an acceptable solution to the water and road surface problems at The Orchard, with Greens’ the Chip Shop owner and the residents. There is a possible burst water main. Fife Council believe that as it is on a private road, and is not an adopted road, it is not their responsibility.

SEPA Potentially Vulnerable Areas Consultation:

A Rintoul confirmed that he had responded to the Consultation on the basis discussed at the last meeting, and he had forwarded the SEPA correspondence to Chris Smith of Cairneyhill Community Council.

**4. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND**

D Hay reported on developments. As noted above, a meeting has been arranged with Peter Duncan, John Ford and Jim Wylie on Wednesday 14 August.

**5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

D Hay reported that the claim for LCP funding has been submitted, and he is awaiting sign off from Fife Council for the funding, which is expected soon. On the Gala Insurance funding, Fife Council’s insurers are asking for £1500 for both events. He will pass this onto the Gala Committee, for its decision.

**6. TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented his Report:

**Funds at 10th August 2024**

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| **Opening Balance** |  | | **£65,232.4** |
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|  |  | |  |
| **Income** |  | |  |
| **Chronicle Adverts** | **£30.00** | |  |
|  | **£30.00** | | **£65,262.43** |
|  |  | |  |
| **Expenditure** |  | |  |
| **Scout Hall CCTV Repairs** | **£68.70** | |  |
|  | **-£68.70** | | **£65,193.73** |
|  |  | |  |
| **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 MUGA Surface Renewal)** | **£2,309.46** | |  |
|  | **-£65,200.37** | | **-£6.64** |
|  |  | |  |
| **Community Council Balance** | **=** | | **-£6.64** |
|  |  | |  |
|  |  | |  |
| **Unpresented Cheques** |  |  | |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** |  | |

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, will contact the Gala Committee for a copy of their Accounts. As they are officially a Sub Group of the Community Council, they should give us a copy each year.

It was also noted that we will have to look carefully at our expenditure this year, although as the Chair, D Hay pointed out, he has asked for more than before.

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**7. PROPOSED COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, reported that this was now active, and Community Council members have been sent a link. He would welcome any suggested improvements.

**8. PROPOSED FIFE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

Neither D Hay nor A Rintoul were aware whether the Minutes of the April meeting were available as yet. The Secretary will check prior to the next Community Council meeting.

**9. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

A Rintoul reported that although this is underway, with holidays over the next months, it will be October before he is able to continue working on it.

**10. CROSSFORD CHRONICLE REPORT**

It was reported that D Quarm will take over the role previously held by Mike Morgan, who is standing down. A Hibbert will put an advert in the Crossford Residents’ Facebook page for an Editor.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Email from Shaun Crosby re KGV Lease.280624
2. FVA weekly news.280624
3. Weekly List 300624
4. FVA.Health and social care.010724
5. FVA Children and Young People.020724
6. FVA Newsletter 050725
7. Weekly List 080724
8. FVA Newsletter 120724
9. Weekly list 140724
10. FCE Equalities Digest 150724
11. FVA Newsletter 190724
12. Stirling Developments Presentation Limekilns.2007254
13. Weekly List 220724
14. Parish Online Newsletter 230724
15. Weekly List 290724
16. FVA Newsletter 020824
17. Weekly List 050824
18. Places for Everyone Newsletter 060824
19. FVA Newsletter 090824
20. Draft Stantec Report 090824
21. Weekly List 120824
22. Police Report 120824

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that he would send on the information received regarding the Elgin Estate development to Community Council members.

**12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

*Applications registered*

Date Reference Proposal Address

None

*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.

**13. AOCB**

i) It was noted that a member, or members, of the Community Council might be considering a new proposal for trees in the King George V Park, alongside the path. It was pointed out that this had been discussed by the Community Council relatively recently – within the last two years – with regard to the Scout Jubilee trees, and at that time it was not considered appropriate to place them alongside the path. The view of many was that nothing had changed, and that it was still not an appropriate location for new trees. After some discussion, the member stated that he would not proceed with the proposal.

ii) It was noted that grass was not being cut on the east side of the path through the park. This is something for Paul McLelland to deal with, and it will be added to the list of things which he has to carry out.

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

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on **Monday, 30th September, 2024 at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford.**

**Additional Action Points**

1. A Rintoul to contact Fife Council’s Planning and legal departments regarding the development commencement at Pitconochie, as reported in the Dunfermline Press
2. D Hay to continue discussions with Ronnie Collins and Stephen Duffy regarding the surfacing of the footpath to the south of the King George V Park
3. D Hay to discuss with Fife Council whether they are able to provide perforated pipes to help with putting drainage in under the footpath to the south of King George V Park, to help drain the area to the south of it.
4. A Rintoul to contact Keith Johnston re weed growth on the new footpath opposite the Chicken Farm
5. A Rintoul to pass Keith Johnston’s contact details to D Hay
6. D Hay to contact Neil Henderson to ask if he could arrange a work party to clear the overgrown parts of the Targate Rd footpath
7. D Hay to speak to Jim Wylie re Targate Rd once Wetlands footpath discussions are finalised
8. A Rintoul to continue discussion with Elgin Estate re Gallowhill Footpath
9. A Rintoul to contact Lesley Craig re timescale for Consultation on speed reductions in Crossford and between Crossford and Cairneyhill
10. A Rintoul to remind Cllr Boubaker-Calder re MUGA negotiations, the pothole at the Keavil entrance, the Katrine Dr culvert and flooding at the Urquhart Cut, all of which she was in discussion over with Fife Council officials.
11. A Rintoul to speak to Jason Doga regarding fallen tree which is still hanging over the wall to the south of the Park.
12. A Rintoul to remind Cllr Glen re the flooding at Lundin Rd
13. D Hay to pass on information to the Scouts re the possibility of applying for funds from the Common Good Fund for the Scout Hall roof
14. A Rintoul to remind Cllr Boubaker-Calder re the possible use of Fife Council’s “Mutual Owners’ Scheme” to appoint a mediator to resolve the difficulties arising from the possible burst water pipe and the poor road surface
15. J Lauchlan to contact Gala Committee to obtain copies of their Accounts
16. D Hay to pass on details of the Fife Council insurers’ quote to the Gala Committee
17. A Rintoul to check whether the Minutes of the April Community Councils’ meeting are available
18. A Hibbert to put request for Chronicle Editor into The Crossford Residents’ Facebook page
19. A Rintoul to forward details of the Elgin Estate proposals to Community Council members
20. D Hay to add the grass cutting on the east side of the footpath through the Park to the list of things which Paul McLelland is to deal with.
21. A Rintoul to ask PC Morrison whether it is possible to have crime figures for Crossford alone, rather than for the whole Ward area