

**Minutes of the 417th Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm on Monday, 13th January 2025 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

A Rintoul Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

D Hay Chair

R Baxter

E Fearn

S Ballinger

D Quarm Vice Chair

R Brougham

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

6 members of the public

Councillor Glen

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence had been received from A Hibbert and Cllr Boubaker-Calder.

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by J Lauchlan and seconded by S Ballinger.

2. **POLICE REPORT**

Both Community Police Officers were in attendance.

They provided a Police Report for the month of December. During the month, 25 calls had been made to Police from the Crossford area, of which 6 were reported crimes. These involved two incidents of dishonesty (both being thefts of wheelie bins), one under the Sex Offenders Act (which was not serious and has been dealt with), one breach of bail conditions, one case of fraud and one minor assault. Other calls were for miscellaneous matters or for information only.

Regarding the wheelie bin thefts, these have been a continual problem for some time. PC Lynch noted that it makes it more difficult for offenders if householders have security lights, floodlights or similar, or if they have doorbell cameras. PC Lynch will send on details of the streets from which the bins were stolen. PC Morrison noted that they are still doing Anti-Social Behaviour checks at common offender locations.

PC Lynch also noted that the “Pop-Up Jim” had again been located at the eastern end of the Village, and was successful to some extent in reducing speeds. A member of the public noted that vehicles still travelled far too fast from Cairneyhill into Crossford. PC Lynch noted that the Camera Enforcement Unit (speed camera) had been located towards the end of last year at the western end of Crossford. It was also pointed out that the speed limits between Crossford and Cairneyhill, and within Crossford, were due to be reduced to 40mph and 20mph respectively, from around March, and that this should reduce the average speeds within Crossford.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Pitconochie Proposal

A member of the public brought to the Community Council’s attention a letter which had been received by residents of Links Drive this week. It informed them that an electrical cable would be laid along Links Dr into the development site, to a site for a substation. He asked whether we had been made aware of this, or whether planning permission was required.

Cllr Glen confirmed that it was likely that the electricity provider could do this under their statutory powers, and that they very often don’t inform either local authorities or Community Councils. The Pitconochie proposals are not before the January Planning meeting, so would not be discussed before February at the earliest, although it might well be later.

D Hay noted that Cairneyhill Community Council are also keeping a close eye on the proposals, especially that involving the drainage arrangements to the Torry Burn, as work should not begin without a drainage agreement being in place, and as far as we are aware there is no such agreement in place.

A Rintoul and D Hay are meeting Barratt Homes representatives to discuss the proposals on Wednesday 15 January.

Carnegie’s Way

A Hibbert reported at our last meeting on the Draft Report on Carnegie’s Way which has been produced by Stantec. It is currently under consideration by the landowner and the farmer, and they have until mid-January to respond to Fife Council’s Active Travel team. We have not yet been informed on whether any comments from these parties have been received.

Footpath repairs

Woodland Walk: D Hay has been in discussion with Ronnie Collins from West Fife Woodlands, and he is still to come back to the Chair regarding the proposals.

Targate Rd: It was noted that proposals for the possible Milesmark Croft realignment will have to wait for agreement with Jim Wylie on the Wetlands footpath. As that is mostly completed now, D Hay will speak to Jim Wylie about this soon.

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

Gallowhill footpath: A Rintoul noted that he has been in discussion with Paul Gallacher of Fife Council. He believes that he should be able to provide surfacing materials to us, and his colleague Mark Burns will contact me to arrange a site meeting so that he can see what is involved.

Allotment Path: D Hay reported that the footpaths were now almost complete, and were to a high standard. Fife Council were working on the wetland areas at present.

Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

Lesley Craig has written to the Community Council following the Dunfermline Area Committee meeting with a note of the outcome. The decision was to press ahead with the changes to the speed limits. The changes should happen around the end of March.

MUGA :

D Hay reported that he is still waiting to hear from Fife Council.

Keavil House Hotel:

A Rintoul noted that the General Manager at the Keavil, Craig Colligan, had contacted him regarding the fallen tree. Mr Colligan apologised for the delay in dealing with this, and stated that he will chase this up and get re-quotes for getting this work done. A Rintoul had also contacted Paul McLelland about it again; it is, after all, Fife Council’s wall which is being affected. He responded by contacting Craig Colligan and believes that it will be attended to soon.

Katrine Dr Culvert:

Work has been completed on the culvert, and a new perimeter fence has now been erected around it. We have been told by Michael Anderson (Service Manager – Structural Services) that they “will be looking to reduce the gaps to further restrict debris and allow for easier cleaning”. Thus, we may well get a reduced gap soon. However, the Community Council remain concerned that there is a health and safety issue which needs to be addressed urgently by Fife Council.

The Orchard

With regard to the water leak, some progress is being made. We have identified that the company involved is “Water-Plus”, and they are now addressing this, and have obtained quotes for the work. It is to be hoped that they act quickly.

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, which we understand to be their responsibility. We await an update from her.

Bothwell St roundabout

The roundabout lights have now been switched on. There is still concern over the lack of traffic lights at Woodmill Rd, and also about the traffic lights at the left hand lane going round the roundabout, at the foot of the road through the park. There is very little room for queuing, and there have been a number of near misses. Cllr Glen has followed up with Lesley Craig, who will look into the Woodmill Rd aspect of this

Cairn Grove lighting

E Fearn reported that there are only two bright lights in Cairn Grove/Lyne Grove; all others are very dim.

Cllr Glen has been in touch with Transportation and they have now put together a proposal for new lighting here, and await a budget decision on this.

4. **TIME BANKING**

There has been no further information from Morag Prince of the Rotary Club. The Secretary, A Rintoul, will contact her before the next meeting for an update.

5**. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND**

D Hay reported that the work was mostly completed, and the invoice from Peter Duncan is awaited. The allotment allocation was carried out in mid-December, and it is understood that all plots are now allocated. There were an additional 14 plots.

Some works have still to be completed on the wetland area. A Rintoul noted that it looks as if, when the area was cleared for the footpath, branches and shrubs were not taken away but just dumped on the adjacent ground. D Hay will look at this and discuss with Peter Duncan.

**6. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

D Hay reported on his discussions concerning the King George V Park with Paul McLelland.The access road from Cairneyhill Rd into the Park has now been resurfaced. In addition, the bridge over the burn, leading to Katrine Dr, has also been resurfaced.

**7. TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented his Report:

**Funds at 12th January 2025**

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| **Opening Balance** |  | | **£69,107.52** |
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| **Income** |  | |  |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** | |  |
|  | **£0.00** | | **£69,107.52** |
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| **Expenditure** |  | |  |
| **Village Flowers (Spring Bulbs)** | **£47.50** | |  |
|  | **£100.00** | |  |
|  | **-£147.50** | | **£68,960.02** |
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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** | | **£3,259.65** |
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| **Community Council Balance** | **=** | | **£3,259.65** |
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| **Unpresented Cheques** |  | |  |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** |  | |
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There has been little change since the last Report, apart from minor expenditure on spring bulbs. 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.

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**8. COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

J Lauchlan will give access to the Fife Council Community Council website to D Hay and D Quarm.

**9. CROSSFORD CHRONICLE REPORT**

D Quarm will arrange a meeting with interested parties to co-ordinate production of the Chronicle, and produce an edition in the near future.

**10. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

A Rintoul reported that this is now underway. It is hoped that it will be completed in time to be submitted by the Community Council as its response to Fife Council’s “Call for Sites and Ideas”, for “Fife’s Place Plan”, which is the replacement for the Local Development Plan, by 24 February 2025.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. FVA Children’s 021224
2. Tower Burn Trail.031224
3. FCE Equalities monthly.041224
4. FVA Newsletter.061224
5. Crossford Burn pollution.AH.071224
6. Amey newsletter.081224
7. Weekly development list.081224
8. Amey re Halbeath roundabout.111224
9. FVA.weekly news.131224
10. Weekly development list.151224
11. Email from Paul Gallacher re Gallowhill footpath.171224
12. Email from Keavil re tree.191224
13. FVA Weekly News.191224
14. Weekly Development List.231224
15. Weekly Development List 301224
16. Amey email re Halbeath interchange.060125
17. Weekly Development List 070125
18. FVA Newsletter.080125
19. FVA Recruitment .090125
20. Katrine Dr culvert.090125
21. FVA Newsletter 100125
22. Amey email re roadworks.110125
23. A Hibbert re Orchard water leak.110125
24. Weekly Development List 120125
25. Paul Gallacher re Gallowhill Ridge footpath.130125

**12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

*Applications registered*

Date Reference Proposal Address

16/12/24 24/00187/FULL 2 storey extension, balcony, 6 Knockhouse Rd

Double garage to rear

*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) S Ballinger noted the position with the reed beds. It appears that work has been completed for now, the equipment has all been removed and the temporary road has been lifted. However, it seems that they will have to return in the future to complete the work on the part remaining. The vegetation etc which was removed was relocated to the field to the north of the steading at Pitconochie Farm,

ii) The release of sewage into the Dean Burn was discussed, It appears that Scottish Water was fined £6,000 by SEPA for this release into the burn, which arose because of a collapsed sewer, of which Scottish Water was unaware until this was raised by a member of the public. Scottish Water have repaired the sewer concerned and the problem is now resolved.

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

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on **Monday, 24th February, 2025 at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford**

**ADDITIONAL ACTION POINTS**

1. A Rintoul and D Hay to meet representatives of Barratt Homes to discuss their Pitconochie proposals.
2. D Hay to discuss surfacing of woodland walk with Ronnie Collins.
3. A Rintoul to arrange site meeting at Gallowhill with Mark Burns re provision of surface materials
4. D Hay to discuss R671 (Waggon Rd) path and Targate Rd path with Jim Wylie, once path through wetlands agreed and completed satisfactorily.
5. A Rintoul to monitor the position regarding the fallen tree leaning on the wall to the south of the Park, to ensure that the Keavil carries out the necessary work.
6. J Lauchlan to enable access to the Fife Council Community Council website to D Hay and D Quarm
7. Cllr Glen to seek an update on Katrine Dr culvert and spacing of bars from Fife Council officials.
8. A Rintoul to contact Morag Prince for update on Time Banking.
9. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to report back on progress re The Orchard mediation
10. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to report back on contact with Wimpey re trees at Morar Rd green space
11. D Hay to discuss completion of wetland works and clearance of the areas adjacent to the path with Peter Duncan, and to discuss the funds remaining.
12. A Rintoul to draft Local Place Plan.
13. D Quarm to arrange meeting with interested parties regarding the production of the next edition of the Crossford Chronicle.
14. Cllr Glen, to follow up lighting issues on Cairn Grove and Lyne Grove with Transportation, to confirm whether budget will be available for this work.