

**Minutes of the 412th Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm on Monday, 24 June 2024 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

D Hay Chairperson

D Quarm Vice Chairperson

A Rintoul Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

R Brougham

R Baxter

S Ballinger

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Glen Fife Council

Councillor Boubaker-Calder Fife Council

C Smith Cairneyhill Community Council

3 members of the public

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence had been received from A Hibbert and E Fearn

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by J Lauchlan and seconded by D Hay

2. **POLICE REPORT**

Apologies had been received from both PCs Ailsa Morrison and Colin Lynch, who were both on rest days, but they did provide a report.

“We are currently looking at submitting our newest format of Community report every two or three months and these will be compiled by Sgt Simpson. For now please see details below for your area,

Between 1st and 31st May 2024 within the Crossford area there were 30 calls to Police.

1 crime has been recorded, a Theft by Housebreaking to a commercial property (Pitfirrane Golf Course). This has been detected.

There is nothing of concern in terms of Community impact. “

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Pitconochie Proposal

There was no further update, there having been no contact from Planning or anyone else.

Carnegie’s Way

D Hay and A Rintoul provided a report on the discussions involving Sustrans, Fife Council, the Landowner (Mr Hunt) and the tenant (Mr Fleming). A meeting had taken place between these parties, but at the time of the CCC meeting, no Minutes had been made available to the Community Council. It was our view that, to reduce time slippage, Fife Council should at this stage involve their Estates and Legal teams, and that it would be sensible to carry out the necessary public consultation on the A994 route now. Cllr Glen confirmed that there was no reason why Estates and Legal could not be involved now, as they would have to become involved in any event. D Hay and A Rintoul agreed to put this to Fife Council at the meeting to be held on 26 June.

It was noted that Carnegie’s Way was part of Fife Council’s “Greenplace Strategy” and its “Active Travel Strategy”. This was confirmed by Cllr Glen.

Footpath repairs

It had been noted at the previous meeting that the surface of the path through the woods, parallel to the southern boundary of the King George V Park, had been the subject of several complaints to Committee members. D Hay is still to meet with Ronnie Collins from West Fife Woodlands with a view to getting a top layer of smaller material laid, such as the “red burr” used on the Waggon Rd footpath at the chicken farm. D Hay will check with Keith Johnston whether there is “red burr” available.

The R671 (Waggon Rd) path was discussed, and it was agreed that once the footpaths at the Allotments are sorted out with Mr Wylie, then we would approach him about allowing us to upgrade the path through the Waggon Rd woodland strip. A Rintoul noted that the “Ian Finlay Path Fund”, from “Paths for All,” had reopened for grants, and this will be investigated.

The Secretary, A Rintoul, confirmed that he had again contacted Elgin Estate regarding the access to the Gallowhill footpath, and was awaiting a reply. He suggested that, if Elgin Estate could not get satisfaction from the railway company, we could suggest that a sufficiently deep layer of gravel or similar could be put on the path at the entrance to raise the surface above the level of the water.

He confirmed that he had contacted Keith Johnston to express our thanks for the work carried out on the footpath between the Chicken Farm and the Gallowhill footpath, and received an email back from Keith, who will pass on our thanks to his team.

Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

The Secretary, A Rintoul, reported that he had received an acknowledgement from Lesley Craig regarding our views. We had made it clear that, whilst the Community Council is very much in favour of the 40mph limit, it is not in favour of the proposed reduction to 20mph. It is our view that the 40mph reduction should be done first, and our main concern is the enforcement of the 30mph limit. It was noted that there would be a public consultation on this and we could formally respond to that. Cllr Boubaker-Calder noted that she would support the views of the community. Cllr Glen suggested that even if Fife Council did impose a 20mph limit, contrary to our wishes, drivers would probably still drive at 20-30mph, so our aim might still be achieved, although in an unsatisfactory manner.

C Smith from Cairneyhill Community Council noted that they had not yet had “Speedwatch” training in Cairneyhill.

Members of the public present felt that it was important that the speed limit between the villages be reduced to 40mph.

MUGA

D Hay has approached Stephen Duffy, however, to verify with Shaun Crosbie that Fife Council will agree to take ownership of the MUGA. He had previously been told by Stephen Duffy that our suggestion, that Fife Council will agree to carry out the responsibilities listed in the CREATE lease, in the same way they do with other play equipment in the Park. Stephen Duffy and Cllr Boubaker-Calder will speak to Shaun Crosbie of Fife Council Legal. New signs for “No Dogs “ have been put in place, and thanks to A Hibbert for implementing that.

Katrine Dr culvert:

We understand that Paul McLelland of Fife Council will look into this and investigate the condition of the culvert.

Keavil House Hotel

Cllr Boubaker-Calder will speak to Transportation re the pothole at the entrance at Cairneyhill Rd.

A Rintoul will again contact Jason Doga, General Manager of the Hotel, regarding the need, on a Health and Safety basis, to deal with the tree which has fallen against the wall at the southern end of the Park, and is partially overhanging the Park. He had provided Mr Doga with contact details of Paul McLelland of Fife Council so that he could liaise with him on this, and also regarding the dead tree of which he had provided details.

Footpath through Wetlands

D Hay confirmed that he had discussed the footpath location with Peter Duncan, who is managing the project, and with Mr Wylie. We are still waiting for action on this, as little seems to have happened at the allotments in recent months.

Banking Co-signatories

A Rintoul confirmed that he had sent his personal details to the Treasurer, J Lauchlan, so that he and D Quarm can become co-signatories.

Flooding at Urquhart Bridge:

Cllr Boubaker-Calder has contacted Fife Council regarding the drain here, and has also contacted SEPA. It is thought that the problem arises because of a build-up of silt, being washed down the road to the drain, entering the drain and blocking it. Cllr Boubaker-Calder is now awaiting a response.

Flooding at Lundin Rd

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.

Website

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, reported that progress has been made and members should be able to access it now.

Community Recovery Fund funding for Scout Hall roof

Unfortunately, this funding stream would not cover thus, and the Chair, D Hay, has been advised to look at other sources, such as the Common Good Fund.

Double Yellow Lines at Waggon Rd

The Secretary, A Rintoul, was to write to Lesley Craig of Fife Council regarding this. However, A Hibbert forwarded an email from her a few days after the 13 May meeting confirming that the Traffic Regulation Order process to paint in new yellow lines is complex, and although she has no-one who can take this forward sat present, the request will be kept on file to be considered at a later date. It was not therefore necessary for the Secretary to write to Lesley Craig.

Water at Chip Shop:

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. D Hay has not yet been able to speak to the owner of the chip shop, but although the road is used by all owners in The Orchard, it seems likely that the principal problem is heavy lorries delivering to Greens. There were two residents of The Orchard present, and it is our understanding that all residents of the Orchard have a responsibility for the upkeep of the access. It was suggested by Cllr Glen that Fife Council’s “Mutual Owners Scheme” could suggest a mediator to act to find a satisfactory solution, and Cllr Boubaker-Calder will take this forward.

**4. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND**

D Hay reported on developments. He has now met Peter Duncan, Jim Wylie and John Ford regarding the possible path relocation further south, so that it does not have to cross the pile of rubble at the eastern woodland strip, and he is awaiting a response.

**5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

D Hay reported that the claim for LCP funding has been submitted, and he is in discussion over Gala Insurance funding, the Gala AGM being on 27th June.

**6. TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented his Report:

**Funds at 22nd June 2024**

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| **Opening Balance** |  | | **£65,152.89** |
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| **Income** |  | |  |
| **Chronicle Adverts** | **£320.00** | |  |
| **Wetland Park Donation (Rotary Club of West Fife)** | **£500.00** | |  |
|  | **£820.00** | | **£65,972.89** |
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| **Expenditure** |  | |  |
| **Villages Gardening Services** | **£70.00** | |  |
| **Muga No Dogs Signs** | **£100.00** | |  |
| **Village Flowers** | **£76.46** | |  |
| **Chronicle Printing** | **£494.00** | |  |
|  | **-£740.46** | | **£65,232.43** |
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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 MUGA Surface Renewal)** | **£2,309.46** | |  |
|  | **-£65,200.37** | | **£32.06** |
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| **Community Council Balance** | **=** | | **£32.06** |
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| **Unpresented Cheques** |  |  | |
| **N/A** | **£0.00** |  | |

Income from Chronicle adverts has been received, as has the Rotary Club donation. The Chair, D Hay, has explained to them what that donation will be used for. It will have to be kept separate in the Accounts from other funds. There has been no change in the Monies Held in Trust.

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**7. PROPOSED COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, reported that this was nearing completion, with just some finishing touches to be done. He has sent a link out to Community Council members, and would welcome any suggested improvements.

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

Neither D Hay nor A Rintoul could attend the rescheduled meeting on 23 April, but neither was aware whether the Minutes of that meeting were available as yet. The Secretary will check prior to the next Community Council meeting.

**9. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

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

**10. CROSSFORD CHRONICLE REPORT**

A new Editor for the Chronicle is still to be found. A Rintoul has spoken to S Gibbons, the former Editor, and informed her that the Community Council intends to put an item on the Crossford Residents’ page on Facebook to seek a new Editor. Mike Morgan is responsible for graphic design, and he is also standing down. A Hibbert, once he returns from holidays and time allows, will put an advert in the Crossford Residents’ Facebook page.

**11. SEPA POTENTIALLY VULNERABLE AREAS CONSULTATION**

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that there were only two real issues. The first was the burn by the culvert at Katrine Dr, which in the event of an increase in rainfall could be vulnerable, especially if the culvert is not cleared as frequently as it should be. The second is the agricultural fields to the south of Crossford, where substantial areas of these are vulnerable to future flooding. Although none of the houses on the adjacent Wimpey estate are affected according to the plans, the flooding could potentially stop not far from these.

A Rintoul will respond to the Consultation by the close, which was that evening, on 24 June. He will also forward the SEPA Consultation email to Chris Smith of Cairneyhill Community Council.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. West Fife Rotary.140524
2. FVA Newsletter.170524
3. Limekilns CC Minutes.170524
4. Weekly Planning List.190524
5. FCE Newsletter.200524
6. F A Children etc.210524
7. FVA Newsletter.240524
8. Weekly Planning list.260524
9. FVA Newsletter 310524
10. Weekly Planning List.020624
11. FVA Newsletter 050624
12. FVA Newsletter 070624
13. Weekly Planning List 090624
14. FCE Equalities Digest 100624
15. FVA Newsletter 140624
16. Chris Harris Stantec email re route at Logie 140624
17. Weekly Planning List 160624
18. FCE Equalities Digest 170624
19. Amey re Ian Finlay Path Fund 180624
20. FVA Newsletter 200624
21. Fife Planning Newsletter re Local Development Plan Next Steps 210624
22. Community Police Report 210624
23. Weekly Planning List 230624

The Secretary, A Rintoul, explained the contents of the Fife Planning Newsletter (21 above), where developers, communities and landowners are able to put forward sites for potential development, and for ideas on what the Local Development Plan should be looking at. This “Place Matters” Consultation will begin in August, and be open for around 12 weeks.

**13. 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.

**14. AOCB**

i) It was noted that a tree is down over the William St footpath. This is a Core Path, so Fife Council have responsibility for this. Cllr Glen will contact Fife Council staff to let them know, and ask them to sort this.

ii) It was also noted that the footpath to North Urquhart Farm is overgrown. However, that is not a Core Path, so Fife Council have no responsibility to deal with that

iii) The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that he was on holiday in September, and it would be helpful if the date of the September meeting were changed. It was agreed to change it to Monday **30 September**.

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

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on **Monday, 12th August, 2024 at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford.**

**Additional Action Points**

1. A Rintoul and D Hay to make point to Sustrans and Fife Council that Fife Council Estates and Legals should be involved now, in order to reduce time slippage.
2. D Hay is to meet with Ronnie Collins from West Fife Woodlands re the footpath section to the south of King George V footpath, with a view to getting a top layer of smaller material laid, such as the “red burr” used on the Waggon Rd footpath at the chicken farm.
3. D Hay to contact Keith Johnson to find out whether more “red burr” available for this.
4. D Hay to discuss the R671 (Waggon Rd) path with Jim Wylie, once the footpaths at the Allotments are sorted out.
5. A Rintoul to contact Elgin Estate again re Gallowhill footpath
6. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to discuss with Shaun Crosby of Fife Council Legal the possibility of Fife Council taking over all responsibility for the MUGA, as it does for all other play equipment in KGV, removing Crossford Community Council from any part in it, with Fife Council then continuing to meet all obligations present in the lease to CREATE.
7. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to follow up her discussion with Paul McLelland re the Katrine Dr culvert, as he was to look at and assess the condition of it.
8. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to raise the pothole at the entrance to the Keavil Hotel drive at her meeting with Stephen Duffy.
9. A Rintoul to contact Jason Doga of Keavil Hotel again re the fallen tree still leaning over the wall at the Park, and the dead tree at the south east corner of the Park.
10. D Hay to follow up the proposals for the Milesmark Croft footpath realignment once the wetlands footpath sorted out.
11. D Hay to follow up meeting on site with Peter Duncan, John Ford and Jim Wylie.
12. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to follow up discussion with Transportation re flooding at Urquhart Bridge.
13. Cllr Glen to follow up discussion with Transportation re flooding at Lundin Rd.
14. Cllr Boubaker-Calder 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 of The Orchard.
15. A Rintoul to complete SEPA Potentially Vulnerable Area consultation document within required timescale.
16. A Rintoul to forward SEPA correspondence to Chris Smith of Cairneyhill Community Council
17. D Hay to investigate funding for Scout Hall reroofing through Common Good Fund
18. A Rintoul to investigate whether Minutes available for 23 April meeting of proposed Fife Association of Community Councils.
19. A Hibbert to put Notice re new Editor and Graphic Designer into Crossford Residents Facebook page.