

**Minutes of the 414th Meeting of Crossford Community Council held at 7.15pm on Monday, 30 September 2024 in Crossford Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

D Hay Chairperson

A Rintoul Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

D Quarm Vice Chair

R Brougham

R Baxter

E Fearn

A Hibbert

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

2 members of the public

Councillor Glen

Councillor Boubaker-Calder

**APOLOGIES:**

Apologies for absence had been received from S Ballinger

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th August and previously distributed, were agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by E Fearn and seconded by J Lauchlan

2. **POLICE REPORT**

No apologies, nor a Report, had been received from our Police Officers. The Secretary, A Rintoul, will contact them and ask for a Report for the period ending 30 September, and will forward to all Community Council members. He was able to confirm, however, that he had ascertained that the Reports which the Community Council receive cover only Crossford, as Officers are able to interrogate their system to cover only the Crossford part of the Ward.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

Pitconochie Proposal

The Secretary, A Rintoul, reported on his correspondence with Fife Council. According to Planner Jamie Penman:

“I can advise that I am in receipt of a further application for the site. It will not appear on the public portal just yet, as it has not been validated. I am awaiting further information in order to register the application and given I am on leave next week, it is likely that it will be at least another week, before it is available to view/comment on. The applicant is Barratt/David Wilson Homes.

As part of the application which is yet to be validated, the applicant will be required to demonstrate that the proposed drainage basin within the site has capacity to sustainably manage surface water run-off from the development. This will be checked by Fife Council's Structural Services Team. Drainage drawings submitted with the application appear to show that surface water from the basin would discharge via a route to the west of the site, similar to that approved through 22/00590/FULL. The plans appear to show that this route terminates via a new headwall which is to be constructed at an existing drainage channel (which leads to the Torry Burn), approximately 100m to the east of Hilton Road. This obviously differs from the plans approved through 22/00590/FULL so it is likely that the applicant will either be required to either vary that consent or submit a fresh application. Alternatively, the works could be permitted development (no planning application required), if the applicant engages the services of a Statutory Undertaker. Supporting information submitted with the application details that surface water will discharge from the site at a rate which is less than the greenfield run-off rate. “

A Rintoul will copy the letter to all Community Council members. Once the application is on the Planning Portal, he will read it and after discussion with the Chair, D Hay, refer queries regarding drainage and any other issues to Jamie Penman.

Cllr Glen confirmed that the application had gone onto the Planning portal that morning, so could now be regarded as being public knowledge.

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 and Stantec are awaiting comments from Sustrans before they can release the Report.

There are still some concerns over the transfer of responsibilities from Sustrans to Transport Scotland, and the role of Fife Council in allocating funds given to them for distribution, and how this will affect both timescales and funding for projects, and clarification is still needed on this.

A Hibbert will also contact Stantec for further information on usage projections and the population base used for this.

Footpath repairs

Woodland Walk:. D Hay is still to discuss the possible change to the surface of this with Ronnie Collins from West Fife Woodlands, and will contact him shortly.

He will also 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: The Secretary, A Rintoul, confirmed that he had emailed Keith Johnston about this to find out their plans to control weed growth, presumably by spraying weedkiller, and Keith had confirmed that he had given instructions for weedkiller to be applied ASAP, and that this has been added to their routine weedspraying schedule. Members of the Community Council confirmed that weedkiller had been applied and that the weed growth was dying down. A Rintoul had also provided the Chair, D Hay, with Keith Johnston’s contact details.

Targate Rd: D Hay noted that Neil Henderson had carried out work on the footpath using the brushcutter, and it was now in a much better and more usable state. 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: A Hibbert noted that “Paths for All” is unable to help with this, as it doesn’t meet the requirements which they have. We will either have to use the normal Community Council funding to improve this, or seek another funding source. It will have to wait until D Hay discusses it with Jim Wylie, which will probably not be before agreement is reached on the footpath through the wetland area to the south of the allotments.

Gallowhill footpath: A Rintoul has contacted Elgin Estate again regarding this, and they are still awaiting a response from the Railway company. If there is no progress soon, A Rintoul will suggest that we meantime put a layer of stone chippings down to raise the level above that of the water, until a more permanent solution can be found.

Traffic Management Survey and Assessment:

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted the response which he had received from Lesley Craig to the Community Council’s formal objection to the proposals regarding the 20mph limit, and our support to the proposed 40mph limit on the A994 between Crossford and Cairneyhill. She confirmed that the full correspondence of this objection to proposal will be available to the City of Dunfermline Area Committee as an unresolved objection at their meeting on 10 December, at which a decision will be considered. She will write to the Community Council following that meeting with a note of the outcome.

A Rintoul will forward a copy of this correspondence to all Community Council members.

MUGA :

D Hay reported that this is now almost resolved. Fife Council will maintain the MUGA, and the CREATE lease will be terminated. Fife Council would like a contribution to maintenance, and the meeting agreed that the sum in our accounts for periodic replacement of the MUGA surface could be passed on to Fife Council. The Community Council will continue to seek an annual sum for the lighting, which will then be passed on to the Scout Group, as the lighting is from the Scout Hall.

Cllr Glen suggested that it would be helpful to remind children that bikes should not be taken onto the MUGA as they can damage the surface. It was suggested that a note be put on the website, and that an additional sign be added to the gates, saying “No Bicycles”.

Keavil House Hotel:

A Rintoul noted that he had contacted 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. Nothing has as yet been done, but the Chair, D Hay, noted that it was his understanding that Jason Doga, the former General Manager, had moved on and that a new person was now in post. The Secretary, A Rintoul, will investigate.

Flooding at Urquhart Bridge:

Cllr Boubaker-Calder reported that Fife Council officials have now informed her that, when the resurfacing work is carried out to this section of the A994 soon, a new drainage system will be installed. This will be a different design from the current one and should solve the problem.

Katrine Dr Culvert:

A Rintoul noted that S Ballinger had forwarded photos to him which suggest that work has now started on improving the culvert, although we will reserve judgement until completion.

Flooding at Lundin Rd

Cllr Glen noted that he has raised thus again with Michael Anderson, who is part of Roads Structural Engineering team and is responsible for flooding issues. He will hopefully now be able to inspect the culvert, check on whether it is Fife Council’s responsibility, and if so get it cleared.

The Orchard

Cllr Boubaker-Calder is organising meetings with both Greens and the Chip Shop to find an acceptable solution to the water and road surface problems at The Orchard. Fife Council have access to a Mediation Service and can get a mediator appointed if this would be helpful. She will continue to follow this up.

Morar Rd green area trees

Cllr Boubaker-Calder noted that she had been asked by a resident whether these trees, on the green area adjacent to 12 Morar Rd, could be lopped. However, she had been told by Fife Council that this area is not part of Fife Council’s land assets, and this is not their responsibility. She thought that the responsibility was still with Wimpey. The Secretary, A Rintoul, had also been contacted by the resident and had written to Paul McLelland, who is Area Officer for Grounds Maintenance, for clarification, although at the time of the meeting he was still to receive a response. A Rintoul’s understanding was that this was one of those areas transferred by Wimpey to Greenbelt Company, so it might well be their responsibility. Once he receives the response from Paul McLelland, he will follow up with Fife Council, Wimpey or Greenbelt Company, whichever is appropriate.

**4. COMMUNITY RECOVERY FUND**

D Hay reported on developments. The path has been partially completed, although a meeting will be held on 1 October to finalise the west end of the path, as Jim Wylie has had further thoughts about this. He also noted that the area to the south of this would be fenced off and stock kept in it, with an expectation that they would help control hogweed.

The allotments are still being completed, and should be finished soon, although a final date for completion has not been provided. It seems likely that new allotment holders will have the winter to get things in order for the Spring planting season.

**5. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

D Hay reported that LCP funding and Annual CC grant has been received, and that our Accounts had been boosted by the sums of £10,500 and £685.96, with an additional £40 still to come.

On the Gala Insurance funding, D Hay confirmed that he had passed over Fife Council’s insurers proposal of £1500 for both events to the Gala Committee. The Gala Chair confirmed that they had decided to go with the Fife Council insurance proposal, which was cheaper than the alternative.

**6. TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented his Report:

**Funds at 29th September 2024**

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| **Opening Balance** |  | | **£65,193.73** |
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| **Income** |  | |  |
| **Local Community Planning Grant** | **£10,500.00** | |  |
| **Annual Grant** | **£685.96** | |  |
|  | **£11,185.96** | | **£76,379.69** |
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| **Expenditure** |  | |  |
| **Hose Fitting (Required for Water Bowser)** | **£12.40** | |  |
| **Secretary Expenses** | **£34.27** | |  |
|  | **-£46.67** | | **£76,333.02** |
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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** | |  |
|  | **-£65,200.37** | | **£11,132.65** |
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| **Community Council Balance** | **=** | | **£11,132.65** |
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| **Unpresented Cheques** |  |  | |
| **1.5x Cube of Compost** | **-£190.50** |  | |

The Treasurer, J Lauchlan, reported that the funding from the Local Community Planning Grant and the Annual Grant had been received, and the Balance stood at £11,132.65, although a further £40 was still to be received. He noted, however, that of the Monies Held in Trust, both the CRF amount and the CREATE monies would soon be paid over.

He confirmed that he had received Accounts from the Gala Committee.

He also noted that we normally make a contribution to the Village Hall, for both the use of the Hall and the floral displays, which last year totalled £550. It was agreed to make the same donation this year.

He will also, as is customary, give a small gift to the Auditor on behalf of the Community Council

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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. The Domain name is due for renewal, at a cost of £15 pa.

A Rintoul will pass him copies of past Community Council Minutes which will then be put onto the website.

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

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that he had checked on the Fife Community Council website, and had found Minutes of the past two Meetings, which he had forwarded to both the Chair, D Hay, and the Treasurer, J Lauchlan. It was agreed, after a discussion with input from Cllr Glen, that this was of necessity just a forum for discussion on matters of possible mutual interest for the various Community Councils in Fife. It could not represent the views of all Community Councils, as we have to represent our own Community’s views to Fife Council. It was agreed that we would still monitor the website and might attend meetings online, but we would take it off the Agenda as a standing item and would report on it only if relevant.

**9. LOCAL PLACE PLAN**

A Rintoul reported that this is underway, and as he has just returned from holidays, he hopes that he can now resume work on it.

**10. CROSSFORD CHRONICLE REPORT**

It was previously reported that D Quarm will take over the role previously held by Mike Morgan, who is standing down. Heather Wyborn has kindly agreed to do the proofreading, and D Quarm also noted that Leanne MacIntosh had shown an interest in assisting with the production of the Chronicle. D Hay will help facilitate a meeting between David, Heather, Leanne and Mike Morgan to sort out responsibilities, in order to produce a Chronicle by Christmas.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. D&R re Gallowhill footpath.130824
2. FVA Newsletter 160824
3. Weekly Planning List 190824
4. Equalities Digest 190824
5. FC to DH re MUGA.200824
6. FVA Newsletter.230824
7. Weekly Planning List 250824
8. Equalities Digest 260824
9. FVA Children’s Newsletter.280824
10. FVA Newsletter.300824
11. Emails with Keith Johnston re Waggon Rd footpath weeds.030924
12. Fife Planning Update.040924
13. Amey newsletter.040924
14. Ailsa Morrison re Police report.050924
15. FVA Newsletter.060924
16. Weekly Planning List.080924
17. Equalities Minthly.090924
18. Parish Online newsletter.100924
19. FVA Children’s Bulletin.100924
20. Email from Lesley Craig.130924
21. FVA Weekly newsletter.130924
22. Jamie Penman holding email re Pitconochie.130924
23. Police email re DGC issues.140924
24. DGC.response.140924
25. Weekly List 150924
26. FVA Newsletter 200924
27. Weekly List 220924
28. FVA Children etc newsletter.250924
29. Parish online 260924
30. Boundaries Commission review.260924
31. Email from DG re Lundin Rd flooding.290924
32. Weekly List 300924
33. FC to JL re ICO Data Protection fee.300924
34. Fife Equalities Digest.300924

The Secretary, A Rintoul, noted that he would send on the information received regarding the Pitconochie proposals, the Speed Limit Order proposals and the Boundaries Scotland consultation to all 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) E Fearn noted that the wet area at the corner of Lyne Grove and Main St had now been fixed by Scottish Water, after her intervention.

ii) A Rintoul noted the receipt of correspondence from Boundaries Commission Scotland regarding their Review into new Constituency boundaries. He will forward the correspondence to Community Council members, but noted that there are no changes proposed in Fife.

iii) The Chair, D Hay, noted that he is unable to attend the next meeting, and it was agreed that the Vice Chair, D Quarm, will officiate.

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

The next meeting for Crossford Community Council will take place on **Monday, 28th October, 2024 at 7.15pm in Crossford Village Hall, Crossford.**

**Additional Action Points**

1. A Rintoul to contact Jamie Penman of Fife Council’s Planning Department regarding the Pitconochie proposals, in particular the drainage proposals, once he has read the documents.
2. A Rintoul to email Jamie Penman’s letter re Pitconochie to all Community Council members
3. A Rintoul to email our community Police officers to ask for a Report as at 30 September
4. D Hay to contact Ronnie Collins of West Wife Woodlands re possible changes to the path surface on the Woodland Walk.
5. D Hay to contact Fife Council regarding possible supply of perforated pipes for drainage under Woodland Walk
6. A Rintoul to copy letter from Lesley Craig re Speed Limits Order to all Community Council members
7. A Hibbert to investigate possibility of sourcing “No Cycles” sign for gates into MUGA
8. Cllr Boubaker-Calder to organise meeting with business at The Orchard, and investigate possible solution via Fife Council’s referral to a Mediation Service
9. A Rintoul to follow up responsibility for Morar Rd green space trees with appropriate body, once Paul McLelland informs him who this is likely to be.
10. A Rintoul to check Fife Council website for Community Councils, for any recent relevant Notices etc
11. A Rintoul to contact Keavil re fallen and dead trees, and ascertain whether Jason Doga is still General Manager
12. D Hay to speak to Jim Wylie and others to finalise west end of path to south of allotments.
13. D Hay to speak to Jim Wylie re R671 (Waggon Rd footpath) once item 12 above sorted, and also to follow up Targate Rd footpath issues with him.
14. A Rintoul to pass copies of previous CCC Minutes to J Lauchlan, for putting onto Community Council website
15. J Lauchlan to arrange payment for Domain name renewal
16. J Lauchlan to arrange payment for Village Hall donation, and arrange for small gift to go to Auditor
17. D Hay to facilitate a meeting between D Quarm, Heather Wyborn, Leanne McIntosh and Mike Morgan re Crossford Chronicle responsibilities, to ensure production of a Chronicle by Christmas.
18. A Hibbert to contact Stantec re usage projections for Carnegie’s Way
19. A Rintoul to discuss with Elgin Estate whether we can as a temporary measure put stone chippings onto surface, until a more permanent solution can be agreed with railway company