

Minutes of the 400th meeting of Crossford Community Council

held at 7.15pm on Monday, 3rd April 2023 in Crossford Village Hall

PRESENT:

D Hay Chairman

J Matson Vice-chair

S Ballinger Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

S Gibbons Chronicle Editor

R Baxter

E Fearn

A Hibbert

A Rintoul

IN ATTENDANCE:

C Smith Chairman, Cairneyhill Community Council 2 members of the public

D Hay welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the Secretary to report any apologies for absence.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Boubaker-Calder, Councillor Glen, R Brougham and S Harris .

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2023 and previously distributed, were

agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by E Fearn, seconded by A Rintoul and signed by D Hay.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Pitconochie Proposals

D Hay and C Smith reported that an acceptable drainage scheme had yet been submitted to Fife Council. Mr Forrester, owner of the land west of Hilton Road and Mr Scott, owner of the Pitconochie farmland between the Bogwood and Hilton Road were against the drainage scheme submitted and Mr Scott had previously said the developer was aware of this in November 2022.

S Gibbons noted that sewage from the proposed housing scheme would exit into the existing Crossford pipework. NB sewage treatment improvements were underway at the Ironmill Bay plant.

C Smith referred to earlier problems in Cairneyhill with drainage/flooding and observed that the very shallow downward flow of drainage water towards that community would inevitably back up at times of heavy rainfall. The proposed SUDS outlet next to the Bog Wood would then overflow into Crossford’s drainage system which a Scottish Water representative had admitted several years ago was ‘rather dated in terms of pipework diameter’.

Carnegie’s Way Update

A few of us met up with representatives of FC and the Grant Advisor for Sustrans Scotland a few weeks ago to formally instigate the project. During that meeting it was agreed that we would set up a Steering Group and have a meeting with Sustrans Public Engagement Team. While consultants will be appointed by FC to take the project through Stages 0 to 2, for which funding has been agreed, the steering group will offer support and guidance on local issues.

The steering group has been set up with representatives from:

* Crossford CC
* Cairneyhill CC
* Dunfermline Central CC
* Carnegie Dunfermline Trust
* Dunfermline Greenspace Forum
* Dunfermline Regeneration Trust

PLUS Councillors

* James Calder (Area Convenor)
* Aude Boubaker-Calder
* Derek Glen
* *All the councillors volunteered their services.*

PLUS FC Officers

Allan Maclean, Lead Consultant for Sustainable Traffic & Travel

Holly Hunter, Active Travel Senior Project Officer

As part of the community engagement process, the idea of having an information stand at Crossford Gala was suggested. This was considered to be a good idea and FC will put together a display and stand for us.

FC officers also undertook to contact the landowner and farmer to initiate discussions regarding access to the land with them.

Online Survey Results

In favour of -

Option 1 – 273

Option 2 – 36 of whom 6 said they voted for Option 2 because they did not like the idea of a Toucan Crossing over Coal road

There will be further engagement with the public and stakeholders in the future.

Publicity

* Mentioned in every edition of Crossford Chronicle over the last few years
* Three editions had dedicated articles
* Website created
* Whenever the website changes, notification of developments are highlighted on Facebook pages of Crossford Residents, Cairneyhill Residents page and Central Dunfermline pages.
* Regular articles in Dunfermline Press – July & Aug 22, March & April 22.

J Matson said it was necessary to have an area wide consultation

Footpath Repairs (ROW FD55/ FC Core Paths 675 & 678)

D Hay said the path improvement west towards the Lundin Road appears to be complete. Work on the path leading east towards William Street had been delayed by inclement weather and a delivery of tarmac planings would soon allow improvement work to continue. Contact with the Central Dunfermline CC would be beneficial for such works in the future.

Woodland Walk Path & Path from Keavil Hotel to Keavil Steadings

A contractor was needed to progress this work.

Refuse Bins

Bins previously requested for siting at the passageway between Cairn Grove and Waggon Road and also near the memorial bench in the King George V Park were **still** not yet in position.

Knockhouse to Milesmark Right of Way

A formal meeting had still to take place between local community councils, interested parties and Fife Council’s Access Officer in an endeavour to resolve this long-standing problem.

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter of complaint to Steve Grimmond, Fife Council’s chief executive officer about the lack of action and any progress at all to resolve this problem.

J Matson would contact the Milesmark and Baldridgeburn Community Council for co-operative discussion about the Right of Way.

Traffic Management Survey & Assessment

No progress on this matter apart from the recent comment and email from Jakob Witkowski, Fife Council’s official involved with the proposed traffic light improvement.

Cllr Boubaker-Calder agreed to organise a meeting with Matthew Roberts – FC transportation.

3. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Roadworks

A discussion took place on the forthcoming road resurfacing work scheduled in April for Crossford’s Main Street and part of Lundin Road.

Water Leak

Water bubbling up from an inspection cover was causing concern on Main Street opposite the entrance to the Logie Estate and had been reported earlier to Scottish Water.

An earlier report had indicated it was groundwater and not tap water (contains Chlorine) and this Community Council was awaiting further confirmation.

Gravel on Footpath/Cycleway

A complaint was raised about gravel and road pieces from broken sections of road between Crossford and Cairneyhill was collecting on parts of the footpath/cycleway.

Crossford School

D Hay and the Treasurer had a recent meeting with the School’s head teacher following recent disposal by the School of an aluminium greenhouse bought for School use by Crossford Community Council in 2019.

The Community Council had expressed concern about the disposal at an earlier Council meeting as there had been no communication from the School.

At their meeting with the head teacher, it was expressed that better communication between the School (Parent’s Council) and the Community Council is needed to avoid future mistakes. Towards that end J Lauchlan agreed to attend Parent Council meetings and in turn it was hoped that a representative from the Parent’s Council would attend the community council meetings.

The current year would be the 50th anniversary of the school and both visitors noted the poor condition of the external wooden classrooms.

Community Recovery Fund

Following a workshop organised by Fife Council to explain the availability of the CRF (some £1.2m in funds available to Central Dunfermline ward). The Community Council in conjunction with the Crossford Allotment’s Association are preparing an application submission for the Extension of the present allotments area ( waiting list ~60) and the creation of a Wetland Park plus network paths to the south of the allotments.

Local Place Plan Preparation

List of priority projects -

* Safe Route (Walking, Cycling, Wheeling) from Crossford to Dunfermline – Carnegie’s Way.
* Expansion of Allotments & improvement of Path Network south of the village.
* An effective traffic management system along Main Street and Cairneyhill Road.
* Improvements to Primary School Infrastructure – especially Nursery provision.
* Leisure development of Links park.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer tabled a written report as at 3rd April 2023 and this was accepted.

Opening Balance £9,374.46

Income

Chronicle Adverts Winter 2022 £135.00

Chronicle Adverts Spring 2023 £ 25.00

£160.00 £9,534.46

Expenditure

Secretary expenses £128.93

£128.93 £9,405.53

Monies Held in Trust

Dunfermline & West Fife Rights of Way £2,890.91

Woodland Walk Repairs £1,535.00

CREATE (MUGA Pitch Repairs) £2,309.46

Village Flowers £ 155.92 -£6,891.29 £2,514.24

Community Council Balance = £2,514.24

Unpresented Cheques

MUGA Electricity 2022 £341.25

5. EDITOR’S REPORT

The Editor said the Spring edition (Issue 180) of Crossford Chronicle had been compiled and forwarded to the printer.

Discussion took place about having a community website to further improve communications and the treasurer agreed to investigate this possibility.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received via e-mail was reported as follows –

Fife Council, Parks Department- Grounds maintenance, correspondence.

Fife Council, West/Central Planning Service - Virtual meeting at 2pm on 15th March 2023.

Fife Council, Legal & Democratic Service - Notification about Community Council elections to be held on 28th September 2023.

Fife Council - Consultation on Fife’s local transport strategy 2023-2033. Inputs to www.fife.gov.uk/transport strategy by 2nd April 2023.

Fife Council, Finance Service - Funding e-bulletin.

Fife Voluntary Action - News and weekly updates.

Fife Centre for Equalities - News & Events in weekly updates.

NHS Fife - Weekly update to 31st March 2023 & special update as at 13th March 2023.

Scottish Government - Workshops on Fireworks Contract Zones. Part of Fireworks Pyrotechnics Articles (Sco.) Act 2022.

Scottish Government - Online workshops theme, community and active travel.

Bear Scotland - Information re forthcoming work on A985 west of Limekilns junction starting 20th March , 2 night 7pm-6.30am

Scottish Rights of Way Society - News re 20th anniversary of Land Reform (Sco.) Act 2003, and NPF4 approval by the Scottish Parliament on 11th January 2023. Also Newsletter, Spring 2023.

Forth Bridge’s Forum - Newsletter.

Forth Coast & Countryside Trust - Newsletter, Winter 2023.

Greener Kirkcaldy - Plastic Free event guide funded by the National Lottery via Climate Action Fife. 9 pages.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Applications registered

Date Reference Proposal Address

None.

Applications Determined

Decision Date Reference/Decision Proposal Address

09/03/2023 23/00246/FULL Porch extension to front of 4 Pitfirrane Park

Permitted with conditions. dwellinghouse.

Work Commenced

Reference Date Commenced Proposal Address

None.

Work Completed

Reference Date Completed Proposal Address

18/01898/FULL 21/03/2023 Erection of deck to front of 22 Western Avenue

Dwellinghouse.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following matters were raised and noted or discussed -

* Good relationship with the new Fife Council grounds maintenance manager.
* The Information Commissioner's Office notified of new CCC contact details.
* Waggon Road footway improvement awaited. Flooded entrance to eastbound Scottish Right of Way FD48 south of railway bridge. D Hay to speak with local contact.
* A Hibbert asked for simple reflective marker posts to be installed at the junction of Waggon Road and the A985 Kincardine Road. CCC Secretary to contact Bear Scotland’s highway maintenance section.
* D Hay spoke of disturbance and damage to some vehicles by vandal(s) in the early hours of 2nd April in Lundin Road. NB The Police had apprehended and charged a person.

9. NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting dates will be as shown below and take place in the Village Hall

Monday, 8th May 2023 commencing at 7.15pm (AGM)

Monday, 12th June 2023 commencing at 7.15pm

Summary of Matters Arising from the meeting held on 3rd April 2023

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MINUTE**  **AREA** | **ACTION REQUIRED** | **OWNER** | **ACTION TAKEN** | **STATUS/COMPLETION DATE** |
| **Chairman’s Report** | Pitconochie proposals. | CCC | CCC response to detailed planning application. | Ongoing |
| **Matters Arising** | Footpath improvement needed from Crossford to Dunfermline. | CCC steering group. | Recent discussion with Sustrans and FC Lead Consultant. Funding agreed for stages 0-2. | Work in progress |
|  | Use of CCC ROW funds for path repairs. | CCC | Ongoing | Work in progress |
|  | Lamppost litter bin, Waggon Rd. to Arkaig Dr. | CCC | Earlier request | **No action**. |
|  | Re-alignment of ROW to west of Milesmark Croft. | Fife Council | Councillor Glen raised with FC, awaiting visit by Access Officer | Work in progress. Site meeting to be arranged. |
|  | Traffic Management - Main Street/Cairneyhill Road. | Fife Council | Request for survey & assessment. | **No action**. |