

Minutes of the 397th meeting of Crossford Community Council

held at 7.15pm on Monday, 5th December 2022 in Crossford Village Hall

PRESENT:

D Hay Chairman

J Matson Vice-chair

S Ballinger Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

R Baxter

R Brougham

E Fearn

S Harris

A Hibbert

A Rintoul

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor A Boubaker-Calder Fife Council

Councillor D Glen Fife Council

C Smith Chairman, Cairneyhill Community Council

5 members of the public

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

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence had been received from S Gibbons, D Quarm, PC Lynch and PC Morrison.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2022 and previously distributed, were agreed to an accurate record, proposed for adoption by E Fearn, seconded by A Hibbert and signed by D Hay.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Pitconochie Proposals

D Hay said there was still no indication from Fife Council as to it having received an acceptable drainage solution for the site. We still do not know what the developer has to do to satisfy planning permission’s condition 2.

He asked why the planning service could not inform us what progress had been made and suggested that Fife Council service had been dismissive of approaches from Crossford Community Council. Fife Councillors should have a united approach for the public in these matters..

In response, Councillor Glen said the planning report had all aspects of the application submitted by the developer.

D Hay stressed that no information was shown on the portal about Scottish Government Reporter’s condition 2, although information was there for conditions 2, 3 & 4.

Councillor Glen said that as a last resort Fife Council might have to take enforcement action against the developer.

Continuing, D Hay had recently asked a question about a possible drainage solution being routing the drainage water south off the site. Who would Crossford Community Council contact in Fife Council about such an option?

Councillor Boubaker-Calder suggested making contact with department ‘Flooding, shoreline and Harbours’ (part of Fife Council’s assets, transportation and environment service.

J Matson referred to her involvement with previous planning applications for the site and earlier flooding issues in the locality.

C Smith spoke of a recent email received from Stewart Milne Homes **which explicitly stated that no work would commence until condition 2 was complied with**.

It was noted that major change of personnel in Fife Council’s planning service had occurred in recent months.

Jubilee Tree Planting in King George V Park

D Hay reported that the three commemorative trees had been planted at a cost of approximately £900. A plaque detailing the date and reason for the planting of the Hornbeam, Larch and Whitebeam trees would be erected in the near future.

It was noted that the self-employed person who planted the trees was willing to do more work of that nature if required.

The Secretary advised fixing some simple wood cross pieces across the tops of the 4 stakes to further protect each tree and A Hibbert agreed to put these in place.

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

Repair work had been undertaken voluntarily by a local resident on the section east to William Street from the junction of the track between North Urquhart & Urquhart Farm.

Expenditure on ballast was currently £115 with a similar amount required for purchase of tarmac scrapings to finish the work. This was agreed.

J Wylie,the farmer at Knockhouse had indicated that work to further improve the route from Knockhouse Farm to Lundin Road would re-commence in the Spring.

Waggon Road Footpath - Chicken Farm to Railway Bridge

No further progress to report.

Knockhouse to Milesmark Right of Way

J Matson spoke of continuing problems at Milesmark Croft and a recent court case where a landowner at West Baldridge had been fined £500 for obstructing a Right of Way.

Unfortunately there had been no reports to the Police about problems encountered by people using the route which passed Milesmark Croft.

A Rintoul urged Fife Council to use its powers to re-align the Right of Way at this location.

Councillor Glen said he would raise the issue with Fife Council.

3. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

D Hay reported that an email had been received from a resident about some youths congregating around the commemorative bench west of the Scout Hall resulting in occasional nuisance and litter.

Members commented that original siting of the bench had been discussed at length and minuted in earlier meetings and no previous concerns had been raised.

To assist with resolving the matter it was suggested that a litter bin placed nearby would be helpful and this was agreed. Enhanced CCTV coverage would be useful and concerns could always be raised by contacting the Police community constables on tel. 101.

J Matson then expressed her anger about the lack of road repairs to potholes in the Knockhouse Gardens/Kirkwood Crescent area, progress with such matters was poor and extremely slow.

A Rintoul spoke of his own experience with previous vehicle damage due to a broken road surface and **advised that taking the matter to the Sheriff Court** resulted in early action and compensation.

D Hay said the various flower planters along Cairneyhill Road had been tidied and he reported contact with the village allotment group with a view to the possibility of purchasing next year’s bedding plants from the group. This was agreed and a cost estimate would be obtained.

Operation of the water bowser required further assistance and he asked for volunteers to contact him about this. The Scout Group would also be approached to see if they could help.

Local Place Plan

Speaking about preparation of a Local Place Plan D Hay outlined four possible areas for inclusion -

* Carnegie’s Way (strategic goal).
* An effective traffic management system along Crossford Main Street and Cairneyhill Road. For eg use of new speed detector equipment and traffic light technology to slow speeding vehicles (as used in Dumfries & Galloway).
* An effective drainage solution for Crossford & Cairneyhill to take water to the Lyne Burn.
* Explore increased and new leisure use of Links Park.

Reference was made to previous contact from Fife Council’s Property Gazetteer about

naming of streets & avenues in the proposed housing scheme immediately west of Crossford. Suggestions form Crossford Community Council had been submitted to Fife Council.

Police Report

PC Lynch the community constable for the area had provided a written report

PC Lynch had reported 14 calls received from Crossford to the constabulary using either the 101 non-emergency) or 999 (emergency) numbers during the month of October.

2 crimes were identified and recorded.

* 1 involved a guest (not a Crossford resident) at the Keavil Hotel being in possession of a very small amount of a controlled substance.
* 1 domestic incident - Threatening and abusive behaviour.

Both had been detected/reported.

Community Speed Watch

Deployment on 7th October 2022 on Waggon Road, Crossford identified 2 motorists driving above the prescribed limits.

Deployment on 18th October 2022 on Main Street, Crossford identified 6 motorists driving above the prescribed limits.

Warning letters were sent to the registered keepers of the vehicles identified.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer had provided a written report as at 4th December 2022 and this was accepted.

Funds at 4th December 2022

Opening Balance £12,031.22

Income

Chronicle Adverts £140.00

£140.00 £12,171.22 Expenditure

Village Flowers £11.97

£11.97 £12,159.25

Monies Held in Trust

Dunfermline & West Fife Rights of Way £2,890.91

Woodland Walk Repairs £1,650.00

CREATE (MUGA Pitch Repairs) £2,309.46

Jubilee Trees £ 768.60 £7,618.97 -£7,618.97

£4,540.28

Community Council Balance = £4,540.28

Unpresented Cheques

Village Poppy Wreath £ 37.40

Planting of Jubilee Trees £ 50.00

Chronicle Printing, Winter 2022 £534.00

The Treasurer then spoke of monetary contributions for floral enhancement and donations in earlier years to Crossford Village Hall and he noted that payment of the current financial year’s floral enhancement amount of £300 had not yet been made. The agreed amount was confirmed and a cheque would be issued.

After discussion and in view of rising energy costs a decision was taken to make a donation of £250 to assist with running of the Village Hall.

It was also agreed to pay the defibrillator maintenance cost of £228 organised by local resident Stuart Menzies.

5. PLANTING OF TREES IN KING GEORGE V PARK

Jubilee Trees

This item was covered in agenda item 2.

6. CARNEGIE’S WAY UPDATE.

A Hibbert said matters were progressing and following taking part in an online workshop it was now really necessary to meet with A MacLean the Fife Council lead officer for sustainable transport. Approval for stages 1 & 2 was awaited and Councillor Boubaker-Calder agreed to organise a meeting with A MacLean.

Councillor Boubaker-Calder said that projects were taking longer and discussions had taken place with landowners, stakeholders and Sustrans. A MacLean would like to start work on the project before the end of 2022 and was looking for a new case officer. It was necessary to continue discussions with Fife Council.

D Hay said that dates were needed from Fife Council about progression and also a discussion about the route.

A Rintoul advised that part of the initial process involved consultation with the community and display of area maps.

A Hibbert thanked the local Fife Councillors for their support and D Hay looked forward to 2023 for further progress.

7. EDITOR’S REPORT

The Community Council had 4 ways of communicating with the public -

* Regular meetings in the Village Hall.
* Minutes placed on the noticeboard outside Green's shop.
* The Crossford Chronicle newsletter.
* Minutes posted on the Facebook residents page.

It was agreed that all were useful and improved service to residents. A list of village contacts would be placed on the noticeboard although it was acknowledged these could change from year to year after annual meetings.

The Secretary spoke of Chronicle distribution through an extensive number of local resident ‘posties’ and businesses. S Harris asked to be added to the list of posties.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received via e-mail was reported as follows –

Fife Council, Planning Service - West/Central area agenda/papers for virtual meeting at 2pm, 16th November 2022.

Fife Council, Planning Service - Planning update, October 2022.

Fife Council, Planning Service - Info. re Fife Development Plan scheme. SESpan 6/2013 continues until adoption of NPF4.

Fife Council, Community Investment Team - Funding bulletin, November 2022.

Fife Voluntary Action - News and weekly updates.

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

NHS Fife - Weekly update.

NHS Fife - Health & Social Care Partnership - Fife Carers Strategy Review for 2023-2026.

Police Scotland - October report from community constable.

Gala Committee - Approval letter from Fife Council for fireworks display.

Fife Council, Area Committee - City of Dunfermline online meeting at 9.30am on 22nd November.

Fife Coast & Countryside Trust - Newsletter, Autumn 2022.

Scottish Government Improvement Service for CC’s - Invitation re planning workshop on 9th November. A further one to be held at a later date.

Scottish Boundaries Commission - Start for Sco. consultation on revised proposals of UK Parliament Constituencies. Review will recommend 57 in Scotland, comments to Scottish Boundaries Commission consultation portal by 5th December 2022.

Scotland Loves Local (via FC) - Gift card of £5 in partnership with Perth based fintech specialist Miconex, to spend in local businesses.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Applications registered

Date Reference Proposal Address

07/11/2022 22/03570/CLP Certificate of lawfulness (proposed) for 17 Maree Place

single storey ext. to rear, formation of raised

platform and external alterations.

08/11/2022 22/03579/FULL Formation of raised platform to rear of 26 Knowehead Rd.

dwellinghouse.

15/11/2022 22/03779/FULL Erection of two-storey extension at the Adamson Hotel,

Adamson Hotel. 25 Main Street

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.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following points were raised -

Concern was raised about the edging to the footpath between the King George V Park and the Keavil Driveway. The Secretary said he would review it and perhaps contact the CEO of the Keavil Hotel about this matter.

Following further discussions about the Pitconochie proposals, it was suggested that it would be beneficial to organise a meeting in the New Year with the developer through the office of S A Somerville the local MSP.

11. NEXT MEETINGS

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

Monday, 16th January 2023 commencing at 7.15pm

Monday, 20th February 2023 commencing at 7.15pm

Summary of Matters Arising from the meeting held on 5th December 2022

| **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 working group. | Discussions with Sustrans and FC Lead Consultant. Meeting sought with him. | 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 to raise with FC | Work in progress. |