

Minutes of the 398th meeting of Crossford Community Council

held at 7.15pm on Monday, 16th January 2023 in Crossford Village Hall

PRESENT:

D Hay Chairman

J Matson Vice-chair

S Ballinger Secretary

J Lauchlan Treasurer

R Baxter

R Brougham

S Harris

A Rintoul

D Quarm Co-opted Member

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor A Boubaker-Calder Fife Council

Councillor D Glen Fife Council

C Smith Chairman, Cairneyhill Community Council

4 members of the public

D Hay welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that 2 further emails had been received from residents at the north end of the Park stating lack of discussion/consultation relating to the planting of trees and siting of the memorial bench. It was noted that at the October meeting it was agreed to re-site planting of the trees to the south-east corner of the Park. All present agreed the correctness of the discussion and minutes

Continuing, D Hay said that discussion relating to the bench had taken place at 8 meetings from May 2020 until it was installed by Fife Council in February 2022. At all stages Fife Council officials were aware of the proceedings. The historical record was noted and agreed.

J Matson further confirmed the correctness and recording of recent actions.

D Hay then asked the Secretary to report any apologies for absence.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Leishman, E Fearn, S Gibbons, A Hibbert, PC Lynch and PC Morrison.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2022 and previously distributed, were

agreed to be an accurate record, proposed for adoption by R Brougham, seconded by J Matson and signed by D Hay.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Pitconochie Proposals

D Hay said that through the office of S A Somerville MSP, a meeting was being arranged at the earliest opportunity with Stewart Milne Homes as there was still no answer about a suitable drainage scheme to comply with condition 2 made by the Reporter for the Scottish Government. It was hoped that a director of the company could give the required information.

Councillor Glen said the planning application had been approved by Fife Council but he questioned if the developer’s drainage scheme would work in practice.

D Hay and C Smith reiterated previous comments about refusal by the landowner to allow drainage water to flow over his land and also of serious historical flooding issues in Cairneyhill which could be exacerbated by increased flow to the Torry Burn from this proposed development and also that taking place to the north of Cairneyhill.

Councillor Glen said the planning service was unlikely to take further action.

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Also, D Hay reported that a public meeting would take place in Cairneyhill the following evening with Stantec, Fife Council’s external consultant about drainage/flooding issues. This report had taken 3 years to produce.

Councillor Boubaker-Calder and D Hay said the suggested street names for the proposed development, requested by the Gazetteer section of Fife Council, had been approved.

Carnegie’s Way Update

S Harris said that 2 months had passed since the meeting with Sustrans and there was still no indication from A MacLean when he would hold a meeting to take this project forward. Progress was needed otherwise the design stages 3-4 could suffer.

A decision on the route into Dunfermline was needed to allow public consultation to take place.

A project assistant was being sought for A MacLean, to make speedier progress and work with Places for Everyone, Sustrans on the Scheme.

D Hay said it would be useful to speak again with A Craik, senior Fife Councillor on infrastructure.

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

Further repair work would take place in the near future on the section east to William Street from the junction of the track between North Urquhart & Urquhart Farm.

A delivery of ballast, agreed at the December meeting, was expected in the near future.

Refuse Bins

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

Waggon Road Footpath - Chicken Farm to Railway Bridge

D Hay said that an email from a Fife Council technician engineer with the traffic management service had indicated that work would commence next financial year as long as there were no drainage issues.

Knockhouse to Milesmark Right of Way

It was confirmed that a meeting would soon take place between interested parties and Fife Council’s Access Officer in an endeavour to resolve this long-standing problem.

Damaged Safety Barrier outside Village Hall

Councillor Boubaker-Calder confirmed that the barrier damaged by a motorist on 11th May last year would be replaced by Fife Council transportation service on 10th February.

3. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

At the invitation of D Hay the Secretary read from the written Police report -

Police Report

PC Morrison, one of the community constables for the area, had provided the written report.

PC Morrison had reported 34 calls received from Crossford to the constabulary using either the 101 non-emergency) or 999 (emergency) numbers during the months of November and December

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3 crimes were identified and recorded.

* Vandalism to a commercial property.
* Assault/threatening and abusive behaviour.
* Theft of a garden ornament.

Enquiries are continuing with these incidents.

Continuing, D Hay said that traffic management needs addressing on the Main Street & Cairneyhill Road to slow speeding motorists.

A traffic light operated system as operated on the A75 in Dumfries and Galloway should be considered and he requested Fife Council to undertake a survey/assessment of the issue and for the matter to be added to the Matters Arising section by the Secretary.

J Matson and A Rintoul noted that one of the MUGA lights was angled into the sky and needed re-aligning. A Gallacher, Fife Council’s community manager, would be contacted about this.

D Hay reported that summer bedding plants for the flower containers had been ordered from the Crossford Allotment Association at a cost of £550.

The 2 representatives from Crossford Ladies group spoke of the need for more office bearers to assist with running of this long established, large membership group which meets at fortnightly intervals throughout the year. It was agreed to place details about the meetings on the notice boards by the shop and Village Hall.

Information would also be placed on the Crossford residents page of Facebook.

4. TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer had provided a written report as at 16th January 2023 and this was accepted.

Funds at 16th January 2023

Opening Balance £12,159.25

Income

Chronicle Adverts £220.00

£220.00 £12,379.25 Expenditure

Remembrance Day Poppy Wreath £ 37.40

Planting of Jubilee Trees £ 50.00

Ballast for Walking Path (N Henderson) £115.00

Village Hall Flowers Grant 2022 £300.00

Village Hall Donation (CCC Meetings 2022) £250.00

Jubilee Trees £899.79

Chronicle Printing Winter 2022 edition £534.00

Wildflower Patch Cutting £ 50.00

£2,236.19 £10,143.06

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

Village Flowers £ 155.92 £7,006.29 -£7,006.29

£3,136.77

Community Council Balance = £3,136.77

Unpresented Cheques

Village Flowers Deposit (Allotments Assoc.) £395.00

MUGA Electricity 2022 £341.25

It was noted that with the fitting of new LED lights on the MUGA, electricity consumption and cost was much reduced.

5. EDITOR’S REPORT

In the absence of the Editor it was reported that copy for the Spring edition (Issue 180) of Crossford Chronicle was needed by the first week in March to ensure compilation, printing and distribution by Easter,

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received via e-mail was reported as follows –

Fife Council, Planning Service - West/Central area agenda/papers for virtual meeting at 2pm, 18th January 2023.

Fife Council, Planning Service - NPF4 Plan passed to Scottish Parliament for approval.

Fife Council, Planning Service - Development of Local Plans and Local Place Plans.

Fife Council - Information re Emergency Resilience.

Fife Council, Traffic Management South - Waggon Road footpath could be on programme for 2023/24 financial year.

Fife Voluntary Action - News and weekly updates.

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

NHS Fife - Weekly update to 4th January 2023.

Scottish Government Improvement Service for CC’s - Standards Commission for Scotland. Information on a helpful card showing what Councillors can/cannot be involved with.

Places for Everyone, Sustrans - First Panel meeting and update for 2023/24 year and projects new to the programme for design stages 3-4 and funding stages 5-7.

Bear Scotland - Newsletter, December 2022.

Bear Scotland - Contact information and feedback on issues.

AMEY - Overnight resurfacing on A92 in north-east Fife 16-27th January 2023.

Councillor Boubaker-Calder - Various local issues.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Applications registered

Date Reference Proposal Address

09/1/2023 22/03885/FULL Porch extension to front of 6 Cairn Grove

dwellinghouse.

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.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Poor State of A994 Main Street, Crossford

The broken and badly potholed state of the Main Street received heated discussion and J Matson asked yet again if indeed it would be resurfaced this year. There had been continued promises from J Mitchell, a senior Fife Council infrastructure official, that it would be completed by the end of this financial year.

Councillor Boubaker-Calder said she was trying to find an answer and was supported by Councillor Glen.

It was suggested that a letter of complaint should be sent to Fife Council’s chief executive officer and this was agreed.

Councillor Glen said the work was on a programme and project management decisions had to be taken with all such work.

In conclusion D Hay asked where we are on the priority list in view of the current state of the carriageway.

9. NEXT MEETINGS

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

Monday, 20th February 2023 commencing at 7.15pm

Monday, 3rd April 2023 commencing at 7.15pm

Summary of Matters Arising from the meeting held on 16th January 2023

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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. Site meeting to be arranged. |
|  | Traffic Management - Main Street/Cairneyhill Road. | Fife Council | Request for survey & assessment. | Work in progress. |