



# Royal Burgh of Crail and District Community Council

**Draft Minutes, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020  
7.15 pm Video Conference**

**Welcome** - MT welcomed everyone to the meeting, the 4<sup>th</sup> one held on zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic. He noted that the meeting was being recorded.

**Present:** Max Taylor (Chairman) (MT), Heather Aird (Secretary) (HA), John Wilson (Treasurer) (JW), David Jerdan (Deputy Chairman) (DJ), Paul Hutchison (PH), Jude Gallon-Fry (JGF), Andrew Purves (AP), Cllr. Linda Holt (Cllr. LH), Cllr. Bill Porteous (Cllr. BP), Cllr. John Docherty (Cllr. JD) and 3 members of public.

**Apologies:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** JGF Proposed, JW Seconded.

## **Action Summary:**

- Monoblock and Potholes High St North – Cllr B.P  
Work returned to normal a few weeks ago and Fife Council have been prioritising works. He will chase up this and the potholes.
- Sauchope Caravan Park – PH  
PH has put comments into Fife council which neither support nor object the development. It is apparent that permission was granted a few years ago which we were unaware of. There are concerns about the closeness of the development to the coastal path and it is thought that the development will cut into the cliff slightly. The community councils' comment is the only comment uploaded. DJ advised he has had a positive conversation with the owners of the caravan park.
- Weeds and Grass Cutting – Cllr L.H  
Cllr L.H had asked Rodger Honeyman to meet the people of Crail to discuss this issue and he refused to do so. This is an issue occurring in several villages. Fife Council's excuse is that this is a result of reduced staffing. Grass cutting is due to resume at 90% of previous capacity. Cllr B.P confirmed this and has written to Mr Honeyman to confirm which locations are being cut in villages. Dennis Gowans advised that Chris Broome is trying to establish a connection with this Fife Council Department. Cllr L.H is happy to contact Mr Honeyman again.

## **Chairman's Report**

Harbourmasters Office – Fife elected representatives were asked to give their opinions on Fife Council selling the harbour master's office to the Crail Community Trust for £15,000. There was a general feeling that the site did not need a visitor's centre, lacked a coherent plan and that the price was cheap for the location. Janice Laird indicated community consultation was carried out before the



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current councilors were elected and before the Crail Charette. She agreed there needs to be discussion with the community partnership and museum and Janice Laird confirmed a meeting was to be set up between the Trust, Crail Museum and the Community Partnership. The Community Partnership confirmed that this has not happened. Cllr B.P confirmed all of the above and wishes the whole situation to be reassessed in line with the Crail Charette.

MT stated that the community council received a complaint after the last meeting which was circulated and was also forwarded to Fife Democratic Services as legal action was indicated. We have heard nothing further about this.

Crail has been awarded funding for 3 projects to increase safe pedestrian and cycle use for social distancing from Sustrans. These are to increase pedestrian space and reduce inappropriate parking and establish a temporary cycle lane. It is unclear what form these measures will take but any further information we get will be circulated to the community and businesses. Cllr L.H indicated consultations should be carried out with local businesses before measures are put in place. Cllr B.P indicated that measures are put in place Elie and businesses were consulted.

CllrJD recommended that the next community council be held face-to-face in August and preferably in the Community Hall to allow for social distancing. This was agreed.

MT indicated he is resigning as chairman from the community council after 5 years as secretary and chairman. He plans to remain as a member of the community council but will no longer hold the position of Chairman. JW proposed a vote of thanks to MT for his service and Cllr J.D thanked MT for his commitment and professionalism in his roles and that he has positively promoted Crail throughout his period. MT sought nomination of new chairman, JW nominated DJ which was seconded by PH. PH also expressed his thanks to MT. AP indicated his thoughts of DJ being a good chairman of the community council however expressed his reservation of DJ being chairman of the community council and Crail Community Partnership due to the relationship between the two. AP wanted his concerns noted but was not opposed to DJ being chairman. The vote for DJ was 10 for, 0 against and 1 abstention.

DJ thanked members for electing him to the position of chairman and shares the concerns expressed by AP, however, will remain professional in both committees. DJ indicated that if anyone feels there is an issue between the two bodies, he is happy to hear these concerns and step back if necessary. DJ expressed his personal thanks to MT and all his work for Crail.

DJ noted HA was currently 'Acting Secretary' and asked if she would now resume the role of Secretary, this was agreed.

DJ has approached 2 people to join the Community Council and these are Sonja Potjewijd, a strong community and environment activist and Dawn Wallace who is a co-founder of Wee Crailers. DJ proposed these people be elected, MT seconded. The council's vote was unanimous.



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## **Treasurer's Report**

There was £21 to independent examiner for the annual accounts leaving a balance of £8523.10.

## **Secretary's Report**

Bins Collection - Due to the impact of coronavirus bin collection dates in your area may change. Check your bin collection dates every Sunday for the most up to date information at [www.fife.gov.uk/bincalendar](http://www.fife.gov.uk/bincalendar). Pittenweem recycling centre is now open but you must make a booking, you cannot just turn up.

Abandoned Cars - There have been several cars noted around the village which have been abandoned at random locations. These cars have no road tax or MOT and the police are investigating them.

Test & Protect Scams - NHS Test and Protect teams are currently calling people who have either tested positive for Covid19, or been in close contact with someone who has. Unfortunately, scammers are calling people at home too. If you feel any suspicion when you receive a Test and Protect call, ask the Contact Tracer for the switchboard contact number which should be given as 01592 643 355 extension 29121. You can then hang up, dial the number yourself and asking to be reconnected with the Contact Tracer who has been dealing with you.

## **Update Crail Partnership**

DG advised the application for the Scottish Land Fund for taking ownership of the community hall has been completed and the decision will be made in August. The decision on the 3 pieces of land for council asset transfer also await a decision.

## **Coronavirus response**

HA advised there had only be one request for support over the past month, however suggested that the contacts be asked if their details can be kept in case of a second wave.

Cllr B.P suggested this be a formal letter, along with a note of thanks from the Community Council to the volunteers. DJ and HA will do this.

## **Vision for the Future**

MT advised there has been discussions around the role of community councils changing including a blueprint from Lothian Council. He indicated there may be government advice in future on the role community councils play in the future. Fife Council had begun a consultation of the boundaries of community councils before the coronavirus. Community council Scotland has further information on their website. MT suggested this be taken to the East Neuk Community Forum and Cllr. L.H agreed. Cllr L.H also stated that Fife Council were going to look further into community councils and their role but this was paused due to the coronavirus. Cllr JD indicated there was the Community Empowerment



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Act which recognized the role of Community Councils. PH suggested this could be a catalyst for bringing many community groups together.

### **East Neuk & Landward Community Policing (BP)**

Cllr B.P advised he had a meeting with the local police area commander for North East Fife and Levenmouth. During the meeting it was noted that Levenmouth has their own community police officer who community groups and schools pay for and it was suggested the East Neuk look into doing the same. There should be 2 community police officers in the East Neuk, however there is currently only one due to a lack of resources. Cllr LH supported a funded officer for the East Neuk and has had conversations with the headteacher of Waid who would support this. Cllr. J.D also expressed his support for this.

The 3 councillors will put the case to the area committee for funding for another officer for the East Neuk.

### **Fife Council Music Tuition during Covid and beyond (BP)**

Cllr B.P indicated that parent and carers who have children who receive music tuition are still being charged although tuition is not currently being carried out. The community council weren't aware of cases of this in Crail.

### **Cycling Takes Priority for Funding (BP)**

Cllr B.P indicated there was a case for cycle paths to receive funding for these paths.

### **Fife Councilors Reports**

#### **Cllr J.D**

Cllr J.D indicated that he attended a SNP group meeting where it was confirmed that 20 family members can attend funerals.

#### **Cllr L.H.**

Cllr L.H praised the work of Elizabeth Smart the headteacher of Waid who has worked tirelessly for the provision of education for pupils and planning for the return of pupils in August.

#### **Cllr B.P.**

Cllr BP advised Stagecoach buses should now resume full service.

Cllr BP is working with Willie Rennie MSP and Wendy Chamberlain MP to ensure pupils get full refunds for their cancelled school trips.

### **AOCB**

Jenny Gowans advised that the putting green is opening on Wednesday and there are many guidelines in place to ensure social distancing. If players consent, names and contacts of players will be taken to allow for track and trace if necessary.



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DG advised that he and Chris Broome have had conversations around the maintenance of paths and are looking to enquire to buy a strimmer for this for community volunteers to maintain the paths. A common good application would be sought for this. DJ advised this would be supported.

HA advised there was a complaint about fencing being destroyed and pulled down between the graveyard extension and the Balcomie housing estate. Cllr LH has approached Fife Council about this. MT has expressed this is also an issue with adults going through the graveyard to the Balcomie housing estate. Cllr J.D and Cllr L.H will look into this further.

The next meeting will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> August, hopefully face to face in the Community Hall where social distancing can take place.

### **Action Summary:**

- Fence between Balcomie Housing Estate and Graveyard Extension – Cllr L.H and Cllr J.D
- Monoblock and Potholes High St North – Cllr B.P
- Weeds and Grass Cutting – Cllr. L.H
- Social Distancing Initiatives Sustrans