



ROYAL BURGH OF CRAIL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of 29th August 2022 7.15pm Crail Town Hall

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Present: David Jerdan, Erica Hollis, Andrew Purves, John Wilson, Colin Morrison, Lynsey Watson, Dawn Wallace-Watson, Cllr Fiona Corps, Cllr Sean Dillon.

Apologies: Max Taylor, Alan Hood, Cllr Alycia Hayes, Dennis Gowans
Attending One member of the public, Police Sgt Jo Peddie and PC Dawn Doherty.

Welcome: DJ opened the meeting with a statement about recent concerns about criminal activity

As most of the Crail community knows, our normal quiet and relatively peaceful summer has been rudely shattered by a series of crimes, misdemeanours and arson, perpetrated by 3 underage children. It is not for this forum to discuss the ins and outs of their behaviour, or even the correct response from the childcare authorities and the police.

There are however serious questions to be asked about the appropriate level of response when criminality arises, to whom matters should be reported, and anticipated and reasonable response times. Whilst there are concerns about the needs of vulnerable children, there are obvious and serious concerns about the safety of the vulnerable elderly adults in our community. It is a matter of real concern that PI Gibson, our community police inspector wrote saying

‘The reports within the Crail Community are however very concerning. In these cases it is for the police to initially intervene and respond to dynamic matters and provide a short period of stabilisation with support firstly from the family, followed by other agencies. Unfortunately, I am unable to give firm assurances on a dedicated policing response to this in the manner the community may traditionally expect.’

The inspector’s comments do not re-assure us and raise important issues.

He invited Community Police Officers Sgt Jo Peddie and Dawn Doherty to respond.

PC Peddie explained she could respond in general terms only. Recent events have been recorded as crime but because the perpetrators are below the age of criminal responsibility (12) they cannot be charged. Details are passed to responsible agencies, principally Social Work but also to Education and Fire Service. If there are repeated incidents involving the same individual(s) the response from the authorities is escalated. She gave general guidance on reporting incidents:

Dial 999 for threat to life or serious threat to property i.e. Fire or intruders.

Dial 101 for lesser threat.

Online reporting for ongoing problems such as antisocial behaviour.

Neighbourhood watch schemes are no longer supported.

“Police Survey” leaflets were distributed.

DJ thanked our community police officers for attending and they left the meeting.

Minutes of 27th June were approved.

Action Summary:

Baby Lobsters have been released off harbour

First Responders letter will be sent to 1st responder team for approval then sent to MSP

First Responders lifting issue. Cllr FC thinks a solution is close.

See-Saw Poor condition has been reported to Fife Council

Denburn Traffic. Because of slow progress DJ has written to FC to speed things along.

Parking Wardens. No update

Road Signs. SD reported they would be inspected during next survey by FC at some unknown date in the future.

Chairman’s Report

- 1) Graham Anderson retired and sold the Honey-pot in July. I would like to thank him and acknowledge the tremendous amount he gave to the Crail community. He was a community councillor for a number of years and served as Chairman during a particularly difficult period for the community council. He was a co-founder and main driver of Crail Food festival and also started Crail table tennis club.
- 2) Following a complaint regarding weeds at the hen’s ladder and the rest area at the top, Fife Council responded and the area has been tidied up.
- 3) Concerns have been registered at the number and severity of roadworks that are now causing severe delays in travelling to and from Crail and other parts of Fife.

Treasurers Report. Only one payment of £175 to pay for lobster release.

CCP Update

1. Kilminning awarded over £200,000n for Rewilding. To receive the funds the community needs to raise £8,000 to trigger the award release. Crowdfunding will start shortly.
2. CCP applying for £25,000 for boiler replacement in CCH, as current boiler is so old and inefficient it cannot be maintained properly. Fife Environment Trust have said they will cover 75% if our application is successful, requesting the other 25% from Crail Common Good Fund.

3. The public survey at Crail Harbour is complete. The consultant is now going to interview some key stakeholders. Then a public event will be held to display the survey findings and provide people the opportunity to comment.
4. The Roome Bay Hub Design Survey is winding up, with over 185 responses to date. This will allow us to complete the Feasibility Study and Business Plan, which will also be presented for feedback at a public event.
5. CCH Income Forecast for 2023 is looking strong but carries larger risk with the major hike in energy prices. Pricing is being reviewed, with the major price changes being targeted at commercial users (e.g. Weddings).

Common Good Fund. Cash in hand £382,000 which could be used for approved projects. Cllrs FC and SD will enquire about repairs to the Town Hall tower. A survey was carried out some time ago but no action taken.

Common Good Fund Applications. Applications from CCP to replace Community Hall boiler (£6250) and from Crail Nursery for a climbing frame (£1900) were both unanimously approved. (subsequently agreed that a fresh application will be needed from a registered body for the Nursery funding)

Communication with Cllrs and Fife Council. DJ asked if issues should be raised with any individual Cllr rather than sent to all three. It seems not.

AOCB. DJ highlighted the time taken to repair two bridges in the area the reason given they are B listed. He questioned the need for this listing. SD replied work should have started on the bridge at Collinsburgh today (it didn't). He will monitor the situation.

Difficulties regarding obtaining permission for Electric Vehicle charging points was raised. There is a nationwide policy regarding this with no solution at present. MSP Willie Rennie has been involved, SD and FC will liaise with Mr Rennie.

Date of next meeting: Monday 26th September 7:15pm.

Action Summary.

Promotion of Police Survey DWW

Collinsburgh Bridge repairs Cllr SD

First responders involvement in emergencies AH

Date of next meeting – Monday 26th September 2022. (Apologies from DJ – JW will chair)