



## ROYAL BURGH OF CRAIL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022 7.15pm Crail Town Hall

**Present:** Chair: David Jerdan (DJ), Erica Hollis (EH), Colin Morrison (CM), Max Taylor (MT), John Wilson (JW), Alan Hood (AH)

Councillors: Cllr Alycia Hayes (CAH), Fiona Corps (FC)

**Apologies:** Cllr Sean Dillon, Cllr Fiona Corps, Dawn Wallace-Watson, Andrew Purves (AP)

6 members of the public including Dennis Gowans (DG for Crail Community Partnership), John Freeth (JF) for recycling update, Damon Reynolds (DR) for the new Crail Traders Association and Jenni Brittain.

**Welcome:** DJ opened the meeting and welcomed all to the last meeting of 2022.

#### **Approval of last minutes:**

The minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> October meeting were approved

#### **Election of new Councillor**

Jenni Brittain was proposed by DJ and seconded by MT to fill the current vacancy. Jenni was welcomed by all.

#### **Matters Arising**

- Councillor AH – press Fife Council to extend the Go Flexi service to take up short fall in new Stagecoach timetable. CAH has sent a fuller reply by email but, in summary, the Go Flexi service will shortly be going out to tender for renewal in August next year, Fife council will consider an extension to the current Crail service as part of the tendering process.
- DG – put Beechwalk Park carpark extension proposal in Crail Matters for comment – this item is removed for now as CCP are not yet at a stage to progress.
- DJ to try Fife Coast and Countryside initially regarding repairs to the crabbing pool – DJ has spoken with Fife Coast & Countryside who are considering what they can do.
- CM to email a list of outstanding issues at Crail Harbour. CM has had meeting with the fishermen and the Fife Council Harbour team – the key member of which is currently on holiday but will start looking into the list when he returns. The list runs to 3 pages of close type but the priority is the harbour lighting – apparently the current “fix” is to have those lights which still work left on 24 hours a day!
- Councillor AH to ask Fife council about repairs to the B940 and ask Fife Council to consult with local communities about timing of roadworks in future. CAH reports that Fife Council have patched some of the B940 and there is more work scheduled for next year but not, apparently, at the Crail end. Also on the topic of consulting with communities on scheduling of road works, Fife council say this will not change as there would be too much conflicts between different communities.
- Councillor AH to ask for more transparency in the Common Good Fund accounts – perhaps quarterly submission to community councils and some breakdown of the actual investments made by Hendersons. Apparently because of the software used, no more frequent reports can be made available but the reports can be made clearer with explanations of codes and a monitoring statement. On the subject of ethical investments, CAH has been sent links to various documents

which she has forwarded to CCC by email but Fife Council stress that community councils cannot influence investments. A new action for CAH is to ask about fees paid to Hendersons and what Fife Council's mandate to Hendersons covers.

- AP to send photos to CAH of problem pavements – passed to Nigel Hampton of Fife Council who will inspect when he can having just returned from holiday)
- LW volunteered to try and find out the router password – not necessary, it had not changed.
- Kirkmay/Lamont junction EH to take photo(s) and send to Councillor AH – CAH reports that the roundels on the road will not be replaced (due to maintenance issues) as the preferred option is repeaters on lamp-posts. Nothing about faded giveaway lines or missing 20mph sign!
- Allotments – Councillor AH to consult with Peter Duncan and report back. DJ has met with Peter Duncan and the two people who raised the issue. Peter Duncan is about to try and contact the 15 names he has had on a list for some years to see how many are still interested. Meantime he agrees that the patch of ground owned by Crail Community Partnership beyond Bow Butts would be suitable for about 14 allotments but would need to be leased back to the council for them to then lease to allotment holders.

## Chairman's report

- The repairs to restore the street lighting at Denburn Narrows were finally carried out and completed last week. The response time and level of response from Fife Council/Scottish Power was completely unacceptable. EH noted that one of the lights is already out again. DG stated that some forthcoming remedial work to remove dangerous branches from the elm tree at the corner of Denburn wood would also reduce blocking from other lights.
- The Crail Town Hall wi-fi router password is unchanged. NeCiCAULW9nC
- It has been agreed that CCC will make a £100 donation towards the cost of the Christmas tree lighting event. This is scheduled for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 5pm. JW asked if we had said the money should not be spent on single use plastic as he had seen some. DJ replied that the CCC council money would certainly not be spent on plastic.
- We have had confirmation that the minor who was causing all the antisocial and pyromaniac activity has been moved out of Crail
- DJ met up with Craig Hutton from Fife Council who runs the community payback scheme. He subsequently arranged for the path at the hen's ladder to be very thoroughly de-weeded and swept. It now looks very good. The meeting would like our appreciation to be passed on.

## Treasurer's report

Payments this month :

Christmas Tree Lights switch on (Jimmy Aird) £100

Domain registration and subscription 2 years (WordPress) £75

Bank balance £5,907.58 (general £2,886.45 restricted £3,021.13)

Payment to be made from general - £120 for hall charge through to March 2023.

## Update – Crail Community Partnership

The Roome Bay study plan is being reviewed to see if any of the CCP trustees is willing to take forward the management of what could be a £400,000 undertaking. CCP will take a few months to consider and to liaise with potential partners such as Fife Coast and Countryside who may be willing to take a lead. In the end only one valid quote was obtained for boiler replacement at the Community Hall as the other two companies dropped out of tendering for the work

## Items for Discussion

- Crail Common Good Fund application – an application for £3279 for electrical work at the community hall – some required to facilitate the boiler replacement and some for work arising from annual inspection – meeting approved. Further work to make the balcony sound system safer may come along later.
- Scotland Deposit Return Scheme update. JF informed the meeting that the Scottish government had now modified the requirements for retailers in smaller premises (under 100 m sq) are now excluded from having to provide recycling and deposit returns. As all the traders in Crail who supply drinks in bottles are below this size, that is a great relief to the traders who can look forward to business as usual (DR). Although the Co-op are very much in favour of the scheme it is hard to visualise where their Crail store to accommodate a reverse vending machine (now the preferred option over staffing). DJ and JF plan to meet with the Co-op managers to discuss options. Apparently 3 of the current 4 manufacturers of reverse vending machines are in Scotland but it is still hard to see how the target date for SDRS implementation can be met. An Orkney trial does not involve deposits and the “reward” for returns is 5p charity donation. AH thinks there is a company that will operate the scheme in a community and pay the community a royalty – he will forward link(s) to DJ and JF. Even so it is difficult to envisage where in Crail a facility could be located without having to drive to it (very undesirable on many fronts). It/they need to be near the town centre and to leisure facilities, but also need an electrical supply and good 3G mobile phone connectivity. (personal comment – that rules out Crail entirely then!!). Discussion to be continued at next meeting.
- Succession Planning – firstly we urgently need to identify someone who will volunteer to still be on CCC after next September who can take on the role of signing cheques and making payments via online banking – currently on JW can do the latter and he is not standing for re-election next year – as it takes months (or more) to get new signatories set up with the bank. To this end we need to start flagging up next September’s CCC election very soon to Crail citizens.
- Playpark – DWW has circulated the plans prior to the meeting and is making positive progress on funding – Fife Council will match fund so we need to raise around £100,000. Perhaps we should try the Helen Main trust and even EDF before going immediately to Common Good Fund.

## Councillors Reports

- SCAM alert – CAH reports that there are scam calls from people who claim to be a council repair team – remember to also ask for ID. A warning should be put in Crail Matters (MT) and online (CCC website, facebook).
- FC was on a callout so has no papers with her.

## AOCB

- DR asked the meeting who is responsible for clearing and maintaining the path by the burn from Nethergate down to the coast path (known as Brandy Burn – EH). No-one is quite sure so DJ will refer to Craig Hutton and his team.
- MT asked what is Fife Council’s strategy for Warm Scots – some councils are providing a warm room and some reading material, others a hot meal for those who cannot afford to heat their homes. CAH will send details of Fife Council’s strategy – there is something happening in Anstruther for example and there is funding. It is not known what the needs are in Crail. Abertay university are doing surveys but door to door might not work well here (MT)
- Apparently the noticeboard on the side of the Town Hall has been damaged beyond repair and should be removed. If Crail museum want a notice board that needs to be addressed by them.

The meeting closed at 20:10.

**Date of next meeting and AGM: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – 7:15pm in Crail Town Hall**

**For Action:**

- Notice board removal – DJ
- information about scam workmen – MT & AH
- reporting of light out in Denburn dip – EH
- path by Brandy burn – DJ
- Warm Scots information – Cllr AH
- pressing Fife council for more information on Hendersons investments (what is their mandate and what are their fees)
- SDRS 3<sup>rd</sup> party operators information AH
- Advising the community about next years community council elections - DJ/MT