

Crail Community Partnership SC 049189

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 7pm

1. **Apologies:** M. Calchini,
 - **In attendance:** D. Jerdan, D. Gowans, C. Broome, K. Vaughan, S. Henderson, M. Taylor, M. Rogerson, A.Scholz, S. Morrison, C. Morrison.
 - Welcome to Karen Vaughan who will be taking over the treasurer role soon.
2. **Minutes of Meeting** held on 6th February 2024, **Approved.**
3. **New Members:** Moira and Jim Kay have applied to be Ordinary Members. Fees paid. Accepted as members.
4. **Preparation for AGM**
 - **Board rotations:** WC, MT, SH and MC retiring at the next AGM. WC, MT, KV to be re-elected. MC to be co-opted (co-opts are annual). CB has offered to step down as Co-Opt trustee. There will be a Co-opt vacancy and Trustee vacancy.
 - **2025** - retirees, DG, DJ and SM
 - **2026** - retirees, CM, AS and MR
 - Notice of Annual General Meeting for Crail Matters, direct to CCP Members and on Website. 14 days notice required. **Action: MR and DG**
5. **2nd Development Coordinator** - DJ/DG
 - a. Job Description circulated with only one item of feedback. So JD is ready to release.
 - b. 18.5 hour part-time role, with contract similar to G. Graf.
 - c. Key point at present - who will the DC report to? This is unclear at present, and should be clarified before we start interviewing.
Action: DJ/DH
6. **Finance** - SH
 - a. Year-end report for 2023 and OSCR return, with Independent Examiner.
 - b. YTD 2024 will be prepared by KV.
 - c. Xero has been acquired and will be implemented during March.
7. **LPP Submission.** SM
 - a. FC Planning responded to our submission of the 2023 LPP, see Appendix A. Two key points:
 - The first relates to 'the requirement that Local Place Plans explain how regard has been given to any applicable Locality Plan'.
 - Secondly - within Crail Community Partnership's constitution 'there appears to be no specific power listed within the Powers section (paragraphs 5 & 6) to promote a LPP or similar plan.'**Action:** SM to propose a response

8. Community Hall. DG

- a. Family parties are becoming more popular. Two weddings during the next few weeks.
- b. **Community Open Day**, more community leaders in the room than members of the public that visited.
- c. DTAS suggested that CCH could be a good candidate for the UK Government Community Ownership Fund (£150M). Activity just now is to build a financial picture of what our various CCH improvement projects will cost. Notes sent to CCP trustees earlier today.
- d. First funding from the wind farm. Planning permission required to install a continuous handrail, as a cost of £840. Applied to EDF and £1,000 approved.

9. Sub Committees

a. Harbour – CM

- FC Harbour team is losing more staff, so very short staffed. Our best contact is one of those that has left.
- Harbours Meeting to happen soon but using Teams. CM will prepare input for submission.
- Suggestion that we need to get Fife Council's perception of Crail Harbour, as a minor working harbour changed to one of a major tourist attraction on the Fife coast.
- Need to consider acquisition of the 'gas tank' area, as it is very lightly used.
 - **Action:** Feasibility plan to be created. **DJ/CM**

b. Roome Bay – DJ/DG

- Teams meeting held with 3 FC people on the 26th February. Productive meeting, with FC Projects taking the action to trigger a feasibility assessment of the site; that is can the site be refurbished or is demolition and new-build the only action.
- **Action:** With Louise White of FC.

c. Kilminning – WC

- Ponds project completed on the 26th Feb. Snagging work to do with sluice gates. On budget. Retention fund still held by Nature Scot.
- Site works day on the 31st March, hopefully many volunteers will arrive as there is a lot to do.

d. Environment/Woodlands

a. Pinkerton - CB

- Waiting on those that offered to help with paths, but their main job is the same and is hampered by the weather.

b. Bow Butts - WC

- No trees available at present, but plans are to large amount of tree planting once Kilminning is finished. Meadows cut

c. West Braes - DG

- Tree had to be removed and some pollarding done.
- Yellow rattle being planted (£190), which is parasitic to grass.
- Skip required before the meadows cut takes place.

d. **Denburn Park** - DG

- Graphic images shared with CCP trustees.
- Main targets for this year:
 - New gates
 - Grassy path between the gates
 - Grass management methods proven
 - Limited planting, with orchard extension in winter

e. **Land Acquisition** - DG

- Denburn Wood, CAT land valuation completed, with section being valued at £5,000. This case will be revealing on legal process as the property is described as Common Good, but there is anecdotal dialogue that suggest CPS owned this land at some time.
- Concern expressed that Common Good assets could be lost to the community and shares with other communities, so Community Ownership should be priority for CCP.
 - **Action: MT** to lead a small group that prioritise ownership targets.
- **Beech Walk Park:** A section of garden that is disconnected from the owners property was causing problems with the property sale. Museum was interested in acquiring this land to develop an archive. And the football group would like storage at the park....and Crail Festival has storage in the CCH car park. The thought for CCP was that we should acquire this section of land and make it available for use by community groups. However property has now been sold, so we would need to speak to the new owners.

- **Action: DG**

f. **Tourism** – MC

- See appendix B.
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8. **Publicity** – MR

- Discussion about recent negative social media dialogue. Consensus that we should not engage in responding to this, but should continue to use all communication vehicles to promote our positive successes and approaches to community work. .

Action: Press release for Kilminning as a completed project. **WC/MR**

Action: Publicise AGM notice and Trustee Recruitment. **MR/DG/MT**

9. **AOCB**

- Proposals to work on Vision, Strategy and a CCP Manual. To help engage with new trustees and members. **Action: MC/SM**
- Next meeting is AGM Tuesday 2nd April 2024 – Crail Community Hall 7pm

Appendix A.

From: LPP <LPP@fife.gov.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 4:37 PM

To: Crail Community Partnership <crailcommunitypartnership@gmail.com>

Cc: Sarah Morrison <sarah.morrison56@hotmail.co.uk>

Subject: Re: CCP - Crail Local Place Plan - 2nd Email

Dear Dennis and others at Crail Community Partnership,

Apologies for not managing to get in touch with you sooner. We had to put work on validating Local Place Plan submissions on hold temporarily due to some pressing deadlines in preparing our Local Development Plan Evidence Report and its related documents.

I'm pleased to say that we have been very impressed with your submission in demonstrating clearly how the submission meets the legislative requirements for Local Place Plans. A recent meeting with colleagues in our legal service has, however, raised a couple of issues that we may need to address in order to register the Local Place Plan. Neither of these should require going back to revisit the work that has taken place on the Local Place Plan.

The first relates to the requirement that Local Place Plans explain how regard has been given to any applicable Locality Plan. There is a Locality Plan that covers most of NE Fife including the Crail Area, which is the NE Fife Rural Poverty Action Plan ([NEF-Rural-Poverty-Action-Plan-2023-26.pdf \(fife.scot\)](#)). It's a very short document, and I think all we would need is for you to submit a very short statement that shows that you are aware of the document and that you consider the Local Place Plan to be consistent or complementary to the Action Plan (assuming that is the case).

Something like the following would be fine:

'The NE Fife Rural Poverty Action Plan is a Locality Plan relevant to the Crail area. The plan sets out outcomes and actions to address the following priorities: Climate Crisis- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle; Food Insecurity; Access to services; Income Maximisation; Lived experience; Family Support; Crisis/Cost of Living Support; Social Isolation & Mental Health. The Local Place Plan is considered to be consistent with the desired outcomes and actions contained within the NE Fife Rural Poverty Action Plan.'

The above statement or alternative could either be added to your 'LPP - Policy Report final' document or submitted as a separate document.

The other issue highlighted by our legal colleagues relates to the constitution of Crail Community Partnership. The advice we received highlighted that within Crail Community Partnership's constitution there appears to be no specific power listed within the Powers section (paragraphs 5 & 6) to promote a LPP or similar plan. My colleagues have suggested that a fairly simple amendment to the Powers section of the constitution would address this issue and have provided some wording that they offered to another community group in a similar position that could be inserted into the powers section of the Constitution: *'In terms of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to consult the community on spatial and community planning in particular on the local authority's Local Development Plans including the preparation of Local Place Plans in terms of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 as amended and other equivalent plans which may be introduced by subsequent legislation.'*

If considered useful the Purposes section of your Constitution could also be amended. The community group advised by our legal colleagues now includes 'The advancement of the understanding of, and involvement of the community in spatial and community planning' for a similar purpose in their own constitution.

A change to the constitution will no doubt involve the need for the Partnership's members to meet and agree the changes, but again I would like to reassure you that this will not result in a

need to go back and revisit the work you have done in preparing and consulting on your Local Place Plan.

If you would like to have a discussion to talk through any of the above I would be more than happy to do so. If you could let me know whether these requests seem reasonable, and whether you are happy to address and provide documents to update your submission that would be much appreciated.

Kind regards

Ben

www.fife.gov.uk/localplaceplans

Appendix B.

1. Tourism

I attended the Fife Tourism Conference, which took place at the newly refurbished Adam Smith Theatre in Kirkcaldy. The theatre is managed by On Fife, a council arms-length charitable organisation looking after cultural assets in Fife.

The theme of the conference was "Developing New Markets". Various interesting presentations on trends and figures and one on AI, which had a rather dystopian flavour... (Turns out that The Matrix was a time-travelling documentary...) From our perspective there was some information on visitor behaviour and requirements. Fife is still strong in attracting domestic families, but they are mainly looking for holiday periods. Retiree visitors however are more flexible and present an opportunity for pushing tourism out into the shoulder and off months.

The international visitors are coming back and bring a high per capita spend with them. The travel trends here are "travelling with purpose", looking for "authentic country connections" and are interested in "stories, tales and legends". All travellers rate our landscapes as a key factor in their travel decision. Unfortunately there was no time/opportunity to discuss how we could maintain our key landscape and heritage assets.

A short but interesting presentation came from Scottish Community Tourism (SCOTO) who have some good case studies about community using assets to generate income and alleviating pressure on local infrastructure. They are also now getting more information on the re-use of church buildings. SCOTO have their conference this week, so it will be interesting to see the outcomes and I am hoping to link us more into that group over the coming year.

2. Crail Airfield

Stuart and I have noted a letter by Scott Simpson to the developers suggesting that there won't be a decision now until May 2024 as there is time for a response to the the assertions of the Transport Department. It is not quite clear whose response and it reads a bit strange. Stuart thinks that Scott might have copied and pasted something from an earlier letter, but he might get in touch with Scott Simpson to bottom that out a bit more.

3. Crail Community Partnership "Manual"

I volunteer with a food charity in Edinburgh and found that the tasks there were long and varied, but the organisation depended on people telling new people what to do and how to do it - that does not really work terribly well, so I wrote them a manual.

I wondered if we want to do something similar, like a reference guide, which might be helpful for any new trustees. If so, I am happy to pull something together and scope out an initial lay out/content.