



Ceres and District Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 12 May 2025
Ceres Memorial Hall

Present: Moira Henderson, David Beveridge, Neil5 Martin, John Hudson, Cllr John Caffrey and twelve members of the public.

Zoom: Florian Dargel.

Apologies: Alistair Ewan and Cllr Margaret Kennedy.

1. Welcome / Apologies / Chair Introduction:

- The Chair welcomed all attendees to the public meeting, both in the Ceres Memorial Hall and on Zoom, and noted the apologies as received. The Chair noted that the agenda would be revised due to Cllr John Caffrey being delayed at another meeting.

2. Ceres & District Community Trust Update: Florian Dargel gave an update, via Zoom, on the ongoing Community Trust activities and projects.

- **Ceres Memorial Hall:** Transfer of the trusteeship to the C&DC Trust are complete.
- **The Glebe:** The Glebe is now leased for 25 years and work has already commenced. Weeds have been cut on North Glebe, a volunteers day completed willow trimming along the burn (with SEPA advice) and volunteers are also needed for works planned on the Front Glebe for 29 May.
- **Next Public Meeting:** Updated business proposal will be discussed at an open public meeting scheduled for 02 June 2025.
- **Moor Road:** This week Moor Road pathway has been repaired, with a new ditch and kerbs installed. Another volunteer day cleared undergrowth in preparation for other planned works. DT Stewart have completed additional work, including the installation of a small bridge to give access across a ditch. In conclusion there is now a more effective water dispersal system.

3. Traffic Matters:

- **Ceres Traffic Warden Incident:** This relates to the recent incident involving a speeding car and the traffic warden controlling the Ceres Primary School crossing, which resulted in a serious near-miss and actual damage to the warden's sign. The warden is still suffering and has still not returned to work. It was noted that there have been other similar incidents.

It was reported that the police have responded positively on the incident and that the person involved in the car has been located and charged.

An open discussion followed on the general conditions and other incidents, with various opinions being expressed, all of which were negative on the preventative actions taken. Signage, flashing lights, etc. were all considered to be ineffective and do not work as a deterrence. Alternatives were proposed, which included traffic lights and speed tables. However, it was noted that traffic lights could cost £50,000 and speed tables possibly £12,000.

It was noted that the Fife Council engineer's report had been postponed due to the head of department being on leave. However, Cllr John Caffrey would meet with the relevant senior Fife Council engineers and request that a representative of the Community Council be present.

- **Craigrothie and Chance Inn Traffic Calming Measures:** Work was planned to commence on 07 April 2025, but there were a few further days delay. There is no information on the proposed traffic survey, but initial reactions are that the implemented measures are ineffective and a waste of public money. Further measures are essential.
- **Craigrothie Bus Shelter:** The bus shelter destroyed in a traffic collision is still left with unfixed temporary barriers. The shelter is now useless for bus passengers, an eyesore and a safety risk.
- **Wemysshall Road:** The Community Council maintains the position that a 40mph limit should be implemented for the entire road, warning signs set at Old Mill Road by "Jeans Gate" and a speed table to be installed at the Ceres 20mph zone.

4. **Ceres & District Community Council – Expenditure**

- **RBS account:** We currently only have two signatories for the account, and this should change.
- **Community Council Donations:** The Community Council have already donated £500 to the Ceres & District Community Trust to assist in the purchase of PPE and safety equipment for volunteers assisting in the Moor Road improvement work. The Community Council also plans to donate £1,000 each to Ceres Memorial Hall and Craigrothie Village Hall to assist with ongoing development and improvement projects.

5. **Fife Community Councils**

- The Fife Community Councils group holds regular online meetings, which are forums for common discussions, coordination of approaches, sharing of information and an open interchange of ideas.
- It was noted that a common source of concern is the general theme of traffic problems, whether excessive speeding, irresponsible driving, parking, etc.
- Fife Council is considering changes to the way in which Community Councils are managed and is currently carrying out a consultation process. The initial consultations will be reviewed in mid-June and followed by opportunities for public response to proposals. The final conclusions are expected to be published mid-December 2025 to mid-January 2026. Further details can be sourced on the Fife Council website <https://haveyoursay.fife.gov.uk/communities/community-council-consultation/>

6. **Flooding in Ceres:**

- **Scottish Flood Forum:** The Scottish Flood Forum aims to maintain a network of community resilience groups in flood risk areas and assist communities in coping with flood problems.
- **Local Flood Forum:** DT Stewart's input in recent discussions has been important and informative for local issues.
- **Latch Burn Wall:** The wall built in Latch Burn remains in the burn and the problem still rests with Planning Enforcement. An enforcement order has been issued, but no action as of this date.
- The walkway by the burn from Bow Butts to Meldrums is still not repaired. It was commented that the bridge is also neglected.

7. **Area Internet & Mobile Phone Connectivity**

- This remains an ongoing problem, but a member of the Community Council is actively in dialogue with Openreach on area connectivity. However, this is proving to be frustrating and with limited progress.
- The upcoming Ceres Highland Games relies on connectivity for trade stands and car parking, and this has previously been a problem. However, it is feasible that a solution has been found for 2025.

8. Local Authority Planning Applications

- There were no reports of any new significant planning applications.

9. Local Road Maintenance Works

- The CC noted that the Fife Council website <https://www.fife.gov.uk/> has a facility for reporting on maintenance problems. This is effective and is relatively easy to use.
- **Dangerous edge erosion near reservoir on Garlie Bank.** Fife Council have repaired carriageway edge, but it is considered to be poor quality and will no doubt need further work. There is more erosion developing a down the road, other potholes are appearing and, despite the road being a main A-road, the condition of the complete road from Craigrothie to Cupar is unacceptably poor.
- The wall in the field adjacent to Anstruther Road is still collapsed. However, there are differing opinions as to the responsibility for the repair work.
- Landslide on road to New Gilston is still coned off but there is no sign of any repair being planned.

10. Accessibility

- The general local accessibility issues in Ceres were discussed. In particular the insoluble problems with installing accessible access to the Village Café were highlighted.
- Again, the point was raised regarding the need fully accessible toilets in Ceres car park.
- The PAMIS Pamiloo was suggested as an option for Ceres Highland Games, however the demand is high and it has been requested previously without success. This year the Games clashes with a prior booking for a Stereophonics concert in Glasgow.

11. NHS Fife Annual Review

- The potential reductions in service funding and proposals for permanent cuts in the Out of Hours and minor injuries services were highlighted.
- Cllr John Caffrey gave an update, including comments on the formal consultation process. It appears that, if there is no reduction in staff, there will be little opportunity for any cost saving.
- The consultation process is generally considered to be a foregone conclusion and therefore a waste of public finances.

12. Resilience Groups & Warm Places / Spaces

- Chris Goodman – team lead in Ceres.
- Kenny McLeod – team lead in Craigrothie. It was noted that the renovation works ongoing and Craigrothie Village Hall will be temporary unavailable as a Resilience Centre.

13. Police Matters

- Incidents reporting on gov.scot website <https://www.mygov.scot/report-crime>
- There is no information regarding the possibility for Coffee With A Cop.

14. Any Other Business

The Meeting Ended: 9:00pm

Next Public Meeting: Monday 12 May 2025 at 7:30pm, Ceres Memorial Hall.