



Ceres and District Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 14 July 2025
Ceres Memorial Hall

Present: Moira Henderson, David Beveridge, Neil Martin, Alistair Ewan, John Hudson, Cllr John Caffrey and eleven members of the public.

Zoom: None.

Apologies: Cllr Margaret Kennedy.

1. Welcome / Apologies / Chair Introduction:

- The Chair welcomed all attendees to the public meeting, both in the Ceres Memorial Hall, and noted the apologies as received.

2. Ceres & District Community Council – Expenditure

- **RBS account:** The Treasurer is still encountering problems with effecting necessary changes to signatories and other administration issues with the RBS account. However, it was reported that the account remains healthy and approximately £5,500 in credit
- **Community Council Donations:** Plans to donate £1,000 each to Ceres Memorial Hall and Craigrothie Village Hall to assist with ongoing projects will be completed soon.

3. Fife Community Councils

- Fife Community Councils group holds online meetings every three months, which are forums for open discussions, information sharing, coordination and ideas interchange.
- It is interesting that different Community Councils do have differing issues and it is interesting to know what other Community Councils are doing.
- Fife Council is considering changes to the way in which Community Councils are managed and is currently carrying out a consultation process. The final conclusions are expected to be published mid-December 2025 to mid-January 2026.

4. Ceres & District Community Trust Update: Florian Dargel gave an update on the ongoing Community Trust activities and projects.

- **The Glebe:** It was explained that funding is being sought for the replacement bridge across the burn on the Glebe, however there are some concerns regarding planning permission.
The meeting unanimously agreed that the Ceres & District Community Council should fully support the replacement bridge and the necessity for funding.
- **Ceres Memorial Hall:** It was noted that the trustees for the Hall contacted the Community Trust with regard to taking it over two years ago. However, it was confirmed that the existing Ceres Memorial Hall committee is still in place and operationally manages the hall.

- **Ceres Church & Session Hall:** Anne Lumsden gave an update on the Ceres Church and Session Hall and confirmed that consultation is ongoing, with a feasibility study to follow. The current timescale is for closure of the public consultation and surveys by the end of August.

5. Traffic Matters:

- **Ceres Traffic Warden Incident:** The Chair confirmed that there had been an online meeting with Steve Sellers and Nigel Hampton of Fife Council, which included Cllr John Caffrey. It was concluded that the problem of speeding and dangerous driving at Ceres Primary School is not resolved by the current traffic calming measure, as has been evidenced by the latest incident at the crossing. Therefore, it was decided that the recently installed build-out by the school would be removed and replaced with a new speed table. It was proposed that the existing speed table located at the crossing would be raised.
- **Craigrothie and Chance Inn Traffic Calming Measures:** This led to discussion on the traffic calming measures in Craigrothie, which are considered by many people to be a failure and waste of public money. It was questioned why the budget for the proposed three build-outs at the village entries had not been reallocated to alternative measures in Craigrothie. It was clarified by Cllr John Caffrey that budgets could be reallocated elsewhere in Fife, which is what would be needed for the additional work in Ceres. This led to a question from the public on what is the formal process for the reallocation of budget and how is this publicised? It was also queried that if two speed tables are necessary at Ceres Primary School, why does Craigrothie Primary School only have one?
- **Craigrothie Bus Shelter:** The bus shelter demolished by a car in a traffic incident remains unfixed, an eyesore and a safety risk. However, it was reported that it will be replaced, but unfortunately Fife Council has no shelters in stock and it may be some time before supplies are replaced.
- **Craigrothie Traffic Survey:** The timetable for implementing the proposed traffic survey was queried but there is currently no information available. The Community Council committed to follow up with the relevant Fife Council officers.
- **Cllr Louise Kennedy-Dalby Traffic Proposal:** It was noted that the Tay Bridgehead councillor had recently commented on the ongoing roadworks on East Road (Cupar to Guardbridge) and proposed that traffic from Cupar to St Andrews should reroute via Ceres. This has resulted in a significant amount of adverse local reaction on social media and it was raised at the meeting. Whilst accepting that the roadworks cause disruption, and can possibly affect some businesses, the proposal is universally considered to be completely impracticable and the Councillor should formally withdraw it. The meeting agreed that the suggestion does not account for a difficult egress from Cupar, the narrow winding streets in Ceres and numerous difficult junctions. The increase in traffic would extend the journey distance and time, cause considerable further congestion in Ceres and possibly cause more incidents. Whilst a more sensible solution would be to use the Pitscottie route, this would also have a number of adverse issues.

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.
- **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.
- **Blocked Drains / Gullies:** This still remains an ongoing issue and the Community Council committed to follow up with councillors.

7. Area Internet & Mobile Phone Connectivity

- This remains an ongoing problem, as was reported by Neil Martin, who has written to various providers (including at CEO level) and the Telecoms Minister, Sir Chris Bryant. He will follow up and report on any further developments.
- The Ceres Highland Games reported difficulties with connectivity for trade stands and car parking, despite Neil having provided Wifi connectivity with the kind assistance of a Ceres resident.

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.
- 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 and the barriers are now in the hole. There is no sign of any repair being planned.
- It was proposed that the Chance Inn junction on the A916 is hidden from both approaches and would benefit from advance warning signage.
- It has been reported that a high number of existing road signs are bent, fallen, hidden or otherwise damaged and Neil martin has collated a schedule of these in the district. Cllr John Caffrey commented that Cllr Jonny Tepp could be a point of contact.

10. Accessibility

- The point was raised again regarding the need fully accessible toilets in Ceres car park. There is the possibility of Fife Rural Development funding for fully accessible toilets, however this does not cover day-to-day management and maintenance.
- The PAMIS Pamiloo suggestion for Ceres Highland Games was investigated but the Games clashed with a prior booking in Glasgow.

11. NHS Fife Annual Review

- Fife Health and Social Care Partnership have proposed permanent cuts in the Out of Hours and minor injuries services, which the Integrated Joint Board have ultimately approved. Therefore, the local minor injuries unit will close and with the X-ray machine in St Andrews currently broken the alternatives are Kirkcaldy, Dundee or Dunfermline.

12. 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.

13. Resilience Groups & Warm Places / Spaces

- Chris Goodman is the team lead in Ceres and Kenny McLeod for Craigrothie. It was noted that the ongoing renovation works at Craigrothie Village Hall made it temporarily unavailable.
- It was again noted that the recent power failure and the lack of generators was exacerbated by SP Energy not having a schedule of resilience centres.

14. Any Other Business

- **White Hill Farm Fires:** Concern was voiced regarding the recent fires at White Hill Farm, which could have been caused accidentally or deliberately.
- **Defibrillator Servicing:** David Beveridge commented that the defibrillators in Ceres were due to be taken away for servicing.

The Meeting Ended: 9:00pm

Next Public Meeting: Monday 08 September 2025 at 7:30pm, Ceres Memorial Hall.