



Ceres and District Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 10 November 2025
Ceres Memorial Hall

Present: Moira Henderson, David Beveridge, Neil Martin, Jeremy Baker, John Hudson, Florian Dargel and seven members of the public.

Zoom: Alistair Ewan.

Apologies: Cllr Margaret Kennedy, Cllr John Caffrey.

1. Welcome / Apologies / Chair Introduction:

- The Chair welcomed all attendees to the public meeting in Ceres Memorial Hall and on Zoom, and noted the apologies as received.
- The Chair noted that Cllr John Caffrey continues to make slow but positive progress after his operation. The Chair also positively noted the continuing progress on the refurbishment of Craigrothie Village Hall.

2. Ceres & District Community Council – Expenditure

- **RBS account:** The Treasurer reported that the bank balance remains healthy and is in credit.
- **Account:** The Treasurer also reported that accounts have been sent for audit, and on completion this will allow facilitate grant applications.
- **Community Council Donations:** The proposed donations of £1,000 to Ceres Memorial Hall and Craigrothie Village Hall have been completed.

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.
- The Chair reported that the proposed meeting for 08 October 2025 had been postponed to January 2026. Steve Sellers (Head of Roads for Fife Council) is still scheduled to attend and give an update on various issues including the height of speed tables / cushions and other traffic calming measures.

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

- **The Glebe developments:** The Trust now has obtained planning approval for the Glebe Bridge and grant funding has been obtained.
- However, more funds are required there are opportunities for community funding of bridge surface sleepers, side decorative panels and funders notice board.

- **Ceres Memorial Hall:** The Trust acknowledged the donation from the Community Council and tabled its thanks. Otherwise, there was nothing further to report.
- **Ceres Church & Session Hall:** Possible community report to be issued.
- **Public Annual General Meeting:** This was held in late October and a further public meeting is planned for early December to further report on developments.

4. Traffic Matters:

- **Ceres, Craigrothie & Chance Inn Traffic Management:** Potential action for effective control of traffic speeds was further discussed, including the possibility of publicly funded plastic speed bumps. It appears that this would require approval of emergency services and Fife Council. It was concluded that John Mitchell was the person at Fife Council to contact and it would require the services of an approved contractor.
- **Ceres Primary School Road Safety Works:** Fife Council have confirmed that approval has been given for the installation of a new speed table to replace the existing build-out near the primary school and raise the profile of the existing crossing speed table. Notifications have been posted and passed their expiry date. However, there is no commitment as yet on the date for the work.
- **Craigrothie Traffic Survey:** The Community Council Secretary has again written to Steve Sellers and Nigel Hampton of Fife Council Roads & Transportation Services, pointing out that the speed survey results were reported at the September C&DCC meeting. Unfortunately, the results of the survey were met with general incredulity. We noted that the discussion at the meeting did result in a general conclusion that the survey was flawed or potentially subject to unusual conditions, and that the speed cushions have absolutely no impact on traffic speeds. It was concluded that it would be beneficial to publish the full survey results in their entirety and this was requested, including the exact location of the radar sensors, number of vehicles logged, individual speeds and any other relevant information. At the meeting date there had been no response.

Post Meeting Note: A reply was received on 11 November 2025, which states:

Thanks for your email, sorry you do not agree with the outcome of the speed survey but that is the method we use to accurately collect, quantify and compare data.

The results show mean speeds of

Craigrothie B939 Ceres Road - 20.8mph northbound, 20.7mph southbound

Craigrothie A916 Cupar Road - 23.7mph northbound, 21.1mph southbound

The data confirms an overall reduction in vehicle speeds through Craigrothie following the introduction of the traffic calming scheme but unfortunately there will always be a small minority of drivers who flaunt the posted speed limit and where enforcement action from the Police to deal with those individuals is the only deterrent. Speed cushions are a valuable engineering tool in reducing vehicle speeds of most drivers.

As Nigel has mentioned the speed surveys results have indicated that further minor mitigation measures could be justified and has included a proposal for 'your speed' signs in the forthcoming Area Roads Programme for consideration by Fife Council Members.

We have moved to a different system for the storage of speed survey data that is collected, it's now a resource designed to be viewed and interrogated online rather than the file based system used previously and this makes the extraction of data in a format that can be easily read time consuming so we can't provide that with this response, if you would prefer further details of the raw data though please let us know and we will undertake further work on extracting it.

Regards

Steve Sellars

Lead Consultant - Road Safety & Travel Planning

- **Craigrothie Parking:** Again, it was noted that there is regular parking on the speed table by Craigrothie Primary School and this is a danger. It was suggested that double yellow lines should be installed on the speed table.
- **Pavement Parking:** The question of pavement was again discussed, including roads such Walton Park in Craigrothie and Gladney in Ceres.
- **Potholes and Blocked Drains in Craigrothie:** A member of the public noted potholes and blocked drains at the junction of Cupar Road and Walton Park in Craigrothie, which they have reported to Fife Council. This has been the result of recent works at the junction and requires further attention.

5. 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.
- **General Flooding Discussion:** A general discussion concurred that Fife Council and SEPA needed to be more pro-active in flood management. In particular the problems of blocked drains, ineffective surface water management and restrictions on farmers that result in excessive run-off were highlighted.
- **Latch Burn Wall:** It was reported that Fife Council Planning has advised that they have closed the case as there was no clear evidence that the wall has significantly narrowed the burn. They had contacted the property owner they have insisted that the retaining wall is in the exact same location as the original. The owner has also contacted Willie Rennie MSP regarding the matter, and his correspondence included a number of letters from individuals who support the argument made by the property owner. Fife Council have considered the evidence that had been submitted and their conclusion was that it would not be appropriate to pursue the matter further. Should new evidence be submitted that clearly shows a significant narrowing or blocking of the burn then they could reopen investigations in the future. If SEPA wish to take action under their regulations, then they would be free to do so, but from a planning perspective there is no robust evidence to say for sure that the position has detrimentally affected the burn.
- It was mentioned that the wall is not the real problem but the foundations, which do partially block the burn and affect water flows. It was suggested that C&DCC should write to Fife Council, reporting the true facts and that we do not approve the decision.

6. Area Internet & Mobile Phone Connectivity

- Neil Martin has emailed Vodafone, and they responded reasonably and that by the end of the year there should be an improvement. He has also contacted O2.
- but with little or no response.
- Craigrothie Village Hall does have connectivity, with the impending reconnection of power and also have operative solar panels and batteries. The Wi-Fi is such that it will support connectivity with close proximity to the Hall in the car park.

7. Local Authority Planning Applications

- Essential maintenance on the website meant that the latest data was not available.

8. 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 remains collapsed, with the continuing dispute regarding responsibility for the repair work.
- Landslide on road to New Gilston is also still coned off and the barriers are now in the hole.

9. Accessibility

- The issue of accessibility in Ceres generally and specifically for fully accessible toilets remains an ongoing problem.

10. Police Matters

- Incidents reporting on gov.scot website <https://www.mygov.scot/report-crime>
- The regular police newsletter has been received.
- The Coffee With A Cop was again considered to beneficial and a future requirement.

11. Resilience Groups & Warm Places / Spaces

- Chris Goodman is the team lead in Ceres and Kenny McLeod for Craigrothie.
- The renovation works at Craigrothie Village Hall are progressing well, in particular the power will soon be completed.

12. Any Other Business

- **Baltilly Housing:** There is currently no progress on this development, although full planning is expected.
- **Moor Road:** There are plans for volunteers to plant trees on 28 November on the Whiteford land just off Moor Road.
- **Edinburgh Airport Flight Path Consultation:** The plans for revising the flight paths into and out of Edinburgh Airport are subject to a consultation that closes on 20 January 2026. It was generally considered that Cupar area would not be affected.
- **Moor Road:** It is proposed that the Christmas lights will be switched on 29 November, together with a carol service.
- **Christmas Greetings:** Finally, the Chair gave attendees her personal Christmas greetings and wished everybody the best for Hogmanay and 2026.

The Meeting Ended: 9:00pm

Next Public Meeting: Monday 10 November 2025 at 7:30pm, Ceres Memorial Hall.