



Ceres and District Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting Monday 08 May 2023
Craigrothie Village Hall

Present: Moira Henderson (Chair), David Beveridge, Christine Hudson, Faith Nicholson, John Hudson, Cllr Stefan Hoggan-Radu and one member of the public.

Zoom: Alistair Ewan, Amy Ross-Henderson and one member of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Margaret Kennedy, Cllr John Caffrey.

1. **Welcome:** Moira Henderson (Chair) welcomed all attendees, both in the hall and on Zoom, to the public meeting.
2. **Previous Meeting Minutes:** Minutes for public meeting of 13 March 2023 are approved as an accurate record and are available to the public.
3. **Flooding in Ceres:**
 - In an initial comment it was noted that the flooding problems in Ceres continue and that, as a result of heavy rains during the day, South Croftdyke was again flooded.
 - Members of the C&DCC sub-committee restated the primary problems. It was noted that some issues such as drain blockages could be resolved by regular maintenance, although C&DCC has recommended that an internal remote camera inspection of the problem drain lines is necessary.
 - C&DCC is awaiting further developments subsequent to the multi-agency consultative meeting held 01 March 2023, although it is recognised that collation of responses may take time.
4. **Ceres Traffic Consultation:**
 - Although the Ceres traffic management improvements are mostly complete, some works still remain to be finished and there is public concern over the time taken to complete.
 - The new box-out at the school still requires a bollard on the box-out.
 - Location of change from 20mph to 30mph at South Croftdyke remains an issue, the sign located is too close to the car park entrance and it would be better further out. It was pointed out that there are already a number of residences beyond the current 30mph restriction and that they should also benefit from the lower 20mph limit.
 - The Chair commented that Fife Council have previously advised that there is a link between urban speed restriction locations and the development boundary, so that extending the 30mph limit could also lead to further urban construction. However, she has recently met with Wendy Chamberlain and Willie Rennie and they both were not aware of this. The meeting agreed that the obvious solution was to simply amend the planning regulations.
 - 20mph signs are only at the entry to Ceres, with no small roundel repeater / reminder signs.

5. **Other Traffic Matters:**

- The proposed speed survey for the A916 and B939 through Craigrothie remains a community priority and the programme for this will be monitored. Cllr Hoggan-Radu advised that Cllr Kennedy has raised the matter but as yet there is no response, and to date we have no information on when the survey will take place or how it will be structured.
- The problem of speeding through Craigrothie on both the A916 (Cupar Road) and the B939 (Ceres Road) was re-emphasised. It was noted that a 20mph limit should not be difficult to implement, similar to Ceres and numerous other residential areas in Fife. The junction from the A916 to Ceres Road at the Village Hall was noted as a major problem, with too many drivers cutting the corner at high speed. The approach to Craigrothie at the Chance Inn exit was also highlighted as a problem. There were various suggestions for low-cost improvement, including a roundabout at the Village Hall junction.
- Traffic speeds on Wemysshall Road and the Anstruther Road at the approaches to Ceres were again noted as points of issue.
- The status of the collapsed retaining wall alongside the road from Ceres to Baldinnie, about 100m outside Ceres village boundary, was again confirmed as still needing rectification.
- The direction sign on the A916 approaching Craigrothie just beyond the Chance Inn turning was reported as having fallen over and leaning against the adjacent pole. (Post-meeting Note: this was reported via the Fife Council online facility and a response was received from Mark Dewar, which confirms that a contractor was instructed to make the repairs).

6. **Ceres & District Community Trust Update:** Alistair Ewan forwarded an update for the Chair to read out.

- **Ceres & District Community Trust Public Meeting:** The Community Trust held a public meeting in Ceres Memorial Hall with the purpose of giving detailed information on all current developments and financial status. The meeting was attended by approximately fifty members of the public.
- **Achievements:** The Chair, Alistair Ewan, highlighted the more recent achievements of the Trust; including Ceres Playpark, Wemysshall Road footpath, Ceres Burn wall repairs and gave details of ongoing projects.
- **The Glebe:** The Trust outlined the community facility plans for the Glebe once the lease negotiations with the Church of Scotland are completed. The Trust confirmed that public opinion will be canvassed.
- **New Gate from Wemysshall Road to Tarvit Mansion Grounds:** A compromise solution is approved and now awaits implementation.
- **Burn Walls Repair:** The damage to the green remains a concern, particularly with regard to the forthcoming Ceres Highland Games.
- **Trust Chair:** Alistair Ewan stepped down as Community Trust Chair after completing his term of office and handed over to the new Chair, Florian Dargel. A vote of appreciation was given for Alistair's services.
- **More Trust Members Required:** It was noted that the Ceres & District Community Trust needs new members and all residents should be a part of it.

7. **Local Authority Planning Applications**

- No new planning proposals of major were reported.
- Other open applications appear to be for relatively minor alteration / extension works.
- Alistair Ewan noted that the Church wanted to make a new entrance to the Glebe from Cupar Road and requested Councillor support.

- Cllr Hoggan-Radu reported that development planning in the Cupar district is relatively quiet at present and that Cupar North is currently dormant. The only developments of note are generally for affordable housing.
- The Chair mentioned the ongoing Cupar & Country Community Action Plan – Community Survey and requested that residents completed the survey.

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 Chair suggested that we review the website as to how it could facilitate reporting issues.
- The previously repaired potholes on the B939 near the Ceres Inn have failed again.

9. **Police Report**

- General advice for reporting crimes and other emergency incidents can be found on the gov.scot website <https://www.mygov.scot/report-crime>
- The Chair again commented on the limited availability and content of monthly police report. However, discussions at the recent Coffee with a Cop indicate that it is difficult for the limited resources to provide a completely comprehensive report that satisfies every question from all communities. Therefore, it was suggested that we possibly scrap the requirement for a police report, particularly as all statistics are readily available elsewhere and we have direct access to Community Police Officers to answer individual questions and address specific issues.
- The recent successful “Coffee with a Cop” initiative at Craigrothie Village Hall “Drop-in Tuesday” led to a discussion on further similar engagement with the Community Officers. One suggestion was for the Ceres Village Café, although space could be a challenge. Cllr Hoggan-Radu offered to request attendance at the next Community Council public meeting.

10. **Resilience Group / Warm Spaces:**

- Resilience planning at Craigrothie Village Hall continue to develop. Ceres Village Café continues to offer community support.
- Cllr Hoggan-Radu commented that a change to Cost-of-Living Spaces may be more appropriate in the current economic climate.

11. **Toilet Facility in Ceres:**

- The toilets are currently closed until further notice, with no information on when they will re-open. There is no update available on the essential remedial works. It was emphasised that this would be a serious problem if they were not open for the Ceres Highland Games
- Public interest continues. Awaiting further developments. Agreed that Ceres should have decent toilet facilities. Requirement for Ceres Highland Games, Pilgrims Way, tourism. How do we do it? The primary reasoning for the upgrade is that because of the dilapidated condition and lack of maintenance, the toilets are not currently fit for purpose. Further, they have no disabled facilities, which is a relevant requirement for such a public facility.
- Cllr John Caffrey was to contacted Fife Coast & Countryside Trust for feedback on similar developments and Cllr Hoggan-Radu stated that he would check with his colleague.

12. **Craigrothie Bus Shelter:** The bus shelter has been ordered but no further details are available. (Post-meeting Note: The bus shelter has finally been erected).

13. **Proposals to Regenerate St Andrews Community Hospital:** No developments.

14. **Twinning with Ceres in Italy:** The Chair has spoken with Fife Council officers and there will need to be a dialogue between officers of the two communities and she will report further on any developments.

15. **Any Other Business**

- **Fife Show:** The forthcoming Fife Show was highlighted.
- **Ceres Litter Pick:** The recent litter pick in Ceres was highly successful. Unfortunately, there was a lot of litter but the clean-up went well.
- **Councillor Surgery in Ceres:** Cllr Hoggan-Radu said that he was considering having a surgery in Ceres and requested feedback on interest, also suggestions for a suitable location.
- **Dog Owner Issues:** DB again reported dog owners allowing their dogs to run loose on farmland and other public spaces adjacent to livestock. He clarified the Scottish Outdoor Access Code, which does not allow unrestricted access and places a clear responsibility on dog owners to be in total control of their pets.

The Meeting Ended: 9:00pm

Next Public Meeting: Monday 10 July 2023 at 7:30pm, Ceres Memorial Hall