

CRAIL COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for 2011 held in the Legion Hall 27th July 2011

Present: Dan Clayton (Chair), Ed Stephens (Secretary), Jack Jarvis (Treasurer), Peter Salkeld, Ann Stephens, Iain Robertson, Jimmy Aird, Patricia Mackenzie, George Phillips, Rhona Phillips, Seonaid Anderson, Richard Bates, Donald Macgregor, Ronnie Webster, Giselle Glackmeyer, Isobel Hanlin

Apologies: David Mann, Chris Walker

1. Minutes

Minutes of the last AGM were read and approved.

2. Matters Arising

All items raised were deferred to the main agenda

3. Chair's Report

Town Hall Management

The accounts balanced during the past year but with little surplus. Reserves have been used for sanding and varnishing the floor but no further substantial works are affordable currently. Consideration has been given boosting the use of the Hall, but feedback indicates that the small kitchen is a severe limitation.

Film Club

The Club runs at a small profit but there is a need to increase the numbers of full time members. A free Saturday afternoon session has been introduced for children. It is intended to run this session for one more year at least.

Multi Use Game Area (MUGA) and Tennis Courts

This is now complete apart from painting lines. The MUGA has been a long term project developed by Crail Community Council and Crail Community Trust. The Trust is grateful to Ronnie Webster who has been closely involved in seeing this through to completion and will convene a Management Committee to oversee usage. An application will be made to the Common Good Fund to cover additional costs such as tarmac for the car park (this is necessary to prevent mud reaching the playing surface).

Community Hall

In response to an offer from Fife Council the Community Trust is negotiating a long lease (probably 3 years) with the aim of eventually taking the Community Hall back into local hands. This will open access to funds such as the Lottery not presently available for projects such as improved kitchen facilities and a modern heating system. The Trust is working on a business and management plan, and has set up a consultation process with the community including all user groups. A management group was being put together to take the project forward, and the Trust intends that this group will be inclusionary with representation of the major user and community interests.

Wind Turbine

The proposal for a site at Kilminning is no longer considered viable, as Historic Scotland has indicated that it is likely to lodge a planning objection. With several local villages proposing similar ventures Fife Council has been encouraging villages to consider Community Wind Turbine applications. Presently Crail, Kilrenny, Cellardyke and Anstruther have agreed to develop a joint proposal and a feasibility study is underway (a grant has been received to fund the study). The optimum site would likely be some kilometres from Crail as proximity to the grid is essential for efficiency. It is expected that

inter-village discussions over the turbine would soon begin. Significant income from the turbine is anticipated and this would benefit community organisations. The Trust is seeking expertise within the community to assist in evaluating the feasibility study and taking the project forward if that is what the community wishes.

Open Discussion

MUGA and Tennis Courts.

Donald Macgregor recorded his appreciation of the input by Fife Council officials. It was widely agreed that this was an excellent development that would act as a hub for improvements around the Community Hall and southwestern end of Beech Walk Park. Jack Jarvis outlined the budget for the MUGA that cost £132K in total of which £10K is owed to Fife Council for professional fees. He indicated that there was a shortfall on tarmac for the car park and painting the MUGA green (£2.7K). Maintenance is covered under guarantee; thereafter Fife Council will cover the costs for a further nine years. Ronnie Webster indicated that an improved polymeric surface could be added at a later date as funds allow. A noticeboard and litter bins are also required. A bid to the Common Good Fund to cover some or all of these items was in preparation. There is also need to investigate insurance issues.

There was a discussion about the general surroundings including extending the car park, improving the access road, creating disabled access facilities and improving the lighting in the area. Concern was expressed about the mature trees undermining the walls and it was agreed that a plan should be developed for removing some trees and replacing them elsewhere.

It is intended that the MUGA and Tennis facility normally be free to users. An online booking system might be desirable and the system used by Crail Festival was cited as a possible way forward. This might enable a small booking fee to be charged when appropriate. None of these developments should be obstacles to a tennis club being established at the new courts.

Community Hall.

Iain Robertson presented the Trust with two copies of a recent survey of the state of the Community Hall commissioned by the 2020 group.

Wind Turbine.

George Phillips expressed disappointment that the Kilminning proposal had been abandoned although appreciated that the community proposal might have significant advantages. Given the plethora of East Neuk proposals Community Energy Scotland were encouraging shared community schemes to reduce the number of turbines.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Film Club had an income of about £1500 with expenses of £450, bringing the current balance to £2126. The Community Trust has a balance of £11,600. The main income came from Community Energy Scotland (for the Kilminning and Community Turbine feasibility studies), David Jerdan (£1900 donation), Small Gardens Scotland (£290 donation), and subscriptions (£70). The principal expenditure was £1400 for a projector screen and £1275 for the purchase of materials for the skiff. Individuals gave loans to the Trust on an interest-free basis for the Children's Centre, £7000 has now been repaid. A fee of £540 was paid for an audit of the accounts. Despite the expense it was agreed to remain having the accounts professionally audited.

The report was opened up for discussion. Iain Robertson asked about the Town Hall accounts. Jack Jarvis pointed out that this is a separate charity. Legal advice indicated that there would be no benefit in merging the Town Hall with the Community Trust. A significant income to the Common Good Fund is anticipated when the Children's Centre is

sold, although the long delay in disposing of the property means that a large fraction of the proceeds will be retained by the receivers. Jack Jarvis and Donald Macgregor indicated that their pressure was drawing the process towards a conclusion. Peter Salkeld enquired whether the Festival Society could use the screen purchased for the Film Club, and this was agreed.

5. Election of Trustees

Currently there are 6 Trustees with Helen Armitage having retired during the year and Ed Stephens standing down at this meeting. The meeting expressed its gratitude to Helen for her considerable efforts on behalf of the Trust in its early days and to Ed who has recently acted as Secretary. The Membership currently stands at 50.

Dan Clayton reminded the members of the rules for rotation and election, and referred the members present to the relevant sections of the Trust's Articles of Association on the Trust's website. He added that under the Articles, Fife Council is permitted to elect its own trustee. Two new Trustees were being sought and by the closing date (48 hours before the AGM) two nominations (Richard Bates and Julie Johnson) had been received. Cllr Donald Macgregor also wished to stand for re-election. A vote was held and Donald Macgregor was unanimously re-elected, while Richard Bates received 11 votes for, one against and Julie Johnson received 9 votes for and three against. Richard Bates, Julie Johnson and Donald Macgregor were duly elected as Trustees of Crail Community Trust.

6. A.O.C.B.

None

Ed Stephens

14/8/2011