Royal Burgh of Crail & District Community Council

Annual General Meeting

held on Monday 26 October 2026, 7.15pm, in Crail Town Hall

MINUTES

Present : Gerry O'Neill, Neil McKay, Linda Sneddon, Fiona Budd, Jacquie Salkeld, Andrew Purves, Katie Freeth, Caroline Rodger

1. The Chairman's Annual Report for the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 was approved (see Appendix)

2. The financial statement for the same period was approved and will be submitted to Fife Council.

3. Appointment / re-appointment of Office Bearers:

   Chair – Gerry O'Neill (re-appointment)
   Treasurer – Andrew Purves (re-appointment)
   Secretary – Caroline Rodger (new appointment)

4. Date of next AGM – Monday 30 August 2027

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.20pm.

(chairman's report on page 2 & 3.....)

APPENDIX - Chairman's Annual Report - 1st April 2025 to 31st of March 2026

Much has happened over the course of this 12-month period. This includes changes in the composition of the Community Council

- David Jerdan and Max Taylor both stepped down after over a decade of service each. I'd like to thank them both on behalf of the Community Council
- Throughout the year Colin Morrison and Catriona Mann also stepped down - again, big thanks to them both for their time, energy and contributions
- Gerry O'Neill took over as Chair in June
- Neil McKay and Katie Freeth joined CCC

Airfield

In May, the Reporter dismissed the developer's appeal against refusal of planning consent at Crail Airfield. The decision was based on 3 main issues

- Inadequate access
- Incomplete development brief
- Unsecured public benefits

- Concerns were raised as to why CCC had to go to appeal and spend £10k in the process when the initial application was fundamentally flawed
- An application was submitted in June by Ground Developments Ltd. for a cafe, offices and a market in the old Cinema building
- Training Building - the listed building application was approved under delegated powers. Again procedural and communication issues were raised as was the inconsistency of decision making by FC.
- In each LBA or planning application for the Airfield, CCC made formal representations to FC. I would like to thank Neil McKay, Sarah Morrison and Stuart Tait for bringing their knowledge and experience to the Community Council to craft considered responses.
- Lack of site notices and inspections is also a recurring theme that has been escalated to FC

Coastal Path

- A public meeting was held on 14th June to develop ideas and a plan for securing the future of the coastal path
- A survey was also conducted
- A sinking fund plan was subsequently developed
- Barriers and warning signage were placed at either end of the path
- A letter was drafted for a door drop explaining the creation of a sinking fund for maintenance and repairs. This would be a starting point to seeking capital investment to do the physical repair to the Coastal Path between Castle Walk and Roome Bay.
- Door drop to 32 houses happened. 3 responses.

Offshore Windfarm NnG Community Benefit Fund

- Crail opted to take their proportion of the fund and use for community projects after a failed attempt to pool money from 3 of the villages to fund a development officer
- The Crail allocation is £10,800, index linked, per annum for the first three years
- In year 1 it was agreed that approx £9,700 would be used for a pre-acquisition survey and feasibility/business study to develop the Old Gas Works into a water sports centre
- It was agreed that the residual amount of £1,100 would go towards a project to develop story boards round the harbour.

Harbour

- The Barking shed was removed in April
- CCC got a commitment from the FC harbour team to make the crane 'safe'. A follow on initiative will be to seek funds for a repair to the crane
- A dredge of the harbour is scheduled for early spring 2027

Victoria Gardens

- CCC approved a leisure lease agreement for use of the gardens at Community Hall events - principally weddings

Common Good Fund Applications endorsed by CCC

- Approval of £1,000 for architectural design for permanent notice boards
- Initiative to help home owners and business owners to identify energy saving opportunities - purchase of technical equipment and user training
- Architect fees for interpretation panels around the harbour
- From a previously approved application a grant of £64,399 was received from the CGF for the new play park (see separate summary of Accounts)

Old Garden Centre

- Initial approach in October by a developer - Stone Acre
- Community 'show and tell session scheduled for 15th Nov where the developer shared indicative plans for Relocation of the Co-op, Development of 9-11 houses, Creation of 4 modular small business units.
- Formal planning application submitted in Feb 2026

Other

- Crail Food Festival was wound up
- A mother and toddler group was established
- Play park next to the school opened in June
- Crail United U8 football team established
- Repairs were made by Fife Council to the Bell Tower
- Bus shelters repaired and cleaned
- Tree pruning in Beech Walk park by Fife Council
- Willow tree removed from Denburn Woods
- Appearance by Scottish Opera in Crail
- Various enhancements - bollards replaced, drains cleared, road repairs outside Penmans
- SEPA inspection of the pipes on the beach concluded that the discharge posed no issues to the community
- Crail Community Summit took place on 25th October and was a big success
- A proposed new map to replace the one outside the Town Hall was rejected by CCC on the grounds that it did not enhance what is currently on display.

I would like to thank my colleagues within the Crail Community Council for their hard work over this 12 month period and also extend this to Cllr Alycia Hayes. All have been active contributors within the Community Council meetings and within the broader Crail community.

Gerry O'Neill
Chair, Crail Community Council