



CRIEFFCOMMUNITYTRUST

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Crieff Community Trust Board Meeting 7pm, 13 June 2024 on Zoom

Present: Jane White (JW), Jim Anderson (JA), Brian McVey (BM), Andrew McLean (AM), Ann Ross (AR), Ian Christie (IC) , Ailsa Campbell (AC), Jamie Landale (JL)

Apologies: Joy Flett (JF)

Invited: David McCann (DM),

1. Declaration of Conflict of Interest: None

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the May board meeting had been previously circulated and were approved as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

Standing matter - path inspection: over to Ian in June and July. Photos uploaded

April	BMcV	w/c 8/22 Apr	
May	DMcC	w/c 6/20 May	
June	IC	w/c 3/17 June	Photos
July	IC	w/c 1/15/29 July	
August	BMcV	w/c 5/19 Aug	
September	BMcV	w/c 2/16/ 30 Sep	Photos

Action	By
Publicise successful planning for path - website/ social media/wee shop	JW to do
Letter to Sir Brian and Lady Elizabeth - thanks/ news of planning/all to sign	JW done
Upload CCAP and fountain news to UC website (new tab) and include minutes	JW done
CCT leafleting	All to do
AGM logon	AC done

4. Operational Report - DM submitted a report prior to the meeting

Significant progress has been made with the Trusts Regeneration Plan however the priority is now to secure the funding required for the construction phase of the Paths project and to make bold decisions to ensure a positive future for the former Drummond Arms site.

1. Can Do Crieff

1.1 May was reasonably strong, but we will need to focus on driving new member acquisition this summer. CDC week after summer. Leaflet then.

2. Funding

2.1 Funding applications have been completed and submitted to Gannochy Trust and the Community Led Local Development Fund for CEO salary.

2.2 JW has also identified and submitted other funding applications. Success from Barrack Trust for £1,000 towards Link path (thanked). Unsuccessful with Garfield Weston this time. Can try again in a year. Consider more specific application at that time. IFPF application being resubmitted tomorrow.

3. Town Team

3.1 The Crieff Capital Project Alignment Plan was completed in May and distributed to politicians and all levels as well as to Local authority and Government officers as well as to the wider community through our social media channels and press releases.

4. Murray Fountain

4.1 Work is well underway on the restoration of the Fountain and is due to be completed in early July. A few problems have been discovered. Lighting can be changed to reflect different times of year eg. Remembrance Day and Christmas.

4.2 It is proposed that there is an opening event and that Crieff & Strathearn Museum group be approached to discuss the possibility of mounting an exhibition to look at the history of the Fountain and the project journey and legacy.

5. Public Toilets

5.1 We have mounted a survey to gauge the opinions and thoughts of the community on the issue of the closure of the Public Toilets.

5.2 So far there have been over 704 online responses and many paper responses. A general overview is as follows:

98.5% wish to see the toilets remain open.

92% say they would pay to use them.

49.5% say they would pay up to 50p

90.1% say they would not be part of a management team.

85.6% would not be part of a volunteer group.

40 respondents indicated that they would be prepared to contribute/sponsor the toilets to remain open

22 would be willing to pay £10 per month with the remainder indicating £15-£20 per month.

5.3 We remain in discussions with Perth & Kinross Council and Crieff Community Council regarding the way forward.

6. Regeneration Project

6.1 As reported at the last meeting of the Board, CCT will receive £40,000.00 per annum for the next three years to support regeneration projects in Crieff. Detail around the funding criteria is expected imminently from Perth & Kinross Council. We have now secured a further £17,000.00 from Dior who recently launched their 2025 fashion range at Drummond Gardens, and £40,000 a year for the next three years from a private Trust Fund.

6.2 A proposed Regeneration Plan will be created.

The fund aims to create a lasting legacy by developing a shared Regeneration Plan for Crieff, to which the community and businesses will commit via a subscription and continue progressing beyond 2027, when the funding concludes. The Regeneration Plan will position Crieff as a destination that leverages the town's unique strengths, creating additional opportunities for all.

- Banners purchased and will be erected shortly.
- Rejuvenate Visit Crieff website - essential portal
- Hanging baskets, summer marque etc.
- Public toilets refurb

Partner with some of the big firms in the town. Crucial to involve community partners and community as a whole.

7. Drummond Arms (Report prepared by SO & IC)

7.1 Building update

As a result of the Eradakil visit it is confirmed that the majority of the roof is now past saving,

replacement being the only option. The building condition continues to deteriorate and after further review some serious decisions about the next stages will have to be taken.

7.2 Grant Applications

No change since the last report and future funding applications will be dependent on the decisions that the Board and DARL make over the next few weeks.

7.3 DARL Board Strategy

The latest updated Project Execution Plan (PEP) outlines four main options - now with fees added:

1. Repair the existing building - £16.8m
2. Facade retention with demolition and then new build - £16.2m
3. Complete demolition of all buildings to create a new and unrestricted "brownfield" site for future development - £2.75m
4. High Street and Hill Street facade retention with demolition of everything behind. Preserving the historical look of the building whilst creating a more restricted site for future development - *£3.7m

- The costs are inflated to assume works could start in Jan 2027.
- With reference to Option 4 the costs include buying a retaining structure (to avoid high rental costs) with an option to retain the existing external scaffolding to provide ongoing public protection. DARL would have to pay for 6 or 12 monthly inspections and allow for some maintenance to the facades. This would also assume a relatively small ongoing budget is available - perhaps £10k - £15k per year. This would ensure a lifespan of 20+ years.

As part of the decision-making process DARL completed a risk matrix in June 2023 to help focus on the achievable ambitions within the then current financial climate.

These assessments were updated in June 2024 considering the latest PEP costing and may well have altered the final outcome of the building as a result of spiralling costs.

DARL held a board meeting on 13.6.24 to prepare a strategy for the next 12 – 24 months and the future of the building. It was decided at this meeting that the only option remaining is to demolish the DA. This is regrettable after years of hard work by the Trust and its Project Officers, but in the end the rising cost of building work, COVID, and the deterioration of the building, especially the roof over the time we have tried to restore it, has left no other options.

Whether money is available to allow some facade retention or not, demolition and options 3 or 4 are the way forward

The CCT board ratified the DARL board's decision to demolish. There was a full consensus of opinion for the demolition option at this board meeting.

7.4 Financial Position

DARL remains solvent at present with sufficient funds to carry on with the inspections of the scaffolding and to pay the project officer.

8 Paths Update (Report prepared by JA)

Oakbank to MacRosty Park Link Path

Following receipt of confirmation of Planning Approval on 1 May 2024 for our proposed new Link Path TP&E completed their preparation of the Tender Documentation and met via Zoom with CCT on 3 May to discuss next steps:

- o Quality questionnaire weightings to be amended for consistency;
- o CCT to review the questions in the Invitation to Tender [ITT] Part 4 [JAA Action];
- o TP&E to prepare fee proposal for TP&E to provide Procurement and Contract Management of Construction Phase;
- o CCT to secure Funding. [Note ITT cannot be issued unless CCT have secured funding.] .

The Planning Approval does not appear to contain any unusual constraints – eg PA requires project to follow the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) which for example states “Any trees lost could also be compensated for by planting new trees”.

TP&E design workscope now complete and reimbursed.

A path agreement may be required where the Link Path crosses land owned by PKC at west where the Path links to Lady Mary’s Walk and Oakbank community.

Meeting with Trustee and Project Assessor for Mushroom Trust held at Turretbank Wood on 22 May [JW & JAA]. Edinburgh based Funding Organisation reviews projects via site visits and documentation submitted before deciding those that are successful.

Application to IFPF can now be submitted now that planning has been granted. ACTION
Publicity notices to be prepared and released. ACTION

A thank you has been sent to Sir Brian and Lady Elizabeth, who agreed to their names being added to any signage in thanks for the donation of the embankment. .

Turretbank Wood [TBW]

Fortnightly Insurance walks have continued. Anything to report for period to Mid June?

Successful first phase of thinning TBW Meadow 2 carried out 17 Jan. Further thinning to be carried out Tuesday 18 June.

Himalayan Balsam is back and looking early this year. Help required from anybody and everybody!!!

Coop funded Bench – Bench to be purchased for siting in Meadow 2 after construction of the Link Path

Crieff Paths Group

Countryside Ranger advised that following discussions with landowners adjacent to the very muddy path along Laggan Hill further trials have been put on hold.

Appeal to Paths Group will include further call to arms against Himalayan Balsam.

Next Paths Group Activity may be the River Earn Path between Crieff and Muthill. Timing to be advised. ACTION

Crieff to Comrie Core Path CMRI/126.

Nothing to report since last Update.

9 Meetings

DM had meetings with representatives of, Crieff Community Council, Perth & Kinross Council, and Crieff Town Team, amongst others.

5. **Treasurer’s Report** - JW circulated YTD accounts prior to the meeting.
Shared funding application spreadsheet. Also shared with DARL.
Approval given by board for the accountancy transfers to unrestricted funds in the 23/24 CCT accounts - all are happy with this treatment.
6. **Leadership team / Governance of CCT**
Continue to meet every fortnight.
Recent meeting with Jim Fairlie was very open and supportive. Impressed by Crieff Capital Project Alignment Plan. Specifically discussion focussed on Drummond Arms.
Strategy will be refreshed in autumn.
7. **AOB**

Next board meeting - Thursday 15 August

Action	By
CCT leafleting during CDC week in September	All to help

Himalayan Balsam resurgent in TBW	All to help
Publicise planning success for path	JW