



**CROMAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING Logie Coldstone Hall**  
**18th March 2026 at 19.30**

**Present:** David Ellis, Anthony McKillop, Alastair Scott, Nigel Healey, Pamela Clark, Stuart Urquhart, Janet Urquhart

**Guests:** Ken Webb

**1. Apologies** Cllr Anouk Kloppert, Cllr Sarah Brown, Paul Anderson, John Rogie, Simon Langan

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting** Acceptance of February's draft Minutes was proposed by Stuart Urquhart and seconded by Pam Clark

**3. Police Report** Sgt Masson's report for the Marr area was circulated by email prior to the meeting and some hard copies were passed around. Summary: reported incidents included vandalism, drug possession, domestic abuse, abuse of the 999 number for ambulances, overseas extortion demand & Facebook fraud. Two driving offences were recorded including a collision. Public help requested in preventing Wildlife Crime after case of poisoning at Corse; please check [Wildlife crime - Police Scotland](#) for details.

**4. Councillor's Report - Cllr Sarah Brown**

Summary of report circulated:

A missing waste bin at the playpark had been reported; awaiting response.

Blocked culvert at Coull: work started on 11 March and had now been completed.

Aberdeenshire Council's budget has been set for the year at £860 million in a time of rising demand and financial pressures. Significant new support for Health & Social Care (Aberdeenshire has one of Scotland's fastest-growing older populations). A capital plan set for the year at £103 million. £1.88 million in additional investment for roads.

Additional investment in IT security. Council Tax increase set to 10%. Savings of over £9 million identified and taken. Full details can be found at

<https://aberdeenshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=142&Mid=8164>

Separately to Cllr. Brown's report but related to the budget. In January a Joint Statement was presented by 22 Aberdeenshire Community Councils calling for the Scottish Government to give the NE region a more equitable funding settlement for public services. The NE region receives well below the average funding per head of population. It was agreed Cromar Community Council would support this initiative and the Secretary

would ask for the Cromar Community Council name to be added to those supporting the Joint Statement.

## **5. Resilience Update & Flood Resilience Workshop**

Pam Clark said the resilience group has been given a grant of £1922 by Aberdeenshire Council to be used for pumps (diesel, electric) , flasks, blankets, etc. A filing cabinet has been donated. A Logie Coldstone sub-group has been formed with new helpers Shanon Farquhar, Chloe Rennie and Louise Stewart. Flo The Flood Bus is to park in the square for the upcoming Resilience Workshop, open to all as a drop-in event from 10am-4pm on Saturday 28 March. It was requested we spread the word and encourage everyone to come along.

## **6. Cromar Report**

- A. Bridges & Roads** - no change to the damaged bridge at Coull but the calvert/new drain work at the junction above Licht Studio has been completed. Potholes in the square are getting seriously bad - request to Cllrs Sarah Brown, Anouk Kloppert & Giva Blackett to press the Council Roads to upgrade the priority of this work. Secretary to write asking for the support of elected Aberdeenshire Councillor's.
- B. Flooding** - no updates.
- C. Social Media** - The Secretary presented a summary of the social media activity. There had been 11,216 views and 674 engagements and 3,478 unique viewers. There has been an increase in activity when the information about the Flood Drop-in / Workshop has been posted. The Secretary had experimented using the paid promotional features of Facebook. It was suggested he should be reimbursed the £10 that had been spent on this trial
- D. Aberdeenshire LDP & Call for Ideas** - the next Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan covers the period 2029-2039. Three "bids" for development land in the Cromar area have been received by the Council. These are available to view online. The Community Council submitted an idea for improved parking close to The Square by using the field by the ruined Kirk at the start of the Coull road. This might have space to include additional EV changing and secure cycle parking.

**7. Treasurer's Report** The account balance stood at £1,901. £8 paid out for Starlink subscription and £126.75 for the hall rental for Flo the Flood Bus. The James Hutton had offered to reimburse the expenses for the Flood Workshop.

## **8. Logie Coldstone Trust**

No update.

## **9. Tarland Development Group**

Ken Webb reported that TDG had been successful with the DTAS resilience fund grant for a community development worker. Their main responsibilities will be to support the TDG trustees to strengthen governance, improve organizational systems and build stronger engagement with the community. An advertisement for the position would soon be available. The TDG Minutes of the 11 February meeting had been shared with the Community Council and also posted. He gave updates on the various groups, including the Bee Group, Polytunnel, Tarland Way Diversion, Paths way markers, bridge survey. The carpark at Tarland Trails 1 had been smoothed. Main events for the Food & Music

Festival had been booked. The Wetland Group was confirmed closed. The Seed Swap Day had been very successful and progress was being made with the lease of the Pavilion to TDG under an agreement with the MacRobert Trust. The Trust would retain full ownership and control should the project not be financially viable.

Ken Webb further reported that Simon Langan had had an informal and constructive meeting with Paul Anderson. The Report will remain on the Facebook page as a record of issues that have been raised. These issues are the ones being addressed at the moment. There was no escalation planned over the issues raised by the group Paul Anderson represents. TDG were to follow up with a response as to which questions would be answered. It was also requested that TDG resume the previous practice of reciprocating meeting sharing and inviting two Community Councillors to TDG trustee meetings: this was agreed in March 2025 but stopped around August 2025. The request would be discussed at the next TDG Trustees meeting.

### **10. Planning Applications**

There were no new applications. The Tarland Way diversion discussed in earlier meetings has been approved by the Planning Department.

### **11. AOB**

The Community Council thanks the MacRobert Trust for supplying material to allow the filling of potholes by the Paper Shop. This work has been completed by a local resident and this was much appreciated.

The residents of Boig Steading had written to the Community Council raising concerns about R100 fibre connections not being delivered to their property because of difficulties in agreeing wayleaves. The Chair planned to discuss this with the MacRobert Estate Manager.

The Community Council had been informed by the Estate of a Scottish Hydro project (SHEPD) to reinforce the local electrical supply in the Tarland area. Work on the planning of this was just starting. Having early visibility of the project was much appreciated.

Pam Clark remarked that the lovely Lamont bench at the top of the brae at Drummie Woods needs re-painting and some TLC. The Secretary offered to put a notice on Facebook to try and contact the family.

Nigel Healey asked if it might be possible for TDG's new Community Development Officer to help draw up proposals for the Local Place Plan. Ken Webb said he would ask the trustees.

**16. Date of Next Meeting** 15 April 2026, 7.30pm, Tarland School