



CRAIL MATTERS

W/C 4 March 2019. No 99 Free - donations welcome
Suggested hard copy Donation 40p

Crail; The Jewel of the East Neuk.

Crail Charrette Questionnaire Results

We received 287 completed questionnaires (see page 2).

A wide range of ages responded from 10 to 93: under 45s and over 75s were slightly under-represented, 45-64s responded about as expected from their occurrence in the population, and the 64-75 age class was over-represented. The majority of respondents have spent less than 20 years in Crail, although 72 respondents have been here for more than 20 years (with 2 over 80 years in Crail!).

For housing (Fig. 1), there was a strong preference for affordable housing, with a less strong preference for sheltered housing and then a care home. Overall respondents were neutral to the idea of more housing and disliked the idea that any new housing should be physically separated from the other housing in Crail. Respondents allocated more houses than average to family houses with gardens, then to affordable housing; about average to sheltered but less than average to rented houses; very few were allocated to holiday homes.



**Crail
Community
Partnership**

Crail Charrette

Workshop 3

Saturday 16th March 2019

**Crail Community Hall
10.00 am -12.00 noon**

ACTION PLAN

Using the **Vision** agreed, the **Strategies**, well aired in Workshop 2, we now have an **Action Plan**. Led by the Charrette team you can discuss these proposals for the **future of Crail, going forward towards 'Making it Happen'**

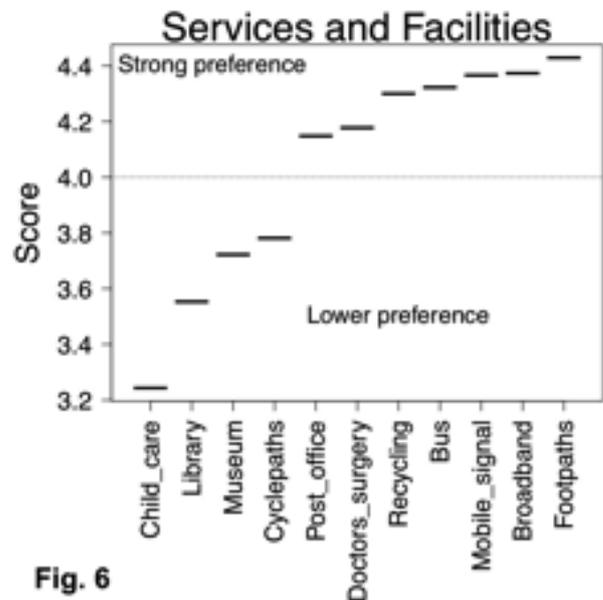
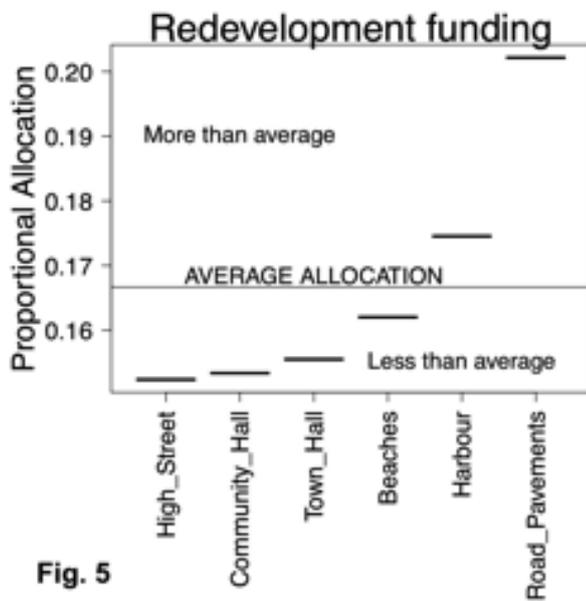
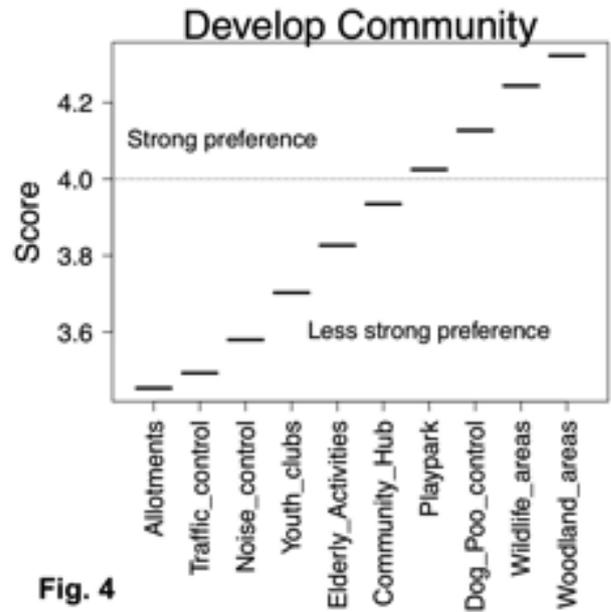
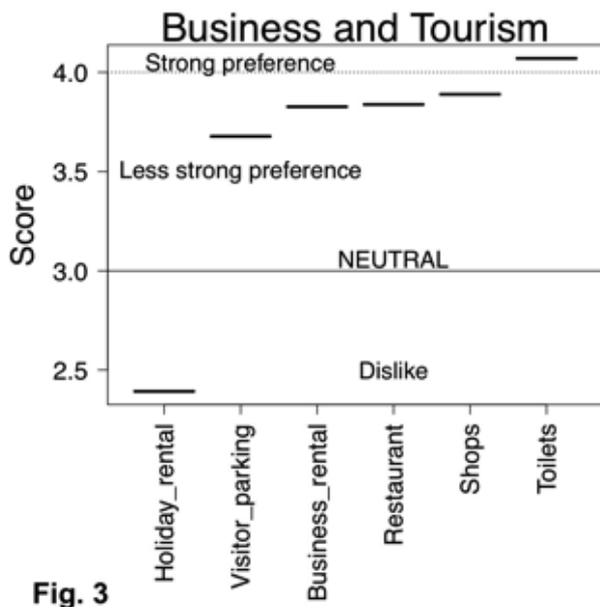
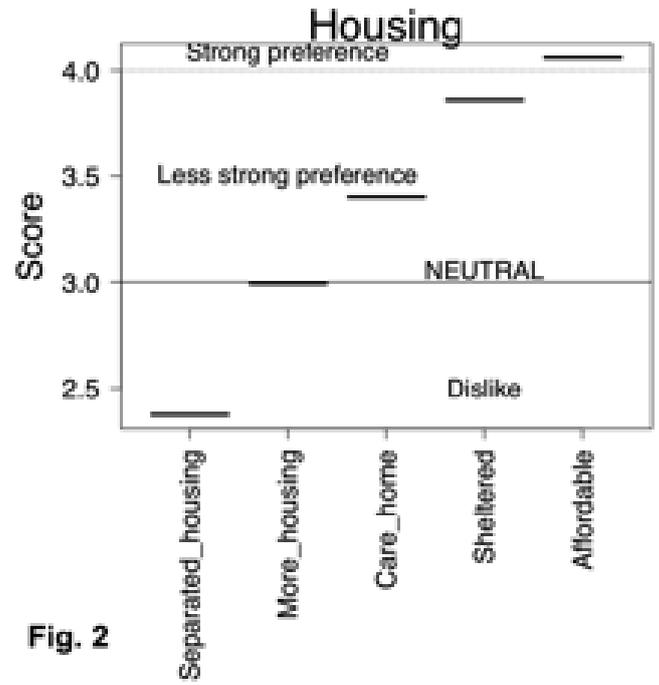
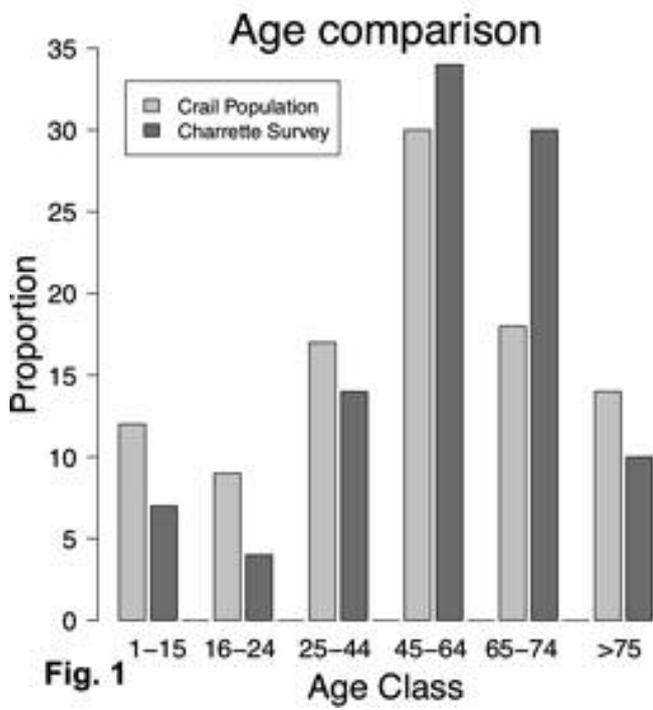
Open to EVERYONE in Crail. Please join us!

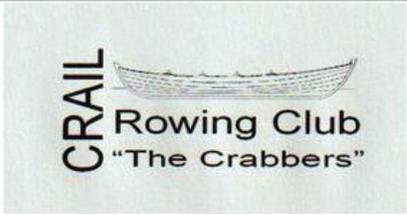
We want to know what you think!

For business and tourism (Fig. 3), there was a strong preference for public toilets – this was one of the very few responses that was strongly age dependent: below the age of 45 people are fairly neutral but as they get older they become much more positive. Draw your own conclusions. There was a fairly strong and similar preference for shops, business rental, restaurants, and visitor parking; there was a dislike for more holiday rentals.

For developing the community (Fig. 4), there was a positive preference for everything on the list. There was a very strong preference for more woodland areas like Denburn, wildlife areas, dog poo control and playparks. There was a strong preference for a community hub, more elderly activities, and youth clubs, and then noise control, traffic control and allotments. Respondents allocated much more resources than average to maintaining or developing roads and pavements, and then the harbor, but allocated fewer resources than average to beaches, with lower but similar levels to the town hall, the community hall and the High Street (Fig. 5).

For services (Fig. 6), there was a very strong preference for footpaths, then slightly lower and similar strong preference for better broadband, mobile signal, bus services and recycling. There was a strong preference for a doctors' surgery and a post office. There were much lower preferences, although still fairly positive, for cycle paths, the museum and a library; child care was only slightly positive.





Cheese & Wine



Friday 8th March @ 7.30pm
Crail Town Hall Tickets £10

Tickets from Greens, Crail Pottery,
David Jerdan or any club member

CRAIL BEACH CLEAN UP

MEET AT THE LEGION HALL 10AM
SATURDAY 30TH MARCH

Bin bags provided, limited supply of litter pickers,
if you have one please bring it with you



COME AND JOIN US AND HELP KEEP OUR BEACH CLEAN
EVERYBODY WELCOME

Tea and cake served in
the hall afterwards

CRAIL FOOD FESTIVAL

Crail Food Festival 8th- 9th June 2019

Yes! – there will be a Food Festival in Crail this year. It will be held on the usual weekend, the second weekend in June – on the 8th and 9th June. The interim committee (David J, David M. Pat, Annie, Sophie and Catriona, ably assisted by events manager, Aadam and Peter as treasurer) have now met to arrange a smaller event for this year. An outline of events has now been settled and details resulting from an ideas session, are being worked on.

This year’s event will be limited to Crail Community Hall, Crail Kirk Hall and part of Beechwalk Park. The event, for this year only, will be free, although there will be a charge for car parking. The only cones to be seen should be those lining St Andrews Road, within the town, for safety reasons.

It is still a festival for **Crail** and we are working on a theme of **“Picnic”**. The Community Hall will have a range of producers, many of whom will be encouraged to sell produce suitable for a picnic. In addition we will have a variety of **“streetfood”** vendors and we will provide a map of suitable spots for a picnic around the town, including Beechwalk Park itself. We intend to have the Legion Hall as an alternative eating venue, should the weather be unkind. We are working on a plan for a food related **Treasure Hunt**, to include all food outlets in Crail between the Community Hall and the harbour. This will also include some of the more interesting buildings in Crail. We are also working on a variety of entertainment, including Falconry displays and music. All we need is weather like we had last year! We are working on a Saturday evening dinner event. A splendid **5- course Taster Menu** is being considered for Crail Kirk Hall.

We will give fuller details of this years reduced festival in a few weeks in Crail Matters. **We still need one or two local people to join our hard working committee – it is good fun as well!**



Any Questions?

It's your chance to ask a question and influence the debate with BBC Radio 4's **Any Questions?**

Any Questions? follows the 8pm News every Friday. On Saturdays **Any Questions?** is repeated after the **One O'Clock News** and is followed at 2pm by **Any Answers?** If you have any comments for **Any Answers?** please call 03700 100 444.



Any Questions?" is coming to Madras College, St Andrews on Friday, March 8. Hosted by Jonathan Dimbleby, the programme will be broadcast live on BBC Radio 4 at 8pm. Doors open at 6.30pm and free tickets are now available for the public from the school's Kilrymont and South Street offices. Confirmed on the panel so far are: Chair of the Brexit Select Committee Hilary Benn MP, the Deputy Leader of the SNP at Westminster Kirsty Blackman MP and the economist and Editor in Chief of MoneyWeek Magazine Merryn Somerset Webb. The final panel member is still to be confirmed.



**12th Fife East Neuk Scouts
Coffee Morning
Saturday 16th March
Legion Hall Crail
10am-12noon
Entry £2**

There will be a Raffle, Home Baking Stall and of course, Tea/Coffee & Cakes

Funds raised in aid of our trip to Cambridge Jamboree

12th Fife East Neuk Scout Group Scottish Charity
No:SC03865



School Crossing Patrol Officer required for Crail

Salary: £8.75 per hour Pro Rata

Position Type: Term Time Part Time

Hours: 5 hours per week. Working Pattern: Monday to Friday 08:35 - 09:05 and 14:55 - 15:25

You will play a vital role in community safety by ensuring children and other members of the community safely cross the road at a designated point between specified times.

It is essential that you are able to attend the patrol point in all weathers, including attending at short notice in the event of unscheduled school closures. You should have good road sense and be approachable and customer friendly being able to communicate with children and members of the public whilst maintaining control over children who are awaiting your instruction to cross. You will be required to wear a uniform and use equipment provided for the safety of yourself, children and all other members of the public, especially when stopping traffic on the highway.

Before confirming your appointment to the post, you will be required to obtain Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme Membership for working with Children, through Disclosure Scotland.

We pay the Scottish Local Government Living Wage of £8.75 per hour for this post.

Closing date for applications; 14th March, Interview Date: Monday 25 March 2019

Full details and how to apply can be found at:

https://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/fife-council/jobs/school-crossing-patrol-officer-fif13154-146158?from=sub_cat

WILD CRAIL

Will Cresswell,

with Photographs by John Anderson



It has been unseasonably warm. Last week afternoon temperatures reached 14 degrees. On the 25th we even had the haar rolling in: we usually only get this starting in April. The fog is formed on a warm day when the air heats up and then hits the cold North Sea. As it also gets warmer inland, the consequent inshore breeze then pushes the fog into Crail. It never penetrates very far because as the haar comes inland it warms up again. But Crail's position with sea pretty much all around means it can sit on us all day. It can be very frustrating when the rest of Fife is having a beautiful day and we are shivering in the fog. When I arrived at Balcomie that morning the haar was still out towards Kingsbarns and it was beautifully sunny with a flat calm sea. I was able to check the dunlins and sanderlings flocks on the beach and the sea ducks offshore – still mergansers and common scoters but no long-tailed ducks. But then the beach and the birds started disappearing. It was enough to send me back home after half an hour imagining that the sea really was still somewhere out there in the grey at Fife Ness. A hundred metres inland the sun was shining again.

grey heron



If you have been driving to St Andrews from Crail past Cambo last week you will have noticed the grey herons standing in the wheat field on the west of the road. On the east side is the heronry, in the tops of the few pines in the line of trees beside the road. Some herons are still adding sticks to their already large nests – repairing the damage caused by winter storms or just generally making them bigger. Grey heron nests aren't as bad as stork nests that get bigger and bigger as they are added to every year, but some certainly look like they have been used for several years. Some of the herons may even be on eggs by now, although this would be unusually early for Crail. But everything has started much earlier this year: great and blue tits are nest building a month early and I bet there is a blackbird somewhere in a Crail garden on a full clutch of eggs already.

It's a risky strategy nesting early because the weather may turn colder, but the rewards are high with

time for a second or even third brood over the summer. It's less of a risk for very large birds like herons because the eggs take a long time to hatch anyway (a month versus 2 weeks for a blackbird) and the adults can protect them nicely against the cold when incubating. It's the chick stage where the cold really makes a difference. The parents need to leave the nest to get food for the chicks and small chicks cool rapidly, not being able to thermoregulate until a few days old. A prolonged cold or rainy early chick stage can be disaster. A small bird will renege, of course, but each nesting attempt is costly, and any bird that gets the timing just right will be ahead for the year. So, an early spring is a tricky hope for the best for the resident birds. For the migrant birds, like the whitethroats or sedge warblers due in two months' time, whose time of arrival here is set by conditions much further south, and who can have no current local knowledge of breeding conditions until they get here,

sanderling



it is even trickier. Resident birds might start too early and then try again, but migrants can miss the boat entirely, arriving too late to time their chicks to the best conditions. This is one of the reasons we worry about climate change. Its unpredictability makes life difficult for animals: not warmer temperatures and rising sea levels (although they are a problem), climate change is mostly about things becoming unpredictable or unreliable. But before I get too gloomy – we have always had early and late springs, and the first egg date of something like a great tit can vary by over a month in two consecutive years for the same individual. Evolution has already put a lot of necessary flexibility in place – we will just have to hope there is enough.

If you go through Denburn you will notice a large mixed flock of great, blue and coal tits, with the occasional smaller goldcrest. Tits are always noticeable, but among them are often one or two treecreepers that are much less obvious. Treecreepers are very well camouflaged and as they scuttle up and around the branches and trunks of trees they are frequently hidden. The best way of finding them is to listen to their call – a high pitched “zeeee, zeeee”, a bit more whistle like than a goldcrest or a coal tit. Another way is to watch for any flying flock member that suddenly apparently collides with the side of the tree and then continues running straight up it. Treecreepers aren't that shy but are always on the move so you have to get lucky for a close view. When you do they are perhaps one of our nicest birds, with a delicately curved bill and a

treecreeper



ragged long tail that braces it as it creeps up a tree.

**Scottish Country
Dancing**

Crail Town Hall
Wednesday at 7:30pm
October to March

CRAIL COMMUNITY CHOIR

**The choir meets on Monday 4th March
at 7.30 pm in the TOWN HALL**

Crail in Bloom

Dates for your Diary
A.G.M. - Friday March 15th - 7.00p.m. - at Jeni Auchinleck's Studio - 2 Castle Street, Crail
Spring Coffee Morning - Saturday 6th April - doors open at 10.00a.m. - Legion Hall, Crail

St. Andrews Photographic Society

St. Andrews Photographic Society meets every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the Art Club premises, St. Andrews (down the lane beyond West Port Printers) in Argyle Street. Weekly programme can be found on the Society web page at: www.standrewsphotonographic.society.com All welcome.

Crail Table Tennis Club

It's a fun affair with some serious play and banter, the cost per session is only £3.00 and that includes free membership for the season. We play over three tables and there is rarely time to sit down, so if you are looking for things to do why not pop down and join us. If you would like to know more then please call:

Graham at The Honeypot on 01333 450935.
Community Hall (Side Entrance)
1900 Tuesday
All welcome

CRAIL BADMINTON CLUB

MEETS ON TUESDAYS 7 – 10 PM IN
CRAIL COMMUNITY HALL
New members welcome
Any queries:- Tel. Anne on 07769156003

Crail Armistice Day commemoration

A brief record of the Armistice commemoration held in Crail can be found at this link:

<https://crailmatters.com/crail-armistice-commemoration/>

This will be added to as further material is submitted.



Crail British Legion

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 6 March at 2.15pm in the Legion Hall.
Put on your thinking caps for our quiz!
All welcome.

Contact your Fife Councillor?

Cllr.Linda.Holt@fife.gov.uk 07725 223773.
cllr.bill.porteous@fife.gov.uk 01333 730837 or
07753982311
cllr.john.docherty@fife.gov.uk 07718 66 89 96

Mobile Library

The mobile library calls at Marketgate every 2nd Thursday.
Next dates 14th March, 28th March, then new timetable.

Crail Mobile Post Office Service

Location - Along High Street opposite the Beehive
Opening times:
Monday: 1400-1600
Tuesday: 1400-1600
Wednesday: 1400-1600

RBS Community Liaison

RBS Community Liaison staff will conduct drop in sessions each Tuesday from 1000 to 1200 in Anstruther Lower Town Hall. Anyone with questions or concerns is welcome to attend.

Useful Emergency Numbers

Samaritans	116 123
Breathing Space	0800 838587
Social Work Out Of Hours Emergencies	03451 55 00 99
Adult Protection Phone Line	01383 602200
Child Protection or Social Work	03451 551503
NHS24	111
Police	101
CARF (Citizen's Advice & Rights)	0345 1400 095
Homeless Emergency Number	0800 028 6231

Crail Hospital Car Service

Crail is full of good neighbours and it is they who provide the Hospital Car Service. It's only when you can't drive because you or the car is sick, or it is too daunting to think of standing in the cold, waiting for a return bus from the health centre or the dentist, or you need to get to Kirkcaldy hospital that you wish for a bit of help. Maybe you're new to Crail and don't know many people yet. That bit of help is there and has been for 54 years in Crail. It's the Hospital Car Service. If you could do with that bit of help, ring. 01333 450096.

Contact your Fife Councillor?

Cllr.Linda.Holt@fife.gov.uk 07725 223773.
cllr.bill.porteous@fife.gov.uk 01333 730837 or
07753982311
cllr.john.docherty@fife.gov.uk 07718 66 89 96

Crail Common Good Properties

The Crail Charrette has drawn attention to the Crail Common Good Fund. The following may help readers to understand what the Common Good Fund is, and the limitations on its use.

Q1. What is a Common Good Fund?

The roots of the Common Good can be traced back to the early mediaeval period, with some burghs deriving royal charters from David I. The Common Good Act, passed in 1491, determined that revenue from burgh properties and income from various levies was to be used for the common good of the town. Over the following centuries there have been fixed or moveable assets donated on 'behalf of the community'; most commonly to former burgh councils. The common good funds comprise land and buildings in addition to moveable items such as paintings, books and artefacts. Title to common good land is held by local authorities as statutory successors to the Town Councils, abolished in 1975. The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 provides that common good should not be absorbed into the general fund of the Council. The Act also states that where a local authority wishes to dispose of common good assets, and a 'question arises' about their right to do so, they should apply to the Court of Session or the Sheriff for authority to proceed. Furthermore, the Act states that, in administering the Common Good assets, any authority to which it is transferred shall have regard to the interests of the inhabitants of the area to which the common good related prior to 16 May 1975.

Q2. Did all the land held by Town Councils pass into Common Good Funds?

In 1975, some Town Councils took the opportunity to pass the town's common property into new Trusts to avoid having them taken over by the new authorities. For example, St Andrews managed to arrange for all the golf links in St Andrews which were part of their common lands to be transferred by Act of Parliament into the St Andrews Links Trust. Common Good property in Crail is marked in Green on the map.

Q3. How many Common Good sites are there in Crail?

These are listed by Fife Council as the Crail Common Good properties:

Sauchope Caravan Site	Land-East Quarry Braes
Land-Balcombie Road	Amenity Land, Rude Wel
Land-Peatfield	Marketgate North
Land-West Quarry Braes	Marketgate South
Store; The Harbour	

Q4. Are there only fixed assets in the Common Good Fund?

The Common Good Fund also consists of Investments, totalling in the region of £500,000, held by Fife Council.

Q5. How much money does the Common Good Fund get each year?

Approximately £57,000 per annum.

Q6. Who can apply for funds?

Any organisation or individual may apply for funds to support projects that will benefit the people of Crail.

Q7. Who decides what funds are allocated?

Up to £2,000 an application is decided by a council official under delegated powers. Above £2,000 the decision is made by Fife Councillors.

Q8. What role does the Community Council have in the decision making process?

The Community Council is a consultee and after they have assessed an application they pass their opinion to the Fife Council official overseeing the application. As with planning applications, Fife Councillors can ignore the Community Council's comments.

Q9. Are there any restrictions on what the Common Good will fund?

In theory yes - on the application form is the following:

"The Council has approved a set of criteria against which applications will be assessed. These are:

1. The capital base of a Common Good Fund in real terms should be maintained.
2. No applications for running costs on a recurring basis should be approved.
3. No grants for individuals for personal benefit should be approved.
4. Common Good Fund grants should normally meet a maximum of 50% of the costs of any project"

But, immediately after this section is the following sentence: "The Council can however approve applications contrary to the above principles in exceptional circumstances."

Q10. Community Transfer

Part 5 of the Community Empowerment Act introduces a right for community bodies to make requests to all local authorities, Scottish Ministers and a range of public bodies for any land or buildings they feel they could make better use of. The public authorities must transparently assess requests against a specified list of criteria, laid out in the Act, and agree the request unless there are reasonable grounds for refusal.



FIRST
Little Welly Club
Friday, 1st March 2019
10AM - 11:30AM

ST MONANS
BABY & TODDLER GROUP

The Little Welly Club

Come and join
Our FREE Little Welly Club
held every Friday from 10am-
11:30am

CHURCH HALL
STATION ROAD
ST MONANS

*Soft Play * Sing and Story Time * Art & Craft
 * Baby Area * Hot Drinks and Fruit * Books & Puzzles
 *Toys * Theme based sessions

ALL WELCOME
0-5 years

Letter to the Editor

Sir,

I am undertaking a trek in the Himalayas to raise money and the profile of a charity that I volunteer for, The Wave project Scotland, based in Dunbar.

The Wave Project brings people together through surfing. The evidence-based surf therapy programme is proven to help young people feel less anxious and more positive. They also run beach school projects to help children feel more engaged in education. Working with partner organisations and the amazing volunteers we are changing lives together.

I will be trekking from Lukla to Everest base camp over a 2 week period in April. I know that Crail residents are hugely generous and would ask if they would like to sponsor my Trek?

All cost for the expedition are covered by myself, any and all donations will go to the charity.

Finlay at the chemist has agreed to receive cash donations should anyone not be able to access the link to my just giving page which has the full details of the charity and the trek itself.

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonne-richmondeverestbasecamp2019?utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_content=Yvonne-RichmondEverestbasecamp2019&utm_medium=fundraisingpage&utm_source=Facebook&utm_term=PMWqvPN53

Thanks in advance,

Yvonne Richmond

Crail Parish Church of Scotland
(Charity registered in Scotland SC 001601)
Linked with St Ayle

Intimations to be in by Thursday noon to Lisa
 450035, or email

(intimations@crailchurch.co.uk)

Session Clerk: Helen Armitage 450516

Interim Moderator: Rev Brian Oxburgh
Monday Club: Monday 4th March in the Community Hall at 2:15pm, "Shops in Crail" By Helen Armitage

Crail Kirk Choir: Just to announce our weekly practice for Sunday's services. Thursday nights starting at 6pm promptly in Church is the weekly choir rehearsal. All are Welcome.

Church Quiz Night: Friday 15th March at 7pm in the Kirk Hall in aid of church funds, Tickets £5.00 per person.

BYOB and snacks. Tickets limited to 40 from committee members and at Chat Bite.

Scouts Coffee Morning: Saturday 16th March in the Legion Hall 10am-12noon. There will be a Rafle & Home Baking Stall, all money raised will go towards or upcoming Cambridge Jamboree. Please come along to support them.

The coffee morning for First Responders on Saturday 23rd Feb. raised the magnificent sum of £543.30. Thanks to all who helped and who attended the event.

Next week's service will be taken by Mr Angus Shaw, Communion will take place on Sunday 17th March

Sir,

Correction:

In last weeks Crail Matters under "Making it Happen", you say that St Andrews is planning a Men's Shed - St Andrews already has a Men's shed and has had for at least a year to my knowledge. It is based at the Kernel (behind the Botanic Gardens) and they meet every Tuesday morning (including lunch).

They have a website for anyone interested:

<http://www.mensshedstanrews.org.uk>

Erica H



Community Council Notes

Our new website is <https://crailcc.com/>



Speed Strips:

Following numerous complains about speeding, particularly along Marketgate and out towards the golf course, it was agreed that speed strips should be deployed.

Coastal Path

Repairs to the path coastal from the Denburn outlet to the bottom of the steps leading down from the Watchtower have been carried out. Appreciation was expressed to all the helpers and to Sarah Mills for organising the event.

Street Light at Butcher's Close:

A report of the only light at Butcher's Close had been made to Fife Council. Unfortunately, repairs could not be effected due to overgrown tree branches. Appreciation to Mr. Mark Ireland and helpers for cutting back the growth and removing the branches was noted.

Recycling:

Everyone is in favour of recycling facilities but there does not appear to be a suitable location. Fife Council has been requested to consider Council owned land.

Now that winter is coming to an end, brown compost/food waste bins will be collected every two weeks from the week starting 4 March.

If you need to check your collection dates please visit www.fifedirect.org/bincalendar for your up-to-date bin calendar.

Please remember that there are many different bin routes in Fife, and within towns and villages, so please do check your calendar.

Food waste should be placed in compostable liners, or newspaper. Garden waste can be put in loose and the bin lid should be kept closed,

Find out about food waste bags <https://www.fifedirect.org.uk/foodwaste>

Council Tax:

On Tuesday, 26th February, Fife Councillors set the budget for 2019-20 and confirmed a 3% council tax increase to help fund services. The council will make further savings of £4.8m and, with the extra contribution, state that they will be able to put £1.15m into additional services to help tackle poverty and hunger around Fife.

Next Community Council Meeting

The next Community Council meeting will be at 7.15pm 25 March.



The Crail Seagull

What an historical location we live near. In 877 (that's right 877) King Constantine, known as the King of the Picts, died while fighting Norse invaders. The battle is supposed to have prevented the Scandinavians from establishing a base here on the east coast of Scotland.

Apparently, Marie de Guise-Lorraine's (mother of Mary, Queen of Scots) captain had mistaken the East Neuk for St Andrews and she was brought ashore at Balcomie Sands. After spending the night in Balcomie Castle, she was escorted to St Andrews by a procession led by King James V. Boy, I'd loved to have seen that. There are 2 Blue Stanes in Crail, one on Marketgate and the other on Balcomie Sands. These are said to have been one large stone thrown by the Devil from the Isle of May and it split in half. Was he aiming at Mary? I hope he wasn't aiming for Fluke Dub!

Enough of the history.

Does anyone know if either of the foghorns on the Isle of May is still operating? I was kept up half the night last week with an eerie sound. Perhaps it was a ship, who knows, all I know is, it was very loud!



Balcomie Blue Stane

Material for inclusion in Crail Matters should be sent to crailmatters@gmail.com and received on Friday midday before publication. Any views expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the author, and not of Crail Matters.

We reserve the right to edit copy for length and style. Submission does not guarantee inclusion.

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