

**Crail Preservation Society**  
**Minutes of Committee Meeting**

Monday, 6 December 2021, 7pm  
Legion Hall, Crail

Present: Dennis Gowans (Chairman), Kelsey Jackson Williams (Secretary), Lyall Dochard (Treasurer), David Jerdan, Sandy Young, Jude Gallon, Paul Hutchison, Kevin Thurlow, Sutherland Madeiros.

1. APOLOGIES were received from Derek White.
2. MINUTES of the previous Committee Meeting were approved as read.
3. OFFICERS' AND SUB-COMMITTEES' REPORTS were given as follows:
  - Jude Gallon gave the **Membership Report**. There are currently 79 members. Renewals will be triggered with the Annual Report. Dennis Gowans suggested the possibility of using JustGiving.com as a means of managing subscriptions, in part because that organisation would manage gift aid contributions for the society (which are otherwise difficult to recover with online subscriptions). The subscription rate will be maintained for the coming year.
  - Lyall Dochard gave the **Treasurer's Report**. There is currently a surplus of £14,317, marginally behind last year due to increasing outgoings from restricted funds. Receipt of Mercat Cross funding is still pending and Paul Hutchison noted that £5,000 from HES would soon be received, hopefully before the end of the calendar year. Sandy Young queried whether the doocot donations (~£300 this year) should go into the doocot designated fund and it was agreed that they should. The possibility of having a card reader for doocot donations - mentioned in prior minutes - was again raised and it was suggested that this would be increasingly feasible given technological advances.
  - Paul Hutchison gave the **Planning Report**. Issues with the garage at Miramar remain outstanding. Paul has requested that a retroactive planning application be submitted, but none has been forthcoming and he will continue to follow up on this. The proposal for permanent barriers in front of the new Italian restaurant has been commented on by Paul (too large, too close to the pavement, disproportionate for the context). Paul will also bring up the outstanding issue of the plastic drainpipes there. The proposal for the retaining wall and fence at Westonlea was also discussed and Kevin Thurlow noted that the height of the fence was determined by the council, not

by the applicant. The possibility of the fence impeding the view of traffic turning onto the main road was raised.

- Kelsey Jackson Williams gave the **Website Report**. The website is up to date save for the most recent minutes and the latest Denburn Diggers' report. There has been a regular trickle of enquiries and comments directed through the website to the Society.

4. Dennis Gowans reported on FUNDRAISING. David Roy has confirmed that a date has been set aside for the 2022 golf tournament. Kevin Thurlow, Lyall Dochard, and Dennis Gowans volunteered to become involved in the organisation of the tournament. Suthy Madeiros also volunteered to be involved and proposed co-opting Derek Maclean into any future committee. He also proposed moving tee times to earlier in the day. It was agreed that Kevin Thurlow would lead the tournament sub-committee.

5. Sandy Young gave the DOOCOT REPORT. There is little to report. Sandy has been in touch with Nick Sweeney but the limewash coating was not done over the summer and will now have to wait until next spring. Otherwise, all continues well except for the theft of one plastic pigeon.

6. Dennis Gowans reported on the KIRKYARD PROJECT. The Lumsden monument is now being reconstructed after the removal of a large elder root and the neutralisation of a further root. The back of the monument has been fixed to prevent ingress of earth and seeds. The cherry tree whose removal was objected to will nonetheless be removed.

7. Paul Hutchison reported on the MERCAT CROSS PROJECT. Work started belatedly on 21 September and was intended to be a two-month project, but this has been delayed, in part because the four protective bollards are not yet available. The wording of the information board has been agreed on and is now out for production with the same company which produced the Doocot information board. The board may be ready before the end of the year. Debate is ongoing concerning how, if at all, to refurbish the inscription on the base of the cross. The felling of the trees has been broadly positively received. It was queried whether lighting would be appropriate for the renovated cross.

8. Dennis Gowans reported on DENBURN PARK. There are no sheep being kept in the field at present. The notice to quit will go out in March 2022 (the shepherds have already received two notices that their lease is coming to an end in March 2023).

9. Dennis Gowans reported on DENBURN WOOD. Fife Council have stepped in to clear the trees felled by Storm Arwen. Further tidying for safety reasons will be required, however. James McCallum has offered his arborist to consult. The CPS will be asking the Community Partnership to acquire the remainder of Denburn Wood.

10. Small Projects and Updates:

- The Kirkyard Brochure is currently stalled.
- No further progress has been made on the Heritage Trail, though an online equivalent is now available through the museum website.
- There is nothing currently to report concerning the CPS Archive.
- The airfield has recently changed ownership and the new owners, a development company, will be meeting with the Community Council, Community Partnership, and CPS in the near future. Their plans are not yet known.

11. The AGM will be held on Monday, 21 February. Kelsey Jackson Williams will lead the organisation of the annual report and will liaise with Crab Publishing about potentially publishing the report with them.

12. There was no OCB.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kelsey Jackson Williams  
Hon. Sec'y  
6 December 2021

