



# Kirriemuir Community Council

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 27 March 2024 7 pm in Camera Obscura

**Present:** Heather Kelly (Chair), Jeanette Reioch (Secretary), Irena Krasinska-Lobban (Treasurer), George Aitken, Frances Havenga, Audrey Middleton

**In attendance:** Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, PC Jenna Conboy, PUBLIC: Mrs. A. McLean, Mr. R. Walsh

Heather opened the meeting by thanking Irena for making Camera Obscura available for the meeting. The Fire Station, unfortunately, has a power cut. Also, thank you to Jeanette for alerting everyone of the change of venue at short notice.

	ACTION
<p>1. <b>Apologies:</b> Eric Mitchell, Cerys Mitchell, Cathy Stephenson, Ron Lobban, Cllr Bell, Cllr Meechan,</p> <p>2. <b>Approval of 28 February 2024 Minutes:</b> Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Irena and seconded by George.</p> <p>3. <b>Police Report:</b> PC Conboy reviewed the Police Report which had been circulated. Police has currently been carrying out dedicated patrols for speeding around Shielhill Road, in particular, targeting Ford Fiestas ST models. It appears Fiestas are the biggest culprits. The Police plan to carry out further patrols around schools. There has been an increase in local break-ins, however, PC Conboy reported there has also been some positives during the month.</p> <p>4. <b>Scottish Fire &amp; Rescue Services Report:</b> Circulated.</p> <p><b>March 2024</b> Community Safety: 6 x Home Fire safety visits 2 x Operational Intelligence visits 1 x Brew with Crew</p> <p>Incidents: 2 x Smoke Detector Operating 4 x Fire – dwelling 5 x Special Service Call</p> <p>5. <b>Treasurer's Report:</b> Circulated FPP fund £92.20 KCC fund £546.52 Defib fund £595.50 Grant <b>minus</b> £101.92 VAA fund £300.00 Santa fund £87.60 <b>Total £1520.00</b></p>	

<p><b>6. Matters Arising:</b></p> <p><b>Police:</b></p> <p><b>A42 Speeding at Shielhill Road:</b> See update in 3. Police Report above.</p> <p><b>Cllr Proctor:</b></p> <p><b>A25 Suggested speed bumps at Hill Rise/Return of potholes update:</b> Ongoing</p> <p><b>A33 Road linking Glamis Road to Forfar Road, 35 houses at Beechwood:</b> Cllr Proctor does not have any further information. KCC has contacted Planning and informed them that they wish the objection to remain. Can Cllr Proctor please keep KCC advised.</p> <p><b>A43 Damaged railings at Bellies Brae:</b> This has been reported and out to tender.</p> <p><b>Cllr Meechan:</b></p> <p><b>A22 Empty caravan at Maryton:</b> No update</p> <p><b>Heather Kelly:</b></p> <p><b>A34 Angus Pylon Action Group update:</b> A representative from the Action Group was due to attend this meeting but, unfortunately, had to cancel. Hope to attend April meeting. Resulting from the Reid Hall Consultation meeting, Heather produced a map of the proposed pylons sites in the area. Jeanette reported that Cathy would like confirmation that this is only for information and not a pledge of support.</p> <p><b>A36 Invitation to Angus Council CEO to KCC meeting:</b> Heather sent this invitation to the wrong address. Heather will forward her letter to Jeanette to forward to CEO.</p> <p><b>A41 Joint Forum for Community Councillors/KCC to be represented:</b> Heather has heard nothing further on this.</p> <p><b>General:</b></p> <p><b>A27 Phone boxes:</b> Clearing the books which have fallen down the back.</p> <p><b>A38 Cumberland Close Public Consultation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update circulated with details of how to vote at the Library.</li> <li>• Mrs. McLean (member of the public), who owns a gallery in Cumberland Close, reported that as a business owner she has compiled a voting form and printed 1,000 copies. The voting form has a QR code which leads to her website. No names will be submitted as per GDPR, only post codes. She has hand delivered the voting forms to some residents and responses are coming in.</li> <li>• Voting closes on 20 April and the votes submitted will be passed to Angus Council.</li> <li>• KCC understands the Angus Council vote is only for Kirriemuir residents (with Kirrie post codes) and those living in some areas of the Glens, who don't have the Kirrie post code, are not allowed to vote..i.e. Prosen, Glenmoy. Glen Isla and Tannadice are different.</li> <li>• Heather pointed out that the original petition submitted to Angus Council included names from “around the World.” Therefore, how was the original petition of 1,000 names accepted and taken forward by Angus Council as an “official” petition when many of the names on the list (making up the required 1,000 names) were not from Kirrie?</li> <li>• Cllr Proctor responded that since the submission of the petition Angus Council has uncovered some inaccuracies in the petition.. Post codes submitted by the original proposer/petition are being examined by Angus Council.</li> <li>• Discussion ensued on the post code “boundaries” in place for the vote. It was reported that the original petition was taken to a Council Meeting last year by an Angus Councillor wherein it was proposed and accepted.</li> <li>• Cllr Proctor offered to take the points raised at the meeting to the Officer in charge. Heather asked Cllr Proctor to let her know the outcome of his approach so that this can be</li> </ul>	<p>RP</p> <p>RP</p> <p>RP</p> <p>RP</p> <p>GM</p> <p>HK/JR Agenda</p> <p>EM</p>
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<p>communicated to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was agreed the voting paper in the Library is very “sparse.”</li> <li>• The question was asked, how much is this Cumberland Close exercise costing Angus Council in these austere times, e.g. time spent by Angus Council staff. It is also understood that money will be made available for the new signage. Cllr Proctor reported that he understands there has not been any extra meetings held or time spent to discuss this specific subject.</li> <li>• KCC will organise a <b>Public Consultation for Saturday, 30 March</b>. Arrangements made to get voting forms from the Library. Mrs. McLean offered 200/300 of her voting forms. Kirrie Christmas Lights committee is holding a fundraising event (car wash) that day – 9 am to 3 pm – at Kirrie Fire Station. Agreed to have a presence with voting forms at the Fire Station. Kirrie Day Care is having a coffee morning. Agreed to have a presence with voting forms at the Day Care. Heather will be outside of the Co-op with voting forms.</li> </ul>	<p><b>RP</b></p>
<p>7. <b>Traffic calming Maryton:</b> Heather reported that traffic calming bollards have been installed in Newtyle and Westmuir. Why not Maryton? Cllr Proctor has raised Maryton's situation with Officers but said this takes time to be processed. Jeanette has the original petition and Cathy also has information. Westmuir has had a 20 mph for some time. Jeanette queried why Maryton has not been considered for 20 mph. At the suggestion of Cllr Proctor, Heather will write a support letter to Craig Hudson, Angus Council, and pass to Jeanette to forward and include a copy to Cllr Proctor.</p>	<p><b>RP</b> <b>HK/JR</b></p>
<p>8. <b>Councillors Reports:</b> Jeanette referred to Heather's January email to the elected members regarding their Reports. KCC requested the elected members to change the format of their Reports in the future, condensing the content to only include information relevant to Kirrie. The new guidelines were included in the email. Unfortunately, the elected Members' March Reports have reverted to the old format. Can the elected members please report in the new format in future, as requested. Thank you.</p>	<p><b>RP/GM/</b> <b>JB</b></p>
<p><b>Cllr Ronnie Proctor reports:</b> Continuation of assisting with Housing issues, Road repairs and flooding issues in and around the town are still ongoing</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.I attended various meetings as a Director of Angus Alive. No issues regarding Kirriemuir were brought forward however the Subject of the Town house was discussed regarding assistance to whichever organisation takes on the running of the Museum.</li> <li>2.I nominated the Chairman of Kirriemuir Landward West for a certificate to commemorate his Long Service 55 years to Community Councils and attended the presentation.</li> <li>3.I attended and took part in Carbon Literacy Training which is enlightening regarding climate change. Kirriemuir was noted as an exemplar regarding the initiatives which have taken place. (Sustainable Kirriemuir as reported previously).</li> <li>4.As a member of the Angus Educational I took part in the last meeting where funds are disbursed to assist pupil and students who require financial assistance to enable them to meet their goals.</li> <li>5.Along with a Council officer I visited a constituent where post codes and street names did not tie up. As this is an operational matter Royal Mail and Angus Council will progress this.</li> <li>6.As Veterans Champion I attended a Housing meeting in Person at Aberdeenshire Council and also a further meeting on teams. The agenda covered similar items previously reported. The initiative set up for recording veterans at</li> </ol>	

Kirriemuir Health Centre was highlighted and noted as a good example which is to be rolled out through the Northeast and inevitably throughout Scotland.

7.I received an invitation as a member of the Tay Cities deal to attend a demonstration of the use of Drones (unmanned small aircraft) which are being looked at to support rural areas including mountain rescue and other resilience measures including the delivery of medicines etc. The demonstration took place at Tarfside at the head of Glen Esk. Unfortunately, the wind was too strong for the aircraft to reach their full potential!!!

8.I will be attending a species habitat meeting. regarding species which are native to our area.

9.I have received numerous emails, phone calls and have been spoken to in the street regarding the proposed change of name at Cumberland Close and have also visited Ms McLean at Ainetheon Arts Ltd at her invitation to discuss the matter.

**Cllr Julie Bell reports:**

I thought it would be good to start with a lovely item – I have just arrived home (Monday March 25) from the launch of Meeting Centres Scotland, which is the brand new advocacy network for dementia meeting centres. As you will be aware, the very first in Scotland was our own Kirrie Connections and Graham Galloway is the new interim chief executive of MCS. Jacqueline Dillon has taken over as chief executive of Kirrie Connections and there was a fantastic KC contingent there. KC has led the way for meeting centres in Scotland and, indeed, in the development of the new Scottish Government Dementia Strategy and Action Plan, which I also had a role in approving through the COSLA Health and Social Care Policy Board. Kirrie Connections is so well-respected locally, nationally and internationally.

Looking back over the last month, it has been a very busy time, with the council budget-setting meeting on February 29. In advance of the budget being agreed within our Administration, I met with the relevant officers who agreed that resources could be distributed slightly differently without impact on those in most need. I also attended a network feedback event with third sector groups and council staff who had utilised funding last year, who had, in places, described uptake as lower than hoped but those who participated found it hugely valuable. Kirriemuir Food Hub has contributed to the delivery of this initiative.

The budget settlement from Angus Council to the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership was also agreed. Last year's budget was £68.805m; this year's is £74.725m, which includes the Scottish Government uplift for the staff pay award – which I have to say, they so richly deserve. That's an increase of almost £6m. The pay award element from Angus Council is £0.65m; the SG element of the Living Wage pay award is £4.761m; plus a free personal and nursing care uplift of £0.36m from SG.

There's no question, due to rising demand and need, that this remains a challenging budget for the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership. People should also be aware that at the end of last year, the IJB returned a sum of reserves to both parent bodies: Angus Council's share amounted to £0.784m, £1.28m to NHS Tayside, as a way of supporting whole system pressures of rising demand across all our communities.

I participated in the Southmuir school fayre with my Kirriemuir Food Hub role – and managed to pick up some council work whilst there too.

I joined a meeting with Link, the banking hub people, along with my colleagues, Graeme Dey MSP and Cllr Lloyd Melville regarding the possibility of setting up a banking hub in Kirriemuir and Monifieth. Rules on supporting rural areas are about to change so please watch this space as I remain hopeful we can work with Link on this. Topics covered include the importance of access to cash; being able to make deposits; trust in being able to speak to a real person;

avoiding banking scams; access for people in very remote areas without having to go to Forfar; the cost/reliability of public transport, especially during a cost of living crisis, for some people. Link are doing more research for us. If members of the community council have particular views on this, do let me know.

Sustainable Kirriemuir asked me to support a funding application which I was more than happy to do, hope it helps.

I held an International Women's Day event, which showcased Brave Lassies Blether, a group of young women facilitated by the council's Education team, NSPCC and Young Women Lead. Membership comes from our secondary schools to tackle sexism, misogyny and sexual violence. The campaign aims to help young people identify and access support services when needed and works alongside existing support services in championing their processes of engaging with young people appropriately. The campaign is being led by young people from Webster's High, Forfar Academy and Montrose Academy.

I various committees, we've seen the annual reports of our Violence Against Women Partnership and our Child Protection/Protecting People annual report – the figures contained within these reports are very concerning and if anyone has any concerns about any individual, there is a link available on the council's website to report these concerns – anonymously if you wish. Finally, to help tackle stigma and judgement in our communities, Protecting People Angus will be running sessions entitled The Power of Kindness across the county – the Forfar/Kirriemuir one is on Tuesday April 16 from 12 noon – 2.30pm at the Wellbean Café, East and Old Church, Forfar- you can book by emailing [ProtectingPeopleAngus@angus.gov.uk](mailto:ProtectingPeopleAngus@angus.gov.uk)

**Cllr George Meechan reports:**

It has been a busy period with budget setting and other meetings of the council. The following is a summary my recent activity.

**I have attended the following meetings (not exhaustive): -**

- Angus Licensing Board and Civic Licencing Committee (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Policy and Resources Committee (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Corporate Equalities Group (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Civic Licensing Committee (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Family Education and Justice Committee (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Full Council (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Tayside Contracts Joint Committee (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)
- Capital Projects Monitoring Group

delay in installing the ramp at Croft Terrace was discussed. Delay due to a water main not showing on plan which will need to be diverted. This is to be moved by Scottish Water, no timescale).

- Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board (nothing specific to Kirriemuir)

**In addition, I have attended the following meetings/presentations:**

- Attended Police Scotland Drop-in Session
- Housing drop-in clinic (raised issues about housing repairs in Kirriemuir)
- Attended the Angus Licensing Board pre-agenda meeting via Teams
- Attended Glamis Community Council
- Met with the local housing manager to discuss an issue (Kirriemuir specific)

**My case load continues to be a mixed bag e.g. (All specific to Kirriemuir)**

- Housing issues (allocations and repairs)
- Street Lighting issues
- Utilities
- Welfare Benefits

School meals issues

Black mould in property

I have visited Kirriemuir constituents in their own homes over the past period to discuss their issues and dealt with numerous telephone calls and emails.

**Note**

I will need to give my apologies for the meeting on Wednesday as I have a clash with another appointment.

9. **Correspondence:** Circulated during the month. Jeanette highlighted an email from Weekly Newsletter Information Consumers Officer. They are requesting KCC register with them and appoint a Data Protection Officer. Jeanette anticipates a follow up email if KCC don't respond. Discussion ensued. KCC is not the type of organisation which sends out Newsletters, etc., showing personal information, therefore, don't have subscribers. Digital information is held by Angus Council. Agreed, this is not applicable to KCC.

10. **AOCB**

**10.1. Development Trust:** Heather reported KDT is putting together a small leaflet to be distributed to the public. Hoping to “go live” on 26 April with a launch night in the Church Hall. Full information will be in the leaflet. KDT is hoping for a good turn out at the launch.

11. **Planning:** Minor planning applications reported.

12. **Date of next meeting:** **Wednesday, 24 April, at 7 pm, in Camera Obscura**

Heather reported that the Fire Station is undergoing a refurbishment in April.

Irena has, therefore, kindly arranged for the KCC meeting to be held in **Camera Obscura**.

*Thank you*

**1.4.24**