



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 26 June 2024 7 pm in Kirrie Fire Station

Present: Heather Kelly (Chair), Jeanette Reioch (Secretary), George Aitken, Audrey Middleton, Cerys Mitchell, Eric Mitchell, Cathy Stephenson

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, Cllr George Meechan, SFRS Officer Judi Young (part time), **PUBLIC:** David Mitchell, Lesley Young

	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies: Frances Havenga, Irena Krasinska-Lobban, Ron Lobban, Cllr Julie Bell</p> <p>2. Approval of 29 May 2024 Minutes: Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by George and seconded by Audrey.</p> <p>3. Police Report: No report received.</p> <p>4. Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report:</p> <p>Community Safety: 4 x Home fire safety visits 2 x Operational Intelligence visits 3 x School visits 1 x Southmuir Summer Fayre</p> <p>Incidents: 1 x AFA 3 x Fire – domestic 1 x Special Service call 4 x Fire in open</p> <p>Fire Station Open Day – Saturday, 29 June 2024, 11 am – 3 pm</p> <p>The Summer TAP is due to open on 17 June and runs until 19 August</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce fire related anti-social behaviour and the number of deliberate, primary and secondary fires. 2. Reduce the number of fires in derelict/unoccupied buildings. 3. Reduce the number of fires involving refuse/rubbish 4. Reduce the number of outdoor fires involving grass/heather/heathland and/or forested areas. 5. a) Promote fire safety within seasonal sleeping risks – caravan/camping sites. b) Promote fire safety within seasonal sleeping risks – hotels, guest houses/boarding houses, holiday centres and AirBnB type accommodation (holiday lets). 6. Promote water safety. 	

<p>7. Contribute to the delivery of summer road safety initiatives. Officer Young reviewed the Report and left the meeting.</p>	
<p>5. Treasurer's Report: FPP fund £92.20 KCC funds £547.17 Defib fund £595.50 Grant <u>minus</u> £286.92 VAA fund £300.00 Santa fund £87.60</p>	
<p>6. Matters Arising: Cllr Proctor: A25 Done. Off Agenda</p>	
<p>A33 Road linking Glamis Road and Forfar Road: No further progress to report. Off Agenda.</p>	
<p>A43 Cumberland Close: Angus Council Full Council meeting decision in favour of the name remaining as Cumberland Close. Cllr Proctor stated, we should learn from this decision that history cannot be changed. .</p>	
<p>A46 Inappropriate parking/corner of Slade Road: Awaiting feed back.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>A49: Large pothole near Delsons: This has been reported.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>A50: Extra large Thorntons sign at Delsons: Delsons have been advised that the sign is a distraction. However, nothing further can be done as it is on Delson's property.</p>	
<p>A52 Parking Attendants – re parking on pavement at Boots: Reported and awaiting a response. It was stated that there has been no further incidents, similar to the Boots issue, since it was reported to May's KCC meeting. Off Agenda.</p>	
<p>A53 Clarification whether Tayside Contracts is paying Angus Council for use of closed Kirrie Recycling Centre: Awaiting a response.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>Regarding the newly introduced law on pavement parking, Cllr Proctor reported that Angus Council is reviewing exemption procedures of certain streets in Kirriemuir. Cllr Proctor highlighted Mill Street, in particular. A photograph showing a lorry in difficulties driving along Mill Street, circulated at the May meeting.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>Discussion ensued with members of the public about the suggestion to make Morrison Street a one-way street.</p>	
<p>Lesley Young, member of the Public, raised a road item and she and Cllr Proctor discussed this. Cllr Proctor will discuss this issue further with the lady away from the meeting.</p>	
<p>A56 Morrison Street – complaint from a member of the public: Cllr Proctor and Jeanette attended a site visit at Morrison Street on 18 June, attended by Angus Council representatives and several local residents. All the options made are being looked at. Awaiting response from Angus Council.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>Heather Kelly: A34 Angus Pylon Action Group update: Community Councils are asking if KCC will add their signature to the petition objecting to the erection of the pylons, generally across Scotland. Discussion ensued. The consensus is that, generally, there is no appetite to support the erection of pylons. However, it was decided to consult with the Kirrie community before signing the petition.</p>	

<p>Heather will organise the consultation.</p> <p>A36 Invitation to Angus Council CEO to KCC meeting: A further invitation was sent during the month. Unfortunately, no response. With regret, KCC agreed to take this off the Agenda.</p> <p><i>(Update: Cllr Proctor emailed the CEO's office. The CEO's office claim that neither the CEO's PA nor the Lead Officer of Democratic Services received any emails, extending an invitation to a meeting, from KCC)</i></p>	<p>HK</p>
<p>A41 Joint Forum for Community Councillors: This is progressing.</p>	<p>HK</p>
<p>A42 GDPR – Nominate a Data Protection Officer: No update: No update on Irena progressing ICO refund.</p>	<p>HK/IKL</p>
<p>A44 Maryton Traffic calming request: Jeanette and Cllr Proctor, along with Angus Council Traffic representatives, attended a site meeting on 18 June. This is being processed by Angus Council Traffic Dept who will liaise with Jeanette.</p>	<p>Agenda item</p>
<p>A48 KCC meeting invitation to “Culture on Kindness”: Heather will arrange invitation.</p>	<p>HK</p>
<p>A55 DPEA Planning Contact Meeting: Planning contact, Frances, was unable to attend the 12 June meeting. Heather was scheduled to attend in her place. Unfortunately, Heather couldn't make the meeting.</p>	<p>HK</p>
<p>General: A51 Various hedge issues: Lochmill, Brechin Road, Marywell Brae, Forfar Road, The Roods: Jeanette reported that Pete Morton is investigating.</p>	<p>Agenda item</p>
<p>A54 Males using areas of the town to urinate in public: Unfortunately, no Police presence at meeting for update.</p>	<p>Agenda item/ Police</p>
<p>A56 Morrison Street: See Cllr Proctor's “Matters Arising” above.</p>	
<p>7. Councillors' Reports: Cllr Julie Bell reports: On Monday June 3, along with the other two ward councillors, I joined the Angus Council Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Kathryn Lindsay, on a tour of Kirriemuir and Dean – given it is such a huge ward, mostly rural, she has agreed o a second tour to visit the more other areas within it. We visited The Gin Bothy Experience in Glamis, along with members of Glamis Community Council; Kirrie Connections; and the Kirriemuir Regeneration Group at the Camera Obscura. As a non-executive director of NHS Tayside, I was invited to attend an award ceremony for Angus volunteers on June 4 at Angus House as part of Volunteers Week – many of our residents in Kirriemuir and Dean (and, indeed, the whole of Angus) rely on volunteer drivers to get them to appointments and the number of long-service awards was truly humbling. On June 6, I attended the Webster’s High School celebration event in Glens and Kirriemuir United Parish Church – very impressive young people indeed. I have attended various sessions with the Community Planning Partnership around our focus for action on the community plan, great engagement with a wide range of services and organisations. I also took part in one of the Forestry and Land Scotland consultation events in Kirriemuir Town Hall on June 12, and met with the Angus Tourism Cooperative on June 13.</p>	

On June 19, I met with Sustainable Kirriemuir to progress some work around reducing pesticide use.

On June 21, I visited the new Monifieth High School building site as it reaches an important milestone – internal walls are about to be fitted. This schools will serve some young people from Newtyle, (which falls within Kirriemuir and Dean).

Kirriemuir Food Hub was recently awarded Scottish Government Community Mental Health and Wellbeing funding to help deliver some training to their members, volunteers and the wider community for a one-year period, aimed at creating a culture of kindness, tackling stigma and fostering a greater understanding of the challenges people in our community are facing on a day-to-day basis.

Reminder: on Monday evenings, for one year, funded by the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership, Kirriemuir Hub-Connect i open and FREE family sessions at Webster’s Sport Centre, from 5pm-6pm. It is designed to engage people in their communities, in families, encourage more activity, address loneliness, isolation and poor mental health. Please do encourage people to pop along.

On Friday 28th, there is a Sustainable Kirriemuir Swift Walk – meet at Kirriemuir Library at 8.15pm for a tour around town to find out more about the local swift population.

Cllr George Meechan reports:

Community Council report 26 June 2024

It’s been a busy month which included our group AGM. The following is a summary of my recent activity.

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

- Full Council Meeting

In addition, I have attended the following meetings/presentations

- Ward visit from Chief Exec of Angus Council
- Websters school celebration of achievements

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

- Housing issues (allocations and repairs)
- Welfare Benefits
- Road repairs
- Lighting issues
- Dog fouling

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.

As Community Council members will be aware the result of the consultation on the renaming Cumberland Close went to committee 20 June 2024.

Cllr Ronnie Proctor reports:

1. *Housing, roads and some issues of a confidential nature have continued to take up quite a bit of my time over the past month.*

2. *Housing has been in the forefront of the last Community Committee where a member*

of the non-administration moved a motion to declare a Housing Crisis” in Angus, however an amendment was put forward by the Administration to say there was no Housing Crisis in Angus. The amendment went through due to numbers on the Administration which included two “Independents. The following day Holyrood declared a Housing Crisis throughout Scotland”!!!

3. I attended seminars and briefings on housing where such innovations as a Charter and other improvements to the housing system in Angus was discussed. This was again brought forward at Full Council I spoke on several issues including the adherence to tenancy agreements, number of pets permitted garden and area maintenance etc.

4. The matter of a Housing Crisis was also brought up at Full Council and the Councillor who had originally submitted the Housing Crisis amendment put this forward again, this was accepted by the administration however they also submitted a further amendment to form a Member Officer Group to look at housing and this was accepted by all as it should benefit all.

5. Full Council which was held on the 21st of June went on for quite some time but the matters concerning Kirriemuir were Housing as shown above and Cumberland Close. Although I attended the meeting virtually I spoke on the issue and personally thanked Mrs Annie MacLean for all her hard work, the people of Kirriemuir for voting and reminded the Council that history cannot be rewritten but we should learn from it.

6.1 attended further seminars and meetings discussing; -a. Tourism and how a local tax may affect local businesses B&Bs etc.

b. Place based working where Kirriemuir was highlighted as a good example of how the community worked successfully such as KRG Sustainable Kirrie etc.

c. Local Heating and Energy Efficiency Strategy and Planning where it was noted that there is a fair number of properties within the town which are not and will be difficult to become Energy Efficient due to being built of Sandstone or single brick.

d. I attended a veterans meeting on teams where I mentioned local veterans issues which are ongoing and also attended the Armed forces Flag Raising Ceremony in Forfar on 24th June.

7. attended as site meeting with the Secretary of Kirriemuir CC along with a Road Safety Engineer where we met some of the residents of Morrison Street to discuss as to how

the current traffic problem can be solved and the speed control in Maryton.

Along with other Cllrs I accompanied the CEO Angus Council on a short visit to Glamis, Kirrie Connections and the Camera Obscura.

Councillors' Reports:

Heather again requested Angus Councillors present to please report only information relative to Kirriemuir in their Reports.

Cllr Meechan stated that his reports, therefore, would be very brief – very little “specific to Kirriemuir.” Disappointing as that is, Heather reiterated KCC's request.

**RP/GM/
JB**

8. AOCB:

- 8.1. **George** reminded the meeting about a request to repair a rail on Bellies Brae. Jeanette confirmed that this has just been repaired in the last few days. However, it is not the same type of railing.
- 8.2. **George** asked the elected members again, what is the financial burden on Angus Council for the recent Cumberland Close investigation? Cllr Proctor will investigate.
- 8.3. **Eric** reported a very distressing incident he and Cerys had witnessed in Forfar recently. He opened by expressing his total disappointment with the Police. Eric and Cerys found a very young teenage girl, highly intoxicated, lying injured on the pavement. Eric asked a local householder to call the Police. When they also asked for an ambulance they were told they would have to re-dial 999 and make a further request for an ambulance.

RP

Eric put the girl into the recovery position. When the Police arrived they told Eric, “as a male we cannot touch a female” and refused to check her for injury. The ambulance arrived, staffed by two females, who asked the Police for some assistance when transferring the girl into the ambulance. This was refused. The girl had apparently been abandoned by her three friends and was lying, alone, in the road, unable to defend herself. Thanks to Eric and Cerys's intervention, all ended well. The 15 year old young girl has since sent a “thank you” letter to Eric and Cerys.

KCC unanimously sympathise with this disappointing situation and all agree that Eric should report the incident to the Police.

EC

- 8.4. **Eric** reported a van in Hill Rise was unable to exit the street caused by a blockage of vehicles on the road, relative to the new pavement parking law. Similar complaints have been received by Community Councillors from around Kirrie. Heather stressed this situation is an accident waiting to happen and requires urgent attention by Angus Council. It was stated that it will be impossible for winter gritters to negotiate certain streets in Kirrie due to parked vehicles on the road, and the ruling requires to be urgently re-addressed. .Cllr Proctor will investigate.
- 8.5. **Cathy** reported that in May she forwarded the new bus timetable to Angus Council. To date, the timetables have not been updated in bus shelters. Cllr Proctor will investigate.

RP

RP

- 8.6. **Heather** stated that it was very sad to hear of the resignation of the Newtyle

Community Councillors, resulting in the closure of the Community Council. Heather is of the view that Angus Council must seriously address the current “support structure” for Community Councils, in light of other Community Councils having similar experiences to Newtyle. Cllr Proctor stated that both he and Cllr Bell are frustrated, also.

8.7. **Audrey** raised the matter of Council houses lying empty for months awaiting “repairs” while the housing list continues to grow. Cllr Proctor and Cllr Meechan report that a motion has been put forward to form a “new group” to resolve this problem. Discussion ensued. It was pointed out that the old Rent Office system worked perfectly well in the past. Cllr Meechan stated that the elected members are required, initially, to email housing issues, etc., but he stated these emails “get lost.” With this in mind, it was suggested, and agreed, that the current Angus Council housing system appears broken.

8.8. **Eric** reported his recent experience of the ACCESS line amounted to a “shambles.” Other Community Councillors expressed similar experiences.

8.9. **Heather** submitted her apologies for the July meeting. **Eric, as Vice Chair, will Chair the July meeting.**

9. **Planning:** Planning document circulated. Heather has been in contact with “Planning Aid Scotland” They are checking whether Heather is allowed to be given free advice. Heather will write to Planning.

10. Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 31 July, 7 pm in Kirrie Fire Station

EM

HK

28.6.24