



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 31 July 2024 7 pm in Kirriemuir Fire Station

Preset: Eric Mitchell (Acting Chair), Irena Krasinska-Lobban (Treasurer), George Aitken, Frances Havenga, Audrey Middleton, Cerys Mitchell

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, SFRS Officer Judi Young, Ann Warren & Jonathan Pattullo – Kirriemuir Swifts (part time)

Eric welcomed Ann Warren and Jonathan Patullo to the meeting to talk about “Kirriemuir's Swifts.”

- Kirriemuir Swifts is a voluntary group and part of Sustainable Kirrie.
- “Swift walks” around the town are proving very popular. However, Ann says the Group want to do more and a Swift Awareness week took place in June this year.
- Why swifts? It appears they are a very special bird and have been nesting in Kirriemuir for many years.
- They migrate for ten months and over summer they come to Kirrie for two months to mate, their home.
- Numbers have dropped to 65% and they are now a “red listed” species.
- Swifts eat up to 100,000 insects per day, thus, there is a need to encourage more “Wild Life Gardening.”
- There are many nests around the town in old buildings, e.g. above The Star Rock Shop, the Museum building, etc.
- RSPB is setting up a campaign to protect the swifts' nests. Kirriemuir has received accolades for protecting the nests over the years.
- A Swift app has been put together – swiftmapper” - to increase awareness and which gives the location of the nests around the town.
- Ann asked if groups, like KCC, would have a role in Planning, when swift nests would be taken into consideration with regard to any Planning applications. Eric reported no such Planning Applications at present around swift nests. Irena stated that KCC Planning Applications are for minor applications and as Kirriemuir town centre is a Conservation Area, the local community will be aware of the swift nests. However, Irena suggested publicity information, with nest locations, would be helpful to enable the community to consider any future Planning Applications. Eric confirmed KCC will be in contact should anything arise with regard to swifts nests.
- The plan for next year is to work alongside the Kirrie junior schools and educate the children about the local swifts. Angus Council has agreed to include the Group's advertising at the front of the Library.
- Cllr Proctor said he is a “Swift Champion” for Angus Council and that he had initiated the boxes around the town.
- Ann distributed some interesting literature and thanked KCC for inviting them to their meeting.

Eric thanked Ann and Jonathan for their talk and they left the meeting.

ACTION

1. **Apologies:** Heather Kelly, Jeanette Reioch, Ron Lobban, Cathy Stephenson, Cllr George Meechan, Cllr Julie Bell

2. **Minutes of 26 June 2024 meeting:** Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Audrey, seconded by George

3. **Police Report: No report received**

4. Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report

July 2024

Community Safety:

4 x Home fire safety visits

4 x Operational Intelligence visits

1 x Nursery visit – Northmuir

Station Open Day – over 1,000 people attending

Water Safety Initiatives – Backwater and Reekie Linn & Lintrathen Loch (Carried out by Com Action)

Doors Open – Clothing Bank – various sessions

Every Thursday in July, two Wednesday evenings

Incidents:

5 x Fire Alarm Activation

1 x Fire

3 x Special Service Call

2 x Fire in Open

The Summer TAP is due to open on 17 June and runs until 19 August

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.
7. Contribute to the delivery of summer road safety initiatives.

Officer Young reviewed the SFRS Report.

5. Treasurer's Report:

As at 31 July 2024

Cash £10 FPP fund £92.20 KCC Funds £547.17 Defib Fund £595.50 Grant Minus
£336.92 VAA Fund £300.00 Santa Fund £87.60 **Total £1285.55**

Irena reported that the remittance for the grant has been received, as well as the GDPR refund.

6. Matters Arising:

Cllr Proctor: Angus Council is in Summer Recess

A43 Cumberland Close: Financial burden to Angus Council: No update

A46 Inappropriate parking/corner of Slade Road: No update. Cllr Proctor asked Irena to send him another photo.

**RP
RP**

RP/IKL

Update: Jeanette has sent the following A46 update from Andrea Strachan, Angus Council:

-Quote-

Councillor,

I refer to your email correspondence with Craig Hudson regarding the above.

The Community Council's concerns were raised for consideration at a recent meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group. Representation at this meeting included various Angus Council directorates and Police Scotland, all of whom have an interest in road safety and traffic management.

Spot checks were carried out prior to the meeting to assess the situation. During these site visits it was observed that demand for parking in the vicinity of the junction was low to moderate, however, the vehicles parked at this location were causing visibility issues for drivers. Drivers were forced to move over to the opposite side of the carriageway to pass the parked vehicles and occasionally came into conflict with opposing traffic, increasing the risk of vehicle collisions.

Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that there was a parking issue at this location and that the introduction of waiting restrictions was appropriate. Waiting restrictions on the B955 Slade Road at its junction with the B951 Glen Isla Road will be included in our next Waiting Restrictions Traffic Regulation Order.

Please note that due to the legal process that we are required to following it may be in the region of 12 to 18 months before the Traffic Regulation Order is approved and the waiting restrictions are marked out on the ground.

I trust the above clarifies the situation, however, if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.**-Unquote-**

A49 Large pothole near Delsons: No update

RP

A53 Clarification whether Tayside Contracts is paying Angus Council for use of closed Kirrie Recycling Centre: No update

RP

A56 Morrison Street: Response from Angus Council's site visit:

Post meeting, Jeanette has sent the email she received from Andrea Strachan.

See below.

-Quote-

Cllr Proctor

I refer to your recent enquiry regarding the above and apologise for the delay in responding.

Your concerns were raised for consideration at the most recent meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group. Representation at this meeting included various Angus Council directorates and Police Scotland, all of whom have an interest in road safety and traffic management.

As agreed at the site meeting of Tuesday 18 June 2024 the following items were investigated and considered by the Traffic Co-ord Group:

1.Introduction of a ban on this section of the A926 (Morrison Street) by HGV traffic

Angus Council does have the authority, via associated legislation, to impose a ban on the use of certain roads by HGV traffic, however, this would only apply where a specific structural reason exists, e.g. a weight limit is imposed due to the presence of a "weak" structure, bridge, etc, or if an existing road cannot accommodate HGV traffic due to its structural integrity. This is not the case with Morrison Street and the

Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that the introduction of a ban of HGV traffic on Morrison Street was not appropriate.

2.Introduction of a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Beechwood Place

- A 55m long section of carriageway at the east end of Beechwood Place is privately owned.
- Planning permission for the houses at Muirhead Place never stated that a through road had to be formed at the east end of Beechwood Place, hence its current status as private land.
- There is no formal road junction at this location - access to the east end of Beechwood Place and Muirhead Place from Forfar Road is via a dropped kerb, footway crossing access.
- A Stopping Up Traffic Regulation Order was placed in 2016 over the privately owned section of carriageway, at the request of the landowners. This means that the privately owned section is no longer classed as a road and, therefore, the public right of passage over this section is extinguished.
- In order to allow vehicles to use Beechwood Place as a through road between Forfar Road and Glamis Road the Stopping Up Traffic Regulation would need to be revoked and the carriageway over the private section of Beechwood Place would require to be reinstated to adoptable standards. The cost of reinstating the carriageway would lie solely with the owners of the private section (the residents of Beechwood Place). Angus Council does not have the finances available to cover the cost of such reinstatement. The residents of Beechwood Place would have the opportunity to object to the revocation of the Stopping Up Traffic Regulation Order and to financing the reinstatement of the carriageway.
- If traffic were to be diverted along Beechwood Place (an unclassified road) as part of a one-way traffic management system in conjunction with the A926 at Morrison Street, Transport Scotland would need to approve the reclassification of the unclassified road (Beechwood Place) to an "A" class road. The residents of Beechwood Place would require to be consulted on this proposal and would be given the opportunity to object. Due to the character of Beechwood Place, Transport Scotland would be unlikely to be in favour of this proposal.
- Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that it was not appropriate to introduce a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Beechwood Place.

3.Introduction of a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Logie Road

- The continuation of Logie Road to its junction with Glamis Road is at the behest of the land owner. Construction consent is currently only in place for only the majority of the road, falling short of completing the connection of a through route between Forfar Road and Glamis Road.
- If Logie Road (an unclassified road) were to be completed and traffic was to be diverted along it as part of a one-way traffic management system in conjunction with the A926 at Morrison Street, Transport Scotland would need to approve the reclassification of the unclassified road (Logie Road) to an "A" class road. The residents and business owners on Logie Road would require to be consulted on this proposal and given the opportunity to object. Given the character of Logie Road (a road which contains a business park and new residential properties) it is highly unlikely that Transport Scotland would agree to the reclassification of Logie Road to an "A" class national route.
- Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that it was not appropriate to introduce a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Logie Road.

4.Introduction of a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Forfar Road and Glamis Road

- If traffic were to be diverted along Forfar Road (an unclassified road) and the A928 Glamis Road as part of a one-way traffic management system in conjunction with the A926 at Morrison Street, Forfar Road would require to be reclassified as an "A" class road. The residents of Forfar Road would require to be consulted on this proposal and given the opportunity to object. Due to the character of Forfar Road, Transport Scotland would be unlikely to be in favour of this proposal.
- Road safety assessments have been undertaken for the junctions of Forfar Road/Morrison Street, Forfar Road/Glamis Road and Glamis Road/Morrison Street/Lindsay Street, which have

highlighted road safety concerns regarding the visibility of oncoming vehicles for exiting traffic and difficulties performing turning manoeuvres, particularly for HGVs and agricultural vehicles at some of these junctions. There would be an increased risk of collisions at these junctions if Forfar Road and Glamis Road were used as part of a one-way traffic management system.

- Additional waiting restrictions would be required on Glamis Road in order to accommodate the increased volume of HGV and agricultural traffic travelling along this route. The residents of Glamis Road would require to be consulted on the proposed waiting restrictions and again residents would have opportunity to object to proposals.

- Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that it was neither appropriate or practicable to introduce a one-way traffic management system using Morrison Street and Forfar Road and Glamis Road.

5. Removal of the “A” Class road status on Morrison Street

- No additional engineering measures to improve road safety on Morrison Street would become available for the Council to introduce if the “A” class road status were to be removed.

- Transport Scotland would be unlikely to be in favour of this proposal due the effect this will have on the arterial traffic network through the town.

- Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that the removal of the “A” class road status from Morrison Street would not be appropriate.

6. Introduction of additional waiting restrictions on Morrison Street

- Additional waiting restrictions could be installed along Morrison Street to provide breaks in the on-street parking. This would allow vehicles to pull over into the waiting restricted sections to allow oncoming vehicles to pass and could ease the traffic congestion on the street.

- The introduction of waiting restrictions could lead to parking issues on Forfar Road and Glamis Road due to the demand for parking in the area.

- Residents of Morrison Street would be consulted during the Traffic Regulation Order process for their opinions.

- The Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that parking on Morrison Street was an issue, particularly at peak traffic times and that the introduction of waiting restrictions could alleviate the problem.

7. Speed of traffic travelling along Morrison Street

- A speed survey carried out on Morrison Street at No.39 recorded an average speed of 24mph and an 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles were travelling) of 29mph.

- The Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that the speed survey, which was carried out 24 hours a day over a 7 day period, confirmed that there was not a significant speeding issue on Morrison Street.

8. The number of road traffic accidents on Morrison Street

- A search of our road traffic accident database confirmed that there have been no recorded injury accidents on Morrison Street within the most recent three-year recording period from 23/05/2021 to 22/05/2024.

- Investigations were carried out following a road traffic accident which occurred on 05/05/2024. The accident involved an agricultural vehicle, which was travelling along Lindsay Street towards the junction with Glamis Road, failing to stop at the stop line and slowly emerging onto Glamis Road. Vehicle travelling south on Glamis Road on the approach to the junction swerved to avoid the agricultural vehicle and collided with the wall of No.1 Morrison Street. The accident did not involve traffic movements on Morrison Street.

- Angus Council does not hold a record of damage only accidents.

- The Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that there was not a significant injury accident issue on Morrison Street.

The Traffic Co-ord Group has carried out extensive investigations and concluded that HGV and

agricultural traffic on Morrison Street cannot be routed using an alternative route. All potential solutions to help alleviate the road safety concerns highlighted by residents at the site meeting have been exhausted. The only option open to us is to install waiting restrictions on Morrison Street to help ease congestion during peak periods. We are aware that some residents may object to the introduction of additional waiting restrictions on Morrison Street, however no other options are available to us. If you think this is a viable option then we would be happy to pursue the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order to install waiting restrictions. The Community Council may wish to conduct an informal consultation with the residents to gauge opinions before we take this option forward. **-Unquote-**

Cllr Proctor gave a brief overview of the response to the Community Councillors, as follow:

1. Road - not an option.
2. Making Morrison Street one way – not an option.
3. Declassifying the road – not an option due to Government ruling.
4. A proposal to remove some of the parking spaces on Morrison Street.
5. Requested traffic calming area at Maryton – not warranted.

George referred to the original Planning Application submitted by Angus Council, whereby it was stated no houses should be occupied and the Forfar Road should be completed before the first house is finished. He stressed he was “quoting what it says in the Plan.” Cllr Proctor responded that the document is stating it will not be suitable. Discussion ensued at length. Irena reiterated that the original plan was for a connection between Forfar Road and Glamis Road. It appears the new housing do not want lorry traffic but Morrison Street will continue to be used by lorry traffic.

Cllr Proctor suggested KCC go back to Roads Department on this issue. Eric asked who was in charge of Roads Department. Cllr Proctor advised the team is Graeme Daly, Ian Cochrane (returned from retirement), Andrea Strachan

A57 Hill Rise access issues due to vehicles unable to park on pavements: No update

RP

A58 Bus Timetables: Angus Council to update bus shelter timetables: No update.

RP

Heather Kelly:

A34 Angus Pylon Action Group: Consultation re local support.

Heather is suggesting a Consultation takes place in the Square on Saturday, 17 August, 9 am – 1 pm. Heather will supply the table and the gazebo, along with the Community Council banner. Please advise Heather if you are available to help that day. Any questions you wish to be included in the questionnaire, please advise Jeanette/Heather.

ALL

A41 Joint Forum for Community Councillors/KCC to be represented: No update.

HK

A42 GDPR: Update/ICO refund: Grant refund remittance now received. GDPR refund does not show on Grant remittance.

A44 Maryton traffic calming request:

Update: Jeanette has sent this update email from Andrea Strachan, Angus Council:

-Quote-

I refer to your enquiry regarding the above an apologise for the delay in responding.

Your concerns were raised for consideration at a recent meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group. Representation at this meeting included various Angus Council directorates and Police Scotland, all of whom have an interest in road safety and traffic management.

A search of our road traffic accident database confirmed that there has been one recorded serious injury accident on Forfar Road, Maryton during the most recent three-year recording period from 23/03/2021 to 22/03/2024. Speed was not listed as a contributory factor of the collision.

A speed survey carried out between 05/06/2024 and 12/06/2024 in the vicinity of No.158 Forfar Road recorded an average speed of 30mph and an 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles were travelling) of 34mph.

Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that there was not a significant speeding issue at this location and that the introduction of traffic calming measures was not appropriate.

I trust the above clarifies the situation, however, if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.-Unquote-

Following two items held over until 28 August meeting:

A48 KCC meeting invitation to "Culture on Kindness" Emma Falconer, Development Officer, Protecting People, Angus Council, will give a talk at the 28 August meeting on "Culture in Kindness."

A55 DPEA Planning Contact Meeting, 12 June: Update

Agenda

General:

A51 Various hedge issues – Lochmill, Brechin Road, Marywell Brae, Forfar Road: Pete Morton investigating.

Agenda

A54 Males using areas of town to urinate in public: No update from Police

**Agenda/
Police**

7. Councillors Reports:

Cllr Julie Bell reports:

Sustainable Kirriemuir invited me to a slate-painting afternoon for Wild About Kirrie, on July 5th, which was fantastic fun. Watch out for these emerge around the area and contact Sustainable Kirriemuir via their social media if you'd like to get involved.

I am also delighted that Sustainable Kirriemuir have been successful in acquiring £150,000 from the National Lottery, especially as they asked both me and Graeme Dey MSP to write references for them, which I was delighted to do.

I am currently kicking off work with Sustainable Kirriemuir, our council biodiversity lead and our Parks team to explore a year-long pilot aimed at reducing/ending municipal glyphosate use. Watch this space.

I met up with Graeme Dey MSP to attend the Kirrie Show on Saturday July 13 – we chatted with many stallholders and visitors alike.

On Wednesday July 24, I attended Kirrie Connections to participate in a photocall to mark the ground-breaking for the new extension. Angus Council contributed £300,000 via our Place-based Investment funding, and the McKenzie Legacy, via the NHS Tayside Charitable Foundation (I am a trustee), has contributed £110,000.

Meetings attended

On Tuesday June 25, I participated in the NHS Tayside Leadership Strategy event at the Reid Hall in Forfar (after I completed my previous report)– on the back of the announcement about NHS Reform by the Cabinet Secretary, Neil Gray MSP, this was an opportunity to engage across the entire health and social care system in Tayside. The reform agenda is about deepening

partnership working, which has been a bee in my bonnet for many years, and is now gaining significant traction, aided by a change in senior management in NHS Tayside.

June 26 – Chaired Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board.

June 27 – PHS Board – annual accounts.

June 27 – NHS Tayside – annual accounts.

As it is currently recess, there are no formal council meetings, however, I have been busy with caseload and I informal meetings such as committee development planning in Public Health Scotland; support for senior management in the IJB; award panels for external funding.

Cllr George Meechan reports:

Here is my brief report as Angus Council is in recess and meetings are suspended.

- I attended the open day of Kirriemuir Day Care as a local member.
- I attended the Angus Business Engagement Day at the 2024 Senior Open at Carnoustie representing Kirriemuir and Dean and Angus Council.
- I attended a photo opportunity at Kirrie Connections as a local councillor.
- I dealt with various constituents' issues.

Cllr Ronnie Proctor reports:

I do not have much to report for the month of July as many of the Council Staff has been on leave over the past month and no meetings have taken place which have had implications for Kirriemuir over the past month.

I have escalated items which have been reported to me as I have received them e.g. the requirement for a bin at the Pavilion on the Hill as requested by Irena.

I attended the Steven Donaldson Memorial Bike Ride on Saturday at the Loch of Kinnordy, and I was quite overcome by the dignity of Mr and Mrs Donaldson and their family, and my feelings were quoted in today's Courier. The whole town turned out to support the Donaldson family and it made me feel very emotive and proud of our community's support, perhaps we can think of something which can be a lasting memorial in addition to the Oak Tree at Kinnordy to this unfortunate young man whose life was mercilessly cut short.

Unfortunately, I have not received answers for the items under my name such as the Morrison Street issue!

Please accept my apologies for Wednesday's meeting.

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Cllr Proctor referred to the item in his report, above, regarding Steven Donaldson and Cllr Proctor's proposal for a "lasting memorial" to this young man, e.g. naming a Kirriemuir street in his memory. Discussion ensued. The Kirriemuir Community Councillors present expressed their deepest sympathy and total understanding for the family of Steven Donaldson at this time. However, with regard to a "lasting memorial," the general consensus of KCC is that this should be approached very cautiously and discussed in more depth before a decision is taken. All agreed.

8. **Planning Aid Scotland:** Possible assistance with "Matters Arising A33 Beechwood Place: Ongoing

Agenda

9. **Complaint re parking fines around Post Office/Glengate Larder:** Cllr Proctor has emailed Jeanette details of Angus Council's response.

Update: *Jeanette has sent the email response received from Craig Hudson, Angus, below:*
Council:

-Quote-

The pavement parking ban is a national measure, and the criteria for the assessment of roads was prescribed by the Scottish Ministers. The Ministers issued the following Ministerial Directions, known as The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Pavement Parking Prohibition) (Footway and Associated Carriageway Characteristics) Directions 2022, to all Scottish local authorities under the powers conferred by Section 67(1) of the Act. These Ministerial Directions detail the characteristics which a footway must have in order to be considered for an Exemption Order. The expectations of the Ministers is that all roads shall be included in the national ban with only those complying with the assessment criteria being suitable for exemption. Even if the minimum characteristics have been met, not all those roads will require to be exempted and other considerations or mitigations may be relevant and should be considered by the local authority. We have assessed the footway outside the post office in Kirriemuir and have not considered it suitable for exemption. We have also reviewed our records and are satisfied that the area in question is part of the footway of the public road, which is adopted by Angus Council for maintenance purposes.

I am aware of the letter that was previously sent by the Chief Executive of Angus Council in 2018, however, this has been superseded by the introduction the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 and the introduction of pavement parking prohibition in Angus as detailed in [Report 322/23](#) that was approved by Angus Council's Communities Committee on 21 November 2023.

I would highlight that enforcing the pavement parking prohibition will help ensure the footway is kept accessible for all, including people with reduced mobility or in wheelchairs. Please also note that legitimate on-street parking spaces are provided in the area for up to an hour. In addition, there is also adequate availability of short stay car parking at Reform Street car park (4 hours) and a long stay car parking (72 hours) at the Bellies Brae and Glengate car parks for business customers.

I hope this helps to answer the points that have been raised and I would be happy to address any further queries on the matter.**-Unquote-**

10. AOCB:

10.1. **Audrey** highlighted the overgrown weeds near the area of The Attic. Cllr Proctor offered to investigate.

RP

10.3. **George** suggested more litter bins are needed in the Square and more regular emptying of litter bins. Also, can the early morning clean-up in the Square be resurrected. All agreed. . Cllr Proctor offered to investigate.

RP

10.4. **George** highlighted an unhitched trailer at Knowehead Crescent is parked at the side of the road. It has been there for some time. George was hoping to take this up with the Police at this meeting. Discussion ensued as to whether this is legal, given the trailer is unhitched. Hoping to discuss this with the Police at the August meeting.

**Agenda/
Police**

10.5. **Frances** highlighted a grey bin that has been standing for months outside of the old Post Office in Reform Street. The bin is split down the sides. Audrey highlighted an abandoned fridge that has been left standing for months in the Glengate. Possible

dangerous attraction for young children.

11 Planning: Croft Terrace – converting flats to one house.

12. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 28 August, 7 pm in Kirrie Fire Station.

Thanks to the Chair.

5.8.24

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