



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 27 November 2024 Held 7 pm in Kirrie Fire Station

Present: Eric Mitchell (Chair), Jeanette Reioch (Secretary), Audrey Middleton (Treasurer), George Aitken, Frances Havenga, Cathy Stephenson

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, SFRS Officer Judi Young, PC Scott Anderson (part time) **PUBLIC:** Magnus Moncrieff (part time), Jodi Buik

| | ACTION |
|--|--------|
| <p>Eric welcomed Magnus Moncrieff (Active Skills Co-ordinator, Angus Council) who had come to the meeting to talk about a proposed mountain bike facility on Kirrie Hill.</p> <p>Magnus thanked KCC for the invitation. Magnus acknowledges this has been attempted in the past, however, it is hoped this current project will come to fruition.</p> <p>Magnus is working with a few members of the Forfar Cycling Club. Discussion has taken place with Angus Council with regard to the proposed site and who is responsible for it. Angus Council is happy for the project to go ahead and their requirement is for Plans to be submitted.</p> <p>Several of the Sustainable Kirrie group were involved with regard to funding, which didn't work out. Kirriemuir Development Trust (KDT) were approached. They are happy to be the constituted group to allow the project to move forward.</p> <p>Magnus distributed copies of the Initial Consultation Report and Project Overview to the meeting.</p> <p>Initially, Plans were submitted in 2018 for a BMX track and a feasibility study carried out for a smaller type site. BMX is now an Olympics event. The site will be developed by a construction company. Consideration is also being given to the type of "lighting" being proposed at the site and also avoid a detrimental affect to the current environment on the Hill, which is currently enjoyed.</p> <p>Magnus has held discussions with Rod McFarlane, identified the need in the community and also assessed the desire from the youngsters for such a facility in Kirrie. All positive feed back. Magnus asked KCC if they thought the group should be consulting with anyone else in Kirrie.</p> <p>Eric stated that he, personally, would not object to the proposed erection of a mountain bike facility on Kirrie Hill and said it would be a great venue for the Kirrie youngsters. Eric couldn't think of anyone who had been missed in the consultation and thought Magnus had it all in hand.</p> | |

Eric thanked Magnus for taking the time to inform KCC of this new project and Magnus left the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Irena Krasinska-Lobban
2. **Approval of 30 October 2024 Minutes:** Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by George and seconded by Audrey.
3. **Police Report: Report received and circulated.** PC Anderson reviewed the report. He reported on an item not included in this month's report – the serious increase in scamming. This increase is nationwide. Texts, phone calls, etc., from scammers asking for personal details and purporting to be from Banks, Amazon, etc. etc. PC Anderson asked everyone to be aware and cautious when receiving such communications.

Jeanette raised the Lindsay Street speeding issue. PC Anderson confirmed that there has been a Police monitoring, albeit, with their presence being legally visible. This visibility usually stops speeding at that particular time but Lindsay Street will continue to be monitored.

4. **Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report:**

November 2024

Community Safety:

5 x Home fire safety visits

2 x Operational Intelligence visits

Fire Skills – School Course – Websters Pupils S3 to S6

Incidents:

2 x Fire Alarm/Smoke Detector Operating

2 x Fire

2 x Secondary fire

1 x Special Service Call

Winter TAP 16/11/2024 - 16/02/2025.

Key Objectives

1. Reduce accidental dwelling fires: (a) Minimise the impact of accidental fire in the home over the peak winter / festive period. (b) Reduce the overall number and severity of accidental fires in the home, accidental fire casualties and fatalities. (c) Minimise the number of accidental fires and fire casualties in the home involving persons over 60 years of age. (d) Provide relevant public information and advice relating to winter safety and cost of living / fuel poverty, including highlighting the increased risk from fire and accidents over the festive period due to alcohol consumption.

2. Target Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) at high-risk households.

3. Increased safety of commercial and public premises.

4. Promote benefits of carbon monoxide detection within the home.

5. Promote chimney safety including flues, solid fuel stoves, log burners and wood burning heaters.

6. Promote road safety.

7. Promote water safety.

8. Consider additional winter safety themes: (a) Electrical Safety (b) Power Cuts (c) Stairwell / Close Safety (d) Flooding

Judi reviewed the SFRS Report. The Fire Station is holding a Christmas Letters to Santa event on 19 December. KCC is holding their Letters to Santa event around the same time and Jeanette

offered Judi help if she needed it.

5. Treasurer's Report:

FPP fund £92.20 KCC funds £547.17 Defib fund £595.50 Grant £86.48 VAA fund £300.00 Santa fund £87.60 **Total £1708.95**

In Irena's absence the official handover of the Treasurer's role has been delayed. Audrey reported that she doesn't have a Tablet or Computer facility.

6. Matters Arising:

Cllr Proctor:

A59 Overgrown weeds near The Attic: Done. Off Agenda.

A60 More bins required in the Square and regular emptying: No update

A64 Premier Shop front sign in Square: Plans are in the pipeline for this sign to be changed and toned down in keeping with the architecture of the Square. Cathy showed the meeting a photo of the proposed new sign. Cathy will post a "thank you" on the website to Planning for getting the sign altered. All Agreed.

A65 Constitution – no response from Sandra Livingston: Jeanette reported that she has eventually received a reply. However, she was sent the "old" Constitution which was signed in 2019. A new Constitution has now been received and Jeanette and Eric are required to sign it and return it to Angus Council.

A68 Calming measures for Maryton: Jeanette emailed Craig Hudson in June 2024 with the concerns of the Maryton residents, resulting from the consultation that Kirriemuir Community Council had carried out. Craig Hudson did not acknowledge this June email. Jeanette had to email the findings twice again before an acknowledgment was received from Craig Hudson.

Jodi (member of the Public) reported that she sent a letter, dated 30 November, to Angus Council requesting a breakdown of their "findings" when monitoring the speed of motorists driving through Maryton, during the period 5 - 12 June 2024. No reply to date. Jodi said the details of the Angus Council findings would allow for comparisons to be made, e.g. day monitoring, night monitoring, times of day, etc. etc.

General:

A34 Angus Pylon Action Group: Eric has spoken to someone involved in Angus Pylon Action Group but they had no updated information. Cathy reported that the Scottish and UK Governments will issue a Consultation on 28 November. Community Councils will require a longer time to carry out this Consultation. SSEN is carrying out the Consultation. Cathy stated there is no security on information given to SSEN.

Some of the Community Councillors, unfortunately, have not read the email Jeanette sent out on this asking for their input. It was agreed the Community Council should send their comments.

A66 New blue recycling bin: Eric reported he has not sent a report to Angus Council but has sent Jeanette pictures, for example, of the accumulation of various coloured bins lined up against his property. The bins have caused damage to one of Eric's walls. Off Agenda.

A67 Bottle Bank update: Eric reported a "recycle centre" has appeared near Prosen Road which he says is a lot more discreet than the large bottle banks sited around the town. The

CS

Agenda
item

Maryton bottle bank is still awaiting to be “re-sited.”

George reported that he has been advised that someone tried to access a bottle bank but couldn't get it open because of ice. They sought help via the ACCESS Line, to be told they couldn't help. Off Agenda.

Discussion ensued about the ACCESS Line problem. Cllr Meechan, in his report, has offered to arrange for two of the KCC Community Councillors to visit the ACCESS Office “to see what they do on a day to day basis.” Discussion ensued. It was unanimously agreed that “seeing what they do on a day to day basis” would not solve the problem. Everyone knows the purpose of the ACCESS Line and knows the problems. However, given the numerous complaints (over a very long period) that have been reported about the ACCESS Line being not fit for purpose, which are well documented, they must surely now be aware that their service to the public requires serious improvement.

A69 Flood area in Reform Street car park: Fixed. Jeanette has brought this to a successful conclusion.

A70 Traffic dangers at Lindsay Street: Jeanette has been liaising with Police. See 3. Police Report above and PC Anderson's response.

7. Councillors Reports:

Cllr Meechan reports:

The following is a summary of my recent activity.

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

Attended weekly meetings with Chief Executive and Depute to discuss issues relating to Angus in general

Attended the Corporate Leadership Team

Attended weekly SNP Group meetings

Attended Civic and Licensing Committees (Kirriemuir establishments were on the agenda)

Attended Full Council Meeting

Attended the final Housing MOWG

Attended my last IJB meeting

Attended the first budget setting meeting for the 2025/26 budget

Represented Angus Council at Glamis remembrance Sunday

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

Glass recycling

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

Update

I Have approached the Angus Access Line about public perceptions about the service. They have offered to host two Community Councillors to visit the AccessLine to see first hand what they do on a day-to-day basis. This would need to be on a Wednesday, and I would be happy to make the arrangements if the Community Council would like to accept this offer.

Cllr Proctor reports:

With regard to the Items against my name, I spoken to Greg Prophet from Angus Council regarding the bushes next to the “Attic” he replied that he would speak to the owners in a polite manner on the subject but he could not force the issue.

I am still awaiting a further report reading the Braes of Kirriemuir Sign although I have hastened this matter with Building Standards. A reply was sent on regarding the signing of the Constitution. The outflow of water from the toilets has been rectified as I could not see any water when I visited the site on Sunday. Over the month of November, I have been involved with the following:-

Remembrance Sunday. I organised and took part in three remembrance events at Cortachy Powrie Brae and Kirriemuir War Memorial.

Angus Council was held on the 7th of November where issues which could impact on the Kirriemuir were discussed at length.

I attended a seminar and training on security and some of the subject matter may concern people in Kirriemuir and Angus. The subject of Scams on the internet, by telephone and other forms of media was highlighted and everyone should be vigilant. Elderly people were often found to be more at risk. Never give out passwords bank details or other personal information. If unsure call the police and Angus Council Trading Standards if necessary.

I am continuing to deal with some housing issues and also roads maintenance within and out with Kirriemuir. The roads department are still working through a backlog of outstanding repairs within Kirriemuir and Dean.

Speeding continues to be an issue which I have been reporting particularly, in the Brechin Road and also a new case was reported in Prosen Road.

A lighting fault on a light at the Southeast side of the Reform Street Car Park has also been reported and should hopefully now be rectified.

I have also escalated the matter of the damaged Bus Stop in the Maryton as reported by Cathy and have given my full support on this matter.

I attended and took part in the Families Justice and Education Committee, however there was nothing specific to Kirriemuir on the agenda although some matters discussed could impact on Kirriemuir school students.

Tuesday the 26th of November I will attend and participate in the Communities Committee the main items on the agenda are dealing with housing matters particularly social housing. The details of this meeting I will give in my next report.

I have endeavoured to pass on information regarding ongoing issues with the CC Secretary.

- 8. Planning Aid Scotland – Possible assistance with A33 Beechwood Place:** Eric will discuss with Heather for more details.

EM

9. **Planning: J& D Wilkie's Planning Application:** Cathy has submitted KCC's letter and it is on the Planning Portal. No decision made to date. Roads Department have submitted their comments. Awaiting reply.

Jeanette suggested that if Hamish had come along to a KCC meeting to discuss the Planning Application, before the Plans were submitted, then this would have been much more helpful.

10. AOCB

10.1. **Cathy** is planning to talk to Transport about the proposed closure of Bank Street for four weeks in January, as a regular bus user. She wished it to be Minuted that Transport are making an effort compared to other Angus Council departments.

10.2. **Frances** reported difficulty driving approaching Kirk Wynd, due to parked cars. Cllr Proctor offered to investigate. There is a light out at Manse Close.

10.3. **Audrey** highlighted the age old lack of availability of council houses in Kirrie. Cllr Proctor reported that he had attended a meeting recently on the subject of Housing and said they are doing what they can. Cathy asked what is happening about the promised "Special Housing Committee?" Discussion ensued at length. Is there a Housing Officer? Yes. Jeanette reported that someone from Housing came to a KCC meeting last year to take questions. No follow up recorded.

Most of the elderly people awaiting council houses do not have access to websites, etc., which, in many cases, hinders their progress on Angus Council's "technology system." The Community Councillors are unanimously sympathetic with this situation.

10.4. **Santas Letters fund:** Sufficient funds for this year but donations will be gratefully accepted at the January 2025 meeting for next Christmas.

11. Date of next meeting: 29 January 2025, 7 pm in Kirrie Fire Station

Eric closed the meeting by thanking Judi for the use of the Fire Station for the KCC Meetings. This is very much appreciated.

Eric wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2.12.24

RP