



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 28 September 2022 Held in Kirrie Connections Meeting Centre

Present: Heather Kelly (Chair), Jeanette Reioch (Secretary), Irena Krasinska Lobban (Treasurer), Graham Galloway, Frances Havenga, Ian Lynn, Jim Stewart

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, Cllr Julie Bell, Constable Scott Anderson (part time), **PUBLIC:** Cathy Stephenson

Heather welcomed everyone to the last meeting before the electorate meeting on Monday, 3 October, and subsequent change of Office Bearers.

	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies: George Aitken</p> <p>2. Approval of 31 August 2022 Minutes: Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Frances and seconded by Irena.</p> <p>3. Police Report: Circulated Constable Anderson reviewed the Police Report. Cllr Proctor asked that the other Councillors be added to the Police Report mailing list.</p> <p>Constable Anderson gave an update to the recent Report regarding a disturbance last week at a “wrong” address in Knowehead by a group of youths. This involved breach of the peace and vandalism of the bus shelter. All youths have been identified and charged and Websters High School has been notified. Constable Anderson reported that a speed gun monitoring had taken place on Brechin Road, as requested. No speeding reported. The same monitoring took place at Northmuir School with one speeding incident reported.</p> <p>Cllr Bell reported she had been in touch with Constable Barrie Taylor regarding anti-social behaviour and racism incidents in the town. This is under Police investigation. Meantime, Cllr Bell advised that one of the victims is “terrified to report any incidents to the Police” because of threats.</p> <p>Jim reported seeing several vehicles turning right at the bottom of the Roods. Cllr Proctor will investigate with Roads Department.</p> <p><i>Constable Anderson left the meeting.</i></p> <p>4. Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report: Circulated September report: Community Safety: 5 x Home Fire safety visits</p>	<p>RP</p>

<p>2 x Operational Intelligence visits</p> <p>Incidents:</p> <p>7 x AFA (Automated Fire Alarm)</p> <p>2 x Smoke Detector Operating</p> <p>4 x Special Service Calls</p> <p>1 x Fire in open – small</p> <p>1 x Fire in open – large</p> <p>1 xc RTC</p> <p>Challenge Poverty Week: 3 October to 7 October, 11 am to 2 pm Doors open in Kirriemuir Fire Station. In partnership with Angus Council Family Engagement and Kirriemuir Food Hub, there will be lunch packs available for children to collect whilst in the Station.</p> <p>5. Treasurer's Report: FPP Fund £200.00; KCC Funds £670.89; Defib Fund £595.50; Grant £407.04; VAA Fund £10,300.00 Total: £12,173.43 (Grant funds spent in September £170.00)</p> <p>6. Matters Arising: B25 Development Trust: Heather was unable to attend the last meeting on 26 September. Graham reported this meeting was very well attended and some movement forward. There is a follow-up meeting on Monday, 3 October. 7.30 pm in Bellies Brae. Sustainable Kirrie is taking up the mantle for this. A two-tier membership system will be set up, similar to Linlithgow. There are plans to work with a group in Forth Valley. Heather submitted her apologies for the 3 October meeting.</p> <p>B49 No signage at Slade Road: Cllr Proctor reported this is now in the hands of Housing. He will report back to the next meeting.</p> <p>B55 Free period products promotion: No update. Heather will contact Scott at DD8.</p> <p>B63 Outdoor Gym update: All the necessary paperwork has been signed, submitted and received by the relevant department.</p> <p>B64 Promoting Community Council update: All agreed to go ahead with a banner. Cost is approx. £35. Irena suggested this information is posted on the KCC facebook page, together with details of the forthcoming new Office Bearers – “promoting the Community Council.” Agreed this to be discussed at the next meeting with the new KCC members.</p> <p>B68 Overgrown hedges/plants hazard update: Cllr Proctor reported that he has spoken to Alan Allardyce (Angus Council) who has written to the offenders. Heather expressed her disappointment that that was two months ago. Can Cllr Proctor speak to Alan Allardyce again as these hazards continue to be an issue. Community Councillors reported further areas of concern with overgrown hedges/plants around the town. Jeanette reported that Alan Allardyce had responded with an email to KCC stating that this is the responsibility of Roads Department. Cllr Proctor will speak to Alan Allardyce and Roads Department and report back.</p> <p>Jim will take a photo of the Shielhill Road hedge issue and send it to Jeanette.</p> <p>B70 Reduced Pharmacy opening hours update: Cllr Bell has no further news. This is a region wide problem caused by a lack of locums. Cllr Bell offered to stay on this and raise it at relevant</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>HK</p> <p>Agenda item</p> <p>RP</p> <p>JS</p>
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https://www.angus.gov.uk/benefits_and_money_advice/help_with_the_cost_of_living

You will also be pleased to hear that Council Officers are drawing together a round of public-facing sessions in every ward to take the messages about help and support to tackle the crisis to our communities. Councils will, of course, be part of that so look out for notice of these and the first one is Arbroath.

- Cost of Living Roadshow: Meet a large range of local organisations and find out how they could support you with the cost of living. The roadshow is free and everyone is welcome. Light refreshments are available free of charge. Wednesday, 5 October, 11 am to 3 pm at Gayfield Park, Arbroath.
- Caseload: This forms a significant part of every day, 7 days a week and more if you let it. The main topic (for all of us) remains housing and the challenges of acquiring a social home for rent for moving to one that more suits your needs. Within that, anti-social neighbour issues are a major concern and that tests us all, Officers included. I am dealing with a number of very challenging situations in Kirriemuir. The Police and Housing are aware and it is very disappointing to note that one of the features is a significant degree of racism and bullying.
- Since a recent decision at the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership's Integrated Joint Board (IJB) approved additional investment (£0.65 million in this year, £1m recurring) in adult support and protection, meaning more care managers for older people's care, issues around access to care packages has reduced and I am seeing a reduction in caseload from across Angus on this.
- It is worth reflecting that as Councillors, sitting on committees and other bodies, you are taking decisions for all of Angus citizens, over and above your Ward, which is a duty. This means that as a member of IJB, for example, we will be dealing with people from other parts of Angus, too, if they have issues with their care. Thankfully, these are not very frequent, which means that on the whole people are satisfied with their care or can resolve issues directly with care managers. We do know, however, that there are delays with Occupational Therapist assessments due to recruitment and rising demand but hope these will soon reduce.
- I continue to help out at Kirriemuir Food Hub and along with Kirriemuir Clothing Bank. These are fantastic local resources and I encourage members to use them for help or if they wish to donate.
- Other Activity: On Sunday, 25 September, I attended the Angus Council Regional Bands and Orchestras Concert at Forfar Community Campus, along with Convenor of Children and Learning, Cllr Lynne Devine, and the Depute Provost, Cllr Linda Clark. This amazing event showcased our young musicians from across Angus schools – what a talent we have! Congratulations to all who performed and the inspiring musical leaders we have teaching in our communities.
- Finally, I visited Kirriemuir Day Care Centre and their open day in April and bought a wee sunflower seed in a pot to raise funds for Ukraine – it flowered last week! A wee bit of sun to cheer me/us up!

Cllr Ronnie Proctor reports:

- I have continued to deal with constituents issues, ranging from housing, road repairs, flooding and welfare issues.
- I took part in the Council event in Dundee to pay respects as the late Queen Elizabeth's hearse travelled along Kingsway on its way to Edinburgh.
- I have attended and taken part in the following meetings:

Species Champions Meeting (wild cat and swifts)

Veterans Champions Meeting with Nurse Director of Veterans affairs

Briefing Tay Cities Deals

Angus Council Charitable Trust
Communities Committee
Children and Learning

- Seminars on: Best Value and Budget setting and other subjects.
- Meeting on Teams and Tay Cities Deal, as a representative of Angus Council on the Tay Cities Joint Board

Cllr George Meechan reports:

It has been another busy month with meetings and constituent issues. I have attended the following Committee Meetings:

Children and Learning

Communities

Civic Licensing

Licensing

Integrated Joint Board

Tayside Contract Joint Committee

Tayside Joint Valuation Board

Full Council

I attended a Rights Advice Scotland meeting via Teams looking at the issue of child poverty.

I attended Southmuir Primary School Parents Council meeting.

I attended the Angus Educational Trust and the Angus Council Charitable Trust meetings via Teams

Updates

I assisted visited town centre business and discussed issues that affected them.

I met with the Chief Finance Officer of the Angus IJB

I met with the Head of Community Health and Care Services, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership.

I met with the local Housing Manager regarding housing issues in Kirriemuir

Issues from constituents included the following:

Welfare issues/benefits

Roads

Neighbour disputes

Housing issues, repairs

Recycling issues

Cllr Julie Bell's report of a £25,000 allocation for a wheelchair swing is excellent news. Well done!

8. **Correspondence:** Circulated throughout the month.

9. **Planning:** Minor planning application reported.

10. AOCB

10.1. Heather reported a letter has been received from Andy Gifford, Kinnordy Estates, regarding alterations being made in Caddam Wood. Andy wishes everyone to know that this will not affect the general public from accessing Caddam. Kinnordy Estates have repaired two bridges and are looking to fund re-designing tree planting and felling in the woods.

10.2. Jim apologises that the telephone box is not yet repaired. This will be finished over the

weekend.

10.3. **Cathy Stephenson (Public)** has kindly submitted the following bus report update and this has been circulated. Following is Cathy's report:

Depot Staffing

Stagecoach has prioritised staffing Forfar Depot (closing it would have meant the remaining drivers needing to travel to Arbroath each day to get their buses which would likely have resulted in more drivers leaving. About 3 weeks ago we got to full staff although we still have newly trained drivers who are finding their feet and learning the ropes of rural bus services compared to town services. We also have a Supervisor in training again.

Stagecoach has also been having drivers catch up with their Continuing Professional Development training that was delayed by the Pandemic. There has been some sickness reported on Stagecoach Tweets and breakdowns (technical issues) so we have continued to see a few cancellations each week but no where near the level we did have in the summer. All our buses currently are tracking on the App so once we are aware of known cancellations people can look for themselves to find out about late running.

Timetable Revisions

The other thing that Stagecoach has been working on is some revisions to timetables – in Angus this takes effect 3/10/2022 and in Fife it will be the end of October. These were put out to consultation (albeit the consultation process was limiting the feedback that could be given). The aim of these changes is to try and improve reliability of certain services. In our services the changes are modifying the services from Dundee between 5pm and 6:30 pm. In Arbroath the service 27 will no longer go to Clifftown which was delay the services between Arbroath and Forfar; the X7 has some changes including making it a 2 hourly service on Sunday between Arbroath and Perth based on recent use.

The Big Picture – looking to the future

This last change is a concern for us in the future – if people respond to the uncertainty by not using the bus services there is a risk that later on services could be withdrawn. At a time when the Government are seeking considerable climate change action and the funding provided to the Bus industry the past two years is running out there is going to be tension between increased fares and demonstrating that it is still more cost effective to use the bus than a car. The travelling public will expect more reliability, comfort, cleanliness and high quality of driving and customer service.

Communication and Kirriemuir Bus Info

By far the biggest challenge continues to be Stagecoach's local communications (providing new timetables being an example). So I will continue acting as interpreter – Kirriemuir Bus Info is at 382 members with no promotion and so far the members are using it as the information source it is and those who wanted to use it as a campaign resource have stopped. Interestingly there are a reasonable number of members from elsewhere in Angus even though they are not getting a timetable for their area and are only getting a snapshot of the Tweets.

Heather thanked Cathy for taking the time to put this report together for KCC and coming along to the meeting. All agreed that Cathy's support for the Kirriemuir community is important and very much appreciated. *Thank you*

10.4. **Heather**, as the outgoing Chair of KCC, thanked everyone for their support over the year. The last few years have been difficult but KCC continues to work for the community. In light of the Electorate Meeting taking place on Monday, 3 October, Heather said she hoped to welcome more people on to the Kirriemuir Community

Council in the future. Graham and Roy have decided to leave KCC. Heather said they would both be missed and thanked them for their support and contribution to KCC over many years. The meeting thanked the Office Bearers for their contribution over the past year, in particular to Heather and Jeanette for their continued hard work in maintaining the smooth running of KCC. *Thank you!*

11. Date of next Meeting: Wednesday, 28 October 2022, 7 pm in Kirrie Connections Meeting Centre

2.10.22