



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 29 March 2023 7 pm at Kirrie Connections Meeting Centre

Present: Heather Kelly (Chair), Jeanette Reioch (Secretary), Irena Krasinska Lobban (Treasurer), George Aitken, Frances Havenga, Eric Mitchell, Jim Stewart

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor, Cllr George Meechan, Officer Judi Young SFRS (part time), **PUBLIC:** Cathy Stephenson, Audrey Middleton, Cerys Mitchell

	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies: Ron Lobban</p> <p>2. Approval of 22 February 2023 Minutes: Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Jeanette and seconded by Jim.</p> <p>3. Police Report: Circulated.</p> <p>4. Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report: Officer Judi Young reviewed the SFRS report, see below. Judi highlighted an issue regarding inappropriate parking at Knowehead Crescent. SFRS can only enter Knowehead from Martin Park end, due to the width of the appliance. On 23 March they were called out at 10 am to attend an incident but struggled to negotiate the appliance into Knowehead Crescent. Fortunately, residents were available to move the vehicles. Should this have happened during the evening/night when even more vehicles are parked in the area, then the access issue would have been much worse. SFRS is working with Police Scotland to raise awareness of inappropriate parking, especially when the Emergency Services are involved. The SFRS Group Commander has been in contact with Angus Council Officers regarding the incident. On 4 April a meeting is planned at Knowehead Crescent with Police Scotland and safety leaflets will be distributed to the residents. Judi is not aware of any issues for SFRS around Visocchi's.</p> <p><u>Community Safety:</u> 32 x Home Fire safety visits 3 x Operational Intelligence visits</p> <p><u>Incidents:</u> 5 x AFA (Automated Fire Alarm) 1 x Fire Alarm/Smoke Detector operating 1 x Special Service (Lockfast, CO alarm) 3 x Fire dwelling 2 x Fire in open</p> <p><u>Spring TAP - Work Related to Key Objectives</u> 1. Reduce fire-related anti-social behaviour and the number of deliberate primary and secondary fires. 2. (a) Reduce the number of outdoor fires involving grass/ heather/heathland and/or forested areas. (b) Reduce the number of wildfires.</p> <p>Social media posts sent out, Posters/Flyers put up in Schools and KYP.</p> <p>5. Increased safety of commercial and public premises / UFAS.</p>	

New UFAS information leaflets arrived for distribution and social media post.

6. Increased Staycation awareness: (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). **Delivery taken of new Caravan Safety/Camping leaflets for distributing around local areas.**

7. Promote water safety. **Planning in place for events at Backwater & Lintrathen**

5. Treasurer's Report: As at 29 March 2023

FPP Fund £200; KCC Funds £581.91; Defib Fund 595.50; Grant £195.26; VAA Fund £300
Total £1872.67

6. Matters Arising:

B68 George queried why this item was off the Agenda when nothing has been done on Forfar Road involving a hedge protruding 2 ft on to the pavement, as well as a similar issue on the opposite side of the road. This item will be addressed under **B96** below.

B25 Development Trust update: Heather reported that this is slowly moving forward. Investigating a bank account followed by establishing a Constitution. Discussing planters and hanging baskets in the town and “Scotland in Bloom.” “How to move forward as a community group.”

B49 Incorrect signage wording/location at Slade Road update: The sign is almost down. Cllr Proctor apologised for no update and will investigate further for the next meeting.

B55 Free period products promotion update: Heather and Jeanette will buy products and distribute them.

B82 Hooks rhones still causing problems: Cllr Meechan contacted Angus Council and their response was that the Hooks owner is taking steps to rectify the problem. Angus Council cannot enforce this with the owner. It appears a few years ago Angus Council repaired the Hooks roof issue and at the same time repaired the rhones. The owner is, therefore, claiming it is Angus Council's responsibility to repair their “repair.”

There is still a problem with water pouring from the rhone on to the pavement. Heather expressed concern that it seems someone has to get hurt before any action is taken. Cllr Meechan said he would go back to Angus Council and request they contact the owner again, pointing out that the building is a danger to the public.

Heather expressed frustration that KCC is unable to resolve this problem. It was suggested to get Health & Safety involved. Jeanette has a contact for Scottish Water and will contact them with regard to a contact for SEPA.

B86 Angus Council Support for Community Councils: Cllr Meechan reported that Maggie Sherritt advises that she is not offering to attend meetings but if KCC needs assistance then make a request for a visit.

B88 Light out at Commonity: Jeanette reported that the light was fixed the day after the February meeting, thanks to an email to Angus Council from Cllr Proctor. Cllr Meechan said he had offered to follow up on this and subsequently contacted Lisa Chiles who manages Lighting. Jeanette stated that Cllr Meechan had said at the February meeting (Minuted) that he didn't have time to investigate the light out. Cllr Meechan refuted this statement.

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<p>B89 Publicity for Hill gym equipment: Heather will pursue.</p> <p>B90 Possible re-introduction of car parking charges in Angus: The elected members reported that this has been deferred for another year.</p> <p>B91 Accessing the Common Good Fund: The elected members advised that applications should be submitted online and Angus Council will make the final decision.</p> <p>B92 Continuing inappropriate parking around Visocchi's: A site visit was made by Cllr Proctor, Cllr Meechan and Jeanette and an Angus Council Officer, on 24 February. A pedestrian crossing has been suggested. A pedestrian crossing was proposed some years ago but due to a lack of the stipulated space around the crossing, this was rejected. Cllr Proctor is awaiting a report from the Angus Council Officer. Eric approached a police car recently to highlight the inappropriate parking of a vehicle at Visocchi's. The Police advised him that double yellow lines had been de-criminalised.</p> <p>B94 SFRS's explanation of plan to reduce number of fires: Officer Young has sent Jim an email.</p> <p>B95 Proposed Police Speed checks in town centre: Jeanette emailed PC Barrie Taylor on 23 February, as follows: -Quote- “There was no Police Presentation at the KCC Meeting of 22 February so I have been asked to pass this on. A member of the public has concerns about motorists speeding at Reform Street, Kirriemuir. Can this be looked at, please, and feedback given as to what action was taken so that this can be passed back to the member of the public?”-Unquote-</p> <p>PC Barrie Taylor replied on 24 February, as follows: -Quote- This is quite a contentious subject all over Tayside when it comes to the 20 mph limits introduced to either town centres or villages. I have spoken to our Roads Policing Unit (RPU) who attend regular meetings with Angus Council Roads Committee to discuss road related issues such as speeding.</p> <p>The introduction of the 20 mph speed limits was essentially an initiative of local Authority Councils and what should have happened to coincide with the reduced speed limits was the introduction of additional speed reducing measures, so that the speed limits were “self maintained.” These could be speed bumps or narrowing the roadway by use of bollards/pavements jutting out, for example.</p> <p>Many discussions have taken place between RPU and Angus Council (and other Local Councils) and these areas will not be routinely monitored by Police. If a unit is in the area of a 20 mph zone and detects a speeding motorist then they will deal with that accordingly. However, they will not routinely take up a point and use a speed gun. The only areas Police will is if the 20 mph zone is adjacent to a school.</p> <p>As said, this is a contentious issue and there has been, and no doubt will be many more, discussions about this topic in future.</p> <p>If any units on patrol in Kirriemuir, or anywhere else for that matter, observe a speeding motorist then they will deal with this accordingly.</p> <p>I have been advised to inform you that all speeding issues in relation to 20 mph zones should be directed towards Angus Council as they were supposed to introduce the traffic calming measures</p>	<p>HK</p> <p>RP</p>
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at the time of implementing the reduced speed limits. I cannot comment on why this never happened. This may push them on to conduct their own enquiries re speeding motorists and whether any other measures are required.

I appreciate you would have preferred a pair of officers to stand on Reform Street with a speed gun, however, following the guidance issued this will not be managed. This is a concern in all areas with a 20 mph zone and they cannot all be tended to.

I believe this topic has already been raised and discussed between Local Councillors and Area Commanders, with the outcome being the same.

This is, perhaps, not the answer you were hoping for, however, this is the advice I have been provided with to pass on.”-Unquote-

Cllr Proctor asked Jeanette to email him a copy of PC Barrie Taylor's response and said he would pass this on to the correct department in Angus Council.

Cllr Meechan reported that Glamis Community Council had an issue with a 40 mph sign sited almost immediately alongside a 20 mph sign in Glamis. Andy Barnes, Angus Council, reported that the Scottish Government is carrying out a roads speed review.

Cllr Proctor reported that the 20 mph zone in Kirriemuir was brought in as a trial period during the pandemic.

B96 Angus Council Roads Department update from Pete Morton on 7 items:

Pete Morton reported on 9 March:

1. **Potholes:** The Glengate condition was inspected and measured at the end of February and submitted to Engineers for review and prioritisation. General assessment is that both the carriageway and footway are requiring attention. Regardless, it is definitely on our radar now and Greg will keep an eye for any interim repairs required.
2. **Advertisement sign adjacent to Brechin Business Park:** The Roads and Transportation Service has not provided any approval for this sign to be erected. Greg has approached the business and advised them that this needs to be removed. The owner has agreed. Greg will monitor this area.
3. **Warning Lights at Angus Schools:** These are now fixed. Heather said that is not the case. The lights are still flashing in certain areas around the schools.
4. **Inappropriate parking near Visocchi's:** See B92 above.
5. **No Road Closure Notices:** This has been raised internally and I believe this matter should be rectified. If this appears not the case and you are still receiving these via Cllr Proctor, then please do not hesitate to advise us.
6. **A direct contact email address for Roads Department:** No update received.
7. **“Disappearance” of a disabled bay:** No update received. Cllr Meechan offered to investigate.

Forfar Road hedges: Greg advises that these have now been cleared.

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7. Planned closures in Kirriemuir:

a) Recycling Centre:

- Heather stated that this is a contentious issue and expressed disappointment that a closure is being revisited.
- Cllr Proctor referred to this subject being discussed in 2017., closing Kirriemuir and Forfar Recycling Centres and building a new Centre at Padanaram. The outcome of this was that both Kirriemuir and Forfar Centres were kept, however, with restricted recycling in Kirriemuir – general waste had to be taken to Forfar.
- Jeanette watched the Angus Council Budget meeting, as did several Community Councillors, and expressed disappointment with the Chair's remarks, “the closure of Kirriemuir Recycling Centre will bring more business into Forfar.”
- Cllr Proctor reported that he has registered his view that the closure of Kirriemuir Recycling Centre will increase the carbon footprint and encourage people to shop in Forfar, instead of Kirriemuir. A loss to the town.
- Jeanette has compiled a Questionnaire for consultation with the Kirriemuir community and, along with several of the Community Councillors, a public consultation in the town took place on 25 March, with a further one planned for 1 April and possibly the 8 April. *Thanks to the volunteers!* The 25 March consultation resulted in an encouraging response from a large part of the community. The community took the opportunity of including other items of concern when submitting their Questionnaires. A very useful exercise.
- Cllr Meechan provided an explanation as to how the decision to close the Kirriemuir Recycling Centre was reached. Angus Council is looking to make £50m savings over the next three years. There are many options open to making savings, some of which are not always popular.
- Cllr Meechan reported that an option to save £70,000 from foster care, another option of £41,000 from Kinship care fees, £170,000 from the welfare service, were all considered against the closure of the Recycling Centre. Kirriemuir Community Councillors stated that to compare savings on a recycling centre to those of foster care, care fees and welfare service was not a fair assessment.
- Cllr Meechan stated that footfall was down in Kirrie recycling centre. It was pointed out to Cllr Meechan that this was probably due to the recycling restrictions introduced whereby general waste had to be taken to Forfar, thus the tonnage figures for Kirriemuir would reduce.. Also, Forfar has longer opening times than Kirriemuir which must reflect in the “low footfall.”
- George stated that he, too, was disappointed at the Chairing of the Angus Council Budget meeting and asked why the Kirriemuir Councillors, Cllr Julie Bell and Cllr George Meechan, voted to close the recycling centre. Cllr Meechan responded that if they had voted against the closure and it remains open, then they are faced with finding the £46,000 saving.
- Fly tipping will inevitably increase. All agreed.
- What about redundancies at the recycling centre? It is Angus Council's policy that people will be redeployed elsewhere. Cllr Meechan reported that the Kirrie Centre staff would be re-deployed to Forfar or elsewhere in Angus. It was pointed out to Cllr Meechan that if this occurred then the Kirrie Centre staff would be paid travelling expenses, another cost added. Yes, that is correct.
- Heather asked why there was not a public consultation. Cllr Proctor stated that in 2017 there was more time to organise a public consultation, e.g. a meeting in the Town Hall. Due to the time frame, Cllr Proctor said Angus Council did not have an opportunity to have a public consultation.
- Cathy Stephenson (Public) stated that you can't treat a rural area the same as a town. She

reminded the meeting about Angus Council's and Angus Alive's motto - "Vibrant Communities."

- Regarding the decision to close the Recycling Centre in Kirriemuir, Cllr Meechan said he was surprised to receive an email from David Nicoll, D.C.Thomson, regarding a communication he had received from Kirriemuir Community Council. In it KCC expressed their frustration over the closure of the Recycling Centre and also the lacklustre attitude they receive from Angus Council when raising matters with them.
- Heather responded that KCC had been asked for their views on the closure of the Recycling Centre, which she duly gave given no community consultation had taken place. Heather also confirmed KCC's frustration at the lack of response on issues raised with Angus Council. On many occasions items remained on the Agenda, unanswered, for many months.
- Cllr Meechan responded that with regard to the decision to close the Recycling Centre, Councillors cannot discuss issues that have not been decided by Members as they may not ultimately be agreed, or could be amended. Regarding the "lacklustre attitude" comment, Cllr Meechan did not feel this applied to him as he always tries to follow up issues raised by the KCC as quickly as is possible.

Heather's email, dated 7 March, to Angus Community Councils:

-Quote- "Dear Chair and Community Council Members

As you will now be aware, Angus Council has taken a decision to close the Recycling Centre in Kirriemuir. As you will also be aware, this was without any public consultation. This has not come as a bolt out of the blue but I do believe that we, as the local Community Councils, should go to our local community and ask them how this will impact on them. Something the Council has been very remiss in doing. Would you agree to join with Kirriemuir Community Council in going to the local community to give the Council a flavour of the feeling within the town and surrounding areas regarding this matter?

I propose that we join together and ask on social media and in person for the comments and impact on people in our community.

If you wish to join in getting the views of the community could you please respond to this email by 20 March.

Once we have an idea of who might wish to join we can meet and discuss how to take this forward. I am sure you will all agree that this will only see an increase in the incidents of fly tipping, as well as an impact on local businesses if people "do their shopping" whilst in Forfar also. Kind Regards, Heather Kelly, Chair KCC" **-Unquote-**

Jim asked if it is correct that Community Councils can speak directly to the Press. Heather confirmed that Community Council Office Bearers can be approached by the Press and are entitled to respond to any queries.

Discussion ensued regarding the above emails. Cllr Meechan stated that he was upset to hear from The Courier that KCC viewed his work as "lacklustre" and would have appreciated KCC coming to him first. Heather responded that she had said everything that was in her email (above) at the February meeting (Minuted) expressing KCC's frustration at the slow response by the elected members to the many of KCC requests over many months.

Cllr Meechan said we should be working together as harmoniously as possible and he didn't think the "lacklustre" comment to the Courier was helpful.

Cllr Proctor stated that as far as the Councillors' duties are concerned they are not obliged to attend Community Council meetings.

The community has responded very well to the Questionnaires. KCC is processing this information and will be presenting this to Angus Council. Heather is of the view that Community Councillors are not being listened to and expressed disappointment that Cllr Meechan and Cllr Bell have both voted in favour of the Kirrie Recycling closure. Cllr Proctor voted against.

Discussion ensued. Cllr Proctor said KCC has a much more pro-active role in the community today. In light of Cllr Proctor's comment, it was agreed that KCC has grown to become an important, integral voice of the community, with numerous, successfully achieved projects to their name. Therefore, it was suggested that recognising the wealth of knowledge/experience that KCC has gained over the years, Angus Council could surely benefit from KCC's input on matters affecting the day to day life of Kirriemuir, when appropriate, ultimately respecting their important role in the community and using it to Angus Council's advantage.

Discussion ensued at length about the lack of response from Angus Council when items raised at KCC meetings are taken to them from the elected members. This is becoming a major problem and stumbling block for KCC. Some of the outstanding Agenda items are nearly a year old.

b) Museum:

Cllr Proctor has spoken with Viv Smith and they are looking at a plan whereby the Museum could be run by local people. Cllr Proctor offered to help with this. Cllr Meechan said he is fully supportive that it is taken over as a Museum.

c) Kirrie Sorting Office closing and moving to Forfar:

- It was reported that the sorting office is now closed in Kirriemuir for collection of missed postal deliveries.
- Cllr Proctor has written to Sarah Ward and also been in touch with Graham Brown, The Courier, pointing out that there is a large part of the Kirriemuir community who don't have cars. Why can't the missed postal delivery be re-delivered the following day?

Possible closure of Lloyds Chemist: Cllr Meechan stated he would support keeping Lloyds Chemist. It has been rumoured that Davidson's Chemist may take over Lloyds. Concern was expressed by the full meeting that the closure of a chemist is a serious loss to Kirriemuir.

Heather asked what more can KCC do?

8. Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Julie Bell reports:

You will be aware that Angus Council passed its Budget on March 2 – I thought you would find it helpful if I covered the key points for the coming year, as highlighted by the council leader, Cllr Beth Whiteside.

This is important, to ensure that any decisions we make for the coming year are taken in the context of the challenges which we will face in the medium term.

Families across Angus are suffering due to the unprecedented inflationary pressures on household budgets. Those cost pressures also impact on the finances of the council, however, leaving us with difficult decisions as we strive to cut costs while delivering the services which are vital to our communities.

When money is tight, we must consider our priorities when making decisions. It is simply not possible to carry on as before – something just has to give.

We have been prudent and fair in the construction of this budget, and we are confident that it strikes the right balance between protecting the council's finances, whilst ensuring the most vulnerable members of our society are supported. We are also mindful of our

responsibilities towards the environment and conscious that our decisions must protect the economy of Angus.

In order to help those most in need, we have ensured that our welfare rights service has had its funding not only protected but increased - £100,000 for additional staffing resources over two years. We have extended our cost-of-living support initiatives, providing further support for the holiday food and fun programme and contributing funding to extend the LACER (Covid Economic Recovery) projects. We continue to support the Glen Clova project (which focuses on addressing child poverty in pre-birth & early years) and have increased the school clothing grant. We have allowed additional funding for fostering and kinship care allowances, recognising our commitment towards looked after children in Angus. Despite the pressures that we face as a council, those decisions are indicative of the priorities that we hold.

Climate change remains a challenge for us all, and to this end we have earmarked an additional £1m to progress new low carbon and biodiversity projects. We need to acknowledge the necessity of preparing for the future, before it becomes too late to address climate change impacts.

We cannot protect our people without striving to help our economy. Despite the financial challenges, we have listened to the concerns of small businesses on our high streets and continued the suspension of parking charges in our towns.

We have earmarked additional funds for infrastructure projects, including more money for work at Arbroath Harbour and on our existing roads. We remain committed to our largest capital project, the replacement of the Monifieth High School with our new Learning Campus.

The resources to enable us to fund those priorities have not been easy to find, and difficult decisions have had to be made. In the face of high inflation, it was necessary to raise income by increasing charges. This has been done in a responsible and sustainable way, without putting too high a burden on the residents of Angus.

In a just society, those who can afford to contribute a wee bit more should, while those who can't, should be afforded the protection of a safety net, and that has been our philosophy whilst working towards a balanced budget.

No-one wants to hear that council tax will rise or that services will be cut, but we must face the reality of the financial situation. We must find ways to reduce costs, but our priority must always remain tackling poverty.

Our Administration is striving to ensure fairness, stability and progress in Angus.

I also thought you would find it helpful to see the supporting evidence for the decisions taken around the recycling centres in Angus, which lays out a clear rationale for the closure of two centres, Kirriemuir and Monifieth, so I attach the appendix relevant to this decision.

In addition, I thought you might find it useful to see the public survey exercise the council carried out about kerbside recycling -

https://www.angus.gov.uk/bins_litter_and_recycling/kerbside_recycling_service_survey

You will see the statistics there and, the outcome of the Deposit Return Scheme notwithstanding, it is clear that, practically and financially, the council will be unable to deliver everything that every person or community will want so a balance has to be struck.

Whilst we recognise that the closure of the Kirrie recycling centre will be a disappointment, we also know that it costs more than twice as much per tonne to process material collected there than it does from the next nearest centre (in terms of cost) which is Brechin; that people are already using Forfar for recycling and general waste (and not making extra journeys to do so – they are doubling or tripling tasks per journey); there is little or no environmental impact; and there is no evidence to suggest local shops are being negatively impacted by this.

Generally, people are not travelling to Forfar more frequently to use the recycling centre, based on customer feedback – they are using it whilst travelling to work or during visits they are already undertaking.

Play Equipment

The Accessibility Swing is now installed and open for business and fun – the young lad whose mum first asked me to help provide these items has had his first go on the swing and loved it. Thanks to KRG for its continued support in aiding the financial transactions; to Southmuir P2s for working so hard to boost Co-members choosing the KRG option on the app; and to Tracey Inglis, the Co-op Pioneer member for her help.



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Various meetings and events

Rather than go through every single meeting, I thought picking out highlights might be more useful, given the focus on Budget.

I attended a meeting convened by the Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing, Kevin Stewart, MPS, as chair of the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership Integrated Joint Board (IJB) regarding the final report by the Independent Oversight and Accountability Group into NHS Tayside's mental health and learning disability strategy; I've also met with the Stakeholder Participation Group for mental health and learning disabilities; I was invited to attend the Southmuir PS full assembly to hear the P2s talk about their project on Article 23 on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; I visited AngusAlive's Monikie Country Park with some of my colleagues about their plans for the future; the Scottish Young Musician of the Year heat at Forfar Community Campus; COSLA's Health and Social Care Policy Board.

Finally, I attended Voluntary Action Angus to unveil new boardroom name in memory of Liz Forsyth of Westmuir, who was a lifelong advocate of the Third Sector. The event was attended by some of Liz's family – having known Liz for almost 30 years, this particularly poignant as Liz sadly died from cancer during COVID. So sadly missed.



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Other topics

I have again escalated the parking/speed issues in the Knowehead/Slade Gardens area and officers will take this to the next traffic safety co-ordinators group and assess speed once the equipment becomes available.

Cllr Meechan reports:

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

Civic Licensing

Licensing

Tayside Joint Valuation Board

Special Full Council (Budget setting)

Communities Committee

Children and Learning Committee

Angus Integrated Joint Board

Angus Licensing Board
Angus Civic Licensing Committee

I have attended the following meetings/presentations:

Attended Kirriemuir Development Trust steering group.
Attended a Council Budget Briefing meeting.
Opened the art studio at Cumberland Close. This is a new business in the town which is accommodated in one of our craft shop units.
Attended a site visit to look at the parking issues outside the Gateway to the Glens Museum.
Attended Glamis Community Council monthly meeting.
Attended the Angus Licensing Board pre-agenda meeting via Teams.
Attended gender equalities training.
Attended Duty Holder Training for Arbroath Harbour.
Attended a presentation of a casework system for Angus Council Members.
Attended a Damp and mould follow-up workshop in Forfar.
Attended audio visual system training at Town and County Hall, Forfar.
Attended Angus Council Capital Project Monitoring Group meeting.

Cllr Proctor reports:

My report for march is quite short as I have been away for two weeks however :-
I reported numerous road problems including blocked drains in East Hill Road which have been rectified.

Held a site meeting at Knowehead regarding speeding and other issues with one of the Road Safety Officers.

Held a meeting with CC Members and Cllr Meechan regarding Parking Issues on the Square and still awaiting a report.

Spoke to the press regarding Closure of Recycling Centre and situation regarding Museum.

Followed up on West Hill Bank Electricity Substation regarding damage to private property by contractors.

Heather highlighted Cllr Julie Bell's report regarding “Play Equipment” and the recent installation of the Accessibility Swing and asked for an explanation of Cllr Bell's involvement. Irena, as a member of Kirriemuir Regeneration Group (KRG), explained that Cllr Bell, as a member of KRG, agreed to complete a grant application form as a member of KRG, not as a Councillor, together with Irena, as Treasurer of KRG. Irena's name was also on the application form. Irena stated that KCC had received recognition for the installation of the gym equipment so KRG received recognition for the funding of the accessibility swing. Heather pointed out that Cllr Bell had included this item as an Angus Councillor, in her Councillor's report to KCC. Irena agreed that the accessibility swing was a KRG project and Cllr Bell was involved as a KRG member, not as a Councillor.

9. Correspondence:

9.1. Bon Scott: Email received from John Crawford advising of visits by the Bon Scott family from Australia and friends during BonFest. John is organising a meeting on Sunday, 30 April, in the BonFest Bar for the community to discuss welcoming them to the town. Is anyone available to attend? Jeanette will reply to John.

9.2. Websters High School are doing a Reading Group within the school. As “Reading School” they want to create more links with the community. They have taken on the “books” Post Box. Jeanette is hoping there will be a photo opportunity on this.

9.3 Kinnordy Estates: Email from Antony Gifford. Can KCC please raise the issue of fuel theft from the forestry and agricultural vehicles with Police Scotland. Kinnordy has had two major thefts totalling thousands of litres of diesel. The Police has some information on a suspicious vehicle but Kinnordy has heard nothing about whether they are even investigating.

Regarding the gravel at the top of the double dykes. This is on land belonging to Kinnordy. Antony is in contact with the Contractor working for Scottish Water about their use of the site without permission and how much longer they need it. The Contractor assures Kinnordy that it will be reinstated when the work is complete. Since they are working on the town water supply Kinnordy has decided to let them get on with the project.

Regarding the path to Kinnordy Loch. Tayside Contracts has been in contact with Kinnordy. It appears they plan to replace the bridge they damaged within the next two weeks. Kinnordy understands that the other items of work needed to resolve the dispute with their farming tenant will be addressed this week.

10. **Planning:** Nothing to report.

11. **AOCB:**

11.1. Heather highlighted a report on Facebook about a young child almost falling through a gap at Bellies Brae. There is now a barrier in place.

11.2. Jeanette reported that the dropped kerb outside of Bridges is loose. Also, loose cobbles at the Fish Shop.

11.3. Jean: On the Glasswell/Checkiefield Road a barrier at the side of the road has been there for weeks. It is protruding on to the road which causes an issue for drivers on an already narrow road. Cllr Proctor will investigate

11.4. Irena reported that the Hill toilets have been painted and electric handrails and lights installed. The toilets will re-open on 1 April. Den toilets will be painted soon.

11.5. Cathy reported all good on the bus situation.

11.6. Jim reported two good responses from the ACCESS line. *What good news!*

11.7 **Cllr Meechan** received a notification on 29 March regarding the cutting of grass at Slade Gardens. There is a triangle and they will be leaving the middle, only cutting the grass verges. **Eric** asked if Angus Council could investigate putting the two verges at Knowehead into a car park. Can Eric send an email to Cllr Proctor so that he can take this further.

11.8 **Audrey** asked, on behalf of some elderly residents in Kirriemuir, to confirm whether Lloyds Chemist is closing. Cllr Meechan responded that this is not an Angus Council issue. KCC understands that Cllr Bell is a member of the Angus Health & Social Care Partnership. A few years ago Cllr Bell took forward an issue regarding Boots Chemist which had been highlighted at a KCC meeting.

12. Date and next meeting: Wednesday 26 April, 7 pm in Kirrie Connections Meeting Centre

3.4.23

Agenda item

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