



Kirriemuir Community Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING of 31 May 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, Cerys Mitchell

In attendance: Jean Henderson (Minute Secretary), Cllr Ronnie Proctor (via Video link), Officer Judi Young SFRS, **PUBLIC:** Cathy Stephenson, Douglas Clark, Ruth Weir, William Reid, Audrey Middleton

Unfortunately, Alison Paton, Angus Council Housing Department, has cancelled her visit at the last minute to address Kirriemuir Community Council this evening.

	ACTION
<p>1. Apologies: Ron Lobban, Cllr George Meechan, PC Scott Anderson. Resignation of Jim Stewart. Heather reported that Cathy Stephenson is to be co-opted on to the Kirriemuir Community Council. Proposed by Jeanette and seconded by Irena. Cathy has been a great help in assisting KCC with the paperwork regarding the Recycling Centre closure. Very much appreciated. Everyone welcomed Cathy to the KCC.</p> <p>2. Approval of 26 April 2023 Minutes: Agreed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Irena and seconded by George.</p> <p>3. Police Report: Circulated</p> <p>4. Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Report: May 2023 Community Safety: 7 x Home fire safety visits 4 x Operational Intelligence visits 3 x Junior Fire Inspector visits to Primary Schools Joint Service Drop in (Coffee with crew and coffee with Cop) Follow up issues regarding Hooks Hotel Incidents: 6 x AFA (Automated Fire Alarm) 4 x Fire Alarm/Smoke Detector Operating 2 x Fire in open 2 x RTC 1 x Special Service Call</p> <p>Officer Young reviewed the SFRS report. There is a joint initiative with the Police regarding the kids entering the back of Hooks Hotel. The plan is to talk to the pupils at Websters High School. SFRS has determined how the kids are entering Hooks. Flash messages have been put out that if there is a call regarding this location there will be a bigger turn out. Fire hydrants in the area have</p>	

been checked. It appears the kids are going into Hooks to smoke.

Officer Young said there is nothing stopping the kids from getting into Hooks. Heather highlighted Cllr Meechan's response in his 31 May Report, "There was no obvious access into the building and it appeared secure."

Cllr Proctor offered to speak to someone in Health & Safety and get someone from Angus Council to get in touch with Hook's owner, Mr. Kave. Heather thanked Officer Young for SFRS's quick response.

5. Treasurer's Report as at 31 May 2023: FPP funds £92.20 KCC funds £547.71
Defib funds £595.50 Grant £65.26 VAA fund £300.00 **Total £1,600.67**
Grant funds spent May £80.00

6. Matters Arising:

B25 Development Trust update: Heather reported that the Development Trust has submitted a bid to LACER for a grant, along with the Longer Table. The money will increase from £5,000 to £10,000 for each town. Plans to develop an APP so that the local businesses can be showcased. Bank account established. Up and running as a group.

B49 Incorrect signage wording/location at Slade Road update: Nothing is changing. Off Agenda.

B82 Hooks rhones problems: Issue with kids/revisit issue: Discussed above under SFRS Report. Cllr Meechan advised in his Report that Angus Council state the rhones are the responsibility of Hooks's owner. Cllr Meechan's response in his 31 May Report, "There was no obvious access into the building and it appeared secure."

B92 Continuing inappropriate parking around Visocchi's/Angus Council Report: Cllr Proctor reported that a meeting has taken place. No feedback to date. Installing a pedestrian crossing is not an option - too near to the brow of the hill. Cllr Proctor will investigate the suggested moving of the bollards.

Cllr Meechan reports that Traffic enforcement continue to target this area and they have offered advice to the take-away outlet regarding the inappropriate parking by their delivery drivers. Cllr Meechan reports that proposals for additional waiting restrictions at Kirk Wynd will be included in the next Traffic Regulation Order (No. 6) to prevent parking in the vicinity of the take-aways. The Order is due to proceed to the public consultation phase in the coming months.

B95 Proposed Police speed checks in town centre/Police response to be passed to Angus Council: Cllr Proctor confirmed that the Police Report had been delivered to the Officers at Angus Council. Cllr Proctor will investigate.

B99 Proposed two verges at Knowehead into car park: Cllr Proctor reported that this request has been met with a "no." The grass areas are not part of the adopted road. A request for double yellow lines will be included in the next phase. Discussion ensued regarding action for this area and double yellow lines. Cllr Proctor will investigate.

A1 Speed reduction signs on Tannage Brae request: Cllr Meechan reported that the re-installation of the grit bin at Tannage Brae is being processed. The 20 mph road markings which were faded have now been repainted. Cllr Meechan has checked the speed limit signs on Tannage

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<p>Brae and the 20 mph signs are in place in both directions, similar to other locations in the town with a 20 mph limit.</p>	
<p>Heather hoped an electronic camera could be installed, similar to the three cameras in Eassie village. Cllr Proctor will investigate.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>Heather highlighted the issue on the corner of Glamis Road. Cllr Proctor has been speaking to the residents and is currently dealing with this with Andrea Strachan. It is being monitored. Cllr Proctor will get an update.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>A2 Duthie Street traffic issue: Cllr Meechan reports that he has discussed this with the resident and passed on his/her request to Angus Council. Officer Young confirmed that there has always been an issue with access at Duthie Street for the emergency services. Discussion ensued with no practical resolution, unfortunately.</p>	
<p>A3 Hedge issue at Forfar Road: Gregg Prophet has visited the properties in question. No answer at the properties, therefore, a written request will be sent. Eric reported another large hedge, protruding on to the road, which is an issue when cars are passing. Top of Tannage Brae, Prosen Road, opposite the school. Cllr Proctor offered to investigate.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>A4 Council House issues at Milnes Land: Cllr Meechan reported that he has again contacted Angus Council regarding this matter and the leaking downpipe. He has been given assurance that this will be dealt with by the Housing Manager. He also provided copies of his previous emails on this subject to the complainant. Cllr Proctor explained that sometimes Angus Council waits for a number of houses requiring repairs to be done before proceeding. He agreed the length of time is sometimes too long, resulting in loss of rent revenue. It was hoped this issue could have been discussed with Alison Paton, Housing Department, at the meeting. Hoping to reinstate her attendance at a KCC meeting.</p>	<p>JR</p>
<p>A5 Boarded up windows at property near Autosales: Cllr Proctor reported that this is an ongoing situation and currently being investigated.</p>	<p>RP</p>
<p>A6 Request for Lisa Chiles to walk around the town with Lights Group: Cllr Meechan reported that he has contacted Angus Council and understands that a meeting with the Lights Group has been arranged. Irena reported that Lisa Chiles has walked around the town to determine what is and what is not the responsibility of Angus Council. Angus Council will not take down the lights at the Town Hall. Funding is available from Tayside Contracts Community Funds. £3,000 is the figure. They would erect the lights but not take them down. Irena reported the cost of erecting the lights would be £6,200, therefore, it would incur a further £3,000 cost for the Lights Group. Very disappointing.</p>	
<p>7. Planned Closures in Kirriemuir: a) Recycling Centre. Cllr Meechan reports that no foot traffic is permitted in any of the Angus Recycling Centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather reported that the Public Meeting had taken place on Monday, 29 May, 7 pm in the Church Hall. • On arrival, Heather was surprised to learn that Cllr Bell had invited a further three Angus Councillors to the Public Meeting without prior notification/discussion with KCC - Cllr Kenny Breas, Cllr Mark McDonald and Cllr Bill Duff. Obviously, it was assumed they would attend as visitors but it then transpired that the three Angus Councillors intended to lead the meeting and sit at the top table. This was totally unacceptable, therefore, this did not happen. This was a Kirriemuir Community Council meeting, organised by Kirriemuir 	

Community Council to discuss the closure of the Kirrie Recycling Centre with the Kirriemuir community.

- Heather stated it was very disappointing that Cllr Bell did not liaise with KCC on this invitation.
- Not a large turn out at the meeting but the quality inter action was encouraging. Cllr George Meechan, Cllr Julie Bell and Graeme Daily, Head of Roads & Environmental Services joined Heather (Chair) at the top table.
- Cllr Meechan and Cllr Bell, as elected members for Kirriemuir + Dean, both support the closure of the Recycling Centre but gave no reasons for their decision. This was met with total disappointment by KCC Councillors.
- Heather reported that a Stage 1 Complaint regarding the closure has been lodged by KCC with Angus Council. KCC is now ready to lodge a Stage 2 Complaint.
- Heather reported that she has been advised if she wishes to discuss the closure further, the Provost will meet her while he is performing an unrelated event later that week. This was unanimously agreed unacceptable. The Councillors proposed that Heather should refuse this invitation to discuss a sensitive issue, such as the closure, as an “add on” to another event.
- Cllr Proctor reported that at the Full Council Meeting he had stated there was enough money to retain the two Recycling Centres and had voted against the closure.
- It is alleged that the closure of the Kirrie and Monifieth Centres will now allow funds to be available to upgrade the Carnoustie Recycling Centre.
- Cathy put forward statistics that if everyone in Kirriemuir + Dean made one visit to the Centre in a year, given damage to the roads, environment, etc., it would cost approx £33,000.
- Douglas Clark (PUBLIC) said he had been thinking about setting up a Reclamation Yard. He has discussed this with Jennifer Anderson, Angus Council. Cathy suggested that Douglas discusses this with the Edzell people who went through a similar situation when their Centre was closed.
- Discussion ensued and it was agreed an official complaint should be made regarding the behaviour of the Angus Councillors attempting to take over the KCC Public Meeting on 29 May. Heather will write to Jackie Buchanan, Director of Legal & Democratic Services, Angus Council, with copies of the letter to Margo Williamson, CEO Angus Council, and Beth Whiteside, Leader of Angus Council.

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b) Museum: Heather read out a letter from Vivien Smith, Community Planning, Angus Council. She advises that the building may revert to Angus Council but the Council has no budget to retain or operate the building. Therefore, Angus Council now wishes to engage the community groups to explore opportunities for the community to retain the building. There will be a drop-in session to discuss this further at **Kirriemuir Town Hall on Tuesday, 6 June, 4.30 pm – 5.30 pm and 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm.**

- c) **Collection of missed postal deliveries at Sorting Office:** Cllr Proctor reported that the Sorting Office is still open but he doesn't know for how long. There are restricted times and then the public have to go to Forfar to collect. Cllr Proctor has written to the Royal Mail. Cllr Proctor suggested KCC write to Royal Mail or take it to the Press.

UPDATE: As of Monday, 5 June, 2023, the Royal Mail has now committed to open the Customer Services Point at the Kirriemuir Delivery Office daily, except Sundays, between 7 am and 8 am. Not a full service but at least an opportunity for the community to collect mail locally. Thanks to the Royal Mail for listening to the people of Kirriemuir! *Thanks, also, to the efforts of the Kirrie folk in getting this decision overturned.*

8. The Wee Childcare Company:

- Cllr Proctor has been approached by The Wee Childcare Company. A reply has been sent to The Wee Childcare Company, but not the answer she wants to hear. Cllr Proctor is of the view nothing can be done.
- Heather disagreed and thinks there is something that can be done to avoid these cuts. Angus Council should include the “out of hours” section in their budget.
- The Wee Childcare Company is appealing to local organisations to write to the local Councillor or Member of Parliament in an attempt to over-rule these cuts.
- Ruth Weir (PUBLIC) said there is a lack of engagement with Angus Council on this matter and a serious delay in the decision making.
- All agreed that Heather should write to Shelly McIntosh, Director of Education & Lifelong Learning, with copy to Ian Lorimer, Head of Finance. Heather stated it is vital these organisation are supported and in this instance KCC will do all that they can to help.
- Jeanette stated that Angus Council advised at the Public Meeting that money was going to Education and could not be cut so why is funding being cut from these Education connected organisations?

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9. **Potholes repairs – Eric's email and photograph:** Jeanette has spoken to Roads Department and received an email reply stating a “satisfactory repair” was carried out. From Eric's photographs, this is not the opinion of KCC. Eric offered to have a site meeting with Angus Council to discuss the repair. Jeanette will organise. Cllr Proctor offered to investigate.

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10. **Meeting with Bon Scott visitors:** The time of the meeting was advised as 1.30 pm. However, this was changed to 1 pm but no communication to KCC of the time change. Embarrassingly, this resulted in the KCC group arriving late. A film was shown, Q&A about the financial benefit to the town during the AC-DC Bonfest. Friendships have been forged over the years. The Australian visitors are very keen to organise a twinning with Kirriemuir and Fremantle. Angus Council will be happy to be involved. Cllr Proctor reminded the meeting that it was Kirriemuir Community Council, under the leadership of Dave Milne, who first started the Bonfest, as such, many years ago. Can KCC please be kept in the loop regarding the twinning.

11 . Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Julie Bell reports:

I attended the International Workers' Memorial Day event at Forfar Community Campus on 28 April which a tree was planed to commemorate all those who have died or been injured during the course of their work. This was a project delivered in partnership with Trade Unions. Angus Council, including the Health & Safety Team and pupils and staff at Forfar Campus. As Chair of the Angus Health & Social Care Partnership Integration Joint Board, I am especially pleased that we chose to mark this after the losses we have suffered during Covid.

Bonfest

Another fantastic event, congratulations to all who made it a success – the Bonfest Organising Team and DD8. I was delighted to be able to volunteer again this year, fantastic to catch up with everyone from previous years and continue to support the event in any way I can.

Kinnordy Path

Hopefully, you will already be aware this path has at last reopened – frustration with the project has been fed back to Tayside Contracts.

Police Scotland the Scottish Fire & Rescue Services

Kirriemuir Community Fire Station opened its doors to the public on 19 May, in partnership with local Police Officers from Angus Division of Police Scotland. I popped in quite early on and we discussed a few local hot topics, including the parking at the top of Bellies Brae, oil thefts, a few young people causing difficulties and dirty campers at local beauty spots.

Participate, Montrose Playhouse

I visited an art exhibition by people in our learning disabilities resource centres took place between May 12 and May 20 – incredible talent.

Boards/Committees

Committees I have attended this month, all council papers here:

https://www.angus.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/committees/agendas_reports_and_minutes

Full Council – May 11

I chaired the Angus Health and Social Care Integration Joint Board (IJB) on April 26 – information here: <https://www.angushscp.scot/angus-integration-joint-board/>

NHS Tayside Board – April 27

Public Health Committee – May 9

Informal meeting with the Chair – May 23

NHS Tayside papers here:

<https://www.nhstayside.scot.nhs.uk/YourHealthBoard/TheBoardanditsCommittees/TaysideNHSBoard/ArchivePapers/ViewPapers/index.htm>

Public Health Scotland Population Health and Clinical Governance Committee – April 26

PHS board – May 24

Public Health Scotland papers here: <https://publichealthscotland.scot/our-organisation/our-board/>

In addition, I have attended various half-day and all-day board development sessions with NHS Tayside and Public Health Scotland.

I met with Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for NHS Recovery, Health and Social Care on May 17, as chair of the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership Integration Joint Board, along with my peers.

I took part in the COSLA Health and Social Care Policy board on May 19.

Caseload topics

I'm currently supporting people on a variety of topics, ranging from parking issues, education, health and welfare rights.

Cllr George Meechan reports:

I have attended the following Committee Meetings over the past month:

3. Full Council
4. Communities Committee
5. Angus Licensing Board
6. Angus Civic Licensing Committee

I have attended the following meetings/presentations:

- I visited Collace Quarry which is run by Tayside Contracts
- 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

Updates.

Hooks Hotel

I investigated the report that kids were accessing the rear of Hooks Hotel and visited the premises. I can report that the side access remains boarded up with no obvious access route from the close at the side of the Co-op. This does not exclude kids from climbing the wall should they have the incline to do so. There was no obvious access into the building, and it appeared secure. I visited Hooks Hotel while it was raining, and the gutter is still leaking. I contacted Angus Council with this fact and was advised that there was little they could do as this was the responsibility of the owner. There is not much more I can do on this issue.

Foot traffic at Recycling Centres

- I have checked whether foot traffic is permitted at any recycling centre in Angus and was advised that it is not.

Tannage Brae

- I have requested that the grit bin be reinstalled in Tannage Brae, and this request has been processed.
- The 20mph road markings, which were faded, have now been re-painted.
- I have checked the speed limit signs on Tannage Brae and the 20mph signs are in place in both directions. This is like any other part of the town where the 20mph limit is in force.

Parking outside Visocchis

I have talked to Roads regarding this matter and been advised that the area outside Visocchis is not suitable for a crossing due to the distance from junctions. Traffic enforcement continue to target the area in the evening to deter this parking. The Enforcement Team have spoken to the owners of the takeaway outlet and offered advice regarding unsociable parking by their delivery drivers.

Proposals for additional waiting restrictions in Kirk Wynd will be included in the next Traffic Regulation Order (No 6) to prevent parking in the vicinity of the takeaways. The Order is due to proceed to the public consultation phase in the coming months.

Christmas lights

I have contacted Angus Council and believe that a meeting with the lights group has been arranged.

Milnes Land overflow

I have again contacted Angus Council regarding this matter and the leaking downpipe. I have been given assurance that these will be dealt with from the housing manager. I also provided copies of my previous emails on this subject to the complainant.

Duthie Street traffic

I have talked with the resident and passed her/his request on to Angus Council.

Issues from constituents included the following:

- Street lighting
- Roads
- Speeding
- Housing issues, repairs, dampness etc
- Conducted numerous home visits to help deal with constituent's issues.
- Fuel company issues
- Welfare benefits
- Electricity pylons
- Double yellow lines/parking issues

Cllr Ronnie Proctor reports:

Unfortunately, I have not been able to get out and about however I have got all points covered. I did some work and organised a site meeting regarding flooding beside no 91 Knowehead and the results of which are ongoing. Gavin Balfour assures me that the Health Centre Disabled Pathway construction will begin in early July and will be finished on the 15th of September this year!

12. Correspondence:

- Brian Boyd, Provost, is opening the re-launch of the Kirrie Food Hub on Saturday, 3 June. Heather, Jeanette and Irena will attend.
- Sustainable Kirriemuir is hoping to erect a sign at St. Mary's Field to let people know about the Community Garden. They have written to KCC to say that Angus Council Planning Department advise them that they will have to pay a £300 advertisement fee. Jennifer Anderson suggests that Sustainable Kirriemuir apply through KCC in order to receive a 50% discount. Discussion ensued and a vote taken. It was unanimously agreed that, unfortunately, KCC would be unable to assist on this occasion. KCC funds are designated specifically for the administration costs, only, of running the Community Council. Cllr Proctor confirmed this.

13. **Planning:** Nothing to report.

14. AOCB:

14.1. **Cathy** has spoken to Graeme Daily (Angus Council) regarding the withdrawal of two of the bus services (139 and one other). Cathy has pointed out that the survey they carried out was done on one day in January when there were no passengers. This is incorrect. Cathy reported the bus service is experiencing one cancellation a day. Vehicles are the problem. Diesel buses have been promised.

14.2. **Frances** highlighted overflowing bins at the flats behind the Accountants Office (Airlie Arms). Cllr Proctor will investigate.

14.3. **George** stated that nothing is being done about the overhanging hedges and he doesn't think it is KCC's responsibility to go around the town identifying these issues. It is an Angus Council responsibility. Jeanette reported that she has been made aware that when Gregg Prophet, Roads Department, Angus Council, is approaching the public regarding their hedges he is informing them that KCC has reported them. All agreed that this is not an acceptable approach. Cllr Proctor offered to investigate.

14.4. **Jeanette** reported that Websters High School has a Reading Group every month and they plan to put books into the Book Swap Telephone Box. The Group has also offered to tidy up the Box. Websters High School would also like to put some art work into the Box at Marywell Brae. Jeanette will get in touch with Deidre Bennett and arrange for Cerys to liaise with the school.

14.5. **Cllr Proctor** will send photos of the pavement at the Garage in Maryton and the potholes.

14.6. **William Reid (PUBLIC)** reported that J.D. Wilkie employees are parking their cars, with the lights on, quite late at night, on the street at Marywell Brae, even though there is a car park on the J.D. Wilkie premises. This is causing problems for the Marywell Brae residents late in the night. Mr. Reid is asking for a sign to be erected "Residents Parking" only. Heather offered to

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write to J.D. Wilkie, on behalf of the residents, and will copy KCC's letter to the two elected members.

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15. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 28 June, at 7 pm in Kirrie Connections Meeting Centre.

7.6.23