

Kirriemuir and The Glens Partnership

Minute of meeting held on Wednesday 18 May 2005 at Fairlie House, Kirkton Hill, Kirriemuir 7.30pm

In attendance

Please see attached attendance list

Abbreviations for action column

Abbreviation	Name
AT	Alan Tucker
MT	Marcus Thompson
TS	Tony Sive
JG	Jasper Gray
EJ	Eileen Jackson
DG	Dorothy Gourlay

1 Welcome

Chairman AT welcomed everyone along to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from Ed Fullerton, Denise and Hamish McTaggart and John Mowatt.

Apologies of lateness were received from Dorothy Gourlay.

2 Tourism Signage Proposals

Alan Tucker welcomed Neil Prentice, Angus Council, Economic Development Department and Brian Cargill, Angus Council Roads Department to the meeting who were in attendance to advise of and discuss tourism signage proposals with the Partnership.

As a means of introduction, Neil advised that some time ago a number of Glen's businesses flagged up concerns re the lack of signage to tourist attractions within the Glens. The concerns were considered and resulted in a rolling programme of funding being approved by Angus Council, which will be implemented in a three phase generic approach covering the A90, Angus Burghs and the Glens.

Neil advised that he hoped a joint approach could be taken with the Partnership in relation to the tourism signage, to bring together those Glens businesses that are eligible for signage to work together to progress and to buy into the proposals. Neil pointed out that whilst applying for funding for the project a joint approach would make a much stronger case than an individual response.

Brian provided background information on the tourism policy, advising of the qualifying criteria, costings etc. Copies of the

ACTION BY

policy and costings were circulated.

Brian explained the outline of the proposals which include: -

- trunk road signage for Kirriemuir, the Glens and the National Park from the A90,
- Gateway signage on the three main routes into the town
- Signage to the Glens from within the town
- Opportunities for Glens attractions to be signposted thereafter

Signage proposals were circulated and discussion then followed.

It was pointed out that costs of individual tourist attraction signage would be the responsibility of the individual businesses. There are a number of terms and conditions to the signage for example ownership, maintenance etc. Further information about this can be obtained from Angus Council Roads Department.

Brian advised that he is confident that the proposals circulated will be approved by the Scottish Executive for the A90 trunk road.

Links have been made to the work of the Cairngorms National Park in connection with their signage project.

Brian advised that The Roads department would be happy to support and advise a group of businesses in relation to proposals for tourist attraction signage including criteria for applying/designs/costs etc

A letter advising of details of the signage proposals will be issued to all businesses in due course.

3 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8 March 2005 were circulated, accepted as an accurate record and approved by those in attendance.

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5 Feedback on What's the Word!?!?, Young People's Event

EJ circulated a copy of a feedback report, which detailed information about the event and feedback received from mainly participants following the event. Copy attached.

EJ advised that Community Education had also undertaken an evaluation of the event through the Youth Council, the main findings of which have been incorporated in the feedback report.

MT reported back on the findings from the survey undertaken at the event. Copy of results detailed at Appendix 1 of the report.

The main findings from both reports showed that overall the event was a success; a number of suggestions/recommendations were received, which will be considered for future events of this nature.

6 **Marketing Survey Progress Report**

TS provided an update on progress with the Business and Organisations survey. He reported that progress had been slower than anticipated however so far there are over 90 new contact names to the original list. TS advised that he has had some difficulties in obtaining contact details for a number of those on the list.

DG advised that she is happy to help with this.

TS advised that there have been a number of local issues raised whilst undertaking the survey which the Partnership may wish to consider which are detailed below: -

- Improved gritting of Glens roads
- Lack of police/traffic warden presence within the town
- Dog fouling
- Broken windows
- Inadequate town centre parking
- Increased CCTV usage
- Disabled access

TS to keep the Partnership informed of future progress with the database.

TS

7 **Southmuir Primary School**

Reference was made to earlier discussion at Partnership meetings regarding the possibility of the old Southmuir Primary becoming a multi purpose community facility. A survey on the building has been undertaken by Angus Council, Property Services Department, a copy of which was circulated.

Cllr Mackintosh advised that to gauge interest on the possible project within the community he has arranged a public meeting, which will take place on Tuesday 31 May 2005 at the Old Parish Church Hall commencing at 7pm.

To get the project off the ground it will need local commitment and interest, therefore as many groups as possible are required to attend to advise of their view/ideas on the matter. Press articles will be arranged for the local press, however partnership members were asked to spread the word.

ALL

The building has been declared surplus to the Council's requirements and time has been given before putting the building on the open market to explore whether local groups

may wish to take it over.

Key issues for consideration will be the capital and running costs and also to consider the possible impact such a community facility may have on other meeting places within the town.

A letter had been received from Strathmore Christian Fellowship expressing an interest in a community facility.

It was suggested that it might be helpful to make contact with other similar projects of this nature for example the Birnam Institute and the Muirhead and Birkhill Village Hall to learn from their experiences.

8 Future Partnership projects discussion

Following discussion at March's meeting on possible future areas for the Partnership. EJ circulated a list of community issues/priorities, which were gathered from meetings held in the early days of the Partnership. EJ pointed out that the list may need revisiting as the information was gathered some time ago now however some issues may still be current. It was the view that this may be helpful to inform/influence future plans and projects of the Partnership.

Partnership members were asked to give some thought to this list and consider other ideas. To be discussed further at a future meeting of the Partnership.

ALL

9 Press Items – agree points for submission

It was agreed that any ideas for news stories to be included in the partnership press release to be forwarded to EJ.

ALL

10 Any Other Competent Business

a) Items of Correspondence

Invite to Angus Community Planning Partnership seminar – 9 June 2005. AT to attend

AT

b) Angus Glens Walking Festival

JG advised that bookings are going well for this year's event in June.

With regard to future festivals, there is currently not enough local business interest to sustain the event; therefore it looks likely that significant changes will be needed for the festival to continue.

c) Angus Portal Website

Angus portal website (www.angusahead.com) is due to be launched on 31 May 2005. There will be a local section within the portal for Kirriemuir and The Glens.

d) Seminar Event in Glenesk

JG referred to information received from Prue Dowie regarding an event planned for June this year at Glenesk, which he understands, will consider a possible Glens Partnership. JG raised concern about the role and responsibilities of this potential new group, highlighting the fact that the Kirriemuir partnership covers the Glens areas also.

EJ responded by advising that the event referred to is most likely to be the local community planning seminar for the Angus Glens, which was initially scheduled for June, however is now planned for the Autumn of this year. The seminar, which will be hosted by the Angus Community Planning Partnership, is part of a rolling programme throughout Angus which will bring together partner organisations and members of the community to consider local issues, which would inform future planning. Consideration will be given as to how these issues are to be taken forward and included in planning processes. EJ pointed out that the Kirriemuir and The Glens Partnership would have an important role to play in the seminar as the geographic area the Partnership covers includes the Glens. It would be an ideal opportunity to raise the profile of the Partnership and also reach out to the more rural geographic areas, to hopefully achieve greater interest and representation on the Partnership.

EJ advised that early discussions about the event had yet to take place, therefore no venue or date had yet been agreed. Paul Christison, the Angus Rural Partnership Development Officer is leading on the event. EJ advised that she will ensure that Paul is aware of the Partnerships concerns about the event and ensure that the Partnership are kept informed and involved in the planning of the event at an early stage.

EJ- copy of minutes to Paul Christison**11 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 20 July 2005 at Kingoldrum Hall at 7.30pm. This will be the first Annual General Meeting of the Partnership. It was agreed to hold the meeting outwith the town to hopefully attract new interest from the Glens Areas.

ALL TO NOTE

AT and EJ to consider the format of the evening.

Kirriemuir and the Glens Partnership

Feedback on What's The Word!?!?- Young People's Event

This report provides an overview of the event, detailing feedback and considerations for future events of this nature.

Introduction

The initial idea to hold an event for young people stemmed from the findings of the working group, established in the early days of the Partnership to consider young people issues. At that time there was a strong view from young people throughout the town that there was nothing for them to do in Kirriemuir. It was the view of the working group that there are a wide range of activities/groups etc available locally, however many young people are unaware of the opportunities available to them.

To progress planning for the event a sub group was formed, members of which were as follows: -Ralph Neave, Ellie Fiddes, Gladys Wilson, Alison Niblock and Eileen Jackson.

The aims and objectives of the event were identified as follows: -

- To raise awareness of the activities/facilities available to young people within Kirriemuir and the Glens
- Opportunity for groups to showcase their group/activity and hopefully attract new interest.
- Recruit adult support
- To bring together organisations at the one time to find out what they all do and how they can perhaps link more closely together, identifying opportunities for future joined working where appropriate.

The event was held on Saturday 19 March 2005 from 11am until 4pm at Webster's Sports Centre and High School.

Participants and attendance

39 participants, both service providers and youth organisations confirmed their attendance. On the day there was approximately 34 participants, a number being unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances.

The number of people who came along to the event on the day is unknown.

A number of partnership members attended on the day, who assisted with the coordinating and supervision of the event. A number of volunteers also attended who assisted with a range of tasks including carrying out the feedback surveys and serving of refreshments, which was much, appreciated.

Venue

The organisations with displays alone were mainly located in the school with the sports hall being used for the activity area and some of the larger displays. The outdoor activities were located outside the sports centre.

Whilst both halls and the outside area accommodated the event well it was perhaps slightly disjointed with activities happening in the three separate locations however there are limited local venues which would have been able to accommodate the event under one roof.

Activities

During the day a programme of activities and demonstrations took place including: - Inflatable sessions, cricket matches and guest appearances by two of the local youth bands, Sonnet 65 and One Man Race.

The recently launched Youth Bytes! bus attended at its first outing to an event of this nature.

The high performance sports glider attracted a lot of interest as well as the laser dingy on display by Forfar Sailing Club.

Unfortunately two of the outdoor activities, the street football and the outdoor climbing tower didn't go ahead. The planned cycle ride didn't attract enough interest so was therefore cancelled.

The activities, which allowed for participation for example, the inflatables, cricket, sports glider, proved to be the most popular.

Transport

The Angus Transport Forum provided transport for three young people who attended the event from Glen Prosen.

Costings

The costs for the event are as follows: -

	£
Hire of Webster's Sports Hall	192.00
Production of 4000 flyers	215.00
Production of 100 posters	36.00
Hire of Webster's High School	NIL
Refreshments- costs covered with sales	
Total Costs	443.00

Income

Refreshments – surplus of £58.82 from sales.(left over items still being sold off)

Donations

Refreshment donations were received from Strathmore Mineral Water and Graham's Dairies.

Tesco's donated a £10 voucher, which was never received.

Hi-Fli donated a banner with the Partnership name on it.

Feedback received from participants

Feedback from a number of the participants was received following the event, which is detailed below: -

Webster's Sports Centre –

- the event was a success, well planned with lots of information on offer
- inflatables proved popular
- marketing and advertising of a future event could be improved – suggestions – announcements on Radio Tay, household leaflet drop and earlier awareness of the event through the local youth groups and participants at the event.

No 1 for Youth

- Good interest on the day at Youth Bytes!, particularly from parents keen to find out about the vehicle
- Number of interest from outlying rural areas, which was great as they are the kind of areas that the resource is targeted at.
- Event was a success and would expect participation amongst young people to increase next year.
- Happy to assist with future events of this nature and assist with possible consultation exercises, for example, hosting related surveys on the website etc

Angus Choral Society

- A worthwhile event and well organised
- Pleased with the interest shown by those who attended
- Excellent facilities at Webster's High however a school may not be the best venue to attract young people to at the weekend. A venue nearer the town centre may have attracted more passing interest.
- Improved publicity – parents whose children attend Webster's were not aware of the event?

Forfar Sailing Club

- Appreciated the opportunity for the club to be involved and represented at the event
- Few expressions of interest

Volunteer Centre Angus

- Well organised event and a good opportunity to promote the organisation and network
- Interested in attending further events
- Volunteer Centre Angus could help promote and develop events of this nature ensuring volunteering and the involvement of volunteer involving organisations.

Youth Council

- Worthwhile event
- Attendance was disappointing
- Improved signposting between the two halls would have been helpful
- Day was too long and shorter event may have been more successful
- Too big a gap between band performances

Feedback from the questionnaires undertaken on the day can be viewed at Appendix 1 of this report.

Considerations for future events

- Increased numbers are required on any future planning groups of this nature.
- Consider the recruitment of young people to be involved in the planning stages of the event
- Timing of the event to avoid potential clashes with other events therefore avoiding duplication of effort and possible targeting of the same audiences.
- Venue
- Increased publicity
- Consider improved programming of activities
- Duration of the event
- Consider new ideas and build on things which were successful

Conclusion

Overall the event was a success with relatively positive feedback. It was an excellent first event of this nature for the Partnership.

Eileen Jackson
March 2005



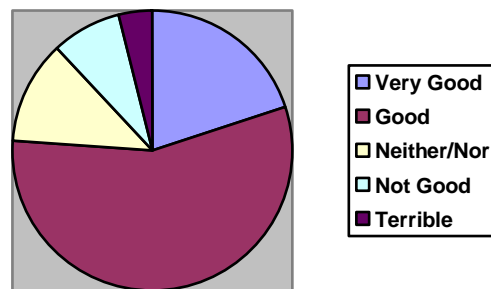
APPENDIX 1

**Kirriemuir & Glen “What’s the Word!?!?”
Survey Findings
19 March 2005**

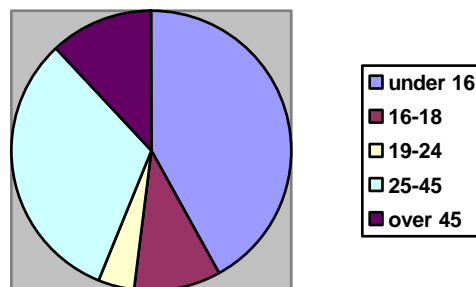
The aim of the survey was to find out what the Community, consisting of young people, parents and others, think about facilities for young people locally. The number of responses to the Survey was 50.

The Findings should be read in conjunction with Feedback on What’s The Word!?!?- Young People’s Event, which provides background to the Event.

The Event was well received with almost ¾ thinking it was good or very good.



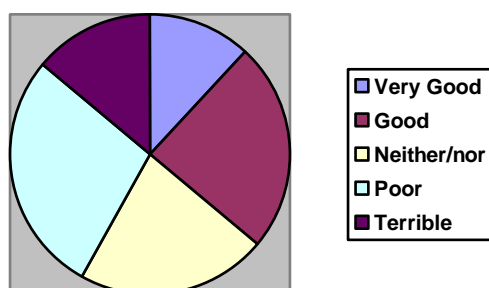
Just over half the age group interviewed was under 18. The other 1/3 was between 25 – 45 and it is presumed these represent the parents accompanying the younger children. This does suggest that the event was seen as a family activity. The one group missing is the 19 to 25 year old. There were comparatively few over 45’s interviewed, indicating that the marketing of the event was targeted.



The under 16 school age group were generally appreciative of the event. Only 5/21 thought it neither good nor bad and their comments indicated that they wanted more stalls and more young people. This same comment applied to most respondents when asked how the event could be improved. This suggests that more exhibitors would be appreciated. The responses do not indicate that the live bands were a big attraction – although this may be to do with the timing, marketing and the location of this activity.

The clear indication is that those stalls that are activity based are the most popular with all age groups. The cricket, bouncy castle and glider exhibits are judged the best. Exhibitors next year should be encouraged to create “interactive” displays or demonstrations that engage the younger audience.

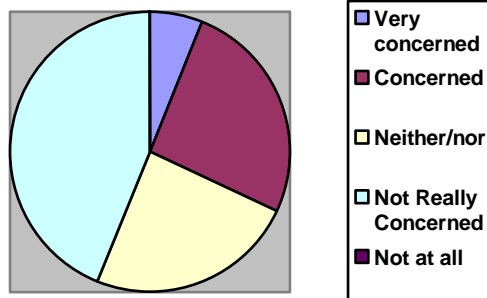
The next set of questions asks about the facilities in Kirriemuir and the Glens. The responses to the “what do you think about the facilities for young people in Kirriemuir & Glens” are as follows:



The comments about facilities do not seem to relate to age and there is not enough information to judge the reasons why these comments are given. The suggestion is that both the younger people and their parents consider local facilities to be poor or have no strong feeling about them. The comments about improvements seem to indicate that the issue is to improve or modernise the existing facilities rather than to create a new set.

There is one notable and almost universal exception this. Both the under 16's and the 25 -45 age group identified the need for a café or youth bar or gig and club. This “missing facility”, somewhere to meet, is the one factor that comes out the clearest from the survey and is especially notable since this the question was asked as an open question without prompts.

When asked “are you concerned about the behaviour of groups of youths in the town”, the responses are comparatively neutral. The evidence suggests that it is mostly the 25—45 age group that are partly concerned or neutral about groups of youths. It is understood that this comment is different from the ones expressed in the Business Survey and it does indicate that neither the majority of parents nor the under 16's feel insecure in the streets of Kirriemuir. Comments were expressed about the minority drinking that takes place – but no mention was made of policing or safety – by the under 16 or their parents.



The recommendations following from the survey are as follows:

The event is generally considered as success by the under 16 and the adults accompanying them.

It can be improved by having more displays and a greater emphasis on attracting more young people to take part in these.

It should be recognised that this is a family event and the displays should balance the need to inform parents and entertain the younger people.

It can be improved by making the exhibitions displays more interactive. Activities such as street football should therefore be encouraged.

There is a clear need for a café/club facility in Kirriemuir. This would not have any major impact on keeping groups of youths off the street but it would provide a safe and secure venue for younger people.

The issue of the café/club is the dominant feature of the Survey.

W. Marcus Thompson
marketers@totalise.co.uk
 17 May 2005