

Kirriemuir and The Glens Partnership

**Minute of meeting held on Wednesday 19 January 2005 at St. Andrews Church
Board Room, Glamis Road, Kirriemuir 7.30pm**

In attendance

See attached attendance list

1 Welcome

Chairman Alan Tucker (AT) welcomed everyone along to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from Fiona Guest, Dr Andrew Lendrum, Ian Penman, Jackie Low, Ellie Fiddes, Kathleen Smith and Caroline Hayward.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 November 2004 were circulated, accepted as an accurate record and approved by those in attendance.

The following amendment to the minute was noted: - Page 3, Item 7 – Sunshine Playgroup, currently meet at the Northmuir Hall and not Southmuir Primary as minuted.

3 Matters Arising

a) Marketing Survey

A report is due to be submitted to Angus Council's Infrastructure Services committee on 10 March to approve the funding of approx. £1250 for the businesses and organisations survey. It was the view that this timescale was unacceptable, as the Kirriemuir advisory group has already approved the funding in principal.

Stewart Heggie agreed that he would pursue the possibility of expediting the process.

b) Young People's Event

Eileen Jackson (EJ) provided an update on the event taking place on Saturday 19 March 2005 at Webster's Sports Centre.

The title agreed by the Youth Council is What's The Word!?!? Invites have gone out to a range of service providers and youth organisations inviting them to take part.

A press article has also been in the Kirriemuir Herald to raise awareness of the event.

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Approximately 15 participants have confirmed their attendance so far.

It is proposed to produce flyers and posters to raise awareness of the event and to post details on websites, in the local press and hopefully Radio Tay.

The Angus Transport Forum is happy to provide transport to and from the more rural/glens areas on the day. Minimum fuel costs will apply which it was agreed would be met by the Partnership. It would be helpful prior to the event to get an indication of the possible demand for this service on the day.

The Forum are also interested in participating on the day advising how the service provided can assist young people to gain access to activities and facilities within the area.

It was noted that The Kirriemuir Rotary Club are planning a similar event for Young People in May/June as part of their centenary year celebrations. Derek Shearer has made contact to advise of the proposals with a view to linking with the Partnership event.

The Rotary proposals are similar in that the event aims to promote sport and activities for young people, however takes it a step further in providing young people with free or reduced rates to leisure facilities, subject to funding.

It was suggested that both events could be combined or alternatively the March event could be used to promote the May/June event. Links to be made with Rotary in this regard.

It is proposed that the working group meet again in early February to progress plans for the event.

EJ

c) Old Southmuir School property

No further progress to report on developments with the site. Reference was made to a property in Meigle, which has been acquired for community use. It was suggested that it might be helpful to make contact with the project group to obtain information on how this was undertaken. Contact is Sue Cole.

AT

Councillor Mackintosh advised that the Land Fund might be a possible source of funding as they consider property. To advise AT of contact details.

**Cllr
Mackintosh**

d) Martin Park – Parking proposals

Further to progress reported at November's meeting, it was the view that the Partnership should not accept that there is no funding to turn the area around, as there is very little which requires to be done to bring the area up to a satisfactory standard.

It was suggested that this is something, which could be taken on

as a possible partnership project.

Enquiries to be made to ensure that the Partnership has asked for the land to be retained and not sold off. A letter is to be drafted in support of this.

Arts and Culture/Children and Young People

Pauline Meikleham, Education Support Office advised that she is currently working in the Kirriemuir area, developing a series of events linked to arts and culture for children and young people. She outlined plans to stage a programme of arts events during the Easter school holidays, which includes a number of projects and workshops for young people including storytelling, drama, music, visual arts and crafts, media work and outdoor environmental arts work. The activities will run during the weekend of 8th-10th April. A travelling gallery, is also to be staged in Kirriemuir on the 26 March.

Pauline advised that dependant on the success of this years event consideration may be given to holding a possible annual event of this nature.

It was suggested that Pauline might wish to take part in the What's The Word!?!? event to raise awareness of the planned Easter event.

Pauline is already working with the Schools and Community Education and is keen to establish links to the Partnership.

Diary of Events

As raised at previous meetings It was again suggested that a diary of events is worth considering to avoid a potential clash of dates with events and activities throughout the area.

4 Angus Glens Walking Festival

Prue Dowie advised that work is well underway for the 2005 event, which is taking place between 2nd and 5th June.

Prue advised that the walk programme is now finalised and postcards have gone out to all who expressed an interest in receiving information on the event. On receipt of returned postcards programmes will be sent out.

As advised at previous partnership meetings, a committee requires to be established to takeover the future organising of the event. If a committee does not come forward to take this on consideration may be given to other ways of taking this forward.

Consideration is being given to co-coordinating all walking festivals across the Cairngorm National Park Authority (CNPA) area. A recent meeting was held with all Cairngorms walking festivals with a view to promoting collaboration between the festivals. Discussion took place on ways that the CNPA could

ACTION BY

AT/EJ

To be considered

All to consider

add value to the work that is currently being done, particularly with regards to promotion and evaluation. It was agreed that the CNPA would co-ordinate and fund the development of a joint piece of promotional print and exhibition / display boards for 2005, and a CD-Rom for 2006.

5 Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA)

Jasper Gray provided an update on the second meeting held with John Thorne, Economic Development Officer from the CNPA. Discussion mainly focused on branding and marketing of the park and highlighted a number of areas where working together with the CNPA may benefit Kirriemuir and The Glens. For example improved tourism signs, branding, marketing of the area etc.

As a way forward it was agreed that links should be retained in the future between the CNPA and The Partnership as there is scope for more joined up working between the two organisations. CNPA are keen to receive community priorities and to establish a two-way flow of conversation, which was welcomed.

Improved Tourism Signage -A90

Prue Dowie advised of proposals for improved signage off the A90 at both Kirriemuir and Edzell junctions. Funding is allocated in financial year 2005/06 for the project.

The proposals are with Roads Department, Angus Council at present.

The question was raised as to whether the Partnership will be consulted about what's going on the signs. It was suggested that a letter be drafted to the Roads department requesting that the Partnership is consulted in connection with the improved tourism signage.

It was also suggested that it might be helpful to invite a representative from Roads along to provide further information on the project.

EJ/AT

To be considered

6 Road Conditions

As previously raised at Novembers meeting, concern was expressed about the unsatisfactory condition of the road conditions in the Glens areas. It was pointed out during the Winter months there is no maintenance what so ever over the weekends.

It was also pointed out that the unsatisfactory conditions not only apply in snowy/icy conditions but also in wet weather when the roads are quite often in a dreadful and unsafe condition.

It was highlighted that the bad road conditions are having a big impact on the tourism and economy of the area, with a huge loss of business in the Glens areas due to this.

ACTION BY

It was agreed that the Partnership are 100% in support of pursuing possible improvements to the Glens road conditions. It was suggested that it might be helpful to obtain examples of how people are losing money due to the unsatisfactory road conditions. Businesses are to be encouraged to send individual letters to Angus Council outlining their losses.

All To Note

It was agreed to send a letter on behalf of the Partnership about the unsatisfactory conditions of the roads not just in Winter but also in general.

AT/EJ

7 Angus Community Plan Progress Report and Review 04/05

EJ advised that the Kirriemuir and The Glens section of the Community Plan Progress Report and Review 04/05 has been prepared and is currently in draft format. The information sets out local partnership achievements over the last 12 months and priorities for the coming year, many of which link to the work of Kirriemuir and The Glens Partnership. The importance of reflecting the work of the Partnership within the progress report and review was highlighted.

The complete document is currently in draft format and will be subject to further consultation during February, with a view to having it in final print by March. Copies will be available in due course.

8 Press items – agree points for submission

It was suggested that a letter or article is drafted for the local paper highlighting concern regarding the road conditions as detailed under item 6.

It was suggested that consideration should be given to obtaining increased participation in the Partnership.

EJ/AT

9 AOCB

a) Bank account

A bank account has now been opened.

b) Decentralisation arrangements

AT advised of correspondence received from Angus Council re the review of its Decentralisation arrangements. The correspondence outlined the decision taken to no longer continue with the three timetabled area forum meetings per year and that area forums will now only be arranged when there is a specific proposal or issue upon which the Council wishes to consult with the wider community.

This decision was welcomed by the Partnership, however it was pointed out that the Partnership wishes to be consulted on future

		ACTION BY
	issues of interest.	
c)	<p>Scottish Business in the Community</p> <p>There is a 'Seeing is Believing' visit planned for mid April, focusing on youth projects. The scheme takes the form of a visit by large organisations e.g. Hydro to see community projects and consider how they can possibly assist to progress. Suggestions were sought for youth projects within the area, which could be visited, and hopefully benefit.</p> <p>The Kirriemuir Skate Park (re lighting for the park), the Youth Council and the all Weather Sports pitch were suggested.</p>	AT
d)	<p>Fire Brigade update</p> <p>John Mowatt advised that an electric blanket testing week is planned for Autumn 2005 throughout Angus. Further information will be available nearer the time.</p>	
e)	<p>Local Plan</p> <p>It was highlighted that there is still time to forward comments and respond to the local plan.</p>	All members
10	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 8 March 2005 at 7.30 PM. Venue to be confirmed.</p> <p>The chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.</p>	All Partnership members