

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Minute of Meeting of the Community Safety Committee held in the Hay Room, First Floor, Dewar's Centre, Glover Street, Perth on Wednesday 3 February at 10.00am.

Present: Councillors D Pover, E Maclachlan, H Anderson, R Brock, A Gaunt (substituting for Councillor L Simpson), T Gray (substituting for Councillor M Williamson), J Giacomazzi, G Laing, A MacLellan, C Shiers, A Stewart and H Stewart.

In attendance: J Walker, Depute Chief Executive, HCC (Corporate and Community Development Services) and Chief Operating Officer; J Gilruth, Director (Housing and Community Care), J Irons, D Fraser, M Notman and N Rodgeron (all Housing and Community Care); A Clegg and S MacKenzie (both the Environment Service); Chief Superintendent E Smith and Chief Inspector M Pettigrew (both Police Scotland); Area Manager C Grieve, LSO Perth and Kinross Area Division, General Manager F Scott and Station Manager S Wood (all Scottish Fire and Rescue Service); E Osborne, MAPPA Coordinator; N Marchant, Scottish Police Authority Board; C Flynn and L Brown (both Chief Executive's Service).

Apologies for Absence: Councillors A Munro, L Simpson and M Williamson.

Councillor Pover, Convener, Presiding.

The Convener led discussion on Arts 63-68 and 71 and the Vice-Convener led discussion on Arts 69-70

63. COUNCILLOR ALAN JACK

The Convener reported the Community Safety Committee being was the first meeting to be held after the death of Councillor Alan Jack he felt it was appropriate to acknowledge his passing and for the Committee to pass on its condolences to his family and friends. A more formal tribute would be paid by the Provost at the meeting of the Council on 11 February 2016.

64. WELCOME

The Convener welcomed all those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were noted as above.

65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

66. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute of meeting of the Community Safety Committee of 28 October 2015 (Arts. 676 - 686) and the erratum to Article 682 of that minute were both submitted, approved and authorised for signature.

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Further to Article 682, resolution (iv), of the minute of the previous meeting the Convener reported that Councillor Ian Miller had written to the Justice Minister and had received a reply acknowledging the points raised. The Minister had advised that resourcing decisions are made based on local intelligence and experience of what is appropriate to deliver effective policing across the divisional area. The Minister's diary would not allow for a meeting in the meantime, however, one would be arranged with the Community Safety Minister, Paul Wheelhouse, in due course.

**67. PERTH AND KINROSS COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP –
COMMUNITY SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP**

**(i) Minute of Meeting of Community Planning Partnership –
Community Safety and Environment Group of 21 August 2015**

The minute of meeting of Community Planning Partnership – Community Safety and Environment Group of 21 August 2015 was submitted and noted.

(ii) Summary Report from Community Safety and Environment Group

There was submitted and noted a joint briefing paper by the Director (Housing and Community Care) and Director (Environment) (16/10), updating the committee on current partnership activity and activity which is currently being developed within the remit of the Community Safety and Environment agenda.

**68. TAYSIDE MAPPA (MULTI-AGENCY PUBLIC PROTECTION
ARRANGEMENTS) ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15**

There was submitted a report by the Director (Housing and Community Care) (16/40), introducing the Tayside Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) report for 2014/15. E Osborne, the MAPPA Coordinator spoke to the report.

Resolved:

The Tayside MAPPA Annual Report for 2014-2015, as appended to Report 16/40, be noted.

69. WATER SAFETY POLICY

There was submitted a report by the Director (Environment) (16/11), identifying effective, efficient and sustainable water safety management arrangements which can be applied consistently across council land. The Committee noted the report had also been considered and the policy approved by the Environment Committee at its meeting on 3 February 2016.

Resolved:

The Water Safety Policy attached as Appendix 1 to Report 16/11, be noted.

70. THE ENVIRONMENT SERVICE SCHEME OF CHARGES 2016/17

There was submitted a report by the Director (Environment) (16/41), providing details of the charges in place within The Environment Service for the financial year 2015/16 and the proposed charges for the financial year 2016/17 as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

Resolved:

The proposed charges as set out in Appendix 1 to Report 16/41, be noted.

Prior to consideration of the Interim Performance Reports from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Police Scotland the Convener acknowledged, with thanks, the efforts of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Police Scotland, Council and other services during the extreme weather conditions in helping communities affected by flooding. It had been an outstanding example of team work in ever changing and challenging circumstances.

71. POLICE AND FIRE REFORM: LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT.

(i) Scottish and Fire Rescue Services – Perth and Kinross – Interim Performance Report.

There was submitted a report by Area Manager Grieve, Local Senior Officer, Perth and Kinross Area Division, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) (16/42) providing an interim update for the Perth and Kinross area on: (1) operational activities over the Bonfire Night period and during the flooding which occurred in December 2015 and January 2016, and (2) a number of community safety engagement activities.

In responding to a question from Councillor Shiers on the series of Safe Drive Stay Alive events, the Local Senior Officer advised that local evaluation was carried out through Facebook and other social media of the young people who attended these events.

Councillor A Stewart enquired how successful social media and other lines of communication had been during the recent flooding. In his capacity as Gold Commander Chief Superintendent Smith reported that social media had come in to its own during that time. It had proved to be a very successful tool in receiving information from and relaying information to the public. Councillor A Stewart acknowledged the benefits on this occasion of a single service across Scotland in deploying resources to those areas most in need.

Resolved:

The interim update on the operational and community safety engagement activities of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service in the Perth and Kinross area, as detailed in Report 16/42, be noted.

(ii) Perth and Kinross Local Policing Area Interim Performance Results – 1 October to 31 December 2015.

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent Smith (16/43) providing an interim update on local policing activity for the Perth and Kinross area for the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

Councillors Gray and Shiers requested more information on the decision not to charge motorists who had ignored road closure signs during the recent flooding. In responding, Chief Inspector Pettigrew reported that the circumstances of the flooding had been extreme and had seen a number of roads closed. Each motorist's case had been reviewed before any decision was taken not to charge.

Councillor A Stewart requested details on what the Council was doing to complement the work undertaken by Police Scotland on the prevention of financial harm. In response, J Walker, Depute Chief Executive, HCC (Corporate and Community Development Services) and Chief Operating Officer reported that the Council has a workstream in place in which the Banks play a major role.

Resolved:

The interim update on local policing activity for the Perth and Kinross area, as detailed in Report 16/43, be noted.

(iii) T in the Park 2015 - Comparative Analysis

There was submitted a report by Chief Superintendent Smith (16/44), providing comparative analysis of crimes and detection rates at the T in the Park music festival.

In responding to concerns expressed by Councillor A Stewart on the crime statistics in the report, the policing of the event and traffic management the Chief Superintendent advised that there had been more instances of disorder, anti-social behaviour and crimes of violence than in previous years. Police Scotland would take cognisance of these in future policing plans should T in the Park go ahead in 2016. The event organisers had noted the findings of the report published by the Council on T in the Park 2015 and were already making plans to address concerns raised should the event go ahead in 2016.

Councillor H Stewart enquired whether or not a strong batch of ecstasy had contributed to some of the problems over the weekend. The Chief Superintendent reported that the police had had a robust plan in place at the entrance gates, however, one particularly strong drug had been seized which had been a cause of concern for the police crime division and the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency as it had not been seen before. There was anecdotal evidence that drugs had been involved in one incident.

In responding to a question from Councillor T Gray on the anti-social behaviour of some who had attended over the course of the weekend, the Chief Superintendent advised that whilst it was an offence to urinate in a public place, police efforts had focused on public safety which took priority.

72. VALEDICTORY

The Convener reported that John Gilruth, Director (Housing and Community Care) was attending his last meeting of the Committee and was shortly to retire from the Council. He paid tribute to John's long and distinguished career in local government over the past 36 years. In particular with regard to the Community Safety Committee he paid tribute to John's leading role on Community Safety and Community Justice. On behalf of the Committee he wished John well in his retirement. John Gilruth replied in appropriate terms.

IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS SHOULD BE EXCLUDED DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT IN TERMS OF SCHEDULE 7A TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1973.

73. SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT – OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS

The Committee received and noted a verbal report from Local Senior Officer Grieve, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Perth and Kinross which was not to be made publically available.

74. POLICE SCOTLAND – LOCAL SCRUTINY AND ENGAGEMENT – OPERATIONAL UPDATE FOR PERTH AND KINROSS.

The Committee received and noted a verbal report from Chief Superintendent Smith, Police Scotland 'D' Division, Tayside on information which was not to be made publically available.

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