Location: Mearns Community Campus

Present: Andrew Macdonald (AM), Dave Stewart (DS) Janette Anderson (JA) Alasdair Shiach (AS) Chris Rushbridge (CR) Remi Savlan (RS), Alasdair Shiach

EX Officio Cllr Carr, Cllr Evison

Observer: Gordon Reid

Apologies: Kevin Todd (KT) Carol Medlock (CM) John Lovell (JL) Anne Lawson (AL), Paul Green (PG), Ashley Buchan (AB) Ken Williams (KW),

Date: 29th April 2024

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| **Minutes of Last Meeting**  Circulated as received.  Reviewed with no further comment, no matters arising.  Proposed AS, seconded CR |  |
| **Correspondence from Aberdeenshire Council**  Circulated as received (Correspondence, Road Closures, Planning, Roads and Landscape services).  **Correspondence from Residents and Stakeholders**  A letter from, a Marykirk resident seeking MCC support in making their views on establishing part time street lighting in one street within the village known to Aberdeenshire Council. AM will write to Aberdeenshire Council advising them of the situation. | **AM** |
| **Declarations of Interest**  None  **Police Report**  Concern was voiced that the ongoing absence of a representative from Police Scotland was yet more evidence of significant dilution of commitment from the service. This is exacerbated by the lack of presence at the local police office. AM will write to Police Scotland to seek confirmation and advice regarding service levels and local strategy. | **AM** |
| **Settlements**  **Auchenblae**  Sri Lankan High Commission event was very successful. Held on James Taylor’s birthday, including reception in the Hall, laying a wreath at the Statue and a Gala Dinner in the evening.  The Sri Lankan delegation are keen to leverage the relationship and are talking of creating the Pekoe Trail (Pekoe being a grade of tea) this will start in Auchenblae and conclude in Sri Lanka creating a Tea Tourism trail. If successful this should create both tourism and job potential.  **Fettercairn**  Nothing reported  **Fordoun**  With the “retirement” of the current contact Aberdeenshire Council are seeking a contact to deal with annual flower allocation  **Edzell Woods**  Cllr GC advised work on the Shakin’ Brig is due to start imminently.  **Glenbervie**  Nothing reported  **Laurencekirk**  Accessibility to the Community Campus Access for less  **West Cairnbeg**  Nothing reported  **Luthermuir**  Access at Crosspoles is still causing problems. Can MCC arrange a meeting with the Outdoor Access officer?  **Marykirk** |  |
| **Planning** |  |
| APP/2024/042- CR to write to Aberdeenshire Council confirming MCC’s objection. | **CR** |
| **Closure of Service Centres** |  |
| Very serious concern was raised regarding the ongoing degradation of service levels in the K&M area. |  |
| **Treasurers Report** |  |
| £8981.86 in RBS as at 31st March 2024  AS confirmed bank account and signatory issues have been addressed. |  |
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| **AOCB** |  |
| Date of next meeting 27th May 2024  No other matters arising, the meeting was closed, |  |