

## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER 2023, AT HOLIDAY INN & BY ZOOM.

Community Council		
Name	Position	Present
Mayasa Al-Jubori	Member	✗
Mervyn Barr	Member	✓
Malcolm Collie	Member	✓
Heather Cook	Member	✓
Donald Davidson	Member	✓
David Dent	Associate Member	✗
Becky Ferguson	Vice-Chair	✓
Audrey Findlay	Associate Member	✓
Charlie Flint	Member	✗
Ben Horsburgh	Associate Member	✗
Kate Lumsden	Member	✓
Elaine Manley	Member	✗
Rachid Meghezzi	Member	✓
William Munro	Vice-Chair	✓ (via zoom)
Gordon Prentice	Treasurer	✓
Diane Priestley	Member	✓
David Ritchie	Secretary	✓
Tim Yeomans	Member	✓
Cllr Iris Walker	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Ron McKail	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Craig Miller	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Fatima Joji	Ward 13 Councillor	✓ (via zoom)

### Members of Public:

At hotel- Shona Wright (Westdyke Leisure Centre)

1	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> Becky Ferguson chaired this meeting. There was a delay to start of meeting due to the partitions being closed and not easy to open them Permission was given for meeting to be recorded.
2	<b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b> Apologies received from Mayasa Al-Jubori, David Dent, Charlie Flint, Ben Horsburgh and Elaine Manley
3	<b>Approval of Minutes of Meeting 10th August 2023</b> Re the Council tax review consultation, the figures quoted by Cllr Joji at August do not align with the figures in Cllr Walker's report for this meeting. It appears that the document Cllr Joji was referring to was only about Band H properties. The full consultation is on bands E to H. The minutes will be amended to say that what was reported was Cllr Joji's understanding. The minutes were proposed by Heather, seconded by Gordon
4	<b>Shopping Centre Update</b> No report from Ben Horsburgh. No update on when the car park repairs will start.
5	<b>Matters Arising/ Actions Update</b> 1. <b>Larg/Broadstraik Park (Malcolm)</b> – Malcolm has submitted an application for £3805 to the Just Transition Participatory Fund to purchase fruit trees and wild-flower seeds for the Park. The voting for projects in Aberdeen City, Shire & Moray opens on 29 <sup>th</sup> September and closes on 13 <sup>th</sup> October

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	<p><b>2. Academy Outreach-</b> Elaine not present so will be followed up next month</p> <p><b>3. Litter Picking-</b> Gordon advised a pick was held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, with 12 volunteers. There was an issue this morning with the new yellow smaller recycling bins being blown over and some contents scattered on driveways and streets. Straps to hold lid down can be obtained free from the recycling centre.</p> <p><b>4. Business Association-</b> Elaine not present. BNI have got article in Autumn Bulletin and Elaine has submitted one for winter issue.</p> <p><b>5. Swimming Pool Timetable Changes-</b> The Sunday sessions are back and there has been a few more changes. Lauren Wade has a meeting with Avril Nicol tomorrow and a User Group meeting is planned for 30<sup>th</sup> October. Heather commented that the senior citizens have not been involved in the consultation. Paper copies of the feedback form can be made available to them</p>
6	<p><b>Westdyke Leisure Centre</b></p> <p>Shona Wright (Centre manager) attended to give an update on the financial issues they are facing. (see also Cllr Mckail &amp; Walkers reports in item 10)</p> <p>Council funding has ceased, fewer people using the centre due to cost of living rises, higher energy costs. Some classes are no longer being required as increased funded nursery places are taken up. The forecast annual shortfalls are significant and possibly insurmountable.</p> <p>They have started a GoFundMe page and that has raised nearly £2000 so far. Target is £40,000</p> <p>Hall hire charges have been increased, but there is issues with the heating in parts of the hall.</p> <p>They applied for funding for LED lighting but this was turned down.</p> <p>They can't put on some of the kind of events that the Ashdale Hall can do as they don't have a stage.</p> <p>The Council Core Funding that was cut was replaced by the Positive Action Fund but they hadn't applied for that due to a misunderstanding on who could apply to that.</p> <p>WECC may be able to help promote the Centre. An application can be made to the WECC Community Support Fund. The Sports Hub are trying to get coaches for additional sports that could be held there.</p> <p>The Westhill Bulletin always has a page listing the classes etc. They can also put article in next issue.</p> <p>They could organise a raffle and distribute raffle books with the Bulletin, like the Men Shed has done in the past.</p> <p>Car Boot Sale and Tesco bag-packing were also suggested...</p>
7	<p><b>Asylum Seeker Hotel</b></p> <p>Mervyn has been to the hotel to get an update from Mears on status of the doubling-up that Home Office are keen to do. The Hotel have not been advised about this yet. There is great concern in the community about this but little that WECC can do about it.</p> <p>Groups have been drinking in public, but that is not illegal in the Shire.</p> <p>There is a single basketball hoop &amp; stand in the hotel car park. Mervyn would like WECC to buy one so that they could have a proper game. This was agreed so Mervyn will check with Mears that they will be ok with that. We have access to a table tennis table but it needs a base so Mervyn can ask about that too. He will also check with Mears re status of the minibus that we understood was going to be available to take the service users into Aberdeen.</p> <p>The Sports Hub are trying to arrange other activities for them.</p> <p>Cllr Miller had a piece in Autumn Bulletin about how the Community have been helping the service users, but this generated a large amount of email traffic, some abusive, He also reported that there is a group of Georgians in the</p>

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	<p>hotel and it is alleged that it is mainly them who have been drinking in public. They are currently not allowed to use the bikes as there had been an accident and the cyclist broke his ankle. Bike safety training will be provided soon, then they will be allowed to start using them again. The poor level of English causes issues. The church is running a conversation class once a week, but more should be done. Cllr Joji is still trying to get a response from Home Office about if they had done an impact assessment on doubling up in Westhill.</p>
8	<p><b>Police Report</b> Report for August has been circulated. There was 6 Public Nuisance incidents, some of which we expect are groups of asylum seekers, but no specific reference to them in the report. David will ask Police if they can provide updates on their activity related to the asylum seekers</p>
9	<p><b>Correspondence</b> <b>Review of secretary correspondence log for last 5 weeks.</b> (circulated). David was contacted through the website by an Alice Brown who expressed an interest in joining WECC. David suggested to Alice that she attend this meeting but she didn't respond</p>
10	<p><b><u>Ward 13 Councillors updates –</u></b></p> <p><b>Cllr Miller-</b> The Council Tax Consultation closes on 20<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Walker reported on it in her Autumn Bulletin article. Becky will put something on our Facebook to remind residents, but not enable people to comment on it. Willie will respond to the consultation on behalf of WECC.</p> <p><b>Cllr McKail-</b> Circulated report in italics: <b>Doctor Patients Group</b> <i>There are community council areas in Aberdeenshire where a representative member from the health centre and members of the community meet a few times each year to share issues. Should we in Westhill consider having a similar arrangement? I recollect we did have something similar in the past.</i></p> <p><b>Westdyke Leisure Centre.</b> <i>Possible that someone from Westdyke may attend WECC's meeting. For clarity they have not been invited to the meeting. They know of the meeting and may be in attendance. Councillors have been provided with a briefing note regarding Westdyke from Garioch Office which illustrates Council involvement:-</i> <i>Core funding from Council of £13,000 ceased in 19/20</i> <i>Transition funding of £9100 paid in 20/21</i> <i>No further funding payments made by LLA</i> <i>An alternative source of core funding was available for Westdyke but not applied for.</i> <i>GAC provided £5000 in November 2022 followed by £46,639 earlier this year from Developer obligations for a new heating system.</i> <i>Westdyke recently applied for funding for LED lightbulbs but application was refused.</i> <i>The Management Committee are responsible for the management of the centre. The council's responsibility is to keep the building wind and watertight.</i></p> <p><b>Group Fest. Inverurie Community Council</b> <i>Attended Inverurie Group Fest last Saturday. I was there representing Garioch and North Marr Community Safety Group. Some 30 groups supported the event, held in the Town Hall.</i></p>

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*Wondered if this type of event was worth considering for Westhill. The benefit for members of the community was the opportunity to speak with representatives from a variety of organisations which included:*

*Council's Community Planning Area Team/ Foodbank/Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action/ Waste Services/Gordon Riding for the Disabled/Macular Society/Marie Curie/ Police Scotland/British Legion/ Victim Support Scotland/etc.*

**Cllr Walker-** Circulated report in italics:

### **Household Recycling Centres**

*The trial where some HRCs had open access with no booking and some centres remained online booking (e.g. Westhill) ended in July and in order to assess the trial fully, the Waste service is in the process of gathering the data that will inform the outcome. They have also conducted surveys of both the public (over 3000 responses received) and the HRC staff. They are just reviewing the survey results now. They will also be looking at visitor numbers at each of the sites to compare the different systems as well as tonnage for all sites. It is hoped that a report will be available in November for a decision to be made on next steps.*

### **Westdyke Leisure Centre**

*I was invited to a recent meeting of the committee. The trustees are struggling to make ends meet due to a combination of high running costs and loss of income, partly due to some classes no longer being required as increased funded nursery places are taken up. The group are being proactive in trying to market the facility and fund raise. They have set up a GoFundMe page with some advertising to be carried out shortly. I would encourage all local residents to support where you can whether through fund raising, sponsorship or promotion of the centre.*

### **Scottish Fire & Rescue (SFRS)/Police Scotland (PS)**

*As Communities Committee is now the only formal reporting mechanism to council from both these organisation. Link to their reports which we discussed on 7<sup>th</sup> September, Items 10 and 11.*

<https://aberdeenshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=148&MId=323>

*SFRS reported an increase in road traffic collisions, largely due to an increase in journeys and traffic compared to earlier reporting periods during Covid. There is early evidence of greater numbers of elderly drivers returning to work after retirement, due to the cost of living. Engagement sessions are planned with community groups.*

*Graeme Mackie, Chief Superintendent delivered the PS report and explained to Committee the "proportionate response to investigation of crime" pilot. This is a 12-week pilot which commenced on 28<sup>th</sup> August in the North East. There has been a significant amount of local and national media attention on this pilot. CS Mackie explained that the pilot isn't about police **not** investigating crimes and it isn't a blanket policy to not investigate certain crimes. Call handling staff will receive calls from members of the public as before, issue a crime number and advise at that time if the case is closed or not. They are trained to make the distinction between which cases will be followed up and those which have no identifiable lead for officers to follow. All cases will then be further assessed by a professional team of officers who will then either agree that cases are closed or be passed to an officer to investigate using a risk matrix which looks at vulnerabilities, risk to public, etc. etc.*

*CS Mackie was keen to give the public confidence and reassurance that the pilot is about using a different approach on how certain instances are dealt with when reported. The main driver is to free up officers to deal with crimes which have definite leads, respond to emergencies and to keep people safe. It was noted that there had been a reduction in 39 posts in the North East. CS Mackie confirmed that policing needs to change and adapt as budget allocation is reducing.*

*Local inspectors are to have further engagement with area committees asap. The main message to communities is that everyone should keep contacting the police if they are affected by a crime – this is not about not responding, it's about applying a risk matrix on first contact.*

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### **Council Tax Consultation**

Further to our discussion on the Council Tax consultation at the last WECC meeting, I have now received the breakdown of properties by tax band in Westhill & Elrick which gives a clear picture of the number of households affected by the proposed changes for bands E-H.

**Elrick:** 698                      **Westhill:** 5045

Band	Total	Band	Total
A	1	A	48
B	16	B	295
C	77	C	429
D	61	D	863
<b>E</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>1206</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>887</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>1292</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>25</b>

Next Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, the council's Business Services Committee will consider the council's draft response to the consultation which you can read in the link below at item 8a. It should be noted that it is subject to change depending on members' further comment at Committee.

<https://aberdeenshire.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=152&MId=322&Ver=4>

### **Cllr Joji**

- Have had some correspondence re bins and missed collections, details passed to Waste Services
- Also on grass verges not being cut
- Consultation on Early Learning & Child Care closes on 29<sup>th</sup> September, so should encourage residents to respond. Fatima to send link for it to Becky (this done via Zoom Chat)

Donald asked about the recent changes to road markings at Tesco roundabout. The left hand lane on Westhill Drive is only now for traffic turning left on to A944. Traffic going straight across roundabout to Tesco etc. should only use right-hand lane. There is no signage up yet and if there is a queue of traffic it is difficult to see the road markings. Becky will contact Roads dept. to request signage.

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### **Rotary Update/Exchange-** David Dent

When sending his apologies, he advised that he is progressing the Pétanque court planning permission application

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### **Westhill Paths Update**

Circulated report from Gordon Prentice in italics:-

#### ***Matters Arising Since Last Meeting***

#### ***Active Projects***

##### ***1. Carnie Woods Path Restoration & Upgrade [1.1km]***

*The contractor duly commenced site preparations on 28 August, but it didn't get off to the smoothest of starts. Contrary to expectations and public notices prior to the works, all three entrances to Carnie Woods were blocked off without notice. The contractor judged that the risks of public and canine access to Carnie Woods were too great whilst*



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construction is ongoing. Having accepted that, I asked the Council to put up replacement public notices advising temporary closure and apologising for the inconvenience.

Access to the site is controlled through Northside Farm, off the B979. I am attending a first site visit on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> along with ACC officials and Paths for All's Project Officer, and will update the meeting verbally.

Gordon reported that the work is progressing well and is expected to be completed earlier than planned.

One other important fact to emerge last week was that the City Council's legal team has finally decreed that the Council owns all of the woodland at Carnie, which means that removal of the remaining [and largely unsafe] boardwalk in the woods is back on the agenda. This work could potentially be done by volunteers, including some asylum seekers.

**Weeding around the saplings:** this work has also come to an abrupt halt, and only a few days after making a breakthrough with local company IKM. We had hoped to work well away from the construction work, but have been told that this will not be allowed other than possibly at weekends. Mears have been advised as a matter of courtesy, although they have yet to complete a risk assessment.

### **2. PBIP [Improving Access for all to Westhill's Health-Giving Green Spaces – Denman Park / Arnhall Moss]**

No change since last month, although one member of the public has come forward [via Cllr McKail] and offered to donate wooden picnic benches. This generous offer is being considered, but I think that Council policy is to use recycled plastic products only. Gordon will contact the gentleman to check if he still wishes to make the donation.

The September meeting of the project team is due to take place on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>. I will update the meeting verbally. The budget (around £200k) looks quite tight for the desired amount of work so the potential contractors are going to be asked what they could do within that budget. Tenders should be going out in October, with work expected to start at Spring 2024.

#### **Ongoing Maintenance / Upgrades**

A grant application for £1,700 was submitted to Paths for All to help us purchase two brush-cutter/trimmers, one hedge trimmer, and two pairs of extendable loppers, together with accessories. We have been notified that our application was successful, although the amount has still to be confirmed. Confirmed as £1700. Paths for All have advised that we need to have in place a policy/procedure re protection of children and vulnerable adults. We won't have children doing any work but we could have some asylum seekers and they would be considered as vulnerable. Gordon will draft a suitable document which can be reviewed at the October meeting.

I was delighted to see an email from the Community Payback Service [CPS] offering some assistance with strimming on the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> August. In the event, two clients armed with trimmers cut back the grass path at Lawsondale. Their supervisor hoped that they would be able to return to the Broadshade section of the path "soon".

Meanwhile, our own team made an excellent job of tidying up the section from Broadshade Avenue into the golf course. The south side of Westhill Heights has been risk assessed by an advance party, and we hope to begin work there soon. That work has now been completed.

I have received an estimate of £500 from my son-in-law to do the haulage from Leith's quarry of the material to smooth and improve the surface of the farm track on the north edge of Meadowlands. I'm planning to approach the farmer who uses it for a contribution before tabling this formally.

**Link to Hill of Keir to/from the west:** No change, although there may be changes to operation and/or ownership of the land imminently.

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### **Funding Update**

*No transactions this month. £281 has been carried forward from 2022/23. May be used on WOT stickers and/or quarry material for Meadowlands farm track reinforcement.*

### **13 Community Action Plan (Diane)**

*Circulated report in italics:-*

*The planning group met with Gordon to discuss several issues of the action plan arising from the CAP survey. He was able to give us information on a number of identified actions relating to Denman Park, Carnie Wood, footpaths and the existing sports provision in the area. Budgetary matters were also discussed as the planning group will require a budget for 2023-2024.*

*One of the items that does need to be approved is to pay the photographer Jane McClure who has provided photos for the CAP publication: she agreed she did not want payment for the photos but would be happy if WECC could donate to the following charity <https://findingyourfeet.net/denote-now/>. A donation of £100 was agreed.*

*The group are also meeting with the Councillors on 12<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the CAP findings and see how they can assist us in achieving some of the action plan items. Many of the items will require a lot of research and planning. Suggested that RGU students could be approached to help with feasibility studies.*

*Hope to be ready to publish the Plan early 2024*

*Gordon has got a quote of around £200 for a WECC sail sign to help identify us at events etc. He will get a mock-up and circulate it.*

### **14 Planning Matters (Diane Priestly)**

*Circulated report in italics:-*

#### **Planning applications**

*APP/2023/1445*

*Full planning permission for siting of Storage Container and extension to premises at Unit 17 (Duncano's) Westhill Shopping Centre, expiry date 14<sup>th</sup> September.*

*APP/2023/1451*

*Full planning permission for external alterations, siting of skips, erection of fence and alterations to car park at Elrick house on Peregrine Road, expiry date 14 September*

#### **Hill of Fare**

*I forwarded the document from the Hill of Fare Community Councils group whose consultations with their communities have clearly shown that 75% of the people completing the questionnaire objected to the proposed windfarm and 11% were in favour. The reasons given for the larger number of objections was due to the prominence of the site, the number and height of the turbines and the effect on the large number of people living closest to the Hill of Fare. Other concerns that were mentioned in the document included the ongoing noise factor, shadow flicker, the private water supplies, plus the effect on properties.*

*The results of the questionnaire and its findings have now been passed to the Dunecht Estate and Councillors*

*The planning application for this development was due to be announced by late summer this year.*

#### **SSEN transmission**

*Willie received a lengthy e mail from Mairi Gougeon, a MSP for Angus North and the Mearns, about her constituent's queries about the SSEN Transmission proposals for the transmission infrastructure between Kintore, Fiddes and Tealing*

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*which included the questions that her constituents had raised. They focused on the planning process, the flawed consultation process, the substation, technical questions, compensation and community funds, public health concerns, environmental concerns, impact on agriculture, property values, heritage, consecrated land/burial ground, impact on the landscape, placement of pylons etc. If you are interested in this information it can be forwarded to you.*

### **Local Development Plan**

*The LDP team have been completing an Open Space audit and this will feedback into a Play Space Sufficiency Assessment. The audit will show how different communities are served by open space, the summary sheets will be circulated during October.*

*Affordable housing is also mentioned, this is a topic that WECC members have discussed on many occasions. Aberdeenshire's affordable housing policy states that there is no national definition of affordable housing but in the Local Development Plan it is referred to as 'housing made available at a cost below the full market value to meet identified need'. Social rented housing is usually managed by the Council or an RSL (registered social landlord) which can be a housing association.*

### **Garioch Community Council Forum 6<sup>th</sup> September**

*The meeting focused on the concerns of GP provision in Garioch and one member of the group mentioned the possibility of encouraging a Patient Participation Group which is linked to a General Practice where patients and practice staff work together for the benefit of the practice and the community. More details of this scheme and how it operates are going to be forwarded to Community Councils by Aberdeenshire Council.*

### **Scottish Forum of Community Councils**

*At the WECC meeting in August Diane advised that in June she had attended a conference which proposed the establishment of a Scottish Forum of Community Councils. She has now been invited to join the Forum. This was agreed. All the meetings will be on-line. No costs involved.*

## **15 Financials** (Gordon Prentice) Circulated report in italics:-

### **Matters Arising from 10th August:**

- £500 donation made to Kingshill Parish Church
- GAIF grant claimed and received [1<sup>st</sup> Sept]

### **Financial Transactions – August**

***Income:** £1,470, comprising receipt of annual admin support grant from AC, plus monthly receipt from Vinespring Church. This was reduced by a net credit of £75 on the Bulletin Account – one late payer offset by a credit for two issues to an advertiser forced to give up his business owing to ill health.*

***Expenditure:** £651.*

***Outstanding Commitments:** £1,214; comprising £633 for supply/install 2 Jubilee Drive signs [invoice awaited]. Gordon updated that 2 more Jubilee Drive signs have been installed by AC so we should be invoiced for £1266 for 4 signs. £367 owing to the secretary for honoraria payments in Q3, plus £45 invoice received from Community Church in respect of CAP meeting room hire charges (approved), plus card payment to GPH for timber supports for storage units.*

***Bank Balances at Month End:** £29,437*

*Main Account: £13,031      Bulletin Account: £16,406*

***Note that the CAP group is planning to bring forward a budget to implement the Action Plan***

***Westhill Bulletin***



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	<p><i>Summer Issue: one invoice for £106 remains unpaid. If paid, then the Summer Issue will make a net contribution of £1,987 to General Funds.</i></p> <p><b>GAIF grant claim pending:</b> timber supports for storage units - 50% of GPH payment £168.67</p>
16	<p><b>Green Westhill</b> (Mervyn Barr) Circulated report in italics:-</p> <p><b><u>Bedding plants</u></b>- <i>We will soon be placing an order for winter pansies to replace the current bedding plants – probably in mid-October, weather permitting. Green finger Volunteers will get the call in early October,</i></p> <p><i>Dwarf conifers – Each barrel planter has a small (proportionate) conifer in it to provide a centre point and some height. Approximately 6 of them are past their best and are different to the majority which are doing very well. Currently planning to replace them, estimated cost about £90. In the meantime Rachid and Ken have been keeping an eye on weeding, watering and tidying around the baskets and barrels. Huge thanks to them.</i></p> <p><b><u>Denman Trees</u></b> - <i>very positive progress report from Barbara Crane who has been keeping an eye on these saplings. They are doing so well that some will need longer stakes/supports. Again huge thanks to Barbara for taking the initiative.</i></p> <p><b><u>Recycling compost</u></b> - <i>I have purchased a new compost bin to allow for a three year rotation to preserve the retrieved compost in an optimum, re-usable state. We will start to put together a recycle/new mix for next summer – using the compost from 2021 which will by then have had three years to compost fully.</i></p> <p><b><u>Storage Units</u></b> - <i>Timber to construct basic support platforms is to be delivered by 13<sup>th</sup> Sept and construction will start soon after. In preparation the thick ivy has been trimmed from the green wall (on the inside). Thanks to Rachid and Ken for their help and advice in this exercise.</i></p> <p><b><u>Westhill Green Team</u></b> - <i>As you will hear/have heard from Gordon there has been a lot of effort done to maintain the Orbital Trail; mainly by cutting down/back overhanging vegetation or encroaching grass/weedy borders. In reality there is considerable overlap between the Greenfingers group and the Orbital Trail volunteers group, so Gordon and I are planning to amalgamate the two (and maybe litter pickers) into one group called the Westhill Green Team. Any thoughts on this proposal or name? <b>NO PROGRESS ON THIS YET</b></i></p> <p><b><u>Autumn Bulb Planting</u></b> <i>Awaiting bulbs from Landscape Services. Greenfingers Volunteers have been given a “heads up” Where possible we might want to continue planting borders on the WOT and maybe the new wild-flower meadow pathways on Mains Of Kinmundy Hill??. Will liaise with David Dent re Rotary crocus planting.</i></p>
17	<p><b><u>Christmas Event 2<sup>nd</sup> December</u></b></p> <p>Discussion around that this is now more of an event organised by the Shopping Centre, not WECC. Suggested that we just do the hot chocolate and goodies and decorate the 2 trees. There would be no band or carol singing. We need to start meetings to organise it but Ben is signed-off work just now. Heather, Becky, David, Audrey, Kate &amp; Diane agreed to be in the team. First meeting to just be WECC to decide what we would like to do. Community Church Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 10am.</p>
18	<p><b><u>AOB &amp; Close of Meeting</u></b></p> <p>David thanked the contributors for getting there pre-reads in earlier as discussed in August.</p> <p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b>- 12th October at Holiday Inn, with Zoom option.</p>

**APPENDIX**



**GARIOCH COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM  
VISIBLE, ACCESSIBLE AND EFFECTIVE**

**Community Council: Westhill and Elrick  
Reporting Period: 1 to 31 August 2023**

**Current Policing Priorities:**

Our priorities are:-

1. ASB – Proactive patrols to provide community reassurance and to deter/detect instances of ASB and Vandalism.
2. PROACTIVITY – Increased use of Stop and Search and plain-clothed patrols to deter/detect drug and acquisitive crime.
3. ROAD SAFETY – Enhanced speed checks and other speed reduction measures.

**Crime Overview and Explanation:**

CRIME TYPE	CURRENT PERIOD	PREVIOUS PERIOD
Assault	0	1
Housebreaking	1	0
Public Nuisance	6	6
Road Traffic	1 accident, 3 other	0 accident, 5 other
Drugs	3	2

*Assault – Includes all recorded instances of violence.*

*Housebreaking – includes all break in's to domestic and commercial premises, including attempted break in's.*

*Public Nuisance – All youth annoyance and calls in relation to anti-social behaviour.*

*Road Traffic – all calls in relation to Road Traffic Accidents and Offences (speeding, illegal parking, obstruction etc).*

*Drugs – all reports incidents in relation to drugs dealing and use.*

**Assault:**

There have been 0 incidents reported.

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### **Housebreaking:**

There has been 1 instance of housebreaking with intent to steal. No damage was caused and no property was stolen.

### **Public Nuisance:**

There has been 6 reports which is similar to last month. Two involve youths gathering with no offences identified.

One relates to males on bikes travelling at speed through a play park. There was a delay in reporting and no bikes were traced. One relates to a male refusing to leave McDonalds. He was moved on by Police. One relates to males loitering in the car park at Tesco, urinating and wolf whistling. They moved on of their own accord. One relates to an anonymous report of males congregating at the park at the bottom of Larg Drive. Police attended with no persons traced.

None give any cause for significant concern or suggest the emergence of a crime trend/pattern.

### **Road Traffic:**

This period has seen 1 reported accident involving two vehicles. One of the drivers was issued a Fixed Penalty Notice for careless driving. No injury was sustained.

There has been 1 report of a parked vehicle being struck. The reporter did not make a complaint.

Other calls relates to debris in the carriageway and a wall being damaged.

One male has been charged with careless driving and driving without insurance. Another male was charged with a cause and permit offence.

### **Drugs:**

There has been 3 drug related calls during this period. One relates to an unattended bag which was found to contain Cannabis. Enquiries are ongoing. One to a smell of Cannabis and another to drug dealing. This is being progressed.

### **Significant Crime/Issues within Your Community:**

There have been no significant events this reporting period.

### **Planned Community Policing Activity/Advice:**

Our speeding operation continues as before.

Speed checks were carried out at Hays Way near to Crombie Primary School and Westhill Drive on 29/08/2023. One driver was found to be parked within the controlled zone in front of the school and was advised accordingly.

No speeding offences were identified.

### **Conclusion:**

This is another stable report and if there are any issues that you wish brought to Police attention, please let me know.

Emma Forbes, Sgt, A0645