

ANGUSalive

NOTE of MEETING of the Board of Directors of ANGUSalive held at Forfar Community Campus at 10:00 on Friday 14 February 2025.

Name	Title	Initial
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Present:

Kenny	Fraser	Independent Director - Chairperson	KF
Derek	Wagh	Independent Director – Vice Chairperson	DW
Lynne	Devine	Council Director	LD
Serena	Cowdy	Council Director	SC
Tam	Ferry	Independent Director	TF
Kenny	Christie	Independent Director	KC
Robbie	Francis	Company Secretary	RF
Iain	Stevens	Acting Chief Executive	IS
Colin	Knight	Acting Chief Executive	CK
Ronnie	Proctor	Council Director	RP
Campbell	Archibald	Independent Director	CA
Jessica	Curran	Angus Council Finance Team Leader	JC
Graham	Thom	Board & Executive Assistant	GT
Alison	Watson	Angus Council Legal & Democratic Service Leader	AW
Alison	Gallacher	Angus Council Procurement & Commissioning Manager	AG

Apologies:

Kevin	Lumsden	Angus Council Finance Manager	KL
Brian	Boyd	Council Director	BB

Item No	Note
1.	<p>Welcome & Apologies</p> <p>KF welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from KL and BB.</p>
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Directors were asked to consider whether they had any declarations of interest in relation to any item on the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>No declarations were made.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of Full Board Meeting on Friday 13 December 2024</p> <p>Directors were asked to consider whether the minute of the previous Board meeting provided an accurate representation of the meeting. LD proposed the minute was accurate and TF seconded.</p> <p>Matters arising</p> <p><i>Aquapark Project</i> CK noted this item will be covered in Report 04_25 tabled at this meeting under agenda item 7.</p> <p><i>Health & Wellbeing Project</i> CK noted this item will be covered in Report 05_25 tabled at this meeting under agenda item 8.</p> <p><i>Staffing Plan</i> The Executive Team were asked to provide a three-year plan of how staffing will be managed. CK noted this cannot be provided until the Service Reviews have been completed.</p> <p><i>Strategic Development Session</i> CK confirmed the Theatre & Venues Team will present at the March 2025 Strategic Development Session. This update will include information on the journey to cost neutrality and impact of the theatre on the local economy.</p>

	<p><i>Angus Council - Legal Reviews</i> AW to build review of the Articles of Association into the review plan timeline and provide an update on this as appropriate. AW confirmed this is covered in Report 03_25 tabled at this meeting under agenda item 6.</p> <p>Other <i>Mobile Food & Beverage Offer</i> There was discussion around the mobile food and beverage offer at Arbroath Signal Tower Museum. IS explained the link to a funding agreement with Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS) for the mobile unit until March 2025. MGS have been kept updated on attempts to launch a service in partnership with a provider and have confirmed the mobile unit can be used outwith Museums & Galleries from April 2025.</p> <p><i>The Yard</i> There was discussion around the urgent requirement for relocation of the Angus Council Collection from The Yard. IS advised this location is no longer fit for purpose due to a variety of property issues which now pose a serious risk to the Collection, comprised of many irreplaceable items, and are also impacting the ability of our team to work effectively at this site. KH noted the Executive Team are already meeting with the Council Property Team on Monday 17 February 2025 to discuss the current condition, maintenance schedule, lifespan and future developments across the property estate which the charity has a license to occupy. KH advised we will be highlighting immediate action is required to ensure the Collection is stored appropriately to safeguard it for future generations.</p> <p>Action: Update on The Yard discussion with Angus Council property team to be provided at the Strategic Development Session on Friday 14 March 2025.</p>
4.	<p>01_25 Executive Team Update Report</p> <p>CK and IS presented key points on the update report. Highlights included;</p> <p><i>Storm Eowyn</i> It was noted there was no requirement to establish a rest centre during the storm although a team was on standby if required. There was limited damage to buildings which is being dealt with by the relevant teams. There were also some trees down in the country parks but again this is being dealt with by the teams.</p> <p><i>FCC Dance Studio</i> There has been a temporary solution implemented at Forfar Community Campus to accommodate the school's requirement for additional space during the school day. The solution is in place until the end of May 2025 and the Sport & Leisure Team Leader will work towards finding a long-term solution.</p> <p><i>Robert Burns Festival</i></p>

STV News attended this event at Montrose Museum on Saturday 25 January 2025 and footage was shown on Monday 27 January 2025 on STV news providing positive coverage for ANGUSalive.

Pickle Ball

There was a successful launch of Pickleball at Brechin Community Campus and Carnoustie Sports Centre in July 2024 and since inception we have run over 52 sessions attended by 984 people. This has now been extended to Forfar Community Campus, Webster's Sports Centre, Montrose Sports Centre, and Saltire Sports Centre.

Comedy in Angus

This has been promoted through our partnership with The Courier in an article published on Saturday 25 January 2025. Pop-ups were also on The Courier website to link straight to our On Stage brochure and ticket sales platform.

Vandalism

It was noted there have been several recent instances of vandalism at both Monikie Country Park and Forfar Library. Public toilets at Monikie Country Park were vandalised over the festive period and we were proactive on this by highlighting the issue on our social media and the public response has been supportive and positive. Forfar Library had a break in during January and the donations box was stolen. Again, a proactive article in The Courier has led to public support and donations being made. A local business owner - SassyLou Crafts, has since made bookmarks where all sales will go towards donations to our Libraries.

Arbroath Library & Archives Unit

Phase 1 - first floor works have commenced to allow the exit from Restenneth by 25 February 2025. The main ground floor project for the library has been delayed due to lack of property resource, works now not expected to commence until June 2025.

Monifieth Library @ MAC (Monifieth Activity Centre)

There is currently no information to update on moving in date. ANGUSalive are not vacating the current library until utilities and broadband issues are resolved.

Dundee & Angus College - Service Design Academy Training

It was noted fully funded training that will focus 14 of our staff on 'Developing Your Leadership Skills' has been organised. The £15,000 of funding was achieved through our status as an apprenticeship levy payer.

Board Secretary Confirmation

IS noted Robbie Francis from Thorntons has been confirmed in the role for further three years, with a potential extension for a further two years thereafter.

Angus Council Elected Members

CK provided an update about ongoing engagement with Councillors to improve awareness of our services and respond to specific enquiries.

	<p><i>Strategic Development Session</i></p> <p>It was noted the next Strategic Development Session is on Friday 14 March 2025. There will be a presentation from our Theatre & Venues team as agreed at the Board meeting in December 2024.</p>
5.	<p>02_25 Finance & Audit Information Report</p> <p>DW provided a high-level overview of the Finance & Audit Sub Committee meeting held on Friday 31 January 2025. He noted the charity is in a good position financially and we have a positive year end projection.</p> <p>Committee members were asked to consider whether the minute of the previous FAS meeting provided an accurate representation of the meeting. TF proposed the minute was accurate and LD seconded.</p> <p><i>2025/26 Budget</i></p> <p>It was noted the proposed saving ask is 2025/26 = £250k, 2026/27 = £500k, and 2027/28 = £0. It was discussed at the meeting that the preference of the committee would be to spread this savings ask evenly over the next three years. CK confirmed this request has been raised with the council's Director of Finance.</p> <p><i>Pricing Schedule</i></p> <p>DW confirmed the new Countryside Adventure aquapark will be competitively priced at £18.50 per user. In Sport & Leisure, bACTIVE prices will be maintained for most existing users and there will be a slight increase in cost for new users. Some holiday activity prices have also increased which was discussed and agreed to be the right approach.</p> <p><i>Internal Audit</i></p> <p>DW confirmed the outstanding actions are reducing as the team are working through them. The Internal Audit Plan for 2025/26 will be presented at the next Finance & Audit Sub Committee meeting on Friday 04 April 2025.</p>
6.	<p>03_25 Angus Council - Legal Reviews Information Report</p> <p>AW provided an overview of the report covering the updated position of the various documents. She noted the Articles of Association will also be reviewed following the good governance notification from OSCAR when the 2023/24 annual accounts were submitted, and this will include consideration of ANGUSalive's request to increase the number of Directors on the Board.</p> <p>She confirmed the review is on schedule with the Dual Use Agreement now with ANGUSalive for review and the Services Agreement on track to be shared with ANGUSalive by the end of February 2025.</p> <p>Action: KH to review the Articles of Association with RF and provide an update on recommended actions at the Strategic Development Session on Friday 14 March 2025.</p>

	<p>The Board were asked to note the update provided in this report.</p> <p>The Board noted the contents of the report.</p>
7.	<p>04_25 Monikie Aquapark Project Update Report</p> <p>CK provided an overview of the Monikie Aquapark project and confirmed the project remains on schedule. The final design of the Aquapark is contained in the report. He confirmed the preparation of the site is well under way and staff have now been recruited into the roles to run this new activity.</p> <p>CK highlighted public engagement has generally been very positive and the local school has enthusiastically engaged with the project and helped name the park. The team attended the latest Monikie & Newbigging Community Council meeting and feel there is a good relationship with the community who are supportive of the new venture.</p> <p>SC noted it would be a good opportunity to refresh all the signage within the park when the Aquapark signs are being developed to improve the offering round information on wildlife and conservation too.</p> <p>KH noted Angus Council's reservoir inspector has reported the reservoirs are in very good condition and work with these partners on maintenance of the reservoirs is going well.</p> <p>There was discussion about safety arrangements out of hours in terms of water safety. CK confirmed we have already refreshed water safety signage at the parks and have recently engaged with a security specialist to explore options for CCTV of certain elements within the parks following the recent spate of vandalism.</p> <p>The Board of Directors were asked to note the content of this report and confirm their approval for use of £50k from the Investment Fund for wider improvements within the country parks to improve the presentation of these spaces.</p> <p>Directors noted the content of the report and approved the investment ask.</p>
8.	<p>05_25 Health & Wellbeing Project Update Report</p> <p>CK provided an update on the Health & Wellbeing Project noting the significant increase in referrals over the last two years. The team are now averaging 75 referrals per month with increased numbers of live well classes and attendances. Following the introduction of the Live Well Graduate membership, the team noted its success and effectiveness with participants are now taking out their own memberships after the referral programme period ends.</p>

ANGUSalive

	<p>CK confirmed that following an application to the NHS Tayside Charitable Foundation, £142,744 was awarded to ANGUSalive in November 2024 through the McKenzie Legacy Trust. This has secured the existing Health & Wellbeing Advisor posts, along with an additional post (0.6FTE) to increase team capacity, until February 2027.</p> <p>The Health & Wellbeing Coordinator role was not included in this funding, however Angus Health & Social Care Partnership (AHSCP) funding of £89,000 has been secured to extend this post. A further £17,000 has also been secured through AHSCP to support increased hours for the original Health & Wellbeing Advisor posts and contribute towards membership provision, in consideration of the ongoing development of the 'Waiting Well' area of work.</p> <p><i>Chief Medical Officer Visit</i></p> <p>Following his attendance at a presentation by Angus Prevention & Proactive Care Group (APPCG) members at the national Realistic Medicine conference in May 2024, a visit from Professor Sir Gregor Smith, Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, has been confirmed for Thursday 10 April 2025. During this visit it is expected that he will meet with members of APPCG and AHSCP to discuss the ongoing work in Angus and with participants of ANGUSalive Be Active...Live Well and NHS Pulmonary Rehabilitation classes at Montrose Sports Centre.</p> <p>Directors were asked to note the ANGUSalive Health & Wellbeing update and note ANGUSalive have secured new funding to extend the project through financial years 2025/26 and 2026/27 in collaboration with the Angus Prevention and Proactive Care Group.</p> <p>Directors noted these two aspects.</p>
9.	<p>06_25 Project 2030 Update</p> <p>IS provided an overview of the progress achieved to date in Project 2030. He noted there were a recent series of project workshops which has help reintegrate the Chief Executive back into the business and provide a summary of what each of the service teams has been working on for the last year.</p> <p><i>Stakeholder Plan</i></p> <p>Is noted work is progressing well on this and we have established a good understanding of the key stakeholders in each of the service areas.</p> <p><i>People Plan</i></p> <p>IS confirmed work is underway on this workstream and we are building up a plan to encompass everything from recruitment to retention of staff.</p>

ANGUSalive

	<p>There was discussion round staffing in Country Parks and the working relationships with colleagues in Angus Council on services undertaken in these spaces.</p> <p>Directors are asked to note the content of the Project 2030 update report.</p> <p>Directors noted the content of the report.</p> <p>Action: Executive Team to share the subsidy per visit information at the upcoming Strategic Development Session.</p>
10.	<p>07_25 Service Review Update</p> <p>IS noted the Business Management & Development service review is progressing well and is now fully in the implementation phase. Interviews have been carried out to appoint a new Team Leader and a preferred candidate has been identified.</p> <p>CK highlighted reviews in Theatre & Venues and Countryside Adventure are still to be carried out and work with the council's HR team is underway to discuss the scale of the reviews required in each area.</p> <p>KH confirmed discussions are taking place round the Executive Team review and HR have been consulted on how a review for a small team is best conducted. Confirmation is required around the scope of the review and she will be progressing this over the next weeks and will share an update at the development day.</p> <p>The Board of Directors were asked to note the content of this report and to agree that a service review of the Theatre & Venues, Countryside Adventure, and Executive Management Team should be started as soon as is practicable.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and agreed to the proposals within.</p>
11.	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Directors approved the reappointment of DW and TF to serve a second term on the ANGUSalive Board.</p>
12.	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Friday 25 April 2025</p>