

March Meeting 31/03/26

Councillor Brian Goodall's Report for the period from the 24th of February until the 30th of March 2026

The items in this report are in addition to my work undertaken on behalf of individual local residents. That casework is covered by data protection legislation and in most cases can't be shared with others.

Charlestown, Limekilns & Pattiesmuir Community Council

In the evening on the 24th of February I attended a meeting of Charlestown, Limekilns & Pattiesmuir Community Council in the Queens Hall, Charlestown. I had to leave the meeting early to attend the CLP Nature Action AGM, but I was able to present a 21 page report on my activities as a Councillor over the month since the Community Council last met, and I answered some question from Community Councillors and members of the public who had attended.

CLP Nature Action AGM

I went straight from the Community Council meeting on the 24th of February to attend the online Annual General of the local charity CLP Nature Action. I'm one of the voluntary Trustee Directors of the charity and this was our first AGM after becoming incorporated a year ago. The meeting went very well, we appointed a new Secretary, reviewed our activities over the last year and discussed our plans for the year to come.

Illegal Dumping at Merryhill

I was contacted about some illegal dumping just off the A985 at Merryhill near Charlestown. On the 25th of February I emailed the head of the Council Service who deals with illegal dumping, but they can only deal with public land, so I also copied in the Broomhall Estate in case this is on their land. My worry was that if it wasn't cleaned up quickly there could be repeat and/or copy cat dumping.

To her great credit Tess Gibson from the Estate got back to me right away and confirmed that if it was on their land they'd get someone out to clear it right away.

Overgrown Hedges - Parkside Street, Rosyth

Also on the 25th of February I was contacted about a number of hedges on Parkside Street, Rosyth that are over growing and blocking the pavements. The narrow road there has pavement parking bays and when the parking bays are occupied next to the overgrown hedges pedestrians are being forced onto the road.

I contacted the Council's Roads & Transportation Service and they have undertaken to contact the residents who's hedges are causing the problem to remind them of their duty to keep the pavements clear.

Fife Council Budget Meeting 2026/27

Thursday the 26th of February was the day of Fife Council's budget setting meeting, held in Fife House, Glenrothes. There had been three alternative budget proposals submitted prior to the meeting. One from the SNP, one from the LibDems and another from Labour. There was also an amendment to the Labour budget submitted by the Tories.

On the day Labour immediately merged their budget with the Tories amendment and then all of the LibDem and Reform UK Councillors voted together with all of the Labour and Tory Councillors to vote through the Labour/Tory Budget.

The SNP budget that the four other parties joined together to oppose had an extra £6.3 million in it for flood prevention and surface water management, with a specific mention of Rosyth, as well as an additional £7.5 million for Fife's Roads. So I was really disappointed that none of the other parties supported these priorities.

Fife Council Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2026/27

Also at the meeting in Fife House on the 26th of February the Fife Council Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget for 2026/27 was agreed.

As Fife Council SNP Group's Housing Spokesperson I'd been working for weeks to produce a fully costed HRA Budget that would have delivered:

The lowest viable rent increase we could deliver at 5.5%.

Half a million pounds worth of additional disability adaptations.

An improved stairwell cleaning services with any increased charges being phased in over two years.

An extra £10. 693 million to deliver additional acquisitions of homes to become Council Houses available for rent.

And the opportunity to address even more housing need through a programme of Council House extensions in the areas where it's hardest to provide new Council housing.

All this while still delivering on the current investment plans for our existing housing and continuing to deliver the new build Council Houses proposed within the current HRA Capital Investment Plan.

Labour also put forward a proposed HRA Budget with a 5.5% rent rise but theirs had no commitment on additional Council House acquisitions or a programme of Council House extensions. They also proposed to bring in the extra stairwell cleaning charges in full.

As had happened with the Council's General Fund Budget, the LibDem and Reform Councillors joined with Labour and the Tories to vote through their HRA Budget.

Double Yellow Lines - Limekilns

In the morning on Friday the 27th of February I contacted the Council's Road & Transportation Service to ask for an update on the new double yellow lines in Limekilns. I asked when the ones agreed for the short section on the Promenade will be painted and for an update on the proposed ones for Dunfermline Road.

Plant Based Fife Dinner

In the evening on Saturday the 28th of February it was a real honour to be asked to speak at Plant Based Fife's Vegan Dinner in Kirkcaldy. The event was really busy and the food, provided by Tiffin and SoftServ Cartel, was just outstanding. Great that Kirkcaldy Councillor Nicola Patrick could join me as well, as she had seconded the motion on Plant Based Food that I'd moved at the Fife Council meeting in December.

Illness

Unfortunately from Sunday March the 1st to the 4th I was suffering from a sickness bug. I managed to deal with some casework and other issues via email but I was otherwise out of action during this time.

Brown Bins and Recycling

On the 2nd of March I shared the following info from Fife Council on brown bins and Recycling via my Facebook page.

Spring is here and brown (food and garden waste) bins in Fife go back to fortnightly collections from the week starting 16 March.

We want to help local people recycle right. Brown bins are for organic waste only, so please separate all food from packaging.

Recycle right! Use your brown bin for:

- Food waste - all cooked or raw food
- Organic garden waste - weeds, leaves, grass cuttings, twigs, compost.

Please remember—NO food packaging, plastic bags, plant pots, pet waste, glass or rubble!

Thank you for continuing to recycle all year round - your efforts are appreciated.

APSE Housing Conference

On Thursday the 5th of March I was in Glasgow for the Annual APSE Scotland Building and Housing Conference. The conference covered a number of topical issues including the impact of the UK Government stopping the ECO funding scheme that had been helping support the insulation of thousands of homes.

The conference also heard about new approaches to installing solar energy systems to multi story flats, skills shortages in construction trades, working at high regulations for scaffolding workers, improving the turnaround time when homes are reallocated, a multiples trade workforce and the Ask and Act Homelessness Prevention approach.

One of the biggest issues covered was dealing with dampness and mould and how the new legislation from the Scottish Government on this will improve tenants rights when it goes live in October this year.

National Apprentice of the Year Awards.

In the evening on the 5th of March it was an honour to be at the annual National Apprentice of the Year Awards in Glasgow to support the 6 Fife Council apprentices who had made it to the finals.

Huge congratulations to Fife Council Trainee Quantity Surveyor, Greg Reekie for winning the overall Professional Apprentice of the Year Award. I was sitting next to Greg at the event and he's an exceptional young man and a real credit to Fife, as were the four other men and one woman from Fife Council who were also Apprentice of the year finalists.

New Pop-Up Polis

In the evening on Friday the 6th of March one of Rosyth Ward's Community Police Officers dropped off two additional Pop-up Polis from Police Scotland. I'd received agreement to get these extra road safety aids after one of the three we already had for the Rosyth Ward area (PC Effy) was stolen from Crombie. So we now have a replacement (PC Effy II) and an additional one (PC Nancy).

Scottish Parliament Candidate Adoption

In the evening on Saturday the 7th of March I was very please to attend an event to formally adopt Councillor David Barratt as the SNP's

Candidate for the Scottish Parliament Elections in the Cowdenbeath Constituency which includes Rosyth. It was also an opportunity to hear from and to thank Rosyth's current MSP, Annabelle Ewing, who is standing down at this election, which will be held on the 7th of May.

Pop-Up Polis on Patrol

In the morning on Monday the 9th of March I put Rosyth Ward area's Pop-up Polis out on patrol at four of our local speeding hotspots. Main Road, Crombie, Main Road Charlestown, Hilton Road Rosyth and Ferry Toll Road Rosyth.

Nuclear Issues Meeting

Also in the morning on the 9th of March I attended a meeting in Inverkeithing Civic Centre that I'd set up with Cllr David Barratt, South & West Fife Area Committee Convenor and a local representative from the Scottish Forum on Nuclear Legacies. With the ongoing Submarine Dismantling Project and the proposal to use Rosyth Dockyard as a dock for the Trident fleet of Submarines, nuclear issue are becoming more and more important to our local area.

Kings Road - Crocus

There had been a lot of comments this year about how good the Croci (Crocus) looked on the middle verge at Kings Road in Rosyth. I asked the Council's local Grounds Maintenance manager if we could maybe look to fill in the gap area there is on that verge by planting some more crocus bulbs there come the autumn. I'm delighted to say they agreed that this could be done and they've been out and marked the area so we can do the planting in the right place at that time.

Fife Community Safety Partnership

In the morning on Tuesday the 10th of March I was at Fife Police HQ in Glenrothes for a meeting of the Fife Community Safety Partnership. The meeting heard a presentation from Youth 1st and the Fife Youth Work Partnership on their Strategy for 2025-28. There's was also an update on Police Scotland's Intelligence Portal.

Rosyth Ward Meeting

In the afternoon on Tuesday the 10th of March I attended the Rosyth Ward meeting held at the Inverkeithing Civic Centre. The meeting heard an update on the Local Community Planning Budget and from the local Community Police Sergeant.

We also discussed a number of Council Housing issues and had an update on some of the ongoing anti-poverty work going on locally. There will also

be some funding available from unspent Community Recovery Funds, and I've requested that these be used to complete some of the small capital projects already identified in Rosyth, like the need to provide a safe path down the slope at Camdean Primary School, following the erection of the new fence around the school playing fields.

Halls & Centres Working Group

In the afternoon on Friday the 13th of March I was at Fife House in Glenrothes for yet another meeting of the working group set up to review the proposed Halls & Centres Review.

I've built up a lot of support in the group for the removal of both Crombie Community Centre and Torryburn Community Centre from this list of halls being considered for transfer or closure. But the fight to save these centres won't be over until the working group's recommendations are confirmed by the Council's Cabinet Committee.

5K at the Kelpies for the SSPCA

I made it! In the evening on Friday the 13th of March I had a great night at the Supernova 5K at the Kelpies, where I was running on behalf of the SSPCA.

Thanks so much to everyone who made a donation and if you can, but haven't yet, it would be great if you would. Here's the link to my just giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Brian-Goodall2026>

National Demonstration at Faslane

On Saturday the 14th of March I joined the Scottish CND Bus from Edinburgh to Faslane to be part of the National Demonstration to Stop the Nuclear Nightmare.

Nuclear weapons kill indiscriminately. For those who survive a nuclear blast, the damage to health and to the environment endures for generations. The risks of nuclear war are too great. There is no imaginable justification for any country to hold a nuclear arsenal.

It's bad enough having these weapons of mass destruction on the Clyde, but now the Labour UK Government plan to bring them to Rosyth Dockyard too, and they have said there will be no consultation on this with the people of Rosyth and the surrounding communities. I think that is utterly disgraceful and I've been fighting for a proper public consultation on the proposal to use Rosyth Dockyard as a contingency dock for nuclear fuelled, and possibly nuclear armed submarines.

Increased Dog Fouling Complaints

Over the last few weeks I've noticed an increase in the number of Rosyth Ward area residents contacting me about dog fouling.

It is an offence not to appropriately dispose of any excrement immediately after a dog has fouled in a public place.

If someone does not clean up after their dog then they could receive a Fixed Penalty Notice with a fine of £80.

I've highlighted the areas that I've been contacted about with the Council's Community Safety team, but it would be great if local residents could also report any incidents to the Council directly via this link.

<https://www.fife.gov.uk/services/form-pages/report-dog-fouling>

Lidl and Rosyth FC

On the 18th of March I was contacted by a local journalist asking for my view on the application to the Council's Planning Service that is asking that the delivery of the additional artificial football pitch at Pitreavie be recognised as meeting the planning condition to deliver a new pitch for Rosyth FC prior to work starting on the new Lidl store in Rosyth. I provided the following quote.

"While most people I speak to in Rosyth will welcome the Lidl store finally being built and opened, there's still a lot of justifiable resentment locally about what happened with the Rosyth FC Senior Team. The feeling that both Fife Council and the site developers made promises to the Football Club that just weren't kept remains widespread in Rosyth.

Even if it is agreed that the provision of the new pitch at Pitreavie, technically meets the requirements of the planning conditions, I'm sure many people will still feel that nothing short of the re-establishment of a Rosyth FC Senior Team with a home pitch in Rosyth would start to make up for everything that's happened.

But against this negative background I think it's important to recognise all the great work that has been done, and continues to be done, by the volunteers who run the South & West Fife Community Sports Partnership who operate the artificial pitch at the Fleetground and the coaches and helpers who have kept Rosyth FC's children's teams going all this time."

Damaged Pavement at The Cairns, Charlestown

Also on the 18th of March I was contacted about the condition of the pavements around The Cairns in Charlestown, and a local resident sent me some pictures of the damaged sections.

I forwarded the picture to the Council's Roads and Transportation Service and I've asked if the pavement and the drain covers there could be inspected, and assessed for resurfacing, replacing. I also asked if they'd be able to do some repairs for the most dangerous parts.

Surgery

Later on the 18th of March I held a Councillor's Surgery in Crombie Community Centre. My next surgery will be held in the EATS Rosyth Community Hub on the 15th of April from 4pm to 5pm.

Full Fife Council Meeting

On the 19th of March I was at a meeting of the full Fife Council in Fife House, Glenrothes. I asked a question on the Minutes of the last meeting regarding not getting the answer to one of the questions I'd asked on Affordable Housing that I'd asked at the Question Time section. I was assured the full and correct answer would be sent to me.

On the Leaders Report submitted to the meeting I welcomed the commitment from the Council to help the former Wemyss Estate tenants who are now being threatened with evictions by their new landlord but I asked the leader of the Council if he agreed with me that this private company should not be allowed to make excessive profits out of the misery they have created for these Fife residents?

At Question Time at this meeting I'd pre-submitted 4 questions. The first one asking how many Council Houses in Fife were sold off under the "right to buy". The answer was 40,765 across Fife, with 7,174 of these being in Dunfermline and South & West Fife.

My second question asked what funding will be available to implement the recommendations of the Rosyth Surface Water Management Plan when it's finally published. The answer confirmed that the publication of the report had been delayed again and will now not come until the end of June. The Administration also confirmed that they have not yet agreed any budget for works to address flooding in Rosyth.

My third and fourth questions related to the budgets available to local Area Committees to spend on local priorities, with the Administration confirming there will be no additional revenue funding available for Area Committees to spend in this way.

The full Council meeting also received a report on proposed changes to the way the Council is run. I moved an amendment that would have stopped political groups not taking on their full share of responsibility by

not appointing members to the committees of the Council. Unfortunately Labour, Tory, LibDem and Reform Councillors voted this down.

Pavement Parking Ban

Early in the morning on the 20th of March I contacted Fife Council's Roads & Transportation Service to ask if there was any update available on the design work for the roads in the Rosyth Ward that are to have exemption from the Pavement Parking Ban?

I also asked if all of the designs for these roads will come to the South & West Fife Area Committee as part of one Traffic Regulation Order recommendation, and if they have a target date for when this report will come to the Area Committee.

On Tuesday the 24th of March I heard back on this and it was confirmed that there was no update available as yet and that they were still waiting to hear if a consultant would be appointed to complete all of the assessment work on the roads suggested for exemption by the public or after the first phase of the exemption identification process.

They did however confirm that they are expecting to have a single report for each Area Committee with all of the first phase exemptions proposed for that area in one Traffic Regulation Order, but that they don't have a date yet for when this will happen.

Fife Coast & Countryside Trust

In the morning on the 20th of March I attended a meeting of Fife Coast & Countryside Trust's Board in Kinghorn. The Board received reports on Health & Safety issues, the Trust's Risk Register and from our Finance, HR and Communication & Fundraising Sub-Committees.

One issue highlighted that I think is well worth sharing is that for the public litter bins managed by the Trust a 5th of the waste is being recycled. For the public litter bins managed by Fife Council none of the waste is recycled.

Holiday

I was on holiday from the 21st of March until the 26th of March. While I was away I was able to progress some indivisible case work and a number of other local issues like getting the Rosyth Public Park signs deep cleaned, and getting agreement from the Council's Grounds Maintenance team that they will deal with the downed tree in the Morrisons Car Park at Sherbrooke Road in Rosyth. I also chased up the Cafe Inc. provision in Rosyth for the School Easter Holidays.

Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls

In the afternoon on Tuesday the 24th of March I attended an online presentation on strengthening primary prevention of violence against women and girls. It was really good to hear updates from Zero Tolerance Scotland and The White Ribbon Campaign.

COSLA Spring Conference and Convention Meeting

All day on Friday the 27th of March I was in Edinburgh for the COSLA Spring Conference and Convention Meeting. The conference heard updates from the COSLA President and its other officer bearers. There was then a session on the future of the public service workforce and a political hustings session prior to the Scottish Parliament Elections on the 7th of May.

The meeting of the full Convention in the afternoon looked at issues around COSLA's relationship with the Scottish Government and local government finance.

March for Independence

On Saturday the 28th of March I joined with thousands of others at the march and rally for Independence in Edinburgh, organised by Believe in Scotland. It was an amazing event and it was great to see such huge numbers there and to catch up with so many old friends and to make some new ones.

Charlestown Green

In the morning on Monday the 30th of March Councillor David Barratt, Convenor of Fife Council's South & West Fife Area Committee, visited Charlestown Green with me, to see for himself the damage to the edging of the green that so desperately needs to be fixed. A report will be going to the next meeting of the Area Committee confirming that these works should go forward with the funding I've managed to get agreement on from the Local Community Planning Budget.

I let David know that I intend to ask for the committee to agree that this work should be delivered as quickly as it can be now, given how long it's taken to get to this point in the process, even if this means the job being done by an external contractor and not just joining the long list of jobs waiting to be done by the Council's own Roads Team.