ABSTRACT: This report asks that the Committee approve the Director Of Neighbourhood Services’ recommendation relating to Park Lets and to approve a specific location for Fairs and Circuses to be held in Kirriemuir.

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee agree:-

(i) Martin Park, as the approved site for Fairs and Circuses in the Kirriemuir area;

(ii) that if the past historic Fair Operators of specific times and locations do not wish to attend, approval of Fair Operators out with the historic applicants be given permission to visit an approved site.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Reference is made to Report No 712/09 of Neighbourhood Services Committee of 8 October 2009.

2.2 The above report approved locations for Fairs and Circuses in each Angus Burgh. However, The Hill, Kirriemuir was only approved as a suitable location for one year due to a large number of complaints received for the previous site at Davidson Park - this due to its close proximity to housing. Martin Park was not considered as a suitable site due to the narrow entrance to the site.

3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Requests have been made during 2011 for Fairs and Circuses in Kirriemuir, however, these have been refused as no location has been approved as a suitable site. As stated above, Martin Park was not previously considered as a suitable site due to the narrow entrance, however, this has now been enlarged to allow suitable access to the area. Additionally, there is a suitable location adjacent for car parking for any event. On this basis, the Director of Neighbourhood Services believes this to be a suitable location for Fairs and Circuses in Kirriemuir.

3.2 Currently, applications are made by Fair Operators who have historically attended the approved sites with their Fair, in many cases this, for a considerable number of years.

3.3 Many of the Fair Operators are Members of the Showmen’s Guild. Within the Showmen’s Guild there is an “established right” between Members that they will not attend the same site within a specified period of time. This right would be adhered to by Angus Council for Member and Non-Members of the Guild.

3.4 As approval has previously been given for a maximum of 2 Fairs per Burgh per year, these historic applicants do not always attend each site twice per year. There have recently been requests by other applicants to attend sites. It is, therefore, proposed to implement a policy where these historic applicants are written to in January of each year asking them to reply by end of March with their proposals. Once these applications have been received, any applications received by others will be considered on a first come basis for any available locations - this in accordance with the Council’s existing policy of a maximum of two Fairs per Burgh per year.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS
5.1 There are no Human Rights implications associated with this report.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS
6.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7. CONSULTATION
7.1 The Chief Executive, the Director of Corporate Services, the Head of Finance and the Head of Law and Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report are:-

- Report No. 712/09 – “Park Events – Circus Performances”

EnvManagement/NS/DFI/AH