

## LOCAL BULLETIN

## EVENTS

## Creatures in the woods when DragonQuest returns to Monikie



A stunning dragon at last year's launch event

Trolls, fairies and a dragon will return to a Tayside light and sound spectacular this autumn.

Last year the denizens of Monikie Country Park came out to entertain more than 5,000 visitors at the first DragonQuest.

Now organisers are preparing for the follow-up augmented reality (AR) light show, entitled Dragon Matrix.

Visitors will embark on a quest to track six dragon stones, stolen from the Museum of Dragons in Monikie's dark woods from October 5 to 31.

Edinburgh company Vision Mechanics will return to bring the woods to life with AR installations, music and giant figures.

Artistic director Symon Macintyre said: "The show will incorporate cutting-edge AR

technologies alongside more traditional theatrical treats.

"Last year, through a mobile app, visitors could capture and reveal a collection of amazing creatures.

"This year, there are many more and they talk, so visitors are once again urged to bring their smartphones and tablets.

"By downloading the Dragon Matrix app in advance, they can chance their luck on the Path of Spiders, see flying fairies, sneaky spiders and terrible trolls."

The event is supported by EventScotland, Angus Council and The Space, which works with artists and arts organisations to reach new audiences using digital means.

Tickets from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/angusalive](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/angusalive) or [www.webstertheatre.co.uk](http://www.webstertheatre.co.uk).

## EMBEZZLEMENT

## Bank boss stole from accounts

A bank boss has admitted embezzling thousands of pounds from accounts over almost two years.

Raymond Townsley scammed £3,097.42 while employed as a customer service manager for Tesco Bank at their call centre on Baird Avenue, Dundee.

Dundee Sheriff Court heard he embezzled the money between October 25 2013 and

June 25 last year, repeatedly removing small amounts."

He recorded them as refunds and put the money into his own bank account.

Townsley, 33, of High Street in Rattray, Perthshire, pleaded guilty to a single charge of embezzlement.

He will appear at Dundee Sheriff Court next month for sentencing.

## COURT

## Accused of racist tirade in club

A woman is to stand trial accused of a racist tirade at a woman in a lap dancing club.

Lisa Carrigan is alleged to have acted in a racially aggravated manner which caused or was intended to cause fear or alarm and distress towards the woman at Private

Eyes in Dundee on March 5.

Carrigan, 34, of Stenhouse Gardens, Edinburgh, has denied the charge, and yesterday entered a not guilty plea by letter through her solicitor. She is due to appear for a pre-trial hearing in August and for trial in September.

## Guild remains defiant at standards probe



The panel, from left: Kevin Dunion, Lyndsey Gallander and Matt Smith. Picture: Kris Miller.

## HEARING: Council leader denies divulging confidential information



## STEFAN MORKIS

Dundee City Council leader Ken Guild has claimed he told a public meeting a council employee was signed off sick because her co-workers were worried about their jobs.

The Standards Commission for Scotland hearing panel met in Dundee yesterday to decide whether or not Mr Guild had breached the Councillors' Code of Conduct by telling a meeting the then head of the Young Mum's Unit had been signed off for a month.

The incident occurred during the local authority's Budget meeting in February 2015 when the administration put forward proposals to restructure and move the unit from Menzieshill High School to Baldrigon Academy, which involved axing the post of principal teacher, held by Norma Seith.

A public campaign to save the unit had been launched but when Mr Guild visited the unit prior to the policy and resources committee meeting, he was told she had been signed off.

When the SNP administration clashed with opposition councillors over the plans, Mr Guild said the principal teacher had been signed off for a month without affecting the service.

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**KEN GUILD**

Mr Guild told the hearing that on his visit to the unit the three other workers had been worried about reports it was to close and they would lose their jobs.

In a combative defence of his remark, Mr Guild said: "I find it quite ironic to be the first councillor from Dundee referred to the Standards Commission for telling the truth at a meeting when opposition councillors were making statements that were untrue."

Mr Guild denied the information Mrs Seith had been signed off for a month was confidential as it is common knowledge when teachers are absent. Cross examined by Standards Commission senior investigating officer David Sillars, he said he had been careful not to use her name in the meeting.

He also argued that his use of the phrase "signed off" did not necessarily imply medical reasons behind her absence as it could mean for training.

However, Mr Guild's claim was picked up by hearing panel member Kevin Dunion, who also asked Mr Guild why he had not written to Mrs Seith to apologise for any unintended offence until January 7 this year, the day before he made his submission to the Standards Commission.

Mr Dunion said: "Does anybody in Scotland believe you can sign yourself off work for a month for training? Can employees of Dundee City Council sign themselves off for anything other than sickness?"

Mr Guild said he wrote to Mrs Seith after her grievance procedure against the council had concluded.

His solicitor, Scott Martin, urged the panel to rule Mr Guild had not breached paragraphs 3.14 and 3.15 of the Councillors' Code. The hearing continues today. [smorkis@thecourier.co.uk](mailto:smorkis@thecourier.co.uk)