

Portmoak Community Council

Minutes of Council meeting held on Tuesday, July 14th 2009 at Portmoak Hall.

1. Attendance: Ian McGrattan, Jim Shepherd, John Bird, Robin Cairncross, Cllr W. Robertson, Cllr K. Baird, Cllr M Barnacle, PC Lynn Petrie and 24 residents.

Apologies: were received from Cllr S. Miller, C. Weedon, M. Hally and S. Garvie.

2. Previous minutes: were approved

3. Police Report.

-In the Portmoak area there were two reported incidents, break in to a parked car in Main Street, Kinnesswood and attempted theft in Scotlandwell.

- a warning was given that plant pots were easy victims to theft

The Police would much rather receive a call about something suspicious than a call that a crime has been committed.

4. Treasurers report. No report.

5. Presentation by Rachel Howarth, Conservation Officer, P&KC

There were now three conservation areas in Portmoak, people living in these areas had certain responsibilities and also advantages.

(Copies of the presentation in Powerpoint are available on www.portmoak.org)

For people living in a conservation area and thinking about making any changes to their property or outside areas it was strongly suggested that an initial call to the Conservation Team at P&KC would be very valuable. Sooner rather than later was the message.

6. Matter arising from previous minutes

Mail box at Post Office.

Latest e mail from Royal Mail, 6.7.09, The Collections and Planning Manager was still reviewing the situation.

Kinross-shire Fund

The Chairman reminded the meeting that funding is still available.

Community Radio

M. Hally had contacted the Campus who were already planning a school radio station and did not wish to set up a wider community radio station at this stage.

Further ideas for the Campus would be welcome.

7. Subcommittee reports

Paths Group

S. Garvie was absent but Nial Lobley reported:-

- Still waiting for the information boards for the Michael Bruce Way.
- MBW, From Grahamstone Track to Moss was not being cut, required a rethink of what to do with this path and some more management.
- It was hoped to apply for funding for two commercial strimmers.
- 2 complaints had been received about the condition of a part of Dryside Road.

Planning Group

Applications discussed at the meeting:-

09/00981/MOD Erection of a steel storage container and alterations to summer house Channel Farm Wester Balgedie for Loch Levens Larder c/o Algo (Blairgowrie) Ltd, Algo Business Centre, 24 Glenearn Road, Perth PH2 0NJ

This was a retrospective planning application and the CC would strongly oppose any such applications in any way possible. A letter of objection would be sent.

(Post Meeting Note: Further discussions are ongoing with the CC)

09/00936/FUL Erection of dwellinghouse, Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell Kinross KY13 9JQ Causeway Cottage Cattery and Equestrian Centre, Scotlandwell, Kinross KY13 9JQ

09/00937/FUL Erection of replacement stables and extension to office. Equestrian Centre, Scotlandwell, Loch Leven Equestrian Centre, Scotlandwell, Kinross KY13 9JQ

The applicant was present at the meeting. The Chairman explained that the CC had issues with the application. Information used for, 1. the original application, 2. the recent house built closer to Scotlandwell and 3. the present application together with the supporting documentation 'Planning Proposal Justification' did not factually correspond.

A Cllr confirmed that when the application was submitted for the property (nearer to Scotlandwell) it was stated that it was possible to run the business from that position.

The CC agreed to take further advice on the matter.

09/00972/FUL Part conversion of barn to form dwellinghouse (Unit 1). Levenmouth Farm, Kinross KY13 9JH c/o Covell Matthews Architects, 6 Manor Place, Edinburgh EH3 7DD

09/00974/FUL Part conversion of barn to dwellinghouse (Unit 2). Levenmouth Farm, Kinross, KY13 9JH c/o Covell Matthews Architects, 6 Manor Place, Edinburgh EH3 7DD

(These were two separate applications)

There was broad agreement that conversion into dwellinghouses was acceptable but a number of other issues surrounded this application which was highlighted by the previous applications in the same area, namely, access availability from the Trail to the B road and any further development which may follow.

It was agreed to send a letter of comment setting out these concerns.

Management Group

1. New website.

The CC were indebted to Gordon Vance, Kinnesswood, for supplying the expertise in putting the CC on the WWW again.

It is appreciated that many people do not have internet facilities, do not want internet facilities and will not use internet facilities. However, it is the CC's responsibility to consult with the residents of Portmoak and the only available method at present is the three Notice Boards situated at Scotlandwell, Kinnesswood and Wester Balgedie. No money is available from the Council for leaflets or flyers. Therefore, aware of the cost and the necessity for consultation the intention of the CC is to promote the use of internet for communication. It really is a case of how the CC can communicate with the majority of residents.

Information will continue to be placed on the Notice Boards but residents are encouraged to check out the website www.portmoak.org and sign up for their e mail news. Residents are also encouraged to share the news from the web site with friends or relations who they know do not use the internet.

2. Stephens' Field: Nial Loblely has been asked to take on the role of co-ordinator of the action group and subsequently report suggestions to the CC.

3. The Chairman had attended a meeting of the Perth and Kinross CC's where the subject of Town Centre Regeneration Fund had been an issue. The whole process of money availability etc under this system was explained by Cllr Baird. Cllrs Barnacle and Robertson also added information to the discussion.

(Post Meeting Note: More information on this subject has been covered in a number of press reports which are available on the internet)

4. Single Plan

The Chairman confirmed again the importance of this document especially the people of Kinross-shire. However, whilst straight forward in principle the document becomes bogged down when trying to interpret the actual figures of new houses which could possibly be built in Portmoak. The Chairman thanked Cllr Barnacle for the latest document which he had forwarded to the Secretary detailing the figures.

Generally, it is agreed that the figure for new builds in Kinross-shire is 855 new houses to be built between 2008-2020, of these 312 would be spread throughout the villages i.e. the landward area excluding Kinross and Milnathort.

The CC's submission to P&KC would be made before the end of August and it was suggested that a meeting is arranged with the CC and the Cllrs for further discussion/information.

5. Traffic calming.

We were now reaching the end of the settling in period and the next part of the process was for the Roads dept. to fit electronic monitoring devices adjacent to the build outs. Reports from the Roads dept indicated that they had received few complaints, copies of which were being kept for record purposes.

However, a number of residents made what they considered to be advisable changes to the present system to alleviate some of the problems they had experienced firsthand. Speed seemed to be the continual problem when entering Scotlandwell from the Leslie direction.

A request was made by a resident for the CC to ask for accident statistics for the area.

6. Recycling centre at Youngs Moss.

A community waste advisor had written to the CC stating that she had been approached by the owner of Youngs Moss regarding the siting of a Recycling Point in the allotment car park and asked if the CC were in agreement with the idea.

The owner of the site was present and gave information to support his suggestion.

There were no residents at the meeting who voiced an opinion to support the recycling centre at the allotment although one resident thought it was a bad idea.

It was the CC's decision not to approve or disapprove the idea and this information would be sent to the Community Waste Advisor.

9. AOCB

1. A resident complained that the verges had not been cut around the Auchmuirbridge area but after a number of phone calls to the appropriate office in Perth (01738 476476) the issue had now been resolved.

2. A cattery proprietor from Fife extended an invitation to all Cllrs to visit her premises.

3. Communications

The Secretary gave details of communication he had received and holding since the last meeting including.

1. Letter in support of planning application 09/00696/FUL

2. e mails stuck in system

1. Letter of complaint re allotments website comments.

The owner of the allotments was present and asked if he wished to respond to the letter. He suggested that the person contact him directly

2. Letter from the Victorian Cross Society, George Thompson

3. Letter from someone writing the history of Rorke's Drift, Portmoak man

- 4, 5, and 6. New school, Meeting with other CC's

3. Convention of Perth and Kinross CC's

4. Licensing Board applications

5. Kinross-shire Civic Trust, Wind Turbines

6. Request for further funding, flyers

7. Letter from P&KC, Engaging with Communities,

8. Letter from music development co-ordinator, Horsecross Arts Ltd, large arts project for 2010, how our community can be involved.

9. Letter from P&KC asking if we would like to nominate an organisation in our community that we think should be recognised for its achievements.

10. Letter from Donna Paterson, Community Waste Advisor, Youngs Moss allotments

11. Training meeting, update on planning system

A telephone request for more information on the Post Van times had been received..

The meeting closed at approx 21.10 hrs.

The next meeting will be held in Portmoak Village Hall at 7.00 p.m. on August 11th 2009.