

## Portmoak Community Council

Draft minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> 2010 in the Primary School.

**1. Attendance:** Facilitator, M. Wilson, CClr's J. Bird, R. Cairncross, S. Forde WClr's Robertson, Barnacle and Baird and 9 residents.

**2. Previous minutes:** were approved and signed.

### 3. Planning

CClr Robin Cairncross gave an explanation of the 'rolling list' of planning applications which was also available to view on the Community Councils website [www.Portmoak.org](http://www.Portmoak.org)

Wellside Motors. A meeting had taken place to discuss the fence/hedge, paths, mini roundabout and parking.

Fence/hedge. Despite concerns by the CC that the fence segregated the affordable housing from the rest of the development and that it was not apparent on the original plans it was found to be a condition stipulated by Hillcrest Housing. It was hoped that the hedge would screen the fence.

Paths. The original plans for the site included paths from the North end to the Green and at the South West end to the Moss. These were not included on the latest plans approved by P&KC but were designated wayleaves. The developer will consider a path at the northern end of the site. WClr Robertson agreed that the plans had been misunderstood.

Mini roundabout. The CC met with Roads dept in June 2010 to request a revision to the planned mini roundabout. A site meeting was held in September 2010 to discuss further options which had now changed, in part, to new Scottish Government policy being adopted on road design.

The final agreed decision is as follows:- 1. that the mini-roundabout should now go ahead in the short term. 2. the junction would be revised and the mini-roundabout removed when the revised traffic calming was introduced - provisionally during 2011-12. At that point the costs would fall to the Council and not the developer.

Car Parking at the Moss. The present car park is privately owned by the developer who is prepared to 'give' the ground to the community. WClr Robertson suggested that this area of ground could be zoned in the MIR as a car park.

WClr Robertson also expressed his concerns about the installation of the mini roundabout but added that any change would mean a further planning application. He agreed that a future programme would include the removal of the mini roundabout and the construction

of a build out but also suggested that with the future bleak economic outlook it was very unlikely that this would happen.

#### **4. Matters arising**

##### **1. Community Councillors**

Jim Shepherd resigned in September. Jim had been a Community Councillor since 1998 and managed the finances of the CC. Stuart Garvie also resigned in September and Charles Weedon resigned in October. Thanks were expressed by the Secretary for the work they have carried out on behalf of the Community Council.

The CC consisted of 2 elected Cllrs plus one co-opted Cllr and therefore a by-election was required and held recently. The following residents, Dick Williamson, Malcolm Parkin, Margaret Wilson, Malcolm Strang Steel, Tom Smith and Susan Forde were elected Community Councillors and will take up office on November 25th 2010.

The secretary, on behalf of Portmoak residents, took the opportunity of thanking these people who have offered to give up their time on behalf of the community.

##### **2. Stephen's field.**

Discussions are on-going between builders and P&KC. There was an issue raised at a site meeting whether the present path alongside No 27 Whitecraigs was still required and this was passed to the Field Management Group. Further suggestions including the use of the ground for allotments which had been raised by residents had also been passed on to FMG.

##### **3. Balgedie Toll to Mawcarse Road.**

Signing work will be carried out winter 2010

##### **4. Hedge alongside playing ground, Kinnesswood.**

The problem with the hedge was first reported at a CC meeting by a resident who was concerned that vehicles travelling up Bishop Terrace could not see people about to cross the road into Stephen's field because of the height of the hedge. A meeting took place with P&KC and a suggestion was made for a fencing arrangement but a further problem was reported at the bottom of the hill with vehicles travelling down the road and children crossing the road at the position of the drop down curbs.

It is not ideal to remove any hedge but the potential of someone getting seriously injured or indeed killed far outweighs the niceties of a hedge.

A new hedge will be planted further from the road edge between the trees and the Safer Routes to School group have volunteered to assist with the planting.

The plants will be ordered this week and it is expected that planting will be undertaken in January 2011 (Sec. Note: snow fell last year on December 16th and continued until March!!)

Under AOB a resident raised the question of the red areas which had been painted across the road at Buchan Avenue and Bishop Terrace. These had been painted to alert all road users that it was more than likely that children would be crossing the road at these areas. It was hoped that people crossing at these points would still be aware of their kerb drill, that traffic had the right of way and that the painted area did not give a false sense of security.

#### 5. Kinnesswood Bus shelter area.

Following a presentation by a resident on his thoughts for changing the present set up at the bus shelter with a more modern look on May 11th 2010 there have been many opinions both for and against the change, some in principle of a change and some against the suggested modernised look.

It has been suggested that the CC is better placed to organise some form of process whereby the views of the community could be heard, however, it might be wiser to leave this subject until we have a larger compliment of CCllrs.

#### 6. Meeting with Gliding Centre

Following the presentation by the Gliding Centre in August it was agreed that the CC would initiate arrangements for a local liaison group. It was originally suggested by the CC to wait until the MIR was published by P&KC in October in the belief that the contents would have some bearing on the liaison group. However the report is now available and whilst it contains many suggestions there are few answers. It has now been decided that the CC will meet with representatives of the Gliding Centre shortly to discuss how best to proceed.

#### 7. Build Outs

One completed with a good report so far and one to do.

#### 8. Vane Farm road.

A number of requests for sweeping this road were made in 2009. In February 2010 the inference was moved from trying to get the road cleaned to someone to appraise the condition of the road.

WCllr Baird agreed to progress this problem.

#### 9. Loch Leven Heritage Trail.

The following are still on going.

1. Route alongside RSPB still on going.
2. Access to Trail in Levenmouth area still required

WCllr Robertson had previously agreed that Tracks would take on board the question of a pathway between the MBW and the Heritage Trail at Grahamstone.

10. Sign required to Well at Scotlandwell.

CCllr Forde agreed to discuss the situation with people in Scotlandwell including those who were managing the update of the wash house.

#### **4. Police Report.**

The report was e mailed as follows:-

Apologies for non attendance, unfortunately due to staffing levels.

There has been a recent series of thefts from cars which have either been unlocked or have had high value items sitting in full view. Buchan's garage has also recently been targeted although, thankfully nothing was stolen there was still a considerable amount of damage. In addition there have been a number of thefts of tools from building sites in remote areas.

We would be grateful if members of the public see anything or anyone they consider to be suspicious to give us a call.

We would like to remind you of our AFTER DARK campaign and the requirement for extra vigilance during the darker evenings. It is also important that we keep our eye on elderly neighbours especially in the colder weather.

We would also like your opinion on the use of our Mobile Community Office.

- Is there an event taking place in your area which we could provide a presence?

- Is there a requirement for us to hold 'surgeries' in your area to listen to your concerns? If so, where is the best place to park the vehicle?

The most common issues occupying the majority of our time relate to complaints regarding youths causing annoyance. We are conscious that at this time of the year, egg throwing becomes an active past-time. We make a point of visiting local retailers to ask them to look out for young people purchasing large quantities of cheap eggs and carrying out as many high visibility patrols as possible.

Many thanks for your continued support

**4. Treasurers report.** No report

#### **6. Subcommittee reports**

##### Paths Group

Work on the path along the A911 has progressed, people have been seen using the path although it has not been completed.

The paperwork for the MBW had been requested from the previous CClr to pass on to the next Paths Group co-ordinator.

## **7. Ward Cllr reports**

WCllr Baird indicated that the post bus is not used very much. It was suggested that the bus may be better used if it travelled throughout the area stopping at various places in a similar fashion to the fish van. That way all the different areas in Portmoak could be serviced.

WCllr Baird reported that although P&KC was 'leaner' than most other Councils in Scotland there were still belt tightening times ahead and it was likely that everyone would be affected in some way. Anyone with views on where the Council money should or should not be spent could fill in a Viewfinder questionnaire on the P&KC website:-

<http://pkc.financial-priorities-questionnaire.sgizmo.com/s3/>

WCllr Barnacle agreed with WCllr Baird. He also reminded the meeting that the MIR covered the period up to 2024 and a further concern was the movement of services from the centre of Kinross to the Campus. A further concern was the movement of Tayside Contracts from the base alongside the motorway at Kinross although he welcomed the planned changes at the service station and the planning gain of a roundabout in this area.

## **9. AOCB**

1. An e mail request was received from a resident at Wester Balgedie on 31.10.10.

Loose sheets of corrugated tin were becoming loose on a barn and with the recent high winds there was a possibility that these uncontrolled flying hazards could do some real harm to an innocent passer-by.

An inspection was carried out by P&KC engineers on 2.11.10. The problem was explained to the owner of the barn on 4.11.10 who promised to have someone look at the problem. The owner was again contacted on 8.11.10 but had not received a report from his 'man on the ground'.

Post Meeting Note: The owner has contacted P&KC with the response that there is not a problem. P&KC engineers disagree and a formal letter will be sent (by Friday 12.11.10) to the owner explaining that he has 14 days to remove the problem otherwise the Council will take it upon themselves to carry out the necessary repairs and forward the costs to the owner.

2. A resident reminded the meeting of the recent advertisement by BT entitled 'Race to Infinity'. For anyone interested in registering interest in an effort to achieve higher broadband rates then please browse the dedicated BT "Race To Infinity" competition website at the following URL:- <http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/>

If 75% of the 500 residents vote before December 31st 2010 BT will contact us to see what can be done to improve broadband at the Scotlandwell exchange.

## **9. Communications**

The following communications had been received since the date of the last meeting.

4.11.2010 ASCC online bulletin

2.11.2010 P&KC Local Development Plan, MIR workshops

2.11.201 P&KC Weekly list of planning applications

1.11.2010 Kinross-shire Community Learning and development Group, 24.11.2010

31.10.201 ASCC constitution questions

28.10.2010 Police re cc meetings

28.10.2010 Transfer of public assets into community ownership seminar Blantyre Dec, Tayside Feb 2011

28.10.2010 ASCC online bulletin

25.10.2010 Communication with Gliding Centre re meetings

20.10.2010 Chair of Portmoak Primary School Parent Council re hedge

15.10.201 Sportive Kinross 23 April 2011, cycling event

15.10.2010 P&KC Affordable housing policy

14.10.2010 Invitation to attend reception at Kinross Museum 20.10.10

14.10.2010 Invitation to Association of Scottish Community Councils conference 20.11.2010

12.10.2010 Minutes of ASCC meeting

The meeting finished at approx. 8.20 p.m. The facilitator was thanked.

<p>WCLlr Barnacle will be making a presentation on how the Main Issues Report will affect the residents of Portmoak at the CC meeting on December 14th 2010 in the Primary School.</p>
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