

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of AGM held on Tuesday, May 14th 2013 at Portmoak Primary School

1. Attendance: CClrs M. Parkin (Chair) T. Smith; R. Williamson; S. Forde; B. Calderwood.
Ward Cllrs: W. Robertson, M. Barnacle, J. Giacobazzi, and three members of the public
Apologies : CClrs R. Cairncross and M. Strang Steel ; Ward Cllr D. Cuthbert.

2. The previous minutes (8th May 2012) were approved, and signed by the Chairman.

3. The Chairman gave his annual report;

The Community Council has enjoyed another busy year across the range of its activities and responsibilities.

During the sixteen months from 1st January 2012 to April 2013, Portmoak CC considered the merit of 29 planning applications made to Perth & Kinross Council and commented on these in the best interests of Portmoak. Planning applications for the year 2012 and for 2013 to date are reduced by some 20% when compared to previous years. Of those applications going forward for determination by PKC, just under 10% are refused. Portmoak Community Council also objected to less than 10% of all applications.

An analysis of planning applications since January 2010 reveals that a quarter of these are for new housing. This shows that windfall applications are far in excess of the 10% allowed for by Perth and Kinross Council in their estimate of new housing needed for Portmoak in the recent Local Development Plan. This has implications for the provision of infrastructure to support an increasing population, and the Community Council has been emphasising this in its dealings with Perth and Kinross Council.

Efforts have also been made to ensure that developer contributions are actually used in Portmoak.

In April 2012, the Community Council submitted responses to the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan; and recently to the Government Reporters now considering the Plan. We highlighted various significant issues regarding the future of Portmoak. In particular we have worked to improve the local infrastructure as housing development continues, as previously highlighted. Through representations and discussions with officers, The Community Council has participated fully in the process that will lead to the new Local Development Plan.

We are also working to create a pedestrian access between Wester and Easter Balgedie, and to create car parking and safe pedestrian paths in Scotlandwell.

The long outstanding matter of Stephen's Field was positively addressed during the year by productive meetings with A & J Stephen Ltd., and a full assessment of the implications of ownership and development of the field as a community asset for the future.

We have been supported in our work by our four Perth & Kinross Ward Councillors, who regularly attend our monthly meetings and help our relationship with Perth and Kinross Council as well as taking on a variety of projects and tasks for us.

The Community Council has also enjoyed a productive relationship with the executives of Perth and Kinross Council across a wide range of subjects, including Roads, Planning, and Snow Clearing.

Examples of successful outcomes include the installation of the correct specification of signage on the build-outs in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell, the renovation of the Kinnesswood Bus Shelter, a safer bus stop for school use at Scotlandwell, and soft verge markers and warnings on the B920.

The success of Portmoak CC is not only due to the work of our Community Councillors, but it is also due to an interest in Portmoak that is reflected by the many residents and representatives of local organisations who regularly attend our meetings and provide input to our activities. So to those residents and representatives I give thanks. I also thank our regional MSPs Mr Willie Rennie and Miss Elizabeth Smith, who have taken an interest in local matters, as well as our Westminster Member of Parliament, Mr Gordon Banks.

In conclusion, Portmoak Community Council looks forward to another year of progress, with our target objectives in mind, including the provision of a pedestrian path along the A911 between Wester and Easter Balgedie, increased car parking in Scotlandwell, the ownership and enjoyment of Stephens Field in Kinnesswood, and the reduction of HGV traffic through the Parish.

I thank all individuals and organisations who have assisted Portmoak Community Council during the past year, and brought benefit to Portmoak by their efforts, and I thank my fellow Community Councillors for their hard work and enduring good humour.

MALCOLM PARKIN

14th May 2013

4. Treasurers Report:

The treasurer provided audited accounts for the year to 31st March 2013 and gave an explanation of the figures. The balance of Funds on hand is £603.68p.

The full Income and Expenditure account can be found on the Community Council website, www.portmoak.org

5. Office bearers for 2013 / 2014

The following office-bearers were appointed for the year 2013 / 2014

Chairman – Cllr Malcolm Parkin

Proposed by Cllr Bruce Calderwood

Seconded by Cllr Richard Williamson

Treasurer – Cllr Richard Williamson

Proposed by Cllr Malcolm Parkin

Seconded by Cllr Susan Forde

Following the resignation of Mr John Bird from the Community Council, the position of Secretary remains vacant and a replacement is being sought. The Chairman will perform the duties of Secretary in the short term, until an appointment can be made.

6. Date of next AGM 7.00 pm on Tuesday May 13th 2014, in the Primary School.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the AGM closed at 7.20 pm.
