

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 9th December 2014 at Portmoak Primary School

- 1. Attendance:** Cllrs: Malcolm Strang Steel (Chairman); Robin Cairncross (Secretary); Richard Williamson (Treasurer); Susan Forde; and Tom Smith; WCLls: Michael Barnacle; and Joe Giacobazzi, and 11 members of the public.

Apologies: WCLls: Dave Cuthbert and Willie Robertson; Cllr Bruce Calderwood (Deputy Chair); and PC Douglas Stapleton.

Previous minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting held in November 2014 were approved.

2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:

3.3.4.1 Stephen's Field: The Chairman reported that he was pursuing a date for a meeting with A & J Stephen. This was anticipated early in the New Year.

9.0 Kinnesswood Post Box: Royal Mail has re-confirmed that there will be a new post box installed within the next two weeks. Arrangements were in hand to ensure a "sympathetic" removal of the old box.

3. Reports:

- 3.1 Police: The Chairman reported on a useful meeting between the CCs of Kinross-shire and senior officers of Division D, Police Scotland (Tayside). The primary focus was on improving communications between police and communities and vice versa.

The *Monthly Report* was noted. It emphasised the importance of reviewing security measures in and around homes and out-buildings. It is important to tell police immediately if persons are acting suspiciously or the presence of vehicles gives rise to concern. Recently lead flashing had been removed from the roof of the Village Hall and there had been a theft of goods following a break-in at a farm shop premises near the Portmoak Gliding Club.

The CC received a letter from the Area Commander (Perth and Kinross) setting out how he plans to improve community links. A weekly Commander's Bulletin will be introduced.

The CC noted the Commander's Bulletin of 4th December which drew attention to: Roads Policing (safe winter travel and the change in drink-driven limit); and Crime (high value telephone scams, purse thefts, housebreaking and how to deter it, and a rise in domestic violence).

- 3.2 Treasurer: The Council's accounts at the end of November 2014: a balance of £615.97 in the General Account and £1,646.19 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £2,262.16.

- 3.3 Planning:

- New applications:
 - 14/01979/FLL, Land 40 metres North East of the Napix, the Cobbles, Kinnesswood - Erection of a dwelling house. This is effectively a re-submission of a withdrawn application to which the CC had objected. The CC objected to this application as: the design of the proposed house did not preserve nor enhance the character or the appearance of the conservation area contrary to PKC policy; the removal of trees would change the enclosed rural character of that part of the core path/Michael Bruce Way; and as the integrity of the Michael Bruce Way and safe pedestrian access over the adjacent core path would be compromised contrary to PKC policy.
 - 14/01890/FLL, Land 30 metres North of Balneathill House, Easter Balgedie, Formation of horse riding area and erection of store (in part retrospect). The CC made no comment.

These were the unanimous decisions of the CC.

- Progress with applications:
14/00707/FLL. The Lomond Inn Kinnesswood, Erection of 5 houses. A new application was anticipated.

3.4 Roads: The CC noted the updated version of the CC Road Report and would return to it at its January meeting.

- West Bowhouse section of the A911 (Scotlandwell to Auchmuir Bridge). In light of the recent report of the enforcement officer that the visibility splay conditioned in the original planning consent was unachievable, the CC, with the help of WCllr Giacomazzi, would now pursue the matter with the P&KC Roads Department.
- Snow clearance. WCllr Barnacle would liaise with WCllr Robertson on the matter of fit-for-purpose contracts for local farmers/contractors.

3.5 Paths: CCllr Tom Smith reported that:

- continuing damage from heavy rain to some parts of the upper stretches of the Michael Bruce Way remained a concern. Contractors had made significant progress in repairing damaged sections although the end result of their work would require further appraisal. Voluntary work continued.
- the Paths Group were reviewing paths across Portmoak to identify priorities for further maintenance or development. Its preliminary findings were being considered by the CC and included: improved drainage at the Peat Loan entrance to the Moss; assessment of what might be necessary to make the Dryside Road core path to Easter Balgedie more readily accessible; and improved path signage across Portmoak.
- there was an opportunity to develop and consolidate a new path from the B920 giving access to the Heritage Trail at Levenmouth.
- plans to develop a path from the Moss Access Road to The Green would be taken forward next year.

Separately, difficulty in gaining access to a direct route up the Bishop Hills behind Balneathill Farm was noted. Cllr Tom Smith would discuss the matter with the owner

4. Closure of Levensgleng Nursing Home, Glenlomond. The CC had written to some 20 key parties to make them aware of developments at the Levensgleng Nursing Home. The preliminary responses had been supportive. Lindsay Philp, representing the Glenlomond Residents Association presented an update. A public meeting would be held on the evening of Monday 15th December at the Hospital at 7.30pm to review matters.

5. P&KC Consultation on Supplementary Guidance - Landscape. This was an important document and would, once adopted, form part of the new Local Development Plan. As virtually the entirety of Portmoak lay within the proposed *Special Landscape Area* for Loch Leven and Lomond Hills, there could be implications for planning and development. The CC would look to provide a formal response by the closing date for consultation - 19th January.

6. Ward Cllr Reports:

WCllr Mike Barnacle: reported on plans:

- for a pilot 20mph speed limit involving roads around Portmoak Primary School including Main Street Kinnesswood;
- to hold a meeting of representatives of Kinross-shire CCs in the week commencing 19th January. The CC agreed to participate.

7. Matters previously notified to the Secretary plus matters raised from the floor.

None.

8. AOCB:

Leak at Kinnesswood Water Tank. After continuing pressure Scottish Water had at last relented and repaired the significant leak at their Tank above Kinnesswood. Land around the Tank had become water-logged making access to the Michael Bruce way difficult.

9. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm, on Tuesday 13th January, 2015** at Portmoak Primary School.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and the Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

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