

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 9th June 2015 at Portmoak School

1. **Attendance:** CCLrs: Bruce Calderwood (Deputy Chairman); Robin Cairncross (Secretary); Richard Williamson (Treasurer); Susan Forde; and Tom Smith; WCllrs Mike Barnacle and Joe Giacobazzi; PC Jim Wilson and 13 members of the public.

Apologies: CCLr Malcolm Strang Steel and WCllrs Dave Cuthbert and Willie Robertson.

New member: By co-option Dave Morris was welcomed as a new community councillor.

2. **Approval of previous Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held in May 2015 were approved.

3. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

3.3 Portmoak Cemetery. PKC have yet to confirm possible alternative plans for the cemetery which is now approaching capacity. The matter is being taken forward by WCllr Willie Robertson.

4. **Reports:**

4.1 Police: PC Jim Wilson was welcomed to his first meeting and the CC received the monthly Police Report. The only reported crime since the previous meeting had been the overnight theft of a garden swing set from a garden in Scotlandwell. Police Scotland advised that they had launched both their 2015 Summer Drink Drive Campaign and a Road Safety Campaign. Speed monitoring could be anticipated. Residents raised two points:

- Parking immediately after the build-out in central Kinnesswood. This made it difficult for the increasing numbers of cyclists to use the build-out's by-pass provisions for cyclists; and
- The proposed 2 year trial of 20mph speed limits within Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell to replace the existing 30mph limits.

There should be an opportunity shortly to explore these matters further with the Road Safety Officer at a future meeting of the Council.

PC Wilson was thanked for his report. The CC noted the Commander's Bulletins of 13th, 21st and 28th May and of 6th May.

4.2 Treasurer: On the general account there has been no movement in the month leaving a balance at the end of May the same as at end April of £66.96. On the MBW account however we have received £325.00 in donations towards the upkeep of MBW following our appeal to members of the community. This has moved our balance from £166.92 at the end of April to £491.92 at the end of May.

- 4.3 Planning:

- ***New applications:***

15/0000752/FLL. Former Levenmouth Cottage Scotlandwell, Erection of a replacement dwellinghouse. Decision: No Comment nor objection.

- **Progress with developments**
 - a) Lomond Inn 15/00505FLL & 15/00506/CON. The CC's comments had been submitted.
 - b) Glenlomond. The Glenlomond Residents Association would meet shortly. The developer would be present to explain progress with his development plans.
 - c) The following have been granted planning consent: 15/00449/AML - Erection of 16 holiday lodges and associated works, Findatie; 15/00464/FLL Modification of permission 09/00936/FLL - Change of house type at former Causeway Cottage; and 15/00562/FLL - Erection of a wind turbine, Greenhead of Arnot.

4.4 Roads:

- **Lost Build-out illumination: 2 build-outs:** There appeared to be no progress.
- **Loose Manhole cover and setting on the B920 at its exit from Scotlandwell.** This situation was deteriorating.
- **Absent road markings on significant parts of south Loch Road (B9097) and at the junction of the B9097 with the B920.**

WCllrs Barnacle and Giacobazzi would pursue these points with PKC.

The promised cats eyes along the A911 as it traverses Portmoak were eagerly awaited.

4.5 Paths: Cllr Tom Smith confirmed that: some £350 had been raised to help support maintenance of the Michael Bruce Way (MBW); the frequency of cuts on the Peat Loan section of the MBW had been reduced; and that the new strimmer/bush cutter had been in action on both the MBW and the Dryside Road Path.

5. **Stephen's Field: to receive a progress report on the ballot.** The CC had been advised that if the community was to support a planning application for the "retained Plot" (and/or its inclusion within the village settlement boundary/envelope) the application would have a good chance of being approved and transfer of ownership of remainder of the Field to the CC, with consequent ability to control what happens on it, would then proceed. The CC had sought, through a ballot of Portmoak residents, to determine how the community would like it to act in this situation. In the ballot it asked the question: *"Would you wish the Community Council to actively support the obtaining of planning permission for one house on the "retained Plot" and/or its inclusion for development in the next Local Development Plan with a view to triggering the transfer of ownership of the field to the Community Council sooner rather than later?"* Respondents were asked to indicate Yes or No.

While the CC had developed and agreed the content of the questionnaire they had received assistance from the PKC Planning and Development Team in compiling it, in copying the ballot paper and in putting the survey on-line. PKC also provided an independent analysis of the results.

Ballot papers were hand delivered to everyone in the Portmoak Community Council area by volunteers from the Community Council. Extra copies were available in Kinnesswood

Shop. The online ballot was also available from the Portmoak Community Council webpage. The ballot opened on 16th May and closed at 5pm on the 8th June 2015.

Residents could vote by completing a paper ballot paper and putting it in a sealed ballot box in Kinnesswood Shop or complete the ballot online.

Results: A table summarising the results was circulated to Ward and Community Councillors and to the public attending the meeting. It will be placed on the Council's website. 134 people voted:

- 99 (74%) voted Yes; and 35 (26%) voted No.
- 48 (36%) voted online and 86 (64%) on paper. (The voting preferences were virtually identical for both groups.)

Discussion: several of the 13 members of the public present expressed the view that the resume on the ballot paper was not accurate and that accordingly the ballot was not valid and was indeed biased. This view was echoed by Cllr Dave Morris. The CC agreed to minute these concerns.

As was intended the CC would now report the outcome of the Ballot and the comments made on it to PKC and to A&J Stephen.

- 5. SSE overhead wires at Wellside.** Cllr Susan Forde reported that, in response to a request from the community in respect of the safety of both high voltage lines lying to the north and south of the Wellside development, SSE linesmen had recently assessed the lines and reported them safe and in accordance with national guidelines. As there remained concern the matter would be explored with the Health and Safety Executive.

6. Election of New Community Council

A new Community Council for Portmoak will be appointed by PKC from November. Enquires from interested residents of Portmoak who might wish to become a community councillor are welcomed. Any member of the CC would be pleased to respond with information. Papers relating to nominations will become available from PKC over the summer. Elections are supervised by PKC and will only happen were there to be more than 8 nominees.

- 7. Ward Cllr Reports:** The following were raised by WCllrs Barnacle and Giacomazzi:

- *Boundary Commission Consultation:* PKC had responded strongly to the Boundary Commission confirming its support for the retention of the current Kinross Ward. This in effect reflects the historic boundaries of the old County of Kinross-shire. The Boundary Commission's proposals would significantly shrink Kinross-shire.
- *LDP:* A summary of responses to the recent "call for issues and sites" would be placed on the PKC website shortly. It is important to look at the proposed sites and issues that affect Portmoak. These would be taken into account in the preparation of the Main Issues Report which is to be published for consultation later this year.
- *Policy LDP RD52:* This policy concerns provisions for new gypsy travellers' sites. PKC was reviewing this policy to determine practical and appropriate ways for ensuring that it would be more effective.

- *Road and path works for years 2015/16 and 2016/17*: A number of projects had been identified for Portmoak including: a new foot and cycle path at Wester Balgedie on the loch side of the A911 extending south from the bus stop to the Balgedie junction; traffic calming within Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell; patching and resurfacing of the A911, the B9097 and B919; and repair to the pavement outside the Shop in Kinnesswood.

WCIlr Giacomazzi will review the absence of appropriate signage at both ends of the new Easter to Wester Balgedie pathway. Unfortunately many cyclists had not recognised it as a cycle path.

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

1. Bench in The Green, Scotlandwell. To note offer from PKC Greenspace to replace/refurbish picnic tables/benches in The Green Scotlandwell. The CC would write in support of this offer.

9. AOCB:

1. Footpath along the A911 from Scotlandwell to the Church and Village Hall. A resident raised difficulties encountered by parents with children attempting to walk this path. The CC were very much aware of this problem, have pressed PKC on several occasions both to recognise it and to support a solution. It would write again shortly to PKC.

10. Date of next Meeting: The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm, on Tuesday 14th July at Portmoak Village Hall.**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

www.portmoak.org