

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 8th November 2016

at Portmoak Primary School, Kinnesswood

1. **Attendance:** CCllrs: M Strang Steel (Chairman); R Cairncross (Secretary); B Calderwood (Treasurer); S Forde; D Morris; A Robertson; T Smith and C Vlasto; and WCllrs: M Barnacle; D Cuthbert; J Giacomazzi; and W Robertson; and 11 members of the public.

Apologies: Police Scotland.

2. **Approval of previous Minutes:** The draft Minute of the meeting held in October 2016 was approved.
3. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:** There were no matters arising.
4. **The PKC Action Plan for the B9097 (South Loch Road).** WCllrs explained that this Action Plan was commissioned at their request. Consultation with relevant community councils was being undertaken. In due course the Action Plan together with comments would be considered by PKC's Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee.

The CC considered only that part of the Report relevant to the B9097 as it lay within the boundary of Portmoak. Although outwith the scope of the Report, WCllrs confirmed that within the next two years outstanding surfacing would be completed together with new cats eyes and fresh road markings throughout.

The CC noted:

- the eastern section of the B9097 (*South Loch Road*) carries more than 4,300 vehicles per day. (*In comparison the western section of the same road carries 1,400 vehicles per day.*)
- 14.7 percent of *westbound* traffic on the eastern section was recorded at travelling above 60mph and that 0.7% was recorded as travelling at excessive speed.
- in contrast, 23.7 percent of *eastbound* traffic on this section was recorded at travelling above 60mph and that 1.5% was recorded as travelling at excessive speed.
- speeding is a recognised problem: drivers travelling at 60mph are regularly overtaken and speeding motorbikes are a problem particularly at weekends.
- there are three blind summits west of East Brackley and a number of concealed entrances.
- there are major visitor centres at RSPB Loch Leven and at Findatie where there are large car parks.

The CC noted a recent police report of speed checks on this section of the road where no speeding offences had been detected. As it was conceded that speeding offences are very likely, the CC took the view that a different approach to speed monitoring could be merited.

Recommendations. After a full discussion the CC determined to recommend the following:

- 1 **Speed restriction:** Speed should be restricted to a maximum of 50mph from the junction with the B996 eastward to the junction at Findatie; and that there should be a further reduction to 40mph around the junction at RSPB Loch Leven to lessen the risk of collision with vehicles travelling eastward and seeking to turn right into RSPB Loch Leven. Speed restrictions must be enforced.
 - 2 **Blind Summits:** There are three blind summits. All three require suitable warning signs with associated road markings.
 - 3 **B920/B9097 Junction Island:** Support for the installation of a bollard with a Keep Left arrow on an island at this junction.
 - 4 **Concealed entrances:** Signs advising of concealed entrances should be provided
5. **Car Parking within Kinnesswood.** The CC received a report of a meeting at Portmoak Primary School in which school staff, parents, PKC officers and Ward Councillors, together with representatives of the CC had participated. The car park was relatively small with difficult access for larger vehicles. At busy times of the day this was a potentially congested environment where there was a risk to children. Children were often seen walking across and through the car park and not using the pavements. This was exacerbated by the increasing numbers of parents using cars to drop-off and pick-up their children at the school - some live in Fife. Red strips across the roads warning motorists of children were often compromised by those seeking to park.

Solutions could include: supplementary car parking to permit more ready and safer drop-off/pick-up points both further up Bishop Terrace and across the road from the School at Whitecraigs; encouraging better use of the dedicated school bus; encouraging children to walk to school say from the Church Car Park (though this could require the pinch point at Woodmarch to be addressed). Importantly there was a clear role for a new "Protocol" to include agreed arrangements so that all parents understood the school policy. This would be a matter in the first instance for the headteacher and the parents group at the School to consider.

6. Our Community

1. *A strategy and Vision for Portmoak.* The CC would take forward a programme to work with various community groups to use the "Place Standard" tool. Together the outputs should provide the CC with a better understanding of matters which affect the quality of life in Portmoak. This would inform and complement the work of the Kinross and Earn Action Partnership.
2. *Kinross and Earn Action Partnership.* The Partnership had, as a result of its first meeting, circulated a list of some 33 points setting out its response to the question "what could be better." These will be considered at the next meeting of the CC.

7. Reports

7.1 Police: There was no Police Report. The CC noted the speed report for traffic on the B9097. The Commander's Bulletins of 13th, 20th and 27th October and 3rd November were also noted. The CC was advised that there had been a further 4 accidents on the A911 in the West Bowhouse area but that only one had been reported to the police. A further accident on the B9097 had also not been reported to the police. It remained a significant and unresolved problem that accidents (which for good reason) are not reported to the

police are not taken into account by PKC in determining their programme for road improvements.

7.2 Treasurer: There was no in-month change. The General Account at the end of September was £671.40, while the Michael Bruce Way account was £919.51 giving a total of funds on hand of £1,590.91.

7.3 Planning:

1. New applications:

- a) 16/01649/FLL, 1-2 Middleburn Cottages Kirkness, Cardenden. Siting of mobile snack van (in retrospect). CC view – no comment.

2. Progress with Developments:

- a) *Former Lomond Inn*. While formal consent for this development to proceed was awaited, the PKC Development Management Committee had, despite representations from local councillors, local residents and the CC, recommended that consent be granted. The CC recorded its disappointment at this outcome. It believed that the relevance of the conservation area to this development had, in a number of ways, not been adequately recognised. It had, through Freedom of Information or analogous provisions, sought to understand how the input from the conservation officer had informed the decision to recommend approval. Unfortunately, PKC had been unable to respond with an adequate explanation. There were three immediate consequences:

- *Loss of the recycling provision*. PKC would, subject to operational constraints, provide a suitable replacement facility provided a place to accommodate it could be found. The CC would ask Kinnesswood residents what kind of recycling facility (if any) should be provided (e.g. a bottle bank only) and where it should be sited. It should be noted that bin provision at the Hall was for the use of the Hall and Kilmagad Wood residents only.
- *Loss of car parking*. Up to ten vehicles currently use the car park at the Lomond Inn. Their accommodation elsewhere in the village could be problematic (see 5 Car Parking in Kinnesswood).
- *Stained Glass window in the Lomond*. Provisions were in hand to ensure that the upper part of this window would be “conserved” as part of a new window in the replacement to the old Inn and that the lower part of the window would be retained safely.

- b) *Glenlomond*. While formal consent for this development to proceed was awaited, the PKC Development Management Committee had, recommended that consent be granted. The CC would pursue an offer by the developer to provide supplementary signage in the vicinity of Glenlomond.

7.4 Roads: WCllr Calderwod reported that a further meeting with PKC road’s officers to review progress with the CC Road’s Programme would be pursued. Provisions to extend the 40mph limit on the A991 beyond Loch Leven’s Larder towards Milnathort were in hand as was formal approval of the “Green Route” along the Dryside Road from Wester Balgedie past Glenlomond to the border with Fife.

7.5 Paths: A programme to take forward improvements to the “old” Dryside Road and to the Peat Loan at the Moss was in hand. The extensive drainage provisions to the upper Michael Bruce Way were operating effectively. Cattle remained at a higher level this year and no difficulties had been encountered. It was noted that the construction of the new drainshad inadvertently enabled sheep to get through the fence. The Paths Group would attend to making the fence stockproof urgently.

8. Arrangements at Whitecraigs and Stephen’s Field consequent on the departure the developer. The Chairman and Cllr T Smith had held a successful meeting with local residents to review the high hedging along the core path from the A911 to Stephen’s Field and between adjacent properties and the Golf Club. In light of this and to confirm a management strategy, a further meeting with the representatives of the Golf Club is to be arranged.

9. P&KC Ward Cllr Reports:

WCllrs D Cuthbert; W Robertson and J Giacobazzi made no report. WCllr M Barnacle: reported that PKC Environment Committee was overseeing a change to recycling arrangements. Stickers that could be attached to respective bins recounting what can or cannot be placed therein should be considered.

10. Matters previously notified to the Secretary plus matters raised from the floor: None.

11. AOCB: Farmers raised the following points:

11.1 Goose shooting. The current season was well underway but there had been reports of members of the public inadvertently disturbing geese and of ignoring advice not to cross areas where geese were grazing and shooting would occur. It was unclear whether such shoots were always adequately signalled to the public.

11.2 The dangers of walking a dog in a field of cattle. A serious incident had been reported where a woman walking her dog on a lead across a field in which there were cattle had been “attacked” by the cattle and injured. Care should be taken if entering a field with cattle particularly if taking a dog. Retaining the dog on the lead could exacerbate risk were an “attack” to occur.

In relation to both these matters better publicity for, and understanding of, the Outdoor Access Code is desirable. An article in the Newsletter might help.

12. Date of next meeting: The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm on Tuesday 13th December in Portmoak School**. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Can you help? With the closure of the recycling facility at the Lomond Inn the Community Council (CC) would welcome suggestions on what kind of facility (if any) should be provided and on where, if possible, it might be sited? Please leave suggestions before 12th December either in the mailbox on the CC’s website www.portmoak.org or in the envelope in the Kinnesswood Shop.