

# Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

**1. Attendance:** CCllrs: M Strang Steel (Chairman); R Cairncross (Secretary); B Calderwood (Treasurer); S Forde; D Morris; A Robertson and T Smith; and 12 members of the public.  
**Apologies:** WCllrs : M Barnacle; D Cuthbert; W Robertson; and J Giacobazzi and Police Scotland - PC Atholl Spalding.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** The draft Minute of the meeting held in March 2017 was approved.

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

*Para 10. Drainage at the Green.* PKC had assessed the problem and proposed to put in place gravel banding strips which would improve the problem. At the same time the path to the new development would be stabilised.

### **4. Portmoak Archaeological Project**

Wendy Macphedran and Nicola Carmichael introduced an exciting, innovative and ambitious new project which aimed, as part of Scotland's 2017 year of history, heritage and archaeology, at celebrating Portmoak's rich history of heritage and archaeology. A project team including Professor David Munro had taken this work forward and secured funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Environment Scotland to support a range of activities. The remit was both broad and inclusive with community-wide participation and many activities considered including further "digs", communication about the life and happenings in Portmoak using different media and guided walks and tours. A provisional programme extending from May through to October was circulated and would shortly be advertised across the community. It would include project work with the school and an opportunity to collect and record as an oral history first-hand accounts of life in Portmoak in years past. The project organisers would welcome contact with anyone willing to help with such information. The CC warmly welcomed and supported this initiative.

**5. Recycling provision, Kinnesswood.** CCllr Dave Morris reported that he had joined with PKC officers on a visit to determine a suitable site for a bottle bank. Subject to confirmation this would be behind the bus shelter at the centre of Kinnesswood.

**6. Emergency Plan.** The CC had been made aware of the Scottish Government's programme to support community resilience which aimed at: 1) ensuring support and caring for the most vulnerable; and 2) providing from within the community emergency support in the face of a significant and protracted disaster. SSE provided grant support for this programme. It was acknowledged that to take this forward having an Emergency Plan in place would be a key first step. The CC would take advice on how best to prepare such a Plan.

### **7. Reports**

**7.1 Police:** A written report from PC Spalding told of damage to turf at Turfitt caused by a joy rider on a quad bike. The Area Commander's Bulletins of 16<sup>th</sup> March, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 5<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> April were noted.

**7.2 Treasurer:** The General Account at the end of March was £389.27 while the Michael Bruce Way account was £739.71 giving a total of funds on hand of £1,128.98.

### **7.3 Planning:**

#### **1. New applications:**

- a) 17/00616/FLL 2 Bishop Terrace Kinnesswood, Erection of a Balcony. No comment
- b) 17/00578/FLL 14 Gamekeepers Road Kinnesswood, Erection of a Balcony. No comment
- c) 17/00477/FLL 69 Whitecraigs Kinnesswood, Extension to dwelling house. No Comment
- d) 17/00368/FLL land 40 metres south of The Orchard Leslie Road, Scotlandwell, Erection of a dwelling house, garage and installation of an oil tank. No comment.

#### **2. Progress with Developments:**

- a) *Westfield Restoration and Regeneration Project, Fife (16/03661/EIA).* The CC noted that the objection lodged by PKC and supported by the CC had been recently rebutted by the developers and their agent. Following the local elections the CC would seek a further meeting with ward councillors and officers from Fife and PKC Councils to review the matter. A further approach to Scottish Ministers would be explored.
- b) *Former Lomond Inn: proposals for part demolition and erection of 5 dwelling houses (16/03661/CON).* Extensive demolition on the site had taken place leaving the core old Inn in place. The stability of the Inn now appeared uncertain. The CC was aware that PKC Building Control had recently assessed the building and that a report was awaited. Formal planning consent to proceed with the development had yet to be granted.
- c) *Development at Glenlomond – proposals to build 13 houses (16/00751/FLL).* The final phase of the demolition of the old hospital was now in hand. Formal planning consent to proceed with the development had yet to be granted. A request to remove the old Levensgleng signs at the Balgedie junction with the A991 was made.

**7.4 Roads:** PKC's response to the CC's submission on traffic through Portmoak had yet to be completed. In the meantime the CC had learned that: a) there is to be an A911 "Action Plan" although its status and timing was not known; b) improvement to the path from Scotlandwell along the A911 to the Hall could be included in the Action Plan; and that c) there was not much sympathy from PKC towards restricting speeds within the settlements of Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell to 20mph.

**7.5 Paths:** Lighter evenings and a drier season had encouraged the start of the work of the paths programme. The programme had now its focus for the year ahead. The CC was pleased to welcome three new volunteers to the Paths Group.

**8. Hustings for PKC elections.** The CC reviewed their recent Hustings looking to see if there was any way in which the arrangements might be improved. The event was an enjoyable success for all participating with around 50 in attendance. A further 20 to 30 would have been a welcome addition. The CC considered that the timing of and the arrangements for the event were appropriate. There could be scope to improve its promotion although there seemed no obvious way to do that.

**9. P&KC Ward Cllr Reports:** No oral reports. WCllr J Giacomazzi had submitted a written report confirming that PKC officers were not sympathetic to the introduction of 20mph

speed restrictions in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell. The matter should be reviewed after the local elections.

**10. Matters previously notified to the Secretary plus matters raised from the floor:**

1. Correspondence from Bishopshire Golf Club. The Club had contacted the CC to express concern at the recent unilateral decision of residents to reduce the height of the cypress hedging and to remove other trees at the lower end of the path from Stephen's Field leading to the A911. The Club took the view that holes created in the residual hedging now placed the public and properties at risk from errant golf balls. This in turn could affect the insurance needed to play the course. The CC had tried to pursue a consensus solution with both residents and Club and, with that in mind, had written to the owner, A & J Stephen Ltd, setting out the work that it would like to see done before it assumed ownership of the path. It had had no response from A & J Stephen. The Club would now contact A & J Stephen and would consider the place for netting to safeguard against balls passing through the holes.

**11. AOCB:** None.

**12. Date of next meeting:** The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in Portmoak School Kinnesswood.** This would include the AGM. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 8.40pm.