

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 8th August 2017

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

1. **Attendance:** Cllrs: M Strang Steel (Chairman), B Calderwood (Deputy Chair and Treasurer), R Cairncross (Secretary), A Muszynski, D Morris, A Robertson, and T Smith and WCLlrs: C Purves, W Robertson and R Watters, PCs D Stapleton and A Spalding and 13 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr S Forde and WCLlr M Barnacle.

Members of the Community Council expressed their condolences for Ward Councillor Michael Barnacle at this time of his bereavement.

2. **Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes CC meeting held on 13th June 2017 were approved subject to the following amendment: 2. Westfield Opencast site: Key points raised in discussion; bullet point 5; final sentence "*It intended to prepare.....*" This sentence to be presented as a separate bullet point

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

Item 5 Recycling provisions, Kinnesswood. The new bins had been installed and were being emptied weekly. The site remained tidy. A new sign to indicate their position would help. The school would be approached to suggest a design.

Item 6.3 Planning. 17/00658/FLL Land 100m north of 3 Middleburn Cottages – Change of use from agricultural land to equestrian centre. PKC had confirmed that, because they had been long established, the existing buildings/stables did not require planning permission.

4. **Westfield Opencast Site - Restoration and Regeneration Project (Fife 16/03661/EIA).**

The CC would shortly submit a revised letter of objection to Fife Council. Since its letter of objection of January there was now greater clarity on a number of critical points and a pressing need to make the case for mitigation plain were planning consent to be granted in the near future. This the CC would do. The CC would shortly meet with the Fife lead planner in advance of submitting its objection. It was important to understand what role PKC would now take. The CC had so far been unable to meet with PKC planners but a meeting with both Fife and PKC planners, Ward Councillors and representatives of the CC had been arranged for 23rd August. WCLlrs confirmed that PKC officials had determined that PKC would not require the application to be called in by Scottish Ministers. It was unclear whether or not PKC would pursue any mitigation measures.

Key matters identified were that:

- the vehicle management policies to support the Westfield site should be underwritten by a three way agreement between: the Applicant, Fife Council and Perth and Kinross Council. Enforcement would be a particular challenge.
- the operational impact of the significant increase in traffic on agriculture and the tourism and leisure industries would be considerable.
- part of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail already provided a safe off-road experience for walkers and cyclists alike. This should be extended to include the whole of the B9097 between its junction with the B920 and the B996.
- any vehicular management plan to support the site must be complemented by a construction management plan.

- there were good reasons to require that there should be flexibility in the hours that the B9097 could be used by HGVs. For example, such traffic should be precluded on agreed statutory holidays, and for particular events (The Kinross Show, The Loch Leven Half Marathon and certain cycling events).

The CC's letter of objection would be copied to the adjoining Kinross-shire CCs - a broader circulation list was under consideration.

- 5. Community Council Meetings.** PKC had recently terminated the provision for hiring the school hall to the CC. As a result all CC meetings from September onwards will be held in Portmoak Village Hall at 7.30PM. A revised calendar of events had been circulated and is available on the CC website. Meeting are ordinarily held on the second Tuesday of each month. WCllr C Purves would explore why PKC had taken this action.
- 6. School access – policy on parking.** The CC had followed up on the proposals to restrict parking on the access to Portmoak School, Kinnesswood. It had learned that, despite its support, PKC would take no action in taking forward the proposals. The access problem remained. Clear access to the school for emergency vehicles is essential. WCllrs will pursue what action was now appropriate. The matter was linked to difficulties in achieving safe drop-off and pick-up arrangements for children at the school.
- 7. Arrangements for the maintenance of residual plots across Whitecraigs.** The CC welcomed news that A & J Stephen and PKC were in discussion to achieve transfer of ownership and maintenance of a number of residual plots across the Whitecraigs estate. The CC had an interest in specific plots and in seeing that all plots were transferred. It had contacted PKC to seek clarity on the identity of all plots concerned before negotiations were concluded. WCllr W Robertson would pursue the matter with PKC.

8. Reports

8.1 **Police:** PCs D Stapleton and A Spalding were welcomed. They reported that: there had been no crime in the Portmoak area although there had been an accident at the C50 junction with the Westfield access; the "Farm Watch" scheme was being reintroduced; and speed checks would be likely on the A911 as it passes through Portmoak. The Police will have an information facility at the Kinross Show. The Area Commander's Bulletins of 14th June, 21st June, 28th June, 5th July, 12th July, 19th July, 26th July and 2nd June and 2nd August were noted.

8.2 **Treasurer:** Report for the months of April and May 2017. The balance at the month ending 31st May: was £584.40 in the General Account; and £639.18 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,223.58.

8.3 Planning:

1. New applications:

2. Progress with Developments:

- Former Lomond Inn: proposals for part demolition and erection of 5 dwelling houses (16/03661/CON). No Progress.*
- Development at Glenlomond – proposals to build 13 houses (16/00751/FLL). Final down-takings were in progress. It appeared likely that the site may be sold-on with planning permission.*
- Stephen's Field, Kinnesswood. Matters rested with A & J Stephen. It seemed possible that the recent planning application may be withdrawn and new proposals made. Details are awaited.*

8.4 **Roads:** CCllr Bruce Calderwood presented an updated Roads Report. There were a number of matters on which to make progress. The narrow footpath alongside the A911 between

Scotlandwell and onwards to the Church and Hall remains a serious problem. WCllr W Robertson would raise the matter with PKC Roads department. Road surfacing from Easter Balgedie through Kinnesswood was noted. WCllrs were reminded that cats eyes should be replaced. WCllrs C Purves reported that a request to reduce the speed limit through Easter Balgedie was being considered while PKC would be reviewing its policy on 20mph limits.

8.5 **Paths:** CCllr Tom Smith reported that due to holidays the work parties had had fewer volunteers than usual. It was anticipated that this would correct soon. There was a considerable challenge as the weather had ensured a prodigious growth along all paths. The strimmer had required repair on three occasions. New arrangements for the maintenance of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail between PKC, SNH and RSPB were noted.

9. **Consultations.** The CC were currently considering 7 requests on a disparate range of topics.

10. PKC Ward Cllr Reports:

WCllr Willie Robertson reported that in addition to the new Kinross Brewery there would soon be a Kinross micro distillery.

WCllr Callum Purves reported that PKC had released £750,000 from reserves to enable improved road maintenance (including removing excess growth from verges at junctions) and support for Greenspace projects. The full Council would move from Perth to hold an open meeting on Wednesday 4th October in Kinross at the Campus.

11. **Matters previously notified to the Secretary plus matters raised from the floor:** There had been an informal contact from Kinross CC. In view of the projected increase in housing in both Kinross and Milnathort support was sought for the “completion” of junction 7 on the M90 to have four slip roads. The CC has consistently supported this development and, once the Kinross CC request is received, would write in support.

12. **AOCB:** None.

13. **Date of next meeting:** The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.30pm** on Tuesday 12th September 2017 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 9.00pm.