

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on 13th February 2018

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

1. **Attendance:** Cllrs: M Strang Steel (Chairman), B Calderwood (Deputy Chair and Treasurer), R Cairncross (Secretary), S Forde, D Morris, A Muszynski, and T Smith; and WClrs: M Barnacle, C Purves and R Watters, and 8 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr A Robertson; and WClr W Robertson and PC D Stapleton (Police Scotland).

2. **Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the CC meeting held on 9th January 2018 were approved subject to amending Item 6.4 Roads: replace “WClr Calderwood” with “Cllr Calderwood”.

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

Item 3. School access - policy on parking. WClr Purves reported that the matter would be considered by the PKC Environment and Infrastructure Committee. Officers would shortly prepare a Report for the Committee. The CC asked Ward Councillors to try to secure an opportunity for it to comment on the Report before it was considered by the Committee. WClr Purves signalled that a possible contribution to easing parking by the “Gap Site” would be taken into account but to date he had been unable to find who in PKC was responsible for the Site. The CC recognised the important contribution of a “Protocol” endorsed by the School, parents, local residents and the community that would provide guidance to parents picking-up and dropping-off children at the School. The CC would offer to provide an initial draft. The School had flagged concern at the suitability of the current “safe route” for children in the immediate vicinity of the School indicated by two red tarmac strips on Buchan Avenue and Bruce Road. Drivers approaching them may not see children. The legal status of such markings appears uncertain. If they have a valid status they should be improved; if not they should be replaced with something that has.

4. **Scottish Water Supply to Kinnesswood/Glenlomond/Wester Balgedie.** The Chairman welcomed Kathy Auld, Project Manager Scottish Water. She described plans to replace the water pump in Kinnesswood situated close to the car park on Bruce Road. The new system of paired primary and back-up pumps controlled by an advanced system of sensors will be more reliable. The current system already supplies the header tank at the top of the village which in turn delivers water to most of Kinnesswood. At any one time the header tank, were the pumped system to fail, should meet between 8 and 12 hours supply for the village. The work is planned to be carried out in mid April and will be managed to minimise impact on the car park and on the children at the start and conclusion of the school day. Commissioning may take up to a month during which the original system will remain in place and could be brought into use if necessary. The quality of drinking water would not be affected. The “tots garden,” cared for by Kinnesswood in Bloom, would be restored to allow it to be replanted. Separately Ms Auld reported that a similar upgrade to a more reliable pumping system is planned for the pump on the B919 at Pittendreich which supplies Glenlomond and Wester Balgedie.

5. **Reports**

- 5.1 **Police:** There was no Police Report. A road sign had been damaged on the B920 approach to Scotlandwell. The matter would be taken forward by Cllr Calderwood. The Area Commander’s Bulletins of 10th 17th 24th and 31st January and of 7th February were noted.

- 5.2 **Treasurer:** The balance at the month ending 31st January was £439.20 in the General Account; and £ 1,042.35 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,481.55. The new “Holding Account” held £1, 500.00.

5.3 Planning:

1. New applications:

- a) *17/02274/IPL. Land 20 metres East of Leven House (Levenmouth) Scotlandwell.* Residential development in principle (2 new dwellinghouses to replace existing stable block). The CC noted that PKC had determined to grant planning consent in principle. It remained concerned that there was no restriction on “creeping development” through further applications on this site. WCllrs advised that that may reflect a defect in the PKC Policy on *Housing in the Countryside* which was an integral part of the of the Local Development Plan governing land usage. A member of the public suggested that previous planning permissions for Levenmouth contained conditions obliging the developer to upgrade the access road. These had not been implemented. The CC would investigate and, if this were the case, write to the planners requesting enforcement action and a moratorium on any further consents (including on any full application following on this in principle consent) until the conditions had been met. The CC would also request that a condition requiring public access over the route through Levenmouth to the Heritage Trail be inserted in any future consent as it had been in the last one.
- b) *17/02223/FLL. Land 60 metres North of West Brackly Farm Kinross.* Erection of a dwelling house and associated works. No comment.
- c) *18/00150/FLL. Shanthy, Wester Balgedie.* Extension to dwellinghouse. No comment.

2. Progress with Developments:

- a) *17/01596/IPL. Land 50 metres south of 9 Bishop Terrace, Kinnesswood.* Erection of a dwelling house in principle. (Stephen’s Field). To clarify progress, the Chairman would contact PKC.
- b) *Fife 16/03661/EIA and 17/03377/FULL. Westfield* a) Opencast Site Planning in Principle and b) Installation of up to 10 gas engines. The decision from Fife Council was awaited.
- c) *16/03661/CON). Former Lomond Inn: proposals for part demolition and erection of 5 dwelling houses.* The outstanding arrangements which would allow building to proceed remain to be concluded. PKC did not have specific timescales for progression of the development. It is aware that the applicant is looking at options for the former Inn building and how it can be progressed bearing in mind its condition. The state of the security fence was a matter of concern and would be reported to PKC Building Control.
- d) *17/01885/FLL. Loch Leven’s Larder - Further information.* The CC would make no comment on recent proposals for amended drainage. It had sought clarity on traffic flows through the new development, the position of bus halts and the provisions to prevent untoward light pollution.

3. The CC received:

- a) *CC submission to Local Development Plan 2;*
- b) *PKC Community Plan 2017-2027.* It was noted that within the Plan there was no reference to the contribution of community councils.
- c) *Action programme for Tayplan.* Although Tayplan was crucial in shaping the proposed PKC Local Development Plan it was noted that there was no reference to the corresponding SE Scotland Strategic Plan which adjoins Kinross-shire.

5.4 Roads: To note progress with the Roads Report for 2017 including:

- a) *Status of winter potholes and dropped drains/gullies.* In recent weeks these had appeared with increasing frequency across Portmoak. A programme of repair would be required. In the meantime PKC’s rapid response to effect temporary repairs was

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welcomed. Individuals are encouraged to log on to PKC roads department and report any road problems.

- b) *Wester Balgedie/Carsehall junction*. Despite consensus that traffic lights were merited this will not be included in planned interventions by PKC. Were funding to be found it may proceed.
- a) *Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond*. This long-standing and important problem had over the past four years been the subject of two previous visits by PKC. The ward councillors were hoping to arrange a re-visit with the participation of senior officers. A key first step was, through an agreed process of option appraisal, to agree a preferred route for the principal path. Without that no progress can be anticipated.
- b) *Danger at Pavement in front of Kinnesswood Shop*. Cllr Morris reported that recently, when standing on the pavement outside the shop, he had been looking to his left at the approach of large HGV. He had been unaware of the snowplough with blade in the air approaching from his right. It passed within inches of him - the blade skimming above his head. He asked that cones be placed outside the shop to safeguard pedestrians. This experience parallels that of pedestrians on the *Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond* who from time to time have been hit by wing mirrors or had to avoid tractors towing farming equipment that overhung the footpath.

5.5 **Paths:** Cllr Tom Smith reported that section of the Michael Bruce Way between Kilmagadwood and Kinnesswood had been damaged as result of its use during the recent Devil's Burden Race.

6. PKC Ward Cllr Reports:

WCllr M Barnacle reported that he had completed his submission commenting on the proposed Local Development Plan and that he had identified infrastructure matters which he hoped could be resolved. The forthcoming budget may not be as "tight" as was first expected. PKC was now re-visiting its policy on 20mph limits.

WCllr C Purves confirmed that PKC had granted £150,000 to RSPB Loch Leven. This was a contribution to support the construction of the B9097 underpass.

WCllr R Watters reported on extensive road traffic studies within Kinross and Milnathort. These had identified a number of "pinch points". Funding to improve these was being sought. He added that part of the studies addressed the case for south-side slip roads at Junction 7. The case for funding these was at best marginal - progress could not be anticipated.

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

- a) *Devil's Burden Race*. Cllr Morris reported on this popular and successful event where more runners than ever took part. Following discussion last year between the CC and the event organisers Portaloos had been provided at the Kinnesswood change over. There were problems this year which would need to be addressed: a) Kinnesswood's capacity to accommodate the cars at the time of changeover was greatly pressed. The carpark and the Whitecraigs "overflow" were at capacity with difficulties in both Bishop Terrace and Bruce Road. Whether police support was needed or a means of limiting cars would be considered. b) Routes off the hill differed from those agreed. Runners who chose to come down at Kilmagadwood and then run along the Michael Bruce Way had damaged the path. c) While the event was welcomed it provided no benefit to the community. A contribution to the community would be explored with the organisers. A meeting to discuss these points will be arranged shortly.
- b) *Scottish Fire and Rescue Service – Community Asset Register (CAR)*. A Scottish national Register is being established. Essentially this is a Register of volunteers who have a particular

asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident. Examples include someone with a boat who could be called in times of flooding to assist evacuate people from houses to a place of safety. Similarly someone with a 4X4 may be used in times of severe snow to transport vulnerable people to a community hall. Further information about the Register can be found on this link: [http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-\(1\).aspx](http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/news-campaigns/news/2017/10/sfrs-launches-community-asset-register-(1).aspx). To register an interest contact: SFRS.CommunityAssetRegister@firescotland.gov.uk. Details would be placed on the notice boards with an invitation to volunteers to contact SFRS direct.

- c) *Tayside Health Board adopted Plans for Reformed Surgical and Mental Health Service*. These new plans were noted. There were possible implications for local transport and ambulance provisions which would need to be examined further.

8. AOCB

9. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.30pm** on Tuesday 13th March 2018 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 9.35p.m.