

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on 13th November 2018

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

- 1. Attendance:** Cllrs: M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), G Cox, S Forde, D Morris, A Muszynski and T Smith; and WClrs: C Purves and R Watters; and Community Sergeant Robert Hogg, and 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr B Calderwood; and WClrs M Barnacle and W Robertson.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Graham Cox to his first meeting.

- 2. Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the CC meeting held on 9th October were approved.

- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 3 School Access - policy on parking and safe access routes for children. The CC noted that white lines on roads in the vicinity of the school had recently been refreshed but that that had had no impact on the principle concerns of access to the school for larger vehicles and of improving safety provision for children in the vicinity of the school. The CC had written to Ward Councillor Angus Forbes (*Convenor of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee*) on 22nd October detailing its concern that PKC had failed to respond to its requests to progress the matters of parking in the vicinity of the school and of safe access routes for children. WClr Purves confirmed that there was a draft paper in respect of access issues in preparation but that child safety matters had not as yet been addressed. He would pursue the matter. The CC reiterated its request that it be invited to comment beforehand on any paper going before the Environment and Infrastructure Committee. **ACTION:** WClr Purves to take forward.

Item 3 Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond. The Chairman reported that, in response to PKC's request that the CC approach the relevant landowners about surveying possible routes for an improved footpath, the CC had done so and awaited replies. The safety of the current footpath for users of all ages, and particularly children, remained a significant concern. The CC noted that the public service bus provided to take children between Scotlandwell and the school was not popular with parents, many preferring to drive their children between school and home. The roadside footpath had been categorised by PKC in the past as an unsafe route for children to use to get to school and safety had not improved since.

Item 3 Resilience - being better prepared for risks. Community Emergency Plan. Cllrs A Muszynski and G Cox reported that they had participated in both national and Perth-based meetings aimed at supporting the development of Community Emergency Plans. A number of key groups associated with national/regional emergency planning and who could provide local support were identified. There were a number of practical steps a local Resilience Group could follow in taking forward its Community Emergency Plan. A key element could be to build on the SSEN vulnerable/at risk registrar. It was not thought that this would be restricted by data protection regulations. The police indicated their support in establishing a local Community Emergency Plan and arrangements were in hand to develop a Portmoak-based plan. A meeting aimed at securing interest in a local Resilience Group would be held shortly.

Item 3 Review of Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils. The CC had yet to comment on the proposed changes to the Scheme but would do so shortly. Separately the CC would contact both Milnathort and Kinross CCs to explain their proposal that an arrangement be introduced to include Loch Leven within the respective CC boundaries. WClr C Purves would clarify with PKC if

there were any difficulties in pursuing that goal. **ACTION:** for the CC and WCllr C Purves to take forward.

Item 3 Moss Road Car park. The Chairman would take forward matters in pursuit of securing title to this car park.

4. **Whitecraigs redundant land plots:** Approximately 8 or so plots across the Whitecraigs estate which had remained in the ownership of A & J Stephen had, with the departure of A & J Stephen, been transferred to the ownership of PKC. There was a commitment that PKC would be responsible for their maintenance. The plots were diverse in nature and the maintenance programme, which would start in the spring, would have to reflect that diversity. The CC would approach PKC to identify an officer who would meet with the Whitecraigs residents to explain the maintenance programme. **ACTION:** Portmoak CC.
5. **Community Investment Fund, 2018/19 2019/20.** The CC noted the opportunity to apply by February for a grant of up to £50,000 in each two years to fund or part fund projects within the Kinross-shire Ward. The Kinross Action Partnership would determine the disbursement of the funds. The CC recognised that a priority could be to improve rural transport. As this was likely to be a pan Kinross-shire provision it would support such an initiative. Separately CCllr S Forde would look at the possibility of providing a local/Portmoak bus including costings which could also undertake school transport. **ACTION:** PCC to advise ward councillors of the CC's support for any pan Kinross-shire project aimed at improving local transport; and CCllrs S Forde to look further at local initiatives.
6. **Portmoak Cemetery:** how to respond to community interest. The current Portmoak cemetery was now full. Yet there was continuing interest in being buried in Portmoak. **ACTION:** The Chairman would pursue the matter with PKC.

7. Reports:

1. **Police:** The CC welcomed Community Sergeant Robert Hogg. He reported that there had been little local crime but that rural and agricultural crime was at a significant level across the border in Fife. Residents should be vigilant and not invite theft. The police would welcome being contacted about suspicious vehicles and could respond quickly. In doing so always, if at all possible, record the vehicle's registration number. Resilience: The police would cooperate with and support the development of a Kinross Community Emergency Plan. The CC noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st October, and of 7th November.
2. **Treasurer:** The balance at the month ending 31st October was £655.00 in the General Account; and £1,144.12 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,799.12. The new "Holding Account" No. 3 held £1, 500.00.
3. **Planning:** to include:
 - New applications:
 - a) **18/01808/FLL** Cobblestone, The Cobbles Kinnesswood. Installation and replacement of Windows and doors. No comment.
 - Progress with Developments:
 - a) **17/02227/FLL.** Levenmouth, Scotlandwell. Erection of two houses. The CC had written to WCllr Roz McCall (*Convenor, Planning and Development Management Committee*) on 12th April 2018 but had yet to receive a substantive reply. The matter concerned the CC's view that the planning decision should have been made by the Planning and Development Management Committee and not delegated to a planning officer. **ACTION:** WCllrs would pursue a response from the Convenor.

- b) **18/00667/FLL.** Former Lomond Inn, Kinnesswood. Erection of a dwellinghouse. The CC had written to PKC Planning department on 20th October raising concerns that the site was being left to degrade. It had received a helpful reply on 26th October explaining the situation coupled with a commitment to write to the site owner to establish the current position.
 - c) **FIFE 18/18/02342/ARC Westfield, Energy Recover Facility:** To receive response from Scottish Ministers. The CC had written to Scottish Ministers on 16th October seeking an explanation of current Government strategy for waste management in Scotland and how there is a requirement for the proposed facility within that strategy. Scottish Ministers had replied on 6th November providing an explanation with the conclusion that more EfW capacity is required and that the market continues to respond to that requirement. (Correspondence can be found on the CC's website www.portmoak.org under "current issues".)
- 4. Roads:** To note progress with the Roads Report for 2018 and: a) sign missing at Scotlandwell – PKC had arrangements in hand to replace the sign; and b) hedge at Friar Place - visibility for drivers. **ACTION:** WCllr R Watters would take this matter forward with PKC.
- 5. Paths Group:** To note progress with work programme for 2018. CCllr T Smith reported that: 1) PKC was working with the Paths Group to improve access along the original Dryside Road from Easter Balgedie through to Glenlomond and beyond; and that 2) a third and final "flail" cut for this year would shortly happen at Peat Loan.

8. PKC Ward Cllr Reports.

C Purves: Funding was in place to introduce 20mph zones across Perth and Kinross within the current financial year. The intention is to "trial" four sites across Perth and Kinross and, although not confirmed, one of which could be Kinnesswood. The 20mph limit would apply to all roads within the settlement.

R Watters: 1) The Kinross Action Partnership was sponsoring a project to improve accessibility across Kinross-shire through the introduction of "ramps and bells" which would assist disabled residents. Given that the pavements in Portmoak were often too narrow for wheelchairs there may be limited opportunity to take this forward in Portmoak. The owners of the Balgedie Toll, Kinnesswood Shop, the Village Hall and the Well Inn might consider if there was any place for improvement. **ACTION:** CC to alert these establishments of this opportunity. 2) Perth and Kinross Tourist Forum were planning to introduce and market "Heart 200" – a routing for visitors to follow across Perth and Kinross. There would be a meeting to explore this on Wednesday 21st November at 6.00pm in the Green Hotel. Anyone interested should attend.

- 9. Matters previously notified to the Secretary plus matters raised from the floor:** The CC noted that PKC would by the end of the year withdraw the generic PKC email address it provided for forwarding emails to individual community councils. CCs would therefore require to establish their own email address and to notify PKC accordingly. The CC had the matter in hand.
- 10. AOCB.** It was reported that the Scotlandwell children were now being charged for use of the 201 service bus designated to take them to school. The introduction of fares for children using such a service appeared inequitable and could have adverse consequences, particularly as PKC has an obligation to provide means for the children getting to school, in the absence of a safe pedestrian route. **ACTION:** WCllr Callum Purves would review the current arrangements with PKC officials.

11. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of the Council will be held at **7.30pm** on **Tuesday 11th December** in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 9.35 PM.