

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on 9th January 2018

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

- 1. Attendance:** CCLrs: B Calderwood (Deputy Chair and Treasurer), R Cairncross (Secretary), S Forde, D Morris, T Smith, A Muszynski, A. Robertson; and WCllr: C Purves, and PC D Stapleton (Police Scotland) and 9 members of the public.

Apologies: CCLr M Strang Steel; and WCllrs M Barnacle and W Robertson.

The Deputy Chairman opened the meeting by wishing all a Very Good New Year.

- 2. Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the CC meeting held on 12th December 2017 were approved.

- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

a) *Item 3. School access - policy on parking.* The CC noted that WCllr Barnacle's request to have this matter reviewed by the relevant councillor committee had not been supported by officers. The CC would now write to PKC supporting WCllr Barnacles action. While there were challenges relating the drop-off and pick-up arrangements at the school, the principal and long-standing problem remained difficult access along Buchan Avenue to the School and onward round to the car park. This could compromise access to the school and car park for emergency vehicles, gritters and large service vehicles such as refuse lorries. The provisions for parking in and around Buchan Avenue merited a careful review.

b) *Item 4 Loch Leven's Larder - three planning applications.* The CC had made no comment in respect of applications 01/01738/ADV and 17/01621/FLL. While it had written in support of application 17/01885/FLL, it had made plain its concern that increased traffic to the Larder would increase the risk of an accident at the already dangerous Balgedie Toll junction. It supported the PKC solution that in the short term traffic lights should be installed as a matter of urgency.

c) *Item 5. Car Park on Moss Access Road.* The CC awaited resolution of outstanding legal matters.

- 4. Reports**

4.1 **Police:** The Deputy Chair welcomed PC D Stapleton. He reported a break-in to the Powerwasher at Buchan's Garage, Kinnesswood and that a driver had been apprehended in Portmoak as part of the "don't drink and drive programme" in force over the festive period. He reminded the CC of the helpful preparatory checklist prepared by Police Scotland if undertaking a long car journey at this time of year. The Area Commander's Bulletins of 21st and 28th December and of 4th January were noted.

4.2 **Treasurer:** The balance at the month ending 30th December was £439.20 in the General Account; and £ 1,042.35 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,481.55.

- 6.3 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 the planning history for developments on this site. In 2007 an application for the demolition of existing agricultural sheds and stables, conversion of the existing barn, redevelopment of the existing farmhouse and the erection of 10 dwellinghouses was refused on appeal. For the same site in 2012 consent was given for

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a dwelling house and garage and in 2014 for two dwellinghouses with garages. While the CC acknowledged the case for this application presented in respect of the current Housing in the Countryside policy, it is mindful that, if granted, this application would increase recent new builds on this site to 5 dwellinghouses. It recognises also that, if granted, further applications would almost inevitably follow. It supports the view of the Reporter in 2008, in dismissing the application for 10 plus houses, that the establishment of a settlement of around 10 houses on this site could not be justified. The CC notes that this new build proposal is unique in lying so close to the NNR, SSSCI, Ramsar site and the Heritage Trail. As there appears no means of curtailing further development on this site the CC objects to this application.

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). Progress with an agreed further appraisal of options was awaited.
 - b) *Fife 16/03661/EIA) - Westfield Opencast Site Planning in Principle.* The Chairman had now received formal notification from Scottish Ministers that they would not entertain calling-in the application. They indicated that a formal request from a statutory body, such a Perth and Kinross Council, would be necessary for a call-in to be considered. While Ward Councillors from the Kinross-shire Ward, together with the Leader of the Council, had written in support of such a call-in, the Council itself had declined to do so. That said, the CC's objection with its request for mitigation remained in place. It would now contact the applicant, Hargreaves/Axis, indicating its willingness to participate in both the preparation of Community Liaison Protocols and in a Community Liaison Group. These were activities requested of Hargreaves/Axis by Fife Council in their letter to them of 2nd November.
 - c) *Fife 17/03377/FULL). Installation of up to 10 gas engines generating 19.96MWe at Westfield OCCS Fife.* To note progress. The CC was a participant in the Fife Action Group. There had been a significant number of objections to the application which Fife Council would consider shortly.
 - d) *14/03661/CON. Former Lomond Inn: proposals for part demolition and erection of 5 dwellinghouses.* The CC was concerned at lack of progress with this application and at the deterioration of the Inn. The matter would be followed up with both the developer and PKC.
3. Progress with Local Development Plan 2: Members and the public were encouraged to attend the Drop-in presentation on LDP2 at the Campus set for 10th January between 3.00pm and 8.00pm. The CC would submit its comments before 2nd February.

6.4 **Roads:**

- a) *Wester Balgedie/Carsehall Junction - Increased traffic risk.* PKC had met with community representatives and had recognised the need for an intervention. It had identified that the preferred short to medium term option was to install traffic lights. It was disappointing that officers had subsequently indicated that there was no intention of progressing this at present.
- b) *Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond.* WCllr Purves would arrange a meeting with PKC and CC representatives sometime after the first week of February. While it was appreciated that there could be no commitment to fund such an endeavour at present, assurance was sought that PKC would, as a result of this meeting identify, set out and consult on plans for a preferred route.

c) *Vehicle Activated Signs - siting of five signs.* WCllr Calderwood confirmed that the sites for the signs had been agreed and that they should be installed within the current financial year. A plan of their location would be circulated to members.

6.5 **Paths:** CCllr Tom Smith reported that the programme for the forthcoming year was under review and would be reported on in due course.

5. PKC Ward Cllr Reports:

WCllr C Purves reported that the arrangements for the PKC budget for the forthcoming year were progressing and that with cut of 1.8% in real terms both savings and efficiencies could be expected which could mean cuts in services. The PKC website invited members of the public to suggest budget priorities.

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

The CC had been approached by "Broke not Broken" seeking its participation in an open meeting or to comment on the proposals to establish a "*Community Hub for Kinross-shire*". The CC would indicate support. Separately the CC noted that there was difficulty in learning of the Activities of the Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn Action Partnership. It had been difficult to obtain a copy of its Action Plan. The Partnership had never approached the CC for comment on its proposals.

Potholes and Drains. Several drains along the A911 had "dropped" and required realignment. Some drains had also been prone to flooding and could require to be "sucked out". These are matters that can be handled by reporting to PKC on-line. Members and the public were encouraged to do so at the PKC website.

7. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 13th February 2017 in Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and the Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.