

PORTMOAK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 14th January 2020

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

- 1. Attendance:** CCLrs: Graham Cox, (Chairman); Susan McGregor (Secretary); Anne Cragoe (Treasurer); Susan Forde; and Dave Morris; and WCLrs: Richard Watters and Callum Purves; and; 11 members of the public.

Apologies: Mike Barnacle, Willie Robertson

Approval of Previous minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th November were amended as followed and **Approved:**

Amendment 1: move an amendment to the minutes of the CC meeting held on 12th November under the heading of the treasurer's report so that it names Malcolm Strang Steel, Bruce Calderwood & Robin Cairncross as the signatories to be removed from all 3 of the A/Cs & additionally to list by name the 3 new signatories.

- 2. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 1: School Access: *to achieve clear access for large vehicles (including emergency vehicles) to the School and, separately, to secure safe access routes for children.*

The CC has responded to the consultation in respect of restricted parking on Buchan Avenue. It noted that at the same location PKC had commented that proposals to revise and improve child safety including marked crossings will be presented separately. The revised school bus service from Scotlandwell to Portmoak Primary has alleviated congestion and parking issues to some extent.

The plan from PKC is to put double yellow lines around the corners and scope future changes people might want. Chairman put question to floor for any comments: **ACTION: Keep item on agenda and report accordingly.**

Item 2: Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond: *The CC agreed to meet as a small group discussion to decide two or three proposals to take to PKC.*

Cllr G Cox outlined the situation: there are five options on improving the path way, the discussions are ongoing for 15yrs or more; there appear to be no easy solutions and there are known sensitivities with the five options, some of which are expensive, others lower cost. Compulsory purchase is a potential requirement, but would rather be avoided, if possible. Depending on the option selected funding may come from PKC, or in part from Sustrans who would order a feasibility study once an option was selected.

The Chairman invited comments from the floor: again there was public feeling that this was an essential improvement to the paths network and that the existing path was very dangerous. **ACTION: CC meeting to discuss the options at their management meeting**

Item 3: Portmoak Cemetery

With securing an additional site to extend Portmoak cemetery, the Chariman explained there are sensitivities on options available, while topographical issues with some options where the land is deemed too steep for access. The Chairman invited ideas / comments from the CC and from the public.

There have been recent burials where those people would have liked to be buried at Portmoak but this had not been possible due to the lack of space, so this is a pressing local Community issue. **ACTION: CC to continue to discuss locally and come up with a proposal**

Item 4: Rural Transport (Kinross-shire Community Transport Group)

Previous meetings of the Transport Group have been poorly attended, however WCLlr M Barnacle, and Cllrs S Forde and A Cragoe will attend a forthcoming meeting and then have a working group to discuss progress. Community transport have drawn up a proposal. A decision on the route will have to be made dependant on what the community wants. Will require subsidy. **ACTION: Cllr A Cragoe to go to meeting on 23/10/2020**

Item 5: Hedges: 1) Woodmarch 2) Bruce Road/A911 junction: initial trimming had been effected 3) Footpath from Easter Balgedie to Kinnesswood: a preliminary cut had been undertaken. 4) Impeded sight-lines to the left at the junction of the road from Wester Balgedie/Glenlomond with the A911.

Woodmarch: The CC had received an email from the new occupants of Woodmarch Hall requesting clarity around which property, (previously minuted only as “Woodmarch”), was actually being referred to. The CC thanked the new Woodmarch Hall occupants for choosing to attend the CC meeting and advise about what action had been taken at their property. The CC members agreed that the hedge did now appear to be in order. There were general discussions about path improvements at Woodmarch where the footpath becomes very narrow. The options of a build out of the narrow path into the roadway or widening of the path into the garden area were raised. . The CC would undertake further discussion with the Woodmarch Hall residents.

Footpath from Easter Balgedie to Kinnesswood: A member of the public commented that the previous clipping had left thorny branches all over the pavement which were hazardous for dogs paws when people were walking along the footpath, as well as bicycle tyres

Impeded sight lines to left at the junction of the road from Wester Balgedie/Glenlomond with the A911.

The CC commented that nothing has been done yet at this location. It is possible for the council to complete the trimming and then charge the owner

ACTIONS: Woodmarch - remove from hedges list.

Bruce Road – now cut back – remove from list until growth resumes.

East Balgedie to Kwood: PKC responsibility. Appears to have been trimmed. Remove from list.

Wester Balgedie/Glenlomond: CC to speak to Willie Robertson

Item 6: Loch Leven: arrangements for assuring and sharing information on water quality.

ACTION: To receive WCllrs reports on potential future planning. No report

Item 7: Heart

200: to note progress and impact: No further action to report.

Item 8: Wester Balgedie VAS

The CC noted that the issue had been raised to PKC and confirmation had been received in turn that the Wester Balgedie VAS request had been added to the budget for 2020 and would be considered accordingly. Consultation with the Community Council would be sought from PKC about the exact locations of the VAS.

Item 9: Kinnesswood Shop relocation to garage and increased pedestrian traffic crossing road at corner

This item had also been raised at Kinnesswood Development Trust meeting on 13/01/20; now the shop is relocating to the garage the public will have to cross when using impeded sightlines, especially when crossing from west to east. Members of the CC felt it was now necessary to look, once again, at the options to build permanent traffic calming measures or site a temporary traffic light. A 20mph speed limit trial through Kinnesswood is due to commence (date tbc). It was noted that a 20mph speed limit would not alleviate the issues of the narrow pavement outside the shop, or the impeded sight lines when crossing the road.. The CC agreed to take this up with RKC Roads Dept as a matter of urgency, with a view to new measures being in place by the day that the new shop arrangements came active.

1. Reports:

1. Police:

1) Local Report

2) Area Commander Bulletins: 13th, 20th, 27th Nov; 18th, 31st Dec; and 8th Jan Circulated

Ward Councillors noted that police have started to do local meetings, e.g. one held at the Court House, discussed anti-social behaviours. Also one held in Scotlandwell. This does not seem to have been widely advertised and CC were not aware. Ward Cllrs have requested that they be notified for similar local meetings in future and will inform CC. This was seen as a good initiative as the Police are not always able to attend CC meetings. The Chairman invited comment from the floor on this item: no comments

2. Planning: to include:

a) New applications:

1. 19/01901/FLL P8- Kinrossshire Erection of a dwellinghouse at Land 30 Metres North East Of Arkle Cottage

The CC discussed both this application and 19/01902/FLL - Erection of a dwellinghouse at Land 20 Metres West Of Applerigg in tandem as they are on the same site. The CC noted that both applications fit very well in principle with LDP2 as both are infill sites within an existing settlement. However, the style and siting of the dwellings did not seem to be in keeping with the Scotlandwell conservation area, though the designs may be acceptable in their own right. The proportionality and height of the houses seems excessive in the location they are in, and the location set back from the road is not in keeping with other houses within the conservation area. The CC had requested to PKC on 11/12/19 an extension to the consultation date, but had not received any response. The CC agreed that they would register an objection to both application 19/01901/FLL and 19/01902/FLL. **ACTION: Cllr G Cox and Cllr S McGregor to prepare and register an objection**

2. 19/01902/FLL P8- Kinrossshire Erection of a dwellinghouse at Land 20 Metres West Of Applerigg
ACTION: Cllr G Cox and Cllr S McGregor to prepare and register an objection.
3. 19/01984/FLL Findatie (Loch Leven Café) Extension to café. comments by 17th January
The CC agreed that the increase in parking and extra toilet facilities were generally an improvement to the area. It was agreed that no objection would be raised. **ACTION: No objection**
4. 19/02053/FLL Shores of Loch Leven (by the Trail) Erection of three Viewing Screens – comments by 24th January: The CC agreed that no objection would be raised. **ACTION: No objection**
5. 19/02068 Siting of 2 camping (glamping) pods (note not cabins) formation of vehicular access and associated works. At Land 40 metres NE of Leven View Wester Balgedie.

The CC discussed the application noting several points: the pods are sited close to the settlement which may or may not be in accordance with the Local development Plan (LDP), they also appear to be outside the Settlement Boundary, and may not have appropriately mitigated for effluent treatment. The CC can't comment on the commercial aspects but it was felt that more glamping pods were not required in the area. Residents from Leven View attended the meeting: they had concerns about the siting of the pods behind their house, about noise, and that the planning application was registered against their property. Additionally an access into the field had been widened and may have undermined a large tree near their property. They had concerns about legalities of the application being linked to their house. The Chairman noted other adverse comment from members of the public present. **ACTIONS: CC to arrange a meeting with the applicant, and to make comment to PKC, if necessary.**

- b) Progress with Developments: **Westfield Community Liaison Committee:** Report on 27th Nov 2019 meeting

A meeting on 21/11/19 was attended by Cllr D Morris, with most of the discussion being about site security. In addition it was recognised that the circular path around the site was incomplete and further discussion with Fife Council and an adjacent landowner was needed to resolve this. The issue of smell was raised but assurances had been given by the developers that modern techniques would mitigate this type of waste incineration problem. The project is proceeding and the developers hope to start construction in 2020, with 36 months to complete. The possibility was raised issue re: an off road route for walking and cycling between site and M90 as had been discussed during the planning application phase. Hargreaves, the developers, indicated that a meeting to discuss this further would be useful. A Member of Public raised concerns about lack of knowledge of what is happening at the site as there are 3 adjacent houses that are affected to some extent by on going work The Chairman offered to enquire as to why minutes of meetings do not appear to be readily available to members of the public. WCllr C Purves confirmed minutes should be public and that concerned parties can make complaints via Ward

Councillors or via a CC representative. Cllr Morris also indicated that he had convened a further meeting with Hargreaves and others on 17/12/19 to discuss the potential off road route. This may lead to a feasibility study probably costing in the order of £15K to £20K.

ACTION: Cllr G Cox to enquire as to why minutes of the main Westfield Liaison Group meetings are not being made public.

3. **Roads:** The CC noted: To consider progress with current developments.

a) Potholes: **A911 between Wester Balgedie to fork for Kinross / Milnathort**

It was agreed that there are a number of potholes on the road. Request to Ward Councillors to move this on. There is a facility for notifying of potholes via the MyPKC and identify where they are and fixing will be done. A member of public pointed out that heavy traffic on the roads causes the problem around the drains - the drains need to be off the road. Cllr Watters agreed potholes are an ongoing issue in bad weather. No info. from PKC on expenditure on potholes.

b) HIGH STREET – KINROSS: The CC noted that in order to permit **Openreach works** on the above section of road a temporary traffic regulation order be prepared. It is to be effective from the **11th February 2020** for a period of **two days**. The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading (both sides) of High Street, Kinross from its junction with Clashburn Road (311822, 701706) to its junction with Number 188 High Street (311848, 701782), a distance of 79.3 metres or thereby.

2. Paths Group: to note progress

At this time of year no on ground action is taking place but work is proceeding to establish a paths map and associated information in the school car park in Kinnesswood later this year. The CC noted reports of damage to the Michael Bruce Way – the path is a muddy mess – due to cattle being present on the hill all winter. **ACTION: DM to discuss with George Lawrie what action could be taken.**

Treasurers report: The balance at the end of the month ending 31/12/19 was £582.50. There is £2,021.48 in the Michael Bruce Way account. This gives a total of £2,603.98.

Ward Councillors Reports:

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

4. AOCB:

Item 9: Planning Performance and Fees Consultation – until 14th Feb 2020

The Chairmand outlined this consultation is regarding fees going up, more robust policy about planning.

ACTION: none

Item 10: Consultation on Licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues – response by Monday 6 April 2020

There were no comments from floor. **ACTION: none**

Item 11: Planning query

A member of public enquired if there was opportunity for CC to get involved at an early stage of planning a new build to discuss any concerns at an early stage when neighbours are being notified? The CC will comment as part of general policy, but it was felt that if they can get involved at an earlier stage, it is helpful to avoid dispute, cost and delay, and this was an ideal approach if possible to consult informally earlier.

5. **Date of next meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday, 11th February 2020 at Village Hall**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 2130hrs.