

# Portmoak Community Council

## Draft Minutes

Meeting Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 2100 hrs  
Online meeting via Zoom

1. **Attendance:** Cllrs A Davidson (Treasurer), S McGregor (Secretary), D Morris, S Forde, K Donaldson, G Smith; WCllrs W Robertson, C Purvis; and 2 members of the public.

**Acting Chair:** Cllr A Davidson

**Apologies:** WCllrs R Watters and M Barnacle.

2. **Approval of previous Minutes held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020:** Approved

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

**Item 1: Portmoak CC – PKC By-Election for PCC and next steps following Nov '20 resignations**

The Secretary explained the situation for the forthcoming By-Election which has been triggered by the low number of members of PCC. The Election will probably be held in March or April 2021 date to be confirmed by PKC who will organise the By-Election. PCC is still operational and able to represent the community on all relevant matters. It is hoped that local interested people will apply to become members of the Community Council, for more information email [secretary@portmoak.org](mailto:secretary@portmoak.org). WCllr CPurves confirmed this summary was correct.

**Item 2: Portmoak Cemetery:** WCllr C Purves was able to provide an update: previously there had been an agreement made to remove trees in the cemetery to create approximately 10 lairs. There is also going to be a meeting between W Cllr CPurves, ACragoe, and Graham Cox, and Willie Greig for next steps. Cllr S Forde confirmed the trees had been felled.

**Item 3 Road Safety Action in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell:** WCllr C Purves had spoken with D McKeown, noting that PCC had been pleased with the outcome of the onsite meeting and D McKeown's follow up. He had confirmed the promised A911 full route plan won't be prioritised at the moment as PKC are focussing on physical distancing measures. The A911 route plan and any changes will be progressed as finances allowed.

Kilmagadwood: 20mph speed repeater signs were to be installed between Kilmagadwood and Scotlandwell. Speed cushions: residents had been sent a letter requesting their views. There had been 14 responses out of 66 addresses. 4 objections and 10 in support of speed cushions. WCllrs CPurves and WRobertson had confirmed their agreement for the speed cushion installation to proceed. If there are noise issues or any other problems the cushions can be relocated as they are bolted onto the road.

A member of the public again reported witnessing vehicles travelling well in excess of 20mph down Bruce Road and along Main St in Kinnesswood. WCllr W Robertson encouraged members of public to report speeding concerns to the police action help line to trigger enforcement of the recently lowered speed limits.

**Item 4 Glenlomond sewage: migration of responsibility to Scottish Water:** Cllr A Davidson had received an update from the Glenlomond residents' committee. They have been in contact with MSP Roseanna Cunningham regarding trying to persuade Scottish Water to accept responsibility for the village sewage system. Separately a private water & drainage company are going to provide suggestions on measures that may be taken to improve the system in the meantime.

**Item 5 Friar Place hedges blocking sight lines and requiring maintenance:** Cllr S Forde reiterated that the hedge needs to be cut down to 1m. The Cllr has not contacted Gary McConnel due to lockdown and also approaching bird nesting time making the timing not ideal. Suggestion to postpone action on this item till later in 2021.

**Item 6 Public Consultation – Use of Open Space, beside Whitecraigs, Kinnesswood:** The CC had received notification that the consultation had ended and had been resolved. The open space will remain with flowerbeds and it appeared that Kinnesswood in Bloom have kindly offered to take on responsibility of maintenance.

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**Item 7 Construction of hill track, Bishop Hill, Kinnesswood:** Cllr D Morris had written to land owner to resume a discussion in Spring about the nature of the path and if it is to be a path or some type of road. The path remains very muddy and a lot of water is draining along and across it, although PKC have agreed some drainage work to be carried out by the landowner. Residents are advised to take care on the steeper, muddy sections of the path and in in snow. Additionally, there is a lot of cornicing of snow on the Lomond Hill and enhanced dangers. There had been a recent snow avalanche on the Bishop. Mountain Rescue have advised people to take account of these hazards.

**Item 8 Kinross-shire Forum Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2020:** Cllr D Morris had reported on this at last meeting. The CC agreed to remove item from agenda until next Forum meeting.

**Reserve items:**

**Item 8 Community Resilience Planning: Storm Damage and impact from recent flooding**

Cllr D Morris noted that some urgency had been lost on this item and ongoing action around the resilience plan needs to be resumed, to include some focus on paths and flooding issues.

**Item 9 Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond: no update**

**Item 10 Rural Transport:** WCllrC Purves gave an update: Cllr ACragoe had been the lead on this item prior to her resignation, and good progress had been made. WCllrM Barnacle would like to have a Portmoak resident involved in those discussions. If any resident is interested in contributing to this project, please reach out to the CC.

**Item 11 Loch Leven water quality: no update**

**Item 12 SEPA / Scottish Enterprise River Leven Catchment Project: no update**

#### 4. New Matters arising:

**Item 1: Easter Balgedie – Wester Balgedie footpath and flooding:** There was a discussion about the path between Easter & Wester Balgedie. Complaints about the path had been raised to the CC by locals. A few local people had also helpfully cut a gully at the side of the path to drain the flood water. The CC would like to thank them for their efforts. It was felt that the issue was exacerbated by the ploughed field immediately adjacent to the path. The CC will attempt some discussion with the land owner. Tree or hedge planting at the problematic locations could help stop flooding and also snow drifting. Note to include the item of flooding and potential tree planting in the resilience plan.

#### 6. Reports:

##### a. Police Reports

- (1) The Local Police Report: the police liaison were not in attendance at the meeting.

##### b. Planning

- (1) New Applications:

(a) 20/01910/FLL | Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and erection of a replacement garage | Benarty Wester Balgedie Kinross KY13 9HE

This application has been approved by PKC Planning since being added to the agenda

(b) 20/01675/FLL | Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse to form garage with raised decking area and balustrade, formation of steps and associated works | The Napix The Cobbles Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9HL

No comment

(c) 20/01859/FLL | Alterations to dwellinghouse and formation of a balcony | Hollow Cottage Blacknowes Kinross KY13 9LT

no comment

(d) 20/01939/LAW | Extension to dwellinghouse to form garage (proposed) | 26 Whitecraigs Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9JN

no comment

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(e) *20/01902/FLL | Extensions to dwellinghouse and outbuilding | West Feal Barn Auchmuirbridge Leslie Glenrothes KY6 3JL*

The Secretary reported that neighbours to this property had approached PCC for assistance as they were planning to object to the application. The Secretary had responded to the request for assistance with PKC planning objection guidelines. The CC had reviewed the application but did not plan to raise an objection.

(f) *20/01958/FLL | Erection of a dwellinghouse | Land 40 Metres North West Of Bonaly Cottage Main Street Kinnesswood*

Planning application on this site had previously been granted for 5 plots. This application relates to Plot 5. The applicant has applied to make a substantial change to the permission previously given. The CC debated a great deal about the height and scale of the buildings as the plots are in the Kinnesswood conservation area. Plot 5 was supposed to be max. 6.3m high, single storey, and a small cottage style building. The revised planning application is now for a two storey building with 3 bedrooms instead of 2. It is now higher than the other houses. At the time of the approval the CC pressured to have more affordable housing and plot 5 was the one exception that met this requirement as a cottage style dwelling, but the new application pushes the size and scale much closer to the other 4 houses. Also residents on the East (Hill) side of Main St. could suffer some loss of light given the height of the house. The CC agreed to object to this application on the basis of the size of the proposed house. Deadline for objection is 29<sup>th</sup> Feb.

(2.) *Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee*

Dave Morris attended last (virtual) meeting at which there were discussions about strengthening security and commencement of building work. Work on energy plant to commence in the next few months. Also path network study should be completed by the end of Feb 21. Cllr Dave Morris feels this is going well. The plan includes the potential to connect Scotlandwell and Lochend Farm shop with Westfield.

(3.) Planning Decisions

(a) *20/01611/LAW | Alterations to dwelling house (proposed) | 4 Findatie Farm Cottage Kinross KY13 9LY.* PKC decision to approve the application.

c. **Paths Group:** The Paths Group reported not much work had taken place due to Winter weather. Looking forward, PKC had agreed to provide another strimmer, so this would enable lots of work to be completed once the weather improved.

d. **Treasurer CC Accounts:**

Main Account: £662.80

MBW: £1,471.82

The CC will make payment for pro-license for Zoom on a monthly basis, to enable the CC meetings to continue during the pandemic and physical meeting restrictions.

## 5. Ward Councillors' Reports

**Willie Robertson:** the WCllr had requested a litter pick along the A911 which will probably commence in the Spring. Footpath users are asked to take litter home with them. PKC can help with providing litter pickers and black bags if residents were prepared to volunteer to litter pick to improve locality. A911 also quite badly potholed. WCllr Robertson had reported this and repairs will commence once the weather is more clement. On request of PCC WCllr Robertson also promised to report potholes on Lethangie Road and the B9097 South road by Findatie, and also the broken man hole cover on the pavement at Wester Balgedie.

**Callum Purves:** Bank of Scotland in Kinross had confirmed a date for closure 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021. Another meeting will be held to mitigate problems with banking services, as some customers will need extra support with the transition. No further information at present. The Mobile banking services is not operational at present due to the Tier4 restrictions.

PKC Chief Executive: The post for a new Chief Executive had been advertised and a panel of 5 Cllrs would decide who should be appointed.

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**6. Matters notified to the Secretary:**

**(a.) Police Scotland consultation on community views on policing priorities:** The Secretary would circulate the consultation link to the CC subscriber list and post on Portmoak Community Facebook page. The link is: <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-2020-2021/> note this is a consultation and not a link for reporting crimes.

**(b.) AOB:**

Cllr A Davidson expressed thanks to PKC and also by local farmers for local snow clearing.

**The Chair Closed the meeting at 2055hrs.**

**8. Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup>March2021**