

Portmoak Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Community Council

Tuesday 11 January 2022, 1930 – 2100hrs

Online meeting via Zoom

- 1. Attendance & Apologies:** WCllr C Purves, W Robertson, and R Watters; Cllr A Miller, A Davidson, D Morris, K Donaldson, S McGregor, D Paterson; and 3 members of the public.
Apologies: Cllr G Smith, S Forde
- 2. Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from meeting on 14 December 2021:** D Morris proposed. K Donaldson seconded. Approved.
- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**
- 4. Item 1 Kinross-shire Committee:** WCllr C Purves spoke on the topic. The first Committee meeting is scheduled for 20/01/22. Papers will be released into public domain this week in advance of meeting. There are various items on the agenda, some relevant to all of Kinross-shire, and others Portmoak specific, these include discussions about:
A911 speed limit: particularly the speed limit from Scotlandwell to the boundary with Fife, including additional information from PKC and Police and other official sources. The paper covers the issue of the Route Action Plan, proposed to be developed in this financial year from Apr2022. The A911 is currently third in priority for completion, with actions likely to commence in 2024-25. Once papers are made available CPurves will pass these onto the local community in order to make a deputation if they wish.
Creation of Regional Parks: the KC agenda includes a discussion about Regional parks, seeking to confirm if there is agreement within the KC to extend the Lomond Hills Park to include Loch Leven. The creation of Regional Parks is a topic that seems to be a priority within ScotGov. It is positive to raise awareness of this at an early stage.
20mph limit in Kwood: outlining data and evidence of the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits, to assess whether CCs consider the 20mph limits are effective or if other physical mitigation or VAS signs are more popular. The Chair thanked CPurves for the outline and is looking forward to the first meeting. Road safety seems to have come up high on the agenda for KC. The Chair expressed concerned about time lines, and the necessity of ensuring that progress of local issues was not side-lined or slowed by the 2 month frequency of the KC meeting. Local CCs may still need to be picked up by CCs on a more frequent monthly basis in order to fully explore the issues. WCllr W Robertson agreed with this concern about an area committee, and keeping focussed on priority issues. C Purves commented that as a local committee KC should carry more weight than perhaps a local CC may have, but the CC can help to engage with the local community to assess opinion. The KC as a new concept may not as yet be a perfect format, but the hope is that it is a more effective forum; there will be a 1yr review of the KC to asses progress. Cllr D Morris raised the issue of pollution of Loch Leven, an item which was common to all Kinross-shire CCs and had been raised by WCllr Robertson at the Dec21 in addition to te 5 themes outlined by WCllr Purves. Cllr Morris requested the issue of Loch Leven could this be added to the agenda? C Purves agreed this could be discussed at the first meeting. ACTION: Chair to circulate the papers when they are received from WCllr Purves

Item 2 Road Safety Action Update in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell: The Chair had previously requested the 20mph trial data for Scotlandwell but had not yet received it; WCllr C Purves had emailed Daryl McEown in late Dec but had not yet had a reply. The Chair felt it was necessary to have a holistic view in light of other areas requesting speed mitigation, as the Kinnesswood data appeared to show evidence that other measures were also necessary and speed limit reductions were not a panacea. Cllr D Morris raised the issue of the footpath between Scotlandwell and Portmoak Village Hall, and wished to remind the WCllrs that there was a strong commitment at last election to move this project forward, suggesting that there should be an onsite meeting in in Feb/Mar22 to discuss the footpath progress before the next elections in May22. WCllr WRobertson agreed the WCllrs' commitment to support the creation of the footpath. Both WRobertson and CPurves had discussed the item with TRACKS, but a route for the footpath had not yet been clearly identified. Once a route is decided WCllr WRobertson will commit to obtaining funding for the project. WCllrs are trying to find a solution but there are few options and these are quite tricky. The Chair commented that physical speed mitigation or possibly priority road systems may create space whilst also slowing traffic as an incidental bonus. In previous years D Morris had met with George Lawrie and had been able to identify a possible route on the East side. He proposed another onsite meeting to identify and decide the ideal route . The Chair and WCllr WRobertson agreed this plan was the best

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way to progress. WCllr R Watters commented that active travel routes were the projects that were attracting funding and it would be possible to apply to both Sustrans and ScotGov for funding.

Cllr KDonaldson raised concerns regarding the damaged surface of the B 9097 and C50, and the likelihood of additional heavy traffic causing further erosion. WCllr W Robertson offered to raise this with the correct PKC team for response.

ACTION: CC members to meet on-site in Scotlandwell, walk routes and decide and report best option for footpath
ACTION: W Robertson to respond re: status of B 9097 and C50 surface maintenance.

Item 3 Glenlomond sewage, and Water Supply to Glenlomond and Wester Balgedie: A Davidson provided an update. The Glenlomond Residents had not yet heard from Jim Fairlie MSP, which was a disappointment. The Residents team who currently volunteer to manage the sewage plant are increasingly not able to take the responsibility due to health and the physical nature of the work. If no one was able to step forward to manage the sewage plant it had potential to become a public health issue. The current volunteer situation is not a sustainable option. The CC understand the issues the Glenlomond residents are facing and agreed it was a difficult situation where Scottish Water were not taking responsibility as quickly as they should. The Chair asked the WCllrs to outline what pressures could be brought to bear on Scottish Water? Also should any additional development be discouraged on the site of the old hospital. WCllr RWatters had reviewed a survey from Scottish Water recently and had raised the item of Glenlomond with them. He offered to write a letter to Scottish Water to bring additional pressure. R Watters had raised the item twice to Jim Fairlie with no response. The CC expressed disappointment with this.

Cllr DMorris asked WCllr RWatters to engage with relevant ministers to apply appropriate pressure to Scottish Water. WCllr W Robertson commented that he had previously tried to engage with both Scottish Water and Roseanna Cunningham on the sewage issue, but he believed no-one would make SW do anything except the Scottish Government. Cllr D Morris requested one action point for WCllr R Watters to raise the issue direct to the relevant ScotGov Minister with copy to Jim Fairlie. R Watters agreed to do this. ACTION: RWatters to contact relevant ScotGov minister to escalate issues of Glenlomond sewage system adoption by Scottish Water

Item 4 Portmoak Primary parking issues: D Morris requested that this item be removed from agenda for the meantime as other items required focus at present. The Chair agreed. ACTION: Secretary to remove item from agenda for Feb22 PCC meeting

5. New Matters arising:

Item 1: The Secretary had received a query from a member of the public requesting clarification of the definition of affordable housing. WCllr R Watters provided information on the scope of Affordable Housing which included smaller sized housing, shared ownership, but also housing plots, affordable rents and Social Housing. Dependant on planning committee, there is a hierarchical need for each site assessed and decided whether a commutable sum is therefore payable. R Watters thinks the policy is clear. Rural sites continue to prove more difficult, as affordable housing tends to be in more built up areas. The Chair and Cllr D Morris agreed the policy is clear and needs to be applied. On a previous action point the WCllrs had agreed to write to the Chief Executive of PKC and MBarnacle had written a letter and this had been published in the Newsletter.

ACTION: WCllrs to confer with MBarnacle for a response on this letter to the Chief Executive.

6. Reports:

a. Police Reports: the Police liaison team were unable to attend the meeting

- a. Community Speed watch program: The CC had received a response from the police who had confirmed that it was possible for locals to be involved in SpeedWatch actions in their own area.
- b. Cllr D Morris had been surprised that a local incident had not been listed in the Weekly Commander's Bulletin. The Secretary had noticed in the past that specific local incidents were not always listed in the Commander's Bulletin, and had queried this with the Police. A response had been received that the Commander's Bulletin was not intended to be a comprehensive list of all Crime in the area, but rather a summation along lines of current Police campaigns or issues that local communities should be aware of for their safety or benefit. Cllr D Morris felt the summary nature of the Bulletin should be made prominent to readers.

ACTION: Secretary to ask Police to amend the Bulletin to highlight that it provides examples of incidents within the Tayside area.

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b. Planning

- (1) New Applications: no new applications, since Dec21 meeting.
- (2) Gairneybank caravan: K Donaldson expressed concern that a caravan had been put on a property at Gairneybank. The Secretary thought the property of concern could potentially be in an adjacent CC Area. **ACTION:** Secretary to check and circulate to PCC members details of planning applications in the Gairneybank area
- (3) Old Farmhouse at Wester Balgedie: members of PCC had heard concerns raised by local people that the Wester Balgedie Farmhouse and land appears to have been bought and work to clear some of the old buildings had commenced while planning permission had not yet been sought. Locals had expressed concern about the work that had commenced within this sensitive Conservation Area. **ACTION:** Secretary to raise query to PKC Planning Enforcement Team about the work that has started
- (4) Existing Applications:
 - (a) 21/00997/FLL | Erection of 22 dwellinghouses, 3 garages and a garage with ancillary accommodation, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works (LDP site H54) | Land 100 Metres South East Of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens Scotlandwell.
The Chair asked the WCllrs if it was possible to approach PKC Planning for information about why the application had been withdrawn. **ACTION:** WCllr RWatters to approach Sean Paton to try an obtain this information for PCC.
 - (b) Planning Decisions
 - (a) Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: KDonaldson had attended the liaison committee meeting in Feb22. Last meeting intimated work would start in Jan22. Original building design impact had changed and another company has submitted new plans. Proposing to dig the silo hole which will require a large quantity of concrete, and a possible corresponding increase in large size cement trucks travelling to and from site.

- 6. Paths Group update:** On behalf of the Paths Group, PCC would like to remind members of the Community that the Paths Group would like people to feedback their views on priorities with regard to path clearing and any other type of maintenance work that may need to be done locally. **ACTION:** Secretary to email subscribers and social media for opinion on this subject

Orwell Mawcarse Core Path: Further to the Dec21 PCC meeting, WCllr W Robertson had tried to walk the Core Path in question which is MTHT/127, A911 west of Orwell to Cycle route east of Arlary. Cllr D Morris highlighted that the landowner continued to plough over the path and the route was no longer clear. WCllr W Robertson agreed that the path was not visible. **ACTION:** D Morris to try to identify the landowner and pass info. to WCllr Robertson for an approach.

Glenlomond Core Path: PTMK/115 Glenlomond to Glenvale. Cllr D Morris understood the landowner was proposing to put in a stile which was inappropriate given the nature of the Core Paths.

Westfield Paths: Hargreaves had released some information for review regarding the path network proposals. Cllr D Morris agreed to contact Hargreaves to discuss how to make this information publicly available.

7. Treasurer CC Accounts

General Account: £700.00

Michael Bruce Way Account: £1,523.00

Documents for the Credit Union account had been obtained per Dec21 meeting so the application could be progressed.

- 8. Ward Councillors' Reports:** WCllrs W Robertson and R Watters had attended a meeting on Loch Leven Pollution and the Loch Leven catchment. No rep from Scottish Water had attended the meeting who had knowledge to address issues and concerns around Waste Water treatment. SEPA were similarly under-represented at the meeting. WCllr R Watters outlined his concerns about the pollution going into Loch Leven and identified diffuse pollution from flooding run-off as an additional concern which had been clearly seen in a recent photo from Bishop Hill showing the soil deltas flowing into the Loch from local rivers. Cllr

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D Morris commented that the Loch pollution issue had been going since the 1990s. A whole review of the agricultural land use needed to be done, and. R Watters said this had been discussed.

9. Matters notified to the Secretary:

Item 1: A Public Consultation is taking place on local guidelines for gambling applications and activities. If you would like to comment, please see: <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/corporate-democratic-services/draft-statement-of-principles-for-gambling/>

Item 2: Health and Social Care Partnership Community Transport Fund 2021/2022 open for bids. <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/4918/Community-Transport-Fund-2021-2022> Application close 4.00pm Fri 11/02/22

Item 3: Scottish Civic Trust My Place Awards are open for nominations. Please see <https://myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards/> for more information. The deadline to submit entries is 11:59pm, 13 February 2022 (please note that this has been extended from the original deadline of 6 February)

Item 4: Perth and Kinross Local Housing Strategy for 2022-27 <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/local-housing-strategy-for-2022-27/>

10. AOB there were no further items.

11. Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday, 8 Feb 2022, online

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