

# Portmoak Community Council

## Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at Portmoak Village Hall

- 1. Attendance:** CClrs: Malcolm Strang Steel (Chairman); Bruce Calderwood (Deputy Chairman) and Tom Smith; and WClrs: Willie Robertson and Dave Cuthbert and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies:** CClrs: Robin Cairncross; Richard Williamson and Susan Forde and Ward CClrs: Barnacle and Giacobazzi.

- 2. Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held in September 2014 were approved.

- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

3.4.1 Stephen's Field: The Chairman has written to the Managing Director of A&J Stephen seeking to reactivate the proposed transfer of the field and seeking a meeting to make progress. Noted that the last two houses in the Whitecraigs development are likely to be completed and sold in the early part of next year.

5. Dog litter Bins: WClrs reported that PKC will be putting a bin, which they will empty, in the carpark at Loch Leven's Larder, rendering the private one redundant.

- 4. Reports:**

4.1 Police: A report from the police was received highlighting: the hazards of driving in Autumn weather; flytipping of hazardous articles with a request for reports from witnesses; fraud letters seeking bank details to secure substantial winnings from lotteries; and the possibility that certain charity collectors may not be genuine.

The Chairman had taken up with the police the failure to mention in the report the break-in and theft at Wester Balgedie farmhouse. The police had no record of this crime having been reported to them. It is essential that crimes are reported to the police in the public interest.

4.2 Treasurer: The Council's accounts at the end of September 2014 recorded: a balance of £615.97 in the General Account and £571.19 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,187.16. However, 75% of the Paths for All grant for work on the Michael Bruce Way had been subsequently received and credited to the MBW account, which now stood at £1696.19.

4.3 Planning: The CC considered the following new applications:-

14/01535/FLL Site West of Main Street, Scotlandwell (Erection of dwellinghouse (change of house type on plot 5 approved under 08/01509/FLL )

No comment.

14/01482/FLL Land 50 metres SE of Moucums View, Scotlandwell, Erection of a dwellinghouse.

The CC had agreed to comment on the height of the proposed house and the need for a landscape plan.

14/01620/IPL Erection of a dwellinghouse 200 metres south east of Springfield Farm, Wester Balgedie (in principle).

The Chairman's attention had been drawn to this application that day. Although lodged on the 17<sup>th</sup> September it had not appeared in the weekly list or been notified otherwise to the CC. The consultation period had therefore not yet started but on advice of the ward councillors the CC gave preliminary consideration to the application. The application stated that the house was for a farm worker but there was no further information. The CC would write to PKC asking why they had not yet been formally notified of the application and drawing attention to the fact that more information would be required to justify the business need for the house in the face of PKC's policy for Housing in the Countryside.

These were the unanimous decisions of the CC.

*Progress with applications:*

14/00707/FLL. The Lomond Inn, erection of 5 houses. The CC noted that no reply had been received to its complaint within the period specified by PKC and the Chairman had written again about this. He had received apologies and assurances that the matter would be dealt with.

WCllr Robertson reported that he had lodged a motion with PKC that conservation reports in relation to application affecting conservation areas should be published. This would be debated at the beginning of November.

4.4 Roads: The CC noted:

- West Bowhouse. The report of the planning enforcement officer was still awaited. If he confirms that the effective sight line to the west is short, the roads department may have to reconsider its current view that there is no justification for a speed limit at this location
- School. There is to be an experimental 20mph speed limit from Main Street up to the area around the school; this will be monitored. As a separate exercise the school and road safety officers will monitor parking in the streets around the school.

*Gritting and snow preparation.* CClr Calderwood was due to meet with Mr Sloan of Springfield to find out what he would wish to see in a contract for snow clearing. His concerns appeared to be the extent of the responsibility and the timing of payment.

CCllr Calderwood reported that most of the items on his 'wish list' prepared a year ago had been carried out and he was preparing a new one. Two items will be repair to the pavement outside the Kinnesswood shop and chasing up the provision of a grit bin for Bishop Terrace.

WCllr Cuthbert would obtain clarification as to how far the new cats eyes would extend down the A911.

4.5 Paths: CClr Tom Smith reported that:

- Michael Bruce Way. The PKC grant had been approved, subject to a structure and flooding survey, which would be carried out the next day. That grant and the balance of the Paths for All grant would be paid when work was completed. The contractors were due to start work at the end of the month.
- The paths group would meet before the end of the month to decide on priority works. The letter from the Glenlomond residents requesting a path to Wester Balgedie would be one of those considered. It was suggested that signage should also be considered as a priority as the signage in Portmoak suffered in comparison with that in other parts of Perthshire.

**5. Ward Cllr Reports:**

**WClr Dave Cuthbert:** reported that a post graduate was going to clean up the Kilmagadwood urns at the developer's expense to put them into an acceptable state for treasure trove. Thereafter they would be available for distribution to interested museums.

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

No matters raised.

**7. AOCB:**

The CC's congratulations to Kinnesswood in Bloom and Scotlandwell in Bloom for winning their respective trophies were expressed; the secretary would write to this effect to the two organisations.

**8. Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014**, at Portmoak School.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and the Meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

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