

# Portmoak Community Council

## Draft Minutes of Meeting held on January 14th 2014 at Portmoak Primary School

- 1. Attendance:** CCllrs: Malcolm Strang Steel (Chair); Robin Cairncross (Secretary); Richard Williamson (Treasurer); Bruce Calderwood (Deputy Chair); Susan Forde; and Tom Smith; and WCllrs: M Barnacle; D Cuthbert and J Giacopazzi; 2 members of the Police; a representatives from TRACKS; and 6 members of the public.

**Apologies:** WCllr W Robertson

- 2. Invitation for New Members:** The Council would welcome interest from any resident of Portmoak over the age of 18 years who might wish to join the Council. Interest in the position of Minute Secretary would also be welcome. Please contact the Secretary on 0159 284 0672 or any member of the Council.
- 3. Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held in November 2013 were approved.
- 4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**
  - 4.1 Stephen's Field: No further progress.
  - 4.3 Donation of trees from Scottish Woodland Trust: Almost all trees had now been spoken for. If there is interest in the remainder, please contact Tom Smith on 0159 284 1160.
  - 4.4 Memorial Bench: Arrangements are in hand.
  - 4.5 Access at Grahamstone: The Chairman had met with the new owner and had explained concerns about inappropriate notices and threats made to walkers. The shooting had been let to a tenant who lived on site. It was noted that there had been one instance of dogs worrying sheep. The owner had agreed to consider model advisory notices and their usage.
- 5. Living Lomonds Partnership Project (LLPP):** Representatives of LLPP were unable to attend on this occasion but a Board Member, George Lawrie, explained that the Project had recently won an award of £1.8M for a three year programme of work. Of interest to Portmoak would be: i) support for core paths on the top of the Lomonds to include fencing and self-closing gates; ii) a path from Vane Farm over Benarty towards Lochgelly; and the possibility of iii) in due course, a path across the Glebe close to the Church leading to The Green.
- 6. Path between Wester and Easter Balgedie:** George Lawrie (TRACKS) reported that, with the agreement of landowners, he would be seeking planning approval for the path along the east side of the A911 this week. If planning consent is granted, the intention is to commence construction during March. The overall cost approximates to £100,000 with almost all funding coming from two charities: SUSTRANS; and SITA Trust. The Council warmly welcomed the progress made and thanked Mr Lawrie for his significant contribution.

- 7. Lomond Inn Kinnesswood:** The Council noted concerns of a resident that unauthorised parking could constitute a risk to the security of the site. It was mindful of the need for access to recycling and composting provisions. The position would be monitored but it was agreed that at present no action should be taken. The Council would contact the owner to advise him of its interest in seeing that the recycling facility was retained in position.
- 8. Projects and the “Unpaid Work Team”:** The Council noted the invitation from the “Team” who are seeking suitable projects, big or small, where free labour would benefit the local community. Local community organisations were encouraged to seek assistance.

## **9. Reports**

- 9.1 Police: PC Douglas Stapleton was welcomed to his first meeting and presented the Police Report. Key points included: interference with a horse by pleating its mane which could signal adverse consequences; and a burned out caravan in Kinnesswood. Enquires were on-going. The public should be alert to gangs of eastern Europeans working in the Tayside area: outbuildings should be secured; and, if there is suspicious activity, the police notified and the number of any associated vehicle recorded.
- 9.2 Treasurer: The Treasurer reported as at the end of December 2013 a balance of £650.85 in the General Account and £770.97 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,421.82.
- 9.3 Planning: The CC considered the following planning application and agreed not to object to:

13/02240/FLL, Erection of Viewing Structure, Loch Leven Heritage trail

The CC considered the following planning application and agreed to comment on:

13/02250/FLL, change of house type on plots 8, 9 and 10 site west of Main Street Scotlandwell. Confirmation of the path leading from the Development through these plots and into The Green would be sought.

These decisions were unanimous.

The CC noted there had been no progress with application 13/01858/FLL Land East of Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell, Erection of a dwellinghouse and garage.

The CC noted that in respect to the planning applications at Kilmagadwood (including revision of the junction) decisions were now pending.

Local Development Plan: The LDP is now in its final stages and should be confirmed and circulated shortly.

Developer contributions: Confirmation of the funding due for trees at The Green in Scotlandwell (£400) is still being pursued (WCllr J Giacobazzi). Eligibility of Portmoak Primary School for a recent local developer educational contribution (£12,750) and the loss of developer contribution support for post-excavation archaeological work on 23

Bronze Age urns retrieved at the development site at Kilmagadwood (£30,000) continue to be investigated by WCllr D Cuthbert. Concern was expressed by all at the lack of information as to how developer contributions are distributed.

9.4 Roads: CCllr Bruce Calderwood circulated a revised "Summary Road Report" for Portmoak. It had had been received by P&KC and was being used by both Ward Councillors and officials. The Report would be considered further along with a complementary report from Daryl McKeown, P&KC Road Safety Officer. Of some urgency were:

- Maintenance of build-out bollards - replacement of deficient reflective surfaces and failed illumination. Some work on the reflective surfaces had been carried out but lights in two bollards remained non functioning.
- The Gullet Bridge - loss of reflective warning signs rendering the bridge approach dangerous. This was in hand with the likelihood of new signs being installed shortly.
- Grit Bins - there was an urgent need for grit bins at the new junction of Kilmagadwood to the A911 and at Bishop Terrace. P&KC was not disposed to provide new bins but offered to resite the bin at Whitecraigs. The Council agreed that this proposal should be proceeded with, noting that there may be objections from the residents of Whitecraigs which should be addressed to the PKC roads department..

9.5 Paths: CCllr Tom Smith reported that a first meeting for those interested in participating in the "Paths Group" would be held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 7.45 pm in Portmoak Hall. Anyone interested in joining the Group should contact Tom Smith on 0159 284 1160.

#### **10. Ward Cllr Reports**

WCllrs Barnacle and Cuthbert reported that Council budget preparation was underway.

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

No matters notified.

#### **12. AOCB**

Heritage Trail. George Lawrie reported that 95% of the route around Loch Leven was now ready and that, with the installation of a bridge over the Gairney due shortly, the Trail would be completed in March. A formal opening would occur sometime in the late spring.

#### **13. Date of next meeting**

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

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and the Meeting closed at 09.00 pm.

[www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)