

# Portmoak Community Council

## Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at Portmoak Village Hall

- 1. Attendance:** Cllrs: Malcolm Strang Steel (Chairman); Robin Cairncross (Secretary); Susan Forde; and Tom Smith; and WCLrs: Dave Cuthbert and Mike Barnacle and 2 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllr Richard Williamson (Treasurer); Bruce Calderwood (Deputy Chair); and WCLrs Joe Giacopzzi, Willie Robertson and PC Douglas Stapleton.

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

- 3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:**

4.1 Stephen's Field: As work on the Whitecraigs site, Kinnesswood was nearing completion the CC would pursue its interest in assuming ownership of the Field with the owner A & J Stephen Ltd.

7.1 Royal Mail Post Box at Kinnesswood: Royal Mail had confirmed that a new post box would be installed at Kinnesswood within the next month.

- 4. Reports:**

4.1 Police: In the absence of a police representative the CC received the Police Report. It noted that there had been no crimes or incidents in the past month as well as advice in respect of fly tipping, theft of heavy plant machinery and securing valuables left in cars. The CC thought that these reports could be more helpful if they could include from time to time a Kinross wide-report on crimes resolved and of reported accidents. WCLr Barnacle would explore the matter.

4.2 Treasurer: The Council's accounts at the end of May 2014 recorded no change from April: a balance of £43.15 in the General Account and £771.05 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £814.20. A grant from P&KC of £656.85 is expected shortly.

4.3 Planning: The CC considered the following new applications and agreed not to object to nor to make comment on:

14/00955/LBC (conservation area) Shalom Main Street, Kinnesswood, replacement of existing sash windows and front door;

14/01020/FLL (conservation area) Strathview Leslie Road, Scotlandwell, extension to rear of dwelling

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 there remained outstanding issues in respect of this application: failure to provide a Design Statement or to place the independent report of the conservation officer on the website and deficiencies in P&KC's handling of the CC's letter of objection.

The latter had been remedied and an apology made. WCIr Cuthbert reported that, in light of a missing design statement, P&KC would shortly review the application. He expressed the general view that what mattered was an outcome, acceptable to all parties. The CC welcomed his offer to facilitate a dialogue between the developer and the planning officers.

*14/000153/FLL footpath Easter to Wester Balgedie.* The CC with the residents of Easter and Wester Balgedie hosted an opening ceremony on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June. The CC will write to thank Alistair Smith and Bridget Lindsay for organising refreshments provided by the residents of Easter and Wester Balgedie.

*Developments at Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell.* The CC noted that applications: 09/00936/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse; 12/01935/FLL Alterations to stable block; and 13/01312/FLL Extension to cattery and office, would be considered shortly by P&KC Development Management Committee. The CC had objected to the application for erection of a house on the grounds that the proposal conflicted with the policy for Housing in the Countryside, the case for business need having already been met by the erection of the applicant's house at Wellburn. The CC considered whether it should attend the Committee meeting to make representations in support of its objection and decided that it should not do so.

*Developer Contributions.* The CC will comment in due course on the information supplied.

#### 4.4 Roads: The CC noted:

- that its letter of 24th April in respect of the series of accidents on the Scotlandwell to Bowhouse section of the A911 had not been acknowledged. This will be pursued.
- arrangements to install a mini roundabout at the junction with the Wellside development in Scotlandwell were now in hand.
- no progress as yet with an approach from Portmoak Primary School Parent Council seeking support in resolving several traffic matters in the immediate environs of the School. The CC is pursuing this with the Parent Council.
- An encouraging reply had been received from the Transport Minister to the effect that his officials would discuss with the CC the possibility of signage on the M90 to discourage through HGV traffic from using the A911.

#### 4.5 Paths: CCIr Tom Smith reported that:

- in respect of necessary work on the upper reaches of the Michael Bruce Way to be carried out by contractors, grant applications had been submitted. Pending confirmation of funding certain voluntary work was being pursued supported by a donation of materials.
- the intra-village path between Gamekeepers and the top of The Cobbles, much used as a route to and from school, had become overgrown with the path itself damaged by flood water. Recent strimming had improved matters and, in light of that, an assessment of what might be needed to repair the path will be undertaken. Tom Smith will report.

A resident drew attention to damage to the wall on the path above the Woodland Trust Field at Kilmagadwood. Before pursuing repairs, Tom Smith would review the matter with George Lawrie of TRACKS.

The CC will write to WCllr Robertson with its views on improved paths and access links in and around Scotlandwell.

**5. Ward Cllr Reports:**

**WCllr Dave Cuthbert:** explained that while the contribution by the developer to provide funding to pursue off-site archaeological work on the 23 urns found at Kilmagadwood had failed, there was now a possibility of alternative funding to allow this work to proceed. It is possible that this may in part be supported by the Living Lomonds Partnership Project.

**WCllr Mike Barnacle** reported progress with the development of new arrangements for landscape designation. This will form new Supplementary Guidance to the 2014 Local Development Plan. There will in due course be full consultation on the proposals. He also reported that P&KC will “refresh” the Member Officer Working Group (MOWG) concerned with planning policy and practice. This would convene shortly and may provide a means of resolving difficulties with the planning service.

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

None

**7. AOCB:**

None.

**8. Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at **7.00pm, on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014**, at Portmoak Primary School.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and the Meeting closed at 8.26 pm.

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