

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on 11th December 2018

at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell

1. **Attendance:** Councillors M Strang Steel (Chairman), R Cairncross (Secretary), B Calderwood (Treasurer) G Cox, A Muszynski and T Smith; and Wouncillors W Robertson; and 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Councillors D Morris, S Forde; Wouncillors M Barnacle, C Purves, R Watters; and Police Scotland PC D Stapleton.

2. **Approval of Previous minutes:** The Minutes of the CC meeting held on 13th November were approved.

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

Item 3 School Access - policy on parking and safe access routes for children. The absence of progress on this policy was disappointing. The Chairman had written to Ward Councillor Angus Forbes (*Convenor of the Environment and Infrastructure Committee*) on 22nd October detailing its concern that PKC had failed to respond to the CC's requests to progress the matters of parking in the vicinity of the school and of safe access routes for children. It was unfortunate that to date he had received no acknowledgement of his letter. **ACTION: WCLlr W Robertson will raise the matter directly with WCLlr Forbes.**

Item 3 Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond. The Chairman reported that progress was being made towards establishing surveys to support the required option appraisal of potential routes. **ACTION: Chairman to report progress at the next CC meeting.**

Item 3 Resilience - being better prepared for risks. Community Emergency Plan. The CC received the Minutes of a Local Resilience meeting held on 20th November. Councillors A Muszynski and G Cox reported that this had been a constructive meeting enabling the CC to progress the matter. The scope of the Portmoak Community Resilience Plan was: a) in the Short-term to capture best practice, engage key members of the community and develop a basic Community Resilience plan in consultation with partners focussed around severe weather; and b) in the Long-term to establish a robust Community Resilience Group and Plan that can be activated during any/all community resilience emergencies. A number of areas had been identified that could be included in the local Draft Plan. The newly appointed lead on the PKC Local Resilience Partnership, Keith Colville, will meet with the CC at its Management Group Meeting on Monday 28th January and the SSEN coordinator for resilience matters will visit Portmoak shortly. A further meeting of the Local Resilience Group will take place in January.

Item 3 Review of Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils. The CC had submitted a comprehensive commentary to PKC on the proposed draft Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils. Separately the CC had contacted both Milnathort and Kinross CCs to explain its proposal that an arrangement be introduced to include Loch Leven within the respective CC boundaries. Both CCs had supported the proposal and the CC had forwarded their comments to PKC.

Item 3 Moss Road Car park. The Chairman reported that, following discussions with the relevant parties, it had become clear that there was no way that the CC could secure ownership of the car park and that a leasing option had also proved impracticable. It would, however, remain possible to continue to use this space a car park. **ACTION: Funding awarded to develop the carpark would now be returned to the benefactor.**

Item 4 Whitecraigs redundant land plots. Dave Stubbs, PKC Greenspace Coordinator, will review the matter of maintenance arrangements for the eight or so plots of land within the Whitecraigs estate that are now owned by PKC. He will identify one of the team to take this forward. **ACTION CCLrs A Muszynski and Tom Smith would undertake the initial liaison with PKC and Whitecraigs residents.**

Item 6 Portmoak Cemetery. The Chairman reported that, although progress on this matter was slow, following recent discussions with PKC Bereavement Department there were possibly other options to consider. **ACTION: Chairman to report progress.**

Item 10 AOCB Charging Children for school transport on the 201 service bus. This was an important matter that was being taken forward by WCllr C Purves. **ACTION: The CC will follow the matter up with WCllr Purves.**

4. RSPB Scotland Loch Leven – new management plan. Uwe Stoneman (RSPB Tayside Reserve Manager) presented a summary of the proposed new Plan. He explained the RSPB reserve was part of the larger SNH managed Loch Leven NNR. The following were noted:

- It was proposed to change the management of the westmost part of the RSPB's land to the north of the B9097 to better support both winter grazing for geese and summer breeding for waders. This included better water level control. At the same time livestock would continue to graze the area.
- The stock of lapwings was thriving and had been helped by improved predator control as a result of the surrounding fence.
- With both winter and summer interest the Reserve attracted significant visitor numbers year round.
- Visitor numbers were anticipated to increase supported by better publicity and signage. There were increasing overseas visitors and with that an increased interest in the wider Loch Leven visitor attractions. Staff are being trained to respond to queries about the area attractions generally.
- The underpass would be complete by 19th January and would provide unparalleled access for disabled victors.

In general discussion Uwe fielded a range of diverse questions before being thanked by the Chairman for his presentation.

5. Rural Transport. Ward Councillors had been meeting with PKC transport officials. There is a proposal to carry out a detailed survey of demand for transport services across Kinross-shire with a view to supporting a new venture using small buses. Current arrangements in Comrie and Auchterarder could provide a relevant model.

6. Reports:

1. **Police:** The CC noted the local report from PC D Stapleton – there had been no local crime. The CC also noted the Area Commander Bulletins of 14th, 21st and 28th November and of 5th December.
2. **Treasurer: There had been no in-month change.** The balance at the month ending 30th November was £655.00 in the General Account; and £1,144.12 in the Michael Bruce Way Account giving a total of £1,799.12. The new "Holding Account" No. 3 held £1, 500.
3. **Planning:** to include:
 - New applications: None.
 - Progress with Developments:
 - a) **17/02227/FLL.** Levenmouth, Scotlandwell. Erection of two houses. The Chairman had received a helpful response from WCllr Roz McCall (*Convenor, Planning and Development*

Management Committee concerning the CC's view that the planning decision should have been made by the Planning and Development Management Committee and not delegated to a planning officer. He would explore further the regulatory basis on which the decision had been made. WCllr McCall had offered to meet the Council. The CC warmly welcomed the offer and would suggest the Management Group Meeting of Monday 25th February.
ACTION: Chairman to contract WCllr R McCall.

- b) **18/00667/FLL.** Former Lomond Inn, Kinnesswood. Erection of a dwellinghouse. The CC noted that following their recent letter to the CC PKC had been in touch with the developer. New arrangements were in preparation.
- c) **FIFE 18/18/02342/ARC Westfield, Energy Recover Facility.** Brockwell Energy Ltd (new owners of Westfield) had been sold for a sum in excess of £21M to an investment company or companies. It seemed possible that this could lead to investment in the proposed energy from waste development during 2019.
- d) **Local Development Plan 2.** The CC noted that it had been approached by the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division to provide further information in respect of infrastructure contributions. **ACTION: Consideration will be given on how to respond before the due date of 28th December.**
- e) **18/01477/FLL Land 100 metres SW of Liathach Leslie.** Erection of two camping pods. Following refusal of this application on 4 October, the applicant had determined to appeal and had sought support from the CC. The CC had made no comment on the application. The CC on advice decided that it could not in such circumstances provide the requested support.

4. Roads: To note progress with the Roads Report for 2018 and:

- a) Hedge at Friar Place - visibility for drivers. The hedge would be monitored. It may in due course require to be trimmed.
- b) Road Markings: B9097; junction B9097 and B920; and on the C50 to Fife Border.
ACTION: CCllr B Calderwood would alert "Clarence" to these particular needs.

5. Paths Group: To note progress with work programme for 2018. It was noted that signage at either end of the Dryside Road together with a gate at Springfield Farm would be installed within the next few days.

7. PKC Ward Cllr Reports. No specific comments.

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

9. AOCB.

10. Date of next meeting:

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 12th February 2019** and the Meeting closed at 9.05 PM.