

Portmoak Community Council

Notice of Meeting & Community Council AGM

Tuesday 10th November 2020 – 2100

Online meeting via Zoom

(request Zoom meeting details via email to Secretary@Portmoak.org)

- 1. Attendance and apologies:** CCllrs: G Cox (Chair), D Morris (Vice-Chair), S Davidson (Treasurer), S McGregor (Secretary), S Forde, A Cragoe, Graham Smith; and WCllrs C Purves, W Robertson; and 7 members of the public.

Apologies: Richard Watters, Mike Barnacle

- 2. Approval of previous Minutes held on 13th October 2020:** Approved

- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 1 *Community Resilience Planning: Storm Damage and impact from recent flooding*

The CC reiterated the need for a wider discussion regarding the state of the Lomond Hills with regard to landslips and flood damage, the repeated occurrence of which can weaken the substructure of the land making it more susceptible to repeated damage in the future. The possibility of a wider discussion in the future with Scottish Forestry and other relevant organisations would be welcomed in order to identify the best course of action. The CC considers this item important but agreed to move it to reserve items until a later date. WCllr Robertson said that Scotlandwell residents had requested drains to be cleared of silt and debris, and this should be done quite soon. ACTION: WCllr Robertson to request blocked drains be cleared also between Easter Balgedie and Kinnesswood

Item 2 *Portmoak Cemetery*

Andy Clegg from Greenspace had indicated that cemetery strategy suggested that the existing cemetery should not be extended for the local community and that PKC continue to try to identify a larger space adequate for 80-100 years for a large general cemetery in Perthshire. Portmoak could be considered to serve wider area, but there are implications for roads and infrastructure. The CC would need to put that forward for review with residents. A further meeting re: Portmoak cemetery will take place on the 19th with a view to identify small areas that can be created for burials and also look at memorial walls with space for caskets and plaques to scatter ashes.

WCllr Purves queried this strategy further to an email exchange he had had with Andy Clegg that had previously suggested the option to extend the local cemetery. WCllr Robertson commented that the Portmoak capacity issues had been discussed about 4/5 years ago. Orwell cemetery is nearly full too. If these become full people will be informed they must use Kinross cemetery. The council have not really done very much to promote the actions that PCC have requested regarding extension. It was felt the issue should be raised to more senior officers within PKC.

ACTION: Cllr Cragoe to circulate the policy link to CC and meet with Andy Clegg on 19th Nov.

Item 3 *Road Safety Action in Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell*

In October the CC had met with WCllr Purves Callum & Darren McKeown onsite along the A911 from Wester Balgedie to Scotlandwell to talk about buildouts, pavement widening and other ways to control traffic. WCllr Purves agreed the meeting was constructive. At PKC there has been a change of approach and different sources of funding in response to the pandemic situation, allowing PKC to do things more quickly. Daryl McKeown had taken a list of actions and will draft a route action plan for the A911 including all settlements and total costs, which allows for a budget allocation for the entire route. Speed limits can be changed really quickly.

ACTION: CPurves to follow up with Daryl McKeown for the route plan.

Item 4 *Glenlomond sewage: migration of responsibility to Scottish Water*

Note: the Minutes of Council can be seen in the file kept in the Kinnesswood Village Shop or on the Hall noticeboard or found on the Community Council website. www.portmoak.org

No significant updates. Climate change and excess surface water are the main problem now overwhelming the existing sewage system. Glenlomond residents committee have agreed to start some actions and request experts to come onsite and advise the best course of action.

Item 5 Friar Place hedges blocking sight lines and requiring maintenance

Gary McConnell of PKC had been to view the location and didn't identify a problem. The CC explained the sight line should be along the line of the fence. ACTION: WCLlr Robertson to request Gary McConnell to review the sightlines again.

Reserve items:

Item 7 *Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond: no update*

Item 8 *Rural Transport: meeting coming up on 19/11/20, Cllr is to attend.*

Item 9 *Loch Leven water quality: no updates*

Item 10 *SEPA / Scottish Enterprise River Leven Catchment Project: no update*

4. New Matters arising:

Item 1: Public Consultation – Use of Open Space, beside Whitecraigs, Kinnesswood

During the initial 2020 lockdown a resident created flower beds in the open space which the CC agreed was a community spirited thing to have done. This did leave the question of ongoing maintenance and PKC were consulting on this item with residents. The CC agreed that it is a minor issue and up to the Whitecraigs residents to decide. The CC will assist as required if requested by Whitecraigs residents. ACTION: CC to monitor for decision

Item 2: Construction of hill track, Bishop Hill, Kinnesswood (report attached)

The report prepared by Cllr Morris, regarding the recent hill track construction on Bishop Hill, was welcomed. A response from the landowner was read out in part at the meeting confirming that notification had been made to SNH and approval given. Cllr Morris indicated that the planning regulations required that a process of "Prior Notification and Approval" should have been made to PKC for the whole track before construction commenced and PKC had confirmed this was not done. Failure to carry out this process meant that the landowner lost "Permitted Development Rights" for this particular project. There was opinion from members of the CC and public that the construction work had been detrimental to the path, and that the track should be reinstated as a footpath, with no vehicular use. There was a discussion about application to PKC for retrospective planning permission to be sought for the work if this was appropriate, but that first an informal discussion with the landowner would be initiated. WCLlr Robertson was in favour of informal discussion and maintenance of goodwill. The CC noted that they and individual citizens have no formal locus within planning regulations for discussion of the path works of this type unless a retrospective planning permission is sought and granted.

ACTION: Chair to initiate an informal discussion with the landowner to articulate the local concerns. PCC to investigate application for retrospective planning permission if appropriate and in interests of the community.

6. Reports:

a. Police Reports

- (1) The Local Police Report: the Secretary had reached out to the Police liaison in view of the recent non-attendance of the Police at CC meetings, and also with regard to the unpleasant recent burglaries in Kinnesswood and Auchmuir Bridge. The Police Liaison Officer had responded and had provided a report which the Secretary would circulate to the Community, which also included useful home security advice.

b. Planning

(1) New Applications:

- a. 20/01291/FLL | Extension to outdoor seating area, installation of a canopy and associated engineering works | Loch Leven Larder Wester Balgedie Kinross KY13 9HD
No comment
- b. 20/01424/FLL | Erection of a shed | Cnoc An Fhraoich Glenlomond Kinross KY13 9HF
No comment

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- c. 20/01409/IPL | Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) | Land 40 Metres West Of Levenmouth Farmhouse Scotlandwell

The CC discussed the site and raised the same issues as other planning applications in this location with the same problem with sewage and flooding into Loch Leven.

CC to raise objection and request adequate screening of trees to be put in to protect the Heritage Trail and the environment in this area of natural woodland.

(2) Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee

- a. Application No: 16/03661/EIA Proposal: Planning permission in principle for restoration and development of former opencast site including power generation/storage; waste recovery/recycling; employment uses (Class 4 (light industry only) with ancillary office space, Class 5 and 6); rail off-loading facility, glass houses and other associated infrastructure
Address: Westfield O C C S Fife

The CC noted no issues with the installation of solar panels, with the exception of creating screening around the site.

- c. **Paths Group:** The current COVID guidance has put limitations on meeting as a group but some activity has continued including clearing of vegetation on the Dryside Road Path and the Peat Loan leading into Portmoak Moss from the Grahamstone track. We are very grateful to the Ranger from PKC Community Greenspace for his assistance with this work. The paths group were very concerned about the damage caused by recent maintenance work completed by the farmer on the hill section of the Michael Bruce Way (See Item 4.2 above). It is particularly demoralising for paths group volunteers who have worked tirelessly over many years to maintain the quality and character of this footpath.

- d. **Treasurer CC Accounts: no change**

5. Ward Councillors' Reports

Nothing to add

6. Matters notified to the Secretary:

7. AOB:

- 8. **Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday, 8thDecember2020**