

Portmoak Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Community Council

Tuesday 13 December 2022, 1930 – 2100hrs
Meeting Online, via Zoom

Minutes – Final Draft

- 1. Attendance:** WCllrs D Cuthbert, Cllrs AMiller (Chair), DMorris (Vice-Chair) and 6 members of the public
Apologies: SMcGregor (Secretary) and apologies on behalf of other WCllrs via WCllr Cuthbert
Post Meeting Note: It appears that there were some people who had issues accessing the Zoom link for the CC Meeting. PCC apologise to anyone who had problems and weren't able to attend. The Chair and Secretary had attempted to ensure there were no issues and had tested the account and access prior to the meeting. Everything appeared to be in order in advance. PCC will try to ensure a similar situation doesn't arise again.
Post meeting apologies for access problems were received from WCllr W Robertson, Cllr A Davidson (Treasurer) and Cllr D Paterson.
- 2. Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from meeting on 8 November 2022:**
The Chair was the only sitting member of the Community Council present at the start of the meeting. WCllr D Cuthbert apologised that he was unable to propose or second the minutes as he did not attend the November meeting. The Chair indicated he was therefore unable to officially ratify the minutes, but noted these had been circulated publicly. As there was no public comment, it was proposed that the minutes be accepted as published and any significant amendments could be noted and recorded at a later date.
- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**
Item 1: Kinross-shire Local Committee (KLC) update: The Chair advised that he had been unable to attend the recent KLC meeting but that the Vice Chair had stood in. The Vice Chair advised that he was again unable to participate in the meeting proceedings due to technical issues. The most significant item arising was that PKC Roads Department had advised that with over 900 road traffic and safety projects to deal with, only the top 3 projects from each Ward CC area would be prioritised. The Chair advised that despite previous PKC agreement, the minutes did not appear to have been circulated.

Item 2: Road Safety Action Update: The Chair opened the minute item by advising further contact had been made to PCC from the residents of Bowhouse, who were concerned that no action appeared to be forthcoming in respect of the temporary traffic speed restriction order to 40mph (Scotlandwell to Bowhouse) which was ratified and agreed at the inaugural KLC meeting. Several Bowhouse residents had joined the meeting and WCllr Cuthbert confirmed he had received the email from the Chair to all WCllrs regarding the item. The Chair expressed disappointment that despite numerous requests for programme updates from PKC Roads, no updates had been received and that it should be a comparatively simple exercise to erect standard speed reduction signage. There similarly did not appear to be any progress on the A911 Route Action Plan, also agreed at the inaugural KLC. The Chair voiced that the limited devolved powers to KLC was one of the petitioned successful outcomes of the Committee, but that perception was increasing, questioning whether the KLC had any actual powers. The Chair apologised that the prioritisation of the PKC requested Road Safety items had not yet been subject to PCC agreement however, as the neither the Bowhouse TTRO or the Wester Balgedie VAS appeared on the list, further clarification was required in respect of the requested prioritisation. WCllr D Cuthbert advised that the reason that the latter two projects may not appear on the listing is that they are already scheduled for action. The WCllr also stated his disappointment at the current status, however the issue was not funding but resourcing. This had been a frequent discussion between the WCllrs and had been escalated to the Chief & Deputy Executive at PKC and a suggestion had been made that the works should be 'outsourced'. WCllr Cuthbert agreed to pursue the outstanding road safety issues with Head of Roads to try to obtain programme update for report at the next CC meeting.
ACTION: Chair to finalise list, make comment and changes and recirculate to PCC members before return to PKC. WCllr Cuthbert to pursue PKC Roads in respect of action items not listed on priority list.

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Item 3: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: The Chair advised PCC were still awaiting response from PKC Officers Daryl McEown and Dave Stubbs regarding an 'agreement in principle' in respect of the path route and fundamental feasibility of the speed mitigated crossing points as detailed in conjunction with the proposal. The Chair confirmed he had received a land ownership plan for the upper route section and was trying to obtain details for the lower section. The Chair confirmed that the path was one of the three priority projects agreed by PCC members and asked if the WCllrs could pursue the relevant personnel for a response.

ACTION: WCllrs to ask relevant PKC personnel for response to email from WCllr W Robertson concerning path.

Item 4: Play facilities at Scotlandwell Green: The Chair was unaware of any communication in respect of the play facilities and hoped upgrade would still happen within this financial year.

ACTION: Hold this item on agenda for future update.

Item 5: Phosphate addition to drinking water within Loch Leven catchment area: There was substantive discussion in respect of this item. WCllr D Cuthbert confirmed that a PKC led meeting had taken place at which both senior members of Scottish Water and SEPA were in attendance. This was to discuss the specific problem of increased phosphate load and Pollution of Loch Leven. It was acknowledged that a number of primary contributory sources were of consideration (development wastewater, agriculture, drinking water, overwintering wildfowl). The Vice Chair expressed surprise that the Local CC's had not been invited to the Meeting, which had been requested on a number of occasions. While previous studies suggested the principal pollutant contribution was from boundary agricultural practice, recent studies note a direct relationship between increasing development and documented pollutant load. The Chair noted that infrastructure improvements of the principal wastewater treatment plants has not taken place despite massively increased development, particularly in Milnathort & Kinross. Current SEPA policy permits the discharge of untreated sewage effluent to watercourses and Loch Leven during storm overflow events. It is clear that the current service infrastructure is at capacity, and significant changes to Planning gain / approval status are required to control discharges. WCllr Cuthbert advised that Scottish Water phosphate addition at source as pre-dosing to mitigate potential effects of lead pipework and lead uptake to domestic supplies, was National applied Policy. The Chair advised that it seemed an absurdly heavy handed measure given the likely instance of lead pipes in local communities and was extremely prejudicial to private treatment plants and schemes which are experiencing problems meeting SEPA discharge targets such as those previously minuted at Wester Balgedie. The Vice Chair suggested that voluntary changes to farming practice concerning set-aside at boundaries adjacent to Loch Leven may be required to assist run-off and wind-blow control. The Chair suggested that a fundamental examination of Planning Permission and supplementary treatment plant upgrades is necessary to attempt to control pollutant load. It was advised that PCC had been contacted by Milnathort CC with a view to potentially for the Loch Leven Action Group to discuss the specific associated issue. It was suggested however that this was, and should be the remit of the KLC in precisely addressing issues of local importance. **ACTION:** Latest correspondence concerning issues of private treatment plant at Wester Balgedie to be issued to Cllr D Cuthbert.

4. New Matters arising: None notified

5. Reports:

a. Police Reports: The police liaison officer had sent a report to the Secretary. The only item of relevance to Portmoak was an incident of fire raising at a public bin in Kinnesswood, necessitating attendance by Fire Services. Two male youths were seen leaving the scene.

b. Planning

(1) New Applications:

- 1.1 22/01958/FLL Installation of solar panels: Craigard Main Street Scotlandwell Kinross KY13 9JA. Last date for public comments: Fri 23 Dec 2022 **PCC: No Comment or representation**
- 1.2 22/01829/FLL | Extension to building to provide staff showers and toilet facilities and formation of access ramp | Loch Leven's Larder Wester Balgedie Kinross KY13 9HD. Last date for public comments: Tue 13 Dec 2022 **PCC: No comment or representation**
- 1.3 22/01723/FLL | Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse, alterations to wall to form vehicular access/parking area and associated works | Briarbank The Cobbles Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9HL. Note: Last date for public comments is past, but PCC have been granted an extension to represent the community following the PCC meeting on 13/12/22. PCC had been contacted by a number of local Kinnesswood residents regarding the application. The lodged plans did not appear to be in

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keeping with the surrounding properties on the Cobbles or the restrictions placed within the Conservation Area. It was also felt that the proposals would over-develop the site with property heights, development footprint and proposed access all cited as concerns. **PCC: Objection letter to be lodged citing specific elements of concern.**

(2) Existing Applications

- (a) 22/01191/FLL | Erection of 16 dwellinghouses (3 with detached garages, one with detached garage/ancillary accommodation), formation of 6 plots for affordable dwellinghouses, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works Open for comment icon
Land 100 Metres South East Of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens Scotlandwell
PCC: There was no further update on the status of this application at present.

(3) Planning Decisions

- (a) Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: No update was received in respect of the Liaison Committee. The Vice Chair did however comment that he believed Community Projects and individual organisations within Portmoak could possibly apply and benefit from the 'Wind Energy Project' funding which permitted individual applications for up to £2,000. Additional details would be sought and provided in due course.
- (b) Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: Monday 14/11/22 in-person meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair attended this meeting. A detailed feasibility report (Commissioned by Hargreaves) was presented which presented a Paths 'deliverability' schedule for a number of priority routes connecting the communities. An Action Group had subsequently been formed with single representatives from each Community Council area, with a view to driving and coordinating collective funding applications and to prioritise the most deliverable routes. The Vice Chair agreed to act in this capacity on behalf of PCC

6. Paths Group update: Cllr D Morris advised there had been limited activity over the past month due to weather.

7. Treasurer CC Accounts: The Treasurer had been unable to join the meeting. It was agreed by the WCllrs & Cllrs present that the accounts could be added as a post meeting notification. These were subsequently advised as:
MBW account. Balance: £1,523.00. No transactions in last few weeks.
CC Account Balance £299.51.

8. Ward Councillors' Reports

WCllr D Cuthbert reported on a number of items of consideration in Kinross-shire:

1. It was advised that PKC currently estimate a 'budget black hole' of £30million. WCllr Cuthbert suggested there would be inevitable cuts to public services as a result.
2. A presentation had been made to PKC from a prospective developer of the British Auction Car Site at the south end of Kinross. The proposal included for the potential for 3 retail outlets, including Marks & Spencer, B&M and LIDL and a fast-food drive-thru style outlet. The proposals also sought to generate a direct access to the Pier and improvement to the flood defences on the southern aspect of Kinross. It was suggested that central Government funding was available in terms of the flood defence upgrades.
3. Housing Allocation & LDP. WCllr Cuthbert advised that there had already been significantly more housing allocation and development in Kinross / Milnathort than that programmed in the LDP. Indeed, the number of houses was several years ahead of the allocation programme. While this does not specifically impact on PCC area, for the reasons cited earlier in the agenda concerning pollution of Loch Leven and demand on servicing infrastructure, it is deemed of local significance.
4. Current projection forecasts suggests that completion of the currently approved development schemes will place Kinross High School at 117% of capacity. This does not include other schemes currently in pre-application or planning consideration. WCllr Cuthbert also highlighted potential issues with the capacity of the Doctors Surgery and the possible requirement within the immediate area for a small Hospital to accommodate the Local demand.

The Chair thanked WCllr Cuthbert for his report and noted the relevance of the projects to both PCC and the wider Kinross-shire Community. Given the oversubscription of the LDP locally and the issues which are consistently being raised regarding lack of infrastructure improvements in line with the development, increased developer responsibilities should be applied to all applications, and should include Scottish Water & SEPA.

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9. Matters notified to the Secretary:

(1) Tayside Contracts Community Fund – Open for Applications from 9 January 2023. See: <https://www.tayside-contracts.co.uk/news/communityfund>. Link to online application portal provided.

10. AOB:

The Chair provided advance apologies for normally scheduled January meeting. Following discussions with the Vice Chair and WCllr, it was agreed that the January meeting would be cancelled. The first meeting of 2023 would therefore be on the 14th February 2023.

The Chair wished all of WCllrs, Cllrs and members of the public attending, a very Happy Christmas and wished to extend good wishes to all members of the Community.

There was no further business, and the Chair closed the meeting at 20.50

11. Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday, 14 February 2022. Agreed as Online meeting