

Portmoak Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday 9 May 2023, 1930 – 2100hrs

Meeting On-line, via Zoom

- 1. Attendance & Apologies:** WCllrs RWatters, DCuthbert, NFreshwater, WRobertson; Cllrs AMiller (Chair), DMorris (Vice-Chair) SMcGregor ((Secretary), ADavidson (Treasurer), DPaterson, KDonaldson; and 2 Members of the Public.
- 2. Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from meeting on 11/04/23:**
Proposed: KDonaldson
Seconded: DPaterson
- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee update: WCllr DCuthbert confirmed Minutes of the last KLC had been circulated. Suggested Agenda items for the next meeting included wind turbines, and pollution in Loch Leven. The wind turbines were discussed at a recent PKC Committee meeting attended by WCllrs, though the planning for the turbines was a DPEA decision and not a PKC decision. PKC Committee acts as a stat consultee. The next KLC meeting date is 25/05/23 and would be in-person at Kinross Community Campus . Either the Chair or Vice-Chair would attend. WCllrs RWatters and DCuthbert would be arranging a workshop type session with all Councillors to decide on how the KLC it is working and how it can be improved. . The Chair commented that the draft of the KLC Review Report has been submitted. WCllrs to meet with the author of report. Once report is complete, it will be circulated. WCllr RWatters raised the issue of the need for a log of actions arising from KLC meetings as there are a lot of actions even outstanding from first KLC meeting. An action log would need to be reviewed systematically and items ticked off. WCllr NFreshwater commented that other Local Area Committees are now going ahead. WCllr DCuthbert confirmed that PKC have agreed three other local area committees will be formed. KLC is still being assessed. The assessment will help inform how new committees are formed for best practice.

The Chair agreed to the need for an Action log, pointing out the first actionable point from the inaugural KLC meeting 15months ago was Bowhouse speed limit signage, which remained unactioned. The Chair had been continually asked by Bowhouse Residents why it is taking so long. The Chair asked the WCllrs why the weight of 6 Community Councils voting on this action did not accelerate the project within PKC? WCllr DCuthbert commented that this was the purpose of the proposed action log with dates for completion of projects and KLC can only really recommend items to other committees. WCllr DCuthbert expressed opinion that a rethink about community engagement was due. More weight being given to decisions reached following Community engagement. WCllr RWatters reiterated that KLC was not intended to be a talking shop and that it was intended as a device for implementing change within Kinross-shire.

Item 2: Road Safety Action Update: There was a discussion about the Road projects priority list from PKC which included many items requested over many years and by different CCs and members of the public. The PKC Roads Officer had suggested each Kinross-shire CC ratify their lists before the next KLC meeting. Portmoak CC had reached out to the other Ward8 Kinross-shire CCs to suggest creating a fully resolved and consolidated list for each area, that could then be taken to the KLC for voting on as a complete list of prioritised road projects across Kinross-shire and it could then be voted on by the KLC members. At the time of this PCC meeting, some response had been received from other CCs regarding this proposal but not all of them. PCC had also suggested that public comments/requests made directly to PKC should be referred to PCC for community discussion and comment, prior to being added to the road projects priority list.

The Chair invited attendees to comment on some outstanding items on the list of priorities for Portmoak:

 - 1. TRO of waiting restrictions at Buchan Avenue:** the Vice-Chair believed this to be a request for painting double yellow lines at Buchan Avenue, Kinnesswood to restrict parking around Portmoak Primary school. The details of this TRO needed to be verified.
 - 2. New Gullet Bridge warning signs:** Right of way from one side or the other. PCC believed this was a priority.

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3. *Build out at Buchan Avenue, Kinnesswood*: The Vice-Chair thought this was another Portmoak School item of which there were 3 on the list. The Vice-Chair thought this should be batched with other School items for verification.
4. *Priority System relocation at Leslie Road, Scotlandwell*: The Chair had been speaking with local residents and did not think anyone had recently requested a relocation of the priority system. Cllr DPaterson thought there had been an incident that had raised comments. Agreement that this item should be removed from the Priority List.
5. *Puffin Crossing Main St, Scotlandwell*: The Chair proposed this should be removed from the list as it was a high value item and enforcement of 20mph was more crucial than a puffin crossing. CllrDPaterson agreed. WCllr WRobertson agreed in principle.
6. *Footway: Scotlandwell to Church* – this item was ongoing. Agreement to retain this on list as a high priority.
7. *Footway: Portmoak Hall to Kinnesswood*: it was agreed that this pertained to the pinch point on the pavement at Woodmarch, may need a priority route or build-out. Retain on list. There was agreement the path was sufficient otherwise along this stretch.
8. *Footway from Auchmuir Bridge to Scotlandwell*: RWatters recalled the residents wanted an extension to the Fife footpath to connect the Auchmuir Bridge houses. There was agreement that this may not be a current deliverable priority.

ACTION: PCC agreed to have further discussion with DMcEown to further understand the details of the items in query. PCC agreement to remove non-priority items from list. WCllrs agreed this was the way forward. WCllr DCuthbert cautioned that any list would be contingent on funds and Roads Team will have to further prioritise within their parameters. The Chair commented that KLC decisions were actionable and should be moved up priority list.

The Vice-Chair raised 2 further road safety issues: 1. The problem with the path Lochend -LLHT: WCllr WRobertson confirmed NPainprize and Dstubbs of PKC Greenspace have had discussions around the issue. A meeting with landowner is proposed to resolve issues. The Vice-Chair commented on the need for some bollards on the road to make the current roadside path safer. WRobertson agreed that the current situation was very dangerous, and the meeting with landowner would hopefully drive towards a positive outcome.

Secondly 2. a Resident had emailed PCC about issues with B9097. Residents requested options for paths along the B9097 as walking and cycling on the road was very dangerous as the traffic volume has increased and travels at high speed. The issue of high-speed overtaking and blind summits not signposted was also discussed. Due to the high traffic volume and increased HGVs the road surface is breaking up and is very poor. PCC agreed these items were all relevant and flagged that the Westfield traffic was not yet even at peak flow. There has to be some form of agreement of who is responsible and who needs to contribute to make the road better. WCllr WRobertson said there was a route action plan for the B909. ACTION: WCllr WRobertson to forward the B9097 action plan to the Chair for review.

The Vice-Chair commented that all the residents' concerns had been raised at the planning stage, but that Fife Council had failed to discuss the problems with PKC and PCC, all the mitigation measures could have been resolved at planning. PKC Planning had done nothing to action these measures, despite pressure from WCllrs and PCC at the time. MStrang-Steel (former PCC Chair) commented that Fife Council Planners had requested PKC estimate a lump sum to be paid from Fife Council to PKC as mitigation funds to carry out extra maintenance. PKC named a figure of £100k which, by most accounts, seemed insufficient. The Vice-Chair requested the WCllrs to request confirmation that the sum had been paid to PKC, also whether the funds had been ring-fenced for the B9097. The Chair raised his concerns about promised route action plans. In a note on 25/03/23 from PKC Roads Officer, he had stated there were no current route action plans and insufficient staff to create Route Action Plans at present due to other priorities of work. The Chair believed PKC needed to make an onsite plan to ensure the road is up to standard and safer.

WCllr NFreshwater had spoken to DMcKeown and confirmed Westfield signage would be completed by the Summer.

The Chair concluded it was apparent there was/ is nothing being done currently to address the issues on the B9097, and as a result, no positive information could be offered to update the resident's email request. The Chair felt the issue should be escalated to the KLC. WCllr WRobertson said there would be an update from Roads at the next KLC.

Item 3: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: no further updates.

Item 4: Play facilities at Scotlandwell Green: no further updates. The project is in a system of work packages with PKC Greenspace. Slow progress, but it was hoped the project would be started and completed soon.

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Item 5: Phosphate addition to drinking water within Loch Leven catchment area: no further updates. Retain on Agenda.

Item 6: Loch Leven Half Marathon and Road Closures, Sunday 14 May: PCC had received no further complaints, road signs are up. The Secretary had received confirmation from Kinross Road Runners that there would be no residents permits, but specific **requirements** for Carers or similar access needs would be accommodated.

4. New Matters arising:

Item 1: Kinneston Estate, near Scotlandwell. Long Term Forest Plans: The Chair had reviewed the plans and had no specific issues with these. The proposals of increased biodiversity, creation of other walking routes, and a managed forest plan were considered positive. The Vice-Chair thought it was positive that PCC were being consulted. One or two items to be discussed, such as informal paths that are already created, but The Vice-Chair agreed with the Chair in thinking the forest plan appeared a positive land use.

Item 2: PKC Winter provision 2022-23 – Resilience Plan: The Secretary had circulated the documents from PKC to the PCC members noting the comments that there was a ‘finite budget’. The Chair commented there was not much to add except to say that it was hoped that Winter provision, treatment and service is not subject to reduction around Portmoak.

5. Reports:

a. Police Reports

- (1) Speedwatch update: The secretary had no further updates at present. NFreshwater asked that PCC share the list of potential volunteers with the Fossoway Speedwatch group. There is also the possibility to share equipment if the minimum numbers can be met.

b. Planning

(1) New Applications:

- a. 23/00492/FLL | Formation of balcony | 8 Bishop Terrace Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9JW
Last Date for comment: Tue 23 May 2023 ACTION: No Comment from PCC agreed.

- b. 23/00438/FLL | Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse, and formation of parking area | Briarbank The Cobbles Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9HL

Last Date for Comment: Fri 02 Jun 2023

The Vice-Chair commented that the previous application had been withdrawn. There were currently disputes about land ownership and rights for parking within the lane adjacent to the property. The Vice-Chair would approach the residents again to enquire if PCC representation was required. The Chair agreed to have another look at the planning. ACTION: PCC to review and make representation as required within Planning comment guidelines if requested by residents.

(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

SEPA had removed their objection for peat removal on basis that ground is a peat soil, not pure peat, which meant a Peat Management Plan was not required for the site. The issue of flooding has not been addressed. PCC were disappointed that SEPA had not requested a more thorough and competent ground investigation.

(3) Planning Decisions

- (a) Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: Cllr KDonaldson provided comment; There were fewer construction vehicles travelling on the roads. Heavy duty cranes had been installed. Previously requested signage was not yet completed as discussed earlier in meeting.

- (b) Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: The Vice-Chair confirmed a report has been issued. The VC had attended a meeting on 27/04/23 with Hargreaves and CC members from Fife and

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members of Fife Countryside Trust. The Vice-Chair would like to see a project manager employed to ensure the actions of the report move forward quickly and had voiced this request to Fife Countryside Trust.

- 6. Paths Group update:** no updates this month due to volunteers having limited time. Some issues had been reported regarding signage at top of Cobbles and PKC Greenspace were looking into this to ensure all signage was correctly in place.
- 7. Treasurer CC Accounts:**

Some monies received had been paid into old PCC accounts, not the new Credit Union accounts so Treasurer has been dealing with rectifying the mistake.
PCC Account balance: £634.94
Michael Bruce Way Account balance: £1,679.74
Treasurer needs to action payment for hall for PCC April meeting.
Secretary to pass Zoom invoices to Treasurer for remuneration payment.
- 8. Ward Councillors' Reports:** The Chair thanked the WCllrs for their time in all coming to the PCC meeting.
WCllr DCuthbert: Flagged the Big Place Conversation for LDP3. It is very important that CCs buy into the LDP3. On this item WCllr RWatters flagged that in the WCllrs calendar there were no consultations happening in Portmoak. The Chair asked why PCC had not been contacted. The Secretary confirmed a letter had been received from the Planning & Development team but this was a flag that the Development team at PKC would reach out to CCs to make arrangements at a later date but no further communication had been received. ACTION: Secretary would forward the received communication to the PCC members and follow up with Planning Development for more information.
- 9. Matters notified to the Secretary:** nothing additional
- 10. AOB:**
 1. PKC Public Consultation: Let's Talk Transport: <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/lets-talk-transport/> available for public to make comment.
 2. 'Good Food Fund' via PKC <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/pkgrantsdirect> closing date for applications: 29/05/23.
Apple press, Portmoak School
 3. DPaterson: regarding Planning Application 22/01191/FLL and the the SEPA report on peat soil. Cllr DPaterson though he might have core samples, and drilling logs from work that his company had done at one time at the application site. ACTION: DPaterson to investigate and circulate any info to PCC members.
- 11. Next Meeting:** 1930-2100hrs, Tuesday, 11 July 2023, in-person. The Chair was not available for the June meeting date. The Vice-Chair and Cllr DPaterson were also not available. The Chair proposed to cancel the June meeting and move to July meeting in person. Secretary to cancel the June 13/06/23 meeting.
- 12. The Chair closed the meeting at: 2100hrs**

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