

Portmoak Community Council

Notice of Meeting

Tuesday 11 July 2023, 1930 – 2100hrs
Meeting In-Person, at Portmoak Village Hall

Agenda

- 1. Attendance & Apologies:** WCllrs RWatters, NFreshwater Cllrs AMiller (Chair), ADavidson (Treasurer), SMcGregor (Secretary), KDonaldson, DPaterson, and 1 member of the public.
Apologies: WCllrs DCuthbert, WRobertson. Cllr D Morris (Vice-Chair)

- 2. Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from meeting on 09/05/23**
Proposed: KDonaldson; Seconded: DPaterson. Minutes approved

- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee update: The Vice-Chair had attended most recent KLC meeting on behalf of PCC. The WCllrs confirmed no agenda was currently in place for next meeting, but it was expected the KLC Development Day on 02/08/23 would assist to generate agenda items. WCllrs had seen a draft of the report from the external assessment consultant assessing the KLC pilot scheme. The report was challenging, not overly negative, but in proportion and the WCllrs suggested this was to be expected. The assessment report will be made publicly available. Both PKC Officers and WCllrs were keen to have report before the scheduled Development Day. It was felt the Committee faced challenges to identify its direction of focus and the degree of devolution of decision making. The WCllrs were keen to hear from CCs in respect of their ideas in these areas. PCC members reiterated their support of the KLC, particularly in light of the interest of other PKC Wards to create their own similar Local Committees. An example of a Kinross-shire wide issue was item5 in this meeting “**Loch Leven Water Quality in Catchment**” where all CC’s could work together. The WCllrs observed the hybrid meetings have been more productive to the output from each meeting.

Item 2: Road Safety Action Update: At the May23 PCC meeting, the attendees had discussed items on the Road Safety Priority List supplied from PKC Roads Team and agreed changes to the list. These had also included items upon which it was believed further clarification was required. The Chair had communicated these changes to the WCllrs and to DMcEown at PKC Roads. The Secretary had reached out to the other Ward8 CCs with regard to consolidating and prioritising a comprehensive Kinross-shire Road priority list in advance of a KLC meeting and this effort would continue. WCllrs confirmed that the extension of the 40mph speed limit from Scotlandwell to Bowhouse will be completed before the ‘end of the Summer’.

In respect of the Community Speedwatch campaign, it was agreed PCC will complete another social media outreach to the Community to confirm volunteers. Fossoway CC were understood to have been leading previously with this campaign but this was understood to now lie with Milnathort CC who are leading with training. DPaterson raised issue of doing speed checks outside business hours. The WCllrs confirmed their understanding that Speedwatch activities were permitted to take place within daylight hours only. Chair and Secretary will continue to coordinate with other CCs. The Chair asked if the equipment cost could potentially be raised from a local fund e.g. Westfield fund. WCllrs confirmed that the Speedwatch enterprise is currently fully funded and that relevant equipment has already been purchased.

Item 3: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: Chair was pleased to report that he had managed to correspond with all of the landowners that were impacted by the proposed route of path, which had been previously ratified by WCllrs and Cllrs. The Chair confirmed he had been able to meet the landowner of the southern section of the proposed route.. In subsequent correspondence with the landowner, the Chair had outlined the route plan and also the requirement for extra space for the cemetery. The discussions were reported to have been frank but positive. The Chair undertook to follow up within the month.. The Chair had also had issued correspondence to the Session Clerk of Portmoak Church with regard to the section of the path route that crossed the Church land and also the current Woodland Trust representative for the area, who owned the remainder of the upper route section. There had been a request from a member of public to scrape back the path from Kinneston to

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Scotlandwell and re-establish the original width of the footpath. WCllr WRobertson had raised the request to PKC. The Chair had asked WCllrWRobertson if the Scotlandwell to Church existing footway could also be scraped back to its original configuration to assist with road user safety, given the indefinite status or timeframe for the replacement path completion.

Item 4: Play facilities at Scotlandwell Green: The Chair requested if an update was available in respect of the replacement of the Scotlandwell play facilities. WCllr DCuthbert had confirmed to other WCllrs that the improvements were in pipeline but had no confirmed date. WCllr RWatters suggested that PCC create a log of tasks that the WCllrs need to pick up to keep items in focus.

Item 5: Loch Leven Water Quality in Catchment Area: a meeting arranged by NFUS at which SEPA and Scottish Water, NatureScot, the Centre for Hydrology, the farming community, and local CCs would attend. The PCC will have someone in attendance at this meeting. Item 5 is one of the key issues that Chair believes should be on KLC agenda. Talking about the overall Loch Leven water quality, drivers that come up are Development, sewage treatment issues, and climate warming, making the shallow loch waters warmer. There was feeling that the main contribution possibly came from local development and outdated or over capacity treatment systems. WCllr RWatters pointed out clarity in Loch has recently been exceptional, but there are fluctuations that are unaccountable. The Farming Union are doing a lot to promote good practise in farming and a lot of encouraging work is going on in respect of sewage attenuation and flooding overflow. The WCllrs advised there is currently work going on at PKC to look at surface water mitigation and manage it before it reaches the existing historic combined sewage system. Existing permissions that SEPA allocated to Scottish Water dated 2007 regarding sewage discharge are considered out of date and SEPA should be encouraged to review the permissions and licenses. It was agreed Scottish Water require to upgrade their sewage treatment processes and facilities. The Chair pointed out that Scottish Water are supposed to monitor capacity in alignment with development and planning but also improve infrastructure where required.

4. New Matters arising:

Item 1: The Big Place Conversation, PKC Consultation and Meeting held on 19/06/23: PKC had held a consultation meeting in June to encourage local communities to engage with the development of the next Local Development Plan and identify their concerns and suggest ideas. The meeting had been well attended by local people. The consultation continues and the Community are encouraged to complete the online survey at PKC website <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/bigplaceconversation/> (scroll to bottom of page) and give their views about the local area and their thoughts and priorities.

Item 2: Windfarm Action Group: Milnathort CC had reached out to all Kinross-shire CC's looking to create a Windfarm Action Group including representatives from each of the Kinross-shire CC's. PCC will circulate to members and put forward a representative.

Item 3: Portmoak Church – the future for the church and car park: The Chair had been contacted by Portmoak Woodland Group to enquire whether PCC could request Portmoak Church trustees possibly hold a public meeting to discuss the time lines for the eventual closure / sale of the church and to invite discussion as to what might be done with the church building, and associated facilities. It was felt that it would be preferential if the Church and grounds could be retained for community use, although specific future uses required to be discussed and examined. The cemetery grounds are managed by PKC, while the Church carpark is an invaluable parking facility for the local community for events at Portmoak Hall and for other local events, and for people visiting and walking in the area. WCllr NFreshwater highlighted that Cleish is going through similar dialogue with the Community and have set up a "right to buy" company. It was thought that the CC could potentially register an interest with the Trustees and a right to buy under the original 2003 act. The CC to investigate options and to try and organise a public engagement meeting with the Church and its Trustees, which may generate some positive ideas. It was felt this should be held in the Church to raise awareness.

Item 4: Kinneston-Scotlandwell- Portmoak Church Footway Clearance: covered in Road Safety update Item 3.2 above

Item 5: Electoral Commission Annual Canvass across Angus and Perth & Kinross July 2023: PKC had requested help from PCC to circulate a press release regarding the Annual Canvass. Individuals may be contacted directly and

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it was hoped the press release would help people to understand the canvass was not a scam. The Secretary had circulated the Press release to subscribers and on Portmoak Community Facebook.

5. Reports:

a. Police Reports

(1) Speedwatch update: covered in Road Safety update Item 3.2

b. Planning

(1) New Applications:

- a. 23/00867/ADV | Display of sign | Causeway Cottage Scotlandwell Kinross KY13 9JQ
Last Date for comment: not available.
Planning in retrospect. A
Regarding an advertising sign put up at roadside without planning and as raised at an earlier PCC meeting. No comment from PCC
- b. 23/00773/FLL | Erection of a dwellinghouse (in part retrospect) | Land 60 Metres West Of Stewart Place Main Street Kinnesswood. Last Date for comment: Friday 14/07/23. PCC understood the changes were in connection with location of solar panels and re-siting these due to the Kinnesswood Conservation Area.
No comment from PCC.
- c. Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme: 23FGS72653, Greenhead Farm NWC 23.
Closing Date for Comment: 02/08/23
The landowner was in attendance and was surprised that the item had been raised in consultation as the areas were small, the, largest extending to just over a hectare, and did not exceed 2hectares in total. Grant application for woodland creation. No comment from PCC.

(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
No updates on this item. Chair asked about the time permitted for determination of an application by Officers. The WCllrs confirmed that there was defined period of circa 16 weeks. The Chair thought that the Planning Department should be acting for a refusal of the application due to the length of time this had been under consideration and the absence of required supporting documentation required to remove consultee objections.

(3) Planning Decisions

- (a) Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee:
NFreshwater confirmed that PKC have appointed a new member of team at PKC who will additionally look at Westfield roads issues. Hopeful that the requested signage will be actioned soon.
- (b) Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: Cllr DMorris was not in attendance and so there was no update on this.

6. Paths Group update: Cllr DMorris was not in attendance and so there was no update on this.

7. Treasurer CC Accounts: The Treasurer was pleased to confirm that finally the PCC accounts are with the Credit Union. Thanks to the members of the previous PCC for their ongoing assistance over years to make the migration.

CC Account: £625.94
Michael Bruce Account: £1677.24

8. Ward Councillors' Reports:

The Chair expressed thanks to WCllrs in engaging with Planners regarding the Kinross Beer Garden which had been subject to an Enforcement notice. It was clear from the Public support that this facility is well supported in the Community areas.

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NFreshwater: Grey bins are on the way for cardboard recycling. There was a query on the frequency of collections and if the frequency of collection would decrease. The WCllrs agreed to look into this.

RWatters: highlighted the Nature Restoration fund, for which applications close on 20/08/23. The Fund a wide remit and may be an option for applications locally with regard to Loch Leven Catchment area and phosphate mitigation.

RWatters had spoken to Kinross Partnership about having an event with a special theme around tourism which would allow people to contribute around that specific element of the LDP.

9. Matters notified to the Secretary:

Item1: Funding Opportunities:

- **PKC Nature Restoration Fund, closes 20/08/23**
 - **Community Investment Fund 2023/24. Closes 18/08/23**
 - **Health and Social Care Partnership Community Transport Fund 2023/2024. Closes 25/08/23**
- Secretary to highlight info on funding opportunities on Portmoak Community social media and circulate to subscribers.

10. AOB:

Item 1: additional Planning item: 23/01044/FLL | Change of use of storage shed to form a shop, siting of a workshop unit for furniture recycling/restoration, formation of parking area and associated works | Land 45 Metres North East Of Causeway Cottage Scotlandwell Kinross KY13 9JQ

This planning application had been validated on PKC Planning Portal on Monday 10/07/23 so had not been added to the agenda. PCC agreed to raise comments to PKC planning on this application.

Item2: additional Planning Item 22/00753/FLL | Erection of 3 dwellinghouses and associated landscaping and access | Wester Balgedie Farm Wester Balgedie Kinross KY13 9HE.

WCllr RWatters highlighted that SEPA had lifted their holding objection on this application and it was to be reviewed by PKC committee on 12/07/23.

11. Next Meeting: 1930-2100hrs, Tuesday, 8 August 2023, online via Zoom

12. Chair closed the meeting at 2105