

# Portmoak Community Council

## May Meeting

Tuesday 13 May 2025, 1930 – 2100hrs

Meeting Online via Zoom

### Minutes

- Attendance:** Cllr AMiller (Chair), ADavidson (Treasurer), SMcGregor (Secretary), KDonaldson, AClark, LHatch, JHornal, and 2 members of the public  
**Apologies:** WCllrs WRobertson, DCuthbertson, N Freshwater, and RWatters

The Chair took the early opportunity to notify that DPaterson had decided to resign from Portmoak CC as a member. The Chair thanked DPaterson for his valuable contribution over the last couple of years on the CC.

- Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from PCC April meeting on 08/04/25**

Proposed: AClark. Seconded: LHatch

Minutes approved

- Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

**Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee update:** most recent meeting was cancelled. LHatch will now attend KC meetings going forward and the next meeting was rescheduled for 15/05/25.

**Item 2: Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan:** The Secretary had circulated info received from KDonaldson about the Fife Coast and Country side Trust proposals for Westfield opencast site. It was understood that there is a proposed project to create a path connecting Portmoak to the Fife Coastal Path. Secretary to ask for some additional info.

**Item 3: Portmoak Travel Plan:** Communication had been received from Glenfarg Community Transport regarding a digital demand transport service Drew Smart. Glenfarg Community Bus may be extending their network of routes. There were no details at present, but such a network connecting Portmoak to Kinross would be welcomed. PCC had been notified that PKC are releasing a number of mini-buses to Communities. The consensus was that at the moment Portmoak was not in a position to take on a bus at present, but this did not preclude the possibility for the future.

**Item 4: Road Safety Action Update :** no significant updates at present. WCllrs have been discussing damaged signage at Gliding Club and the bad bends at Lochend and the New Gullet Bridge. PKC are aware of the issue and hopefully the repairs will be actioned soon. On Community Speedwatch: the Chair had received information back from WRobertson on Speedwatch. MOCC had assured that the project is still moving forward, next step was application vetting by Police Scotland. Chair would approach Police Scotland to find out what stage the Speedwatch applications were at. Speeding is always a hot topic in Portmoak and it was felt that the problem was increasing. There was a discussion about observed cases of speeding. Anecdotally locals thought speeding occurred at all times of the day and all the CC members agreed with this. Speed limits are regularly ignored by traffic travelling through Portmoak at all times of day, with drivers making risky overtaking manoeuvres on the road particularly in the morning commuter and school drop-off rush time, noting that during school holidays the traffic on the A911 at those times was significantly reduced. There was a comment that speeding was a perpetual problem over many years with suggestion that the penalty for speeding should be much larger and therefore more effectively deterrent. JHornal commented on farm vehicles, which are very big but often travelling very fast and exceeding speed limits.

The Chair expressed concern about the increased footfall of children to and from Scotlandwell park since the improvements, and felt that there was a risk of a child being knocked down coming or leaving the park. Speeding traffic is also a concern for any other person who is less aware of traffic for many reasons of disability or has mobility issues. PCC will try to force the issue and the Chair would raise the item of police vetting for Speedwatch applications with the Liaison Officer.

**Item 5: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path:** PCC have been trying to get agreement in principle from all the landowners for both feasibility study and the building of any path in the future. With regard to the upper section of the proposed route the land is part owned by Woodland Trust and the other part by the Church of Scotland. The Woodland Trust own the largest part of the land and are trying to obtain an agreement for a 100yr lease on the Church land as the Church is to be sold. The Woodland Trust and Church have agreed in principle to both the feasibility study and the path route across their land. The lower part of path is more

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difficult. In communication to the Chair and DStubbs of Community Greenspace, one of the WCllrs had advised that he had asked PKC Planning Officers for details of any consultation on any area of land within the Scotlandwell boundary and any area outwith the boundary (which would need to go to the LDP), and at this time all the Officers have stated they have had no consultation about any area of land. This is in contradiction to previous reports as minuted at PCC meetings. The WCllrs have stated to relevant Planning Officers that any proposed development at that the locale (of the piece of land on the South side of the road) must be discussed with the requirement to permit the proposed path and the cemetery extension as a condition of development. Chair will go back to landowner, explain the PCC's position that the path is a longstanding wish of the community for which there is funding available and try again to seek agreement for the feasibility study and path route.

**Item 6: Portmoak Church – the future for the church and car park:** There has been a development this month, CoS have agreed a price for the majority of the car park with some space retained for the church at some future point of sale or other development. This is good news that there is clarity around the move to purchase part of the car park. Hopefully more info. from Kinnesswood Development Trust for next PCC meeting

**Item 7: Portmoak Gala Update:** Gala to be held on Sat 31 May, The Gala are hoping to raise around £4,000 to break even, and £5,000 to £6,000 is the goal to raise funds for the Community. Desperately need more volunteers on Friday night for Set up and Sunday night for Take Down. Also for people to tend bar during the day on Sat evening. Raffle tickets at Kinnesswood shop, Lochend Farm, and Scotlandwell Well Inn.

**Item 8: Adoption of road: Wellside Park, Scotlandwell:** Chair had put out a further request, WCllr WRobertson has championed this project. There is no confirmation at present, but should be more info at the July meeting.

#### 4. New Matters arising:

**Item 1: PKC Local Development Plan 3 – Call for Sites:** PCC are unaware of any specific sites for development within Portmoak that are being lodged. Consultation process will follow with regard to the LDP3. JHornal also flagged the need for Scotlandwell parking and areas for parking and areas for cemetery and paths. Social housing was mentioned. There was a discussion around calls for sites for cemetery site, the footpath, and parking and if PCC should formalise these requests somehow in LDP3. Chair agreed to approach WCllrs to make it clear that PCC are looking to formalise the need for these areas within LDP3.

#### 5. Reports:

a. **Police Reports: circulated for Apr'25:** police reports had been circulated. One note for Portmoak for an incident of dangerous driving. Incidents of speeding were also reported.

##### b. Planning

(1) New Applications:

	PKC Application# and Description	Closing Date for Public Comment
a.	25/00530/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse Little Arnot Leslie Glenrothes KY6 3JG	Thu 15 May 2025 No comment
b.	25/00494/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse and associated works Land 80 Metres North West Of Kinnesswood Cottage Leslie Glenrothes KY6 3JJ	Mon 26 May 2025 No comment

##### (2) Westfield Site Update

(a) **Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee:** The turbine is off site being repaired and incineration is still taking place but no power generation taking place. Scottish Power are to be changing the overhead cables on pylons to increase the voltage capacity. Large HGVs are travelling along routes that are not designated particularly over Auchmuir Bridge. KDonaldson will continue to attend liaison meetings.

(b) **Westfield Paths Feasibility Study:** This item had gone fairly quiet recently. However, a communication had been received from Fife Coast and Country side Trust with some proposals for Westfield opencast site and requesting stakeholder feedback. The contact from the Trust had requested to attend the PCC meeting but could not make it but it was hoped they would be able to attend a future meeting. Secretary to maintain contact.

6. **Paths Group update:** The Paths Group are still looking for more volunteers. GSmith had provided an update:

- Work had been done clearing gorse encroaching on the paths around Stephen's fields
- Removing leaves and debris from the new path behind Gamekeepers to ensure that the drainage system is operating well

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- Along with Chris, the Ranger, the group have renovated a drainage ditch on the Tetley trail near the top bench to try and prevent this part of the trail becoming a river every time it rains. The next task is to improve the steep path itself, pending availability of Rangers and obtaining and some materials to complete the work. It was hoped this work would take place in May.

**7. Treasurer CC Accounts:** The Treasurer was not in attendance so would update at the next meeting

**8. Ward Councillors' Reports:** No WCllrs were in attendance at the meeting.

**9. Matters notified to the Secretary:**

*Item 1:* KDonaldson update of membership: The Secretary had an update from PKC. KDonaldson can remain as an Associate Member, until the 2025 Community Councils Elections in Nov25 for which there is a 4 week nomination period, and for this Election all the current PCC would also have to submit nomination forms. PCC would welcome new members particularly from Kinnesswood as currently there are no residents from Kinnesswood on the CC.

**10. AOB:**

*Item 1: 2025 to 2026 Nature Restoration Fund allocation* <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/naturefund Closes 02/06/25>

Funding opportunity. Info had been circulated via subscriber lists and on Portmoak Community Facebook.

*Item 2: Fly Tipping on Core Path PTMK123, Lomondville – Dryside Rd:* This had been notified to WCllrs: as the fly-tipping was on private land PKC cannot and will not remove it. The landowner was responsible for the removal of the waste. PCC felt this was very unfortunate situation for the landowner, and noted it is important that that any person who is having work done at their home or business, the minimum they should do is to use an approved contractor, who is licensed to handle the waste and dispose of it correctly.

**11. PCC June Meeting:** Decision to cancel 10/06/25 June meeting due to availability of members. Next meeting will be Tuesday 08/07/25 (July).

The Chair closed the meeting at 2055hrs

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