

Portmoak Community Council

March Meeting

Tuesday 10 Mar 2026, 1930 – 2100hrs

Meeting Online, via Zoom

- 1. Attendance:** WCllr WRobertson, Cllrs KDonaldson (Vice-Chair), ADavidson (Treasurer), AClark, LHatch, JHornal, GMarshall; Police Liaison Officers BSamson and ADuncan; and several members of the Public.
Apologies: WCllrs DCuthbert and NFreshwater; Cllrs AMiller (Chair) and SMcGregor (Secretary).
- 2. Comments and Approval of previous final draft Minutes from PCC February meeting on 10/02/25**
There were no comments on the final draft Minutes from February meeting
February final draft minutes approved.
- 3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**
Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee and other Committee updates: LHatch had attended the last meeting of the KC on 19/02/26 along with WRobertson. Road safety was mentioned, specifically the A977 (road from M90 at Kinross Services to Kincardine Bridge) and it was advised that letters will be sent to Community Councils regarding a consultation of whether speed ramps or speed cushions would be the best option for controlling speed on this road.

The KC discussed the development of additional bus shelters at Kinross Park & Ride. There were concerns about the developments requiring removal of parking spaces which seemed to negate the whole point of Park & Ride. Of the 3 options available the one that removed the least amount of parking (5 spaces) was preferred.

CLLD (Community Led Local Development): two representatives from the CLLD attended and explained that they were part of a local action group providing advice on external funding. If local organisations have a Local Place Plan they can apply for matched funding or, in some situations, retrospective funding but must meet strict Scottish Govt criteria. They are happy to consult and support in creating Plans etc. They also have access to a Grant Finder. See www.pkleader.org or their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PerthKinrossExternalFunding>

On the issue of funding Fossoway & District Development Trust had suggested that local Development Trusts are in the best position to manage finances etc.

There was discussion about Community Action Plans. The Kinross Community Action Plan and also Fossoway and District's Action Plan are available online. Nicola Marchant at Fossoway Development Trust could potentially give advice and guidance on Local Place Plans. <https://fossowaytrust.com/>. WRobertson spoke about Local Place Plans and the short time frame left for submission of these. The Kinnesswood Development Trust had held the Portmoak Better Place to Live event recently with view to creating a Community Action Plan. Comparitively there was very little development scoped for Portmoak.

Item 2: Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan: Perth & Kinross Council have established a Public Transport Forum for members of the public to join and discuss and feed back opinion on a regular basis on public transport in Perth and Kinross. See <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21094/Community-transport-forum> The first Public Transport Forum met on Wednesday 11 March 2026. There was an overview on the Transport Transformation Project and the P&K public transport network overall. The Scottish Director of Bus Users UK also attended.

The objective of the forum is to build on the feedback received last year from the public engagement carried out in terms of bus passenger surveys and roadshow events. Members of the focus group will have the opportunity to participate in discussions regarding the public transport services in their respective areas and contribute to the decision making process for the future of public transport in Perth and Kinross. The intention is that this forum will meet at least twice per year going forward. More info. can be found at the above website or by 'phoning Margaret Roy (Public Transport Team Leader, PKC) T: 01738 477372, E: mroy@pkc.gov.uk

Item 3: Portmoak Travel Plan – no update

Item 4: Road Safety Action Update: The B9097 was currently being resurfaced which was a positive step.

GMarshall enquired about the possibility to upgrade the B9097 to an A-Road. WRobertson said it was up to PCC

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to formally request this action directly to PKC with copy to the Ward Councillors to enable them to support the request.

The Chair had been copied on an email from Mr Ian McIntyre to WRobertson requesting an update in terms of speed restriction and mitigation measures, which was an ongoing discussion with PKC Roads. The Chair had also reported the state of the road signs on north and south approaches to the Cut bridge at Turfitt farm, as the signs have been damaged in the storms.

Item 5: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: no update

Item 6: Portmoak Church – future for the church and car park: WCllr WRobertson had heard from KDT that the purchase of the car park was complete. WRobertson was happy to raise the item of adoption of the car park by PKC with the necessary Officers. KDT intended to canvas the opinion of contributors to the funding to assess if adoption of the car park by PKC was an agreeable approach for future maintenance of the car park.

Item 7: Adoption of road: Wellside Park, Scotlandwell: PCC had received 2 complaints from Wellside Park residents about the complete clearing of vegetation and trees from the SUDS pond. Both residents felt that an attractive feature (the SUDS pond) that was maintained by locals had been badly damaged and ruined for nature and wildlife. The Secretary had passed the residents' comments on to Willie Robertson and PKC Officers. PCC felt the matter was unfortunate though the progress had been discussed regularly at CC meetings for some months. WRobertson confirmed that the SUDS clearance was absolutely necessary for it to operate and more importantly for Wellside Park to be adopted by PKC. The SUDS pond was not functioning with the vegetation and the outflows were blocked. The PKC Greenspace Team had offered to contact the residents who had made complaint to discuss the options for replanting that would not cause future problems for the operation of the SUDS pond. It seemed a management plan for the future could be agreed that would be acceptable to all.

Item 8: Portmoak Moss – Peatland Restoration project: WRobertson outlined the current situation. The Woodland Trust were listening to local residents concerns and were going to revise their plans. The planned public meeting would now not be held in Mar / Apr '26. In the meantime there would be no trees removed. The outcome from the most recent workshop had been very positive.

4. New Matters arising:

Item 1: LHatch had raised an issue regarding extreme flooding in Scotlandwell on the Leslie Road and Main St where heavy rain was coming off the Bishop Hill, across the old rig system, and flowing through properties onto the Leslie Rd and Main St. Residents reported that the flooding seemed exceptional. Was there anything that could be done about the drainage in Sandy Lane? WRobertson agreed the problem was a long term one over many years and there was a drainage ditch that should be cleared to catch and divert water in this area. LHatch agreed to speak to the landowners and report back.

5. Reports:

a. Police Reports: circulated to subscribers for 04/03/26

Police Community Liaison Officers BSamson discussed the most recent local Police report. Since last meeting there had been 2 calls to Police from the Portmoak area, and 5 crimes recorded. 2 crimes were for shoplifting at Loch Leven Larder and were ongoing prosecutions. There had also been 3 road traffic offences, where tickets had been issued all for speeding on A911 in Scotlandwell within the 40mph restriction and travelling at speeds respectively of 57, 58, and 81mph. The latter 81mph offence was reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

In terms of Community Policing BSamson also highlighted the Police contact details had been streamlined to a single contact email which was now: TaysideCommunityPolicePerthandKinross@scotland.police.uk for all police community issues. This had been circulated by Portmoak CC to subscribers and social media.

An event had been held at the community campus on 10 Feb, Retail Crime Event which a number of retailers attended including some from Portmoak. Discussed ways to help detect and prevent retail crime, and shared information as retail crime is still an issue for local and rural businesses.

b. Planning

(1) New Planning Applications:

PKC Ref#	Address & details	Closing Date for Public Comment
26/00053/IPL	Residential development (in principle)	Mon 23 Mar 2026

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	<p>Land 40 Metres West Of Levenmouth Farmhouse Scotlandwell</p> <p>The application was a Brownfield Site. The neighbours to the site had registered with PKC formal support for the development. Some members of PCC felt that nothing ostensibly had changed since the previous similar refused application at the site so the decision should be left to PKC with “no comment” recorded by PCC. There was discussion about the access road fishtail being widened but a ransom strip at the entrance precludes widening the access. PCC felt there was a comment to be made only about reduction of the road speed from the Old Cut Bridge to past Lochend Farm shop. Also access to LLHT needs to be maintained.</p>
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- (2) **PKC Call for Sites – Local Development Plan (LDP3)** - the Draft LDP3 has not been released by PKC. PCC need to decide how they proceed with making a Local Place Plan submission before May 2026. At the February meeting PCC agreed to make representation in respect of the proposals in the Moss adjacent to H54. PCC need to discuss if other areas deemed problematic, the Chair had agreed to pull information together for discussion and keep this item on the agenda for April PCC meeting. GMarshall and LHatch asked about housing requirements on LDP2 regarding affordable housing, WRobertson confirmed that the term affordable housing included both lower cost housing and housing built for rent or dual ownership. ADavidson commented on previous local allocations in Portmoak, the H54 affordable housing plots for self-build, and allocations for affordable housing of which no houses had been built of cost less than £500K and no smaller houses such as semi-detached properties.

(3) Westfield Site Update

- (a) **Westfield Community Liaison Committee:** No significant updates. There have been site problems with an explosion of a gas cylinder in the furnace which had caused significant damage. Improved screening of the refuse is required. Also heavy lorry traffic is being diverted because of the road closure of the B9097 resurfacing. PKC are now also bringing in refuse to the site which may cause increased traffic flow along the A911, need to monitor this. WRobertson asked PCC to keep him updated if increased traffic flow through A911.

- (4) **Sustainability Group:** a Sustainability meeting was scheduled for evening of 19/03/26 which the Secretary would try to attend. Things had been a bit quiet with this group towards second half of 2025, but as Craighead has been approved there is now more to be discussed again. Portmoak had been designated by developers as being outside the 5km radius for Community engagement but although Portmoak may not have a lot of immediate effects of building the windfarm there are effects on Portmoak, for example business impact on the Scottish Gliding Club. Further info. at the next meeting

6. **Paths Group update:** AClark and JHornal updated: pleased to report they have a meeting arranged with Nick Mainprize on 27/03/26. Amanda sought assistance from WRobertson about the grass path in Kinnesswood between Cobbles and the play park to have it upgraded as it became quite slippery in wet weather. WRobertson advised that Landowner permission should be sought for any upgrade to the surface. A Resident who lived adjacent to the path commented that the path was muddy in bad weather and this issue had been raised before to PKC. The Resident agreed that a better surface of hardcore and gravel would be an improvement. WRobertson suggested ridged matting may be an option to maintain a more natural path while also providing more traction.

7. Treasurer CC Accounts: hjkno change

PCC Account: £326.89 2 outstanding payments due on this account for Hall Hire for PCC
Michael Bruce Way Account: £1432.50

8. Ward Councillors’ Reports: nothing additional

9. AOB: nothing additional

10. PCC April Meeting: to be held on 14/04/26, 1930 – 2100hrs, April meeting to be held Online.

The Vice-Chair closed the meeting at 2030hrs