

Portmoak Community Council

June Meeting

Tuesday 9 June 2026, 1930 – 2100hrs

Minutes

1. **Attendance:** WCllrs WRobertson, ; AMiller (Chair), KDonaldson (Vice-Chair), SMcGregor (Secretary), AClark, and GMarshall; BSamson (Police Liaison); and 2 members of the public
Apologies: WCllrs DCuthbert, NFreshwater, RWatters; Cllrs ADavidson (Treasurer), LHatch, JHornal,
2. **Comments and Approval of Final Draft Minutes from PCC May meeting on 12/05/26**
Proposed: AClark **Seconded:** KDonaldson
Minutes from May meeting approved.
Chair had written to PKC Planning with regard to Ref. No: 26/00514/FLL Siting of a Solar Array at Loch Leven Larder in accordance with discussions at the last meeting.
3. **Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**
 - Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee and other Committee updates:** LHatch had attended the previous KC meeting. WCllr WRobertson provided an update in LHatch's absence. A number of issues were discussed, including Road Safety. Issues with adherence to 20mph speed limits across Kinross-shire, which is a problem, as PoliceScotland have said they will not enforce a 20mph speed zone or a 60-20mph speed change zone. PCC realised this was a widely discussed issue that affected all communities and that WRobertson continued to hold discussions with PKC Roads team. The conversations on Road Safety are ongoing.
 - Item 2: Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan:** AClark updated: there was good news that PKC will resurface 45m of the track between Cobbles and Kinnesswood play park. Should be done by the end of June. Path will be closed for 1-2 days. Unfortunately this cannot be moved later to school holidays due to costings and coinciding work schedules. The Chair thanked AClark for her work on this item.
 - Item 3: Portmoak Travel Plan:** no update at present. Keep on agenda as last report was looking to try and bring other transport solutions. Chair would like to make an outreach to Fife bus operators to see if we could have a bus route around the loch once an hour to connect with Fife bus routes and train connections onto Edinburgh / Perth and Kinross Park&Ride. Hopefully a circular loch route would not impinge on other bus contracts as no such route currently existed. WRobertson recommended writing to Margaret Roy, Transport Manager at PKC, she has great contacts within Fife and she could potentially explore options. WRobertson to forward contact details. Glenfarg won 2026 Community Transport Organisation Award, this is a National award and is a tremendous achievement. The Chair has last spoken to GCT and the red tape was partially due to funding issues and hopefully this award would help enable their project and eliminate red tape via PKC and perhaps funding can be extended to create similar schemes. The Secretary asked WRobertson about the PKC developments to which WCllr RWatters had alluded in the May meeting around the costs and risk factors to PKC of having Stagecoach as a major operator for transport, however WRobertson had no further information.
 - Item 4: Road Safety Action:** some updates had been already been covered in other items. Speedwatch had been covered in the Police report with BSamson (see Item 5a below) . WRobertson had communicated with DMcKeown at PKC who had intimated that Portmoak had been deprioritised due to some higher priority situations at other locations. AMiller wanted to see if a TTRO could be put in place to limit the speed to 40mph as a fast track way to reduce the speed along the Causeway from Scotlandwell to just beyond the Gliding Club. WRobertson said he had been thinking on this and suggested that PCC write to DMcKeown to suggest that this becomes a Green Route, which automatically drops the speed limit to 40mph, which would make the road safer for cyclists and pedestrians trying to travel to Lochend Farm Shop. It would additionally enable Speedwatch to take place on this stretch of road which was not currently possible due to the 20-60mph speed limit change. Chair agreed to action this. The non-adoption of the road into Levenmouth would not affect the creation of a Green Route.

Item 5: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: no update at this time. GMarshall commented on the number of trip hazards on the pavement up to the Church and a high likelihood that someone could easily stumble into oncoming traffic. He didn't think it could be ignored much longer and needed action for repair. WRobertson had flagged this to PKC Roads, in addition to the Kinnesson Farm-Scotlandwell stretch of pavement, and has been told this should be done by end of the 2026 financial year. WRobertson hoped to provide an update for the August meeting.

Item 6: Portmoak Church – future for the church and car park: no update at this time

Item 7: Adoption of road: Wellside Park, Scotlandwell: Neither the Chair or WRobertson had an update for this meeting.

Item 8: Portmoak Moss – Peatland Restoration project: Woodland Trust had requested availability for another meeting at the Moss in July. Various dates have been proposed and should include the Peatland Restoration Team who had not attended the meeting at the Community Campus. Once the Chair had more information he would advise and circulate info.

Item 9: Portmoak Community Action Plan & Funding: Chair had sent in a request to PKC for a Community Action Plan, and funding assessment. KDT and PCC had met with STAR and they have suggested it is a good application to take forward, with a quotation for the services. Chair felt that PCC were not the best vehicle to administer the funds and KDT would be better suited to take funding application forward. PCC & KDT would like to try and organise a Community Forum to sit on a short term committee, or steering group, to try and decide how information could be gathered and canvas opinion in order to identify the priorities for Portmoak. This would include PCC, KDT, local business owners, farming community etc. Hopefully we can pull a Plan together for Portmoak the next 5yrs. PKC are supportive, Kinross and Fossoway CCs have put together plans so far.

4. New Matters arising:

Item 1: Funding Opportunity: KDonaldson advised that Westfield fund for Community Projects has reopened. Secretary will circulate info to subscribers

5. Reports:

- a. **Police Reports: BSamson updated.** 10 calls to Police from Portmoak area. 1 crime reported for a road traffic offence, which was a collision of two cars in Kinnesswood where one had failed to stop and this was subject to an ongoing investigation. Community Police Activity included raising awareness of the Herbert Protocol <https://www.scotland.police.uk/what-s-happening/missing-persons/the-herbert-protocol/> which is a scheme to help local missing people who have dementia. Increased cycle patrols on the Heritage Trail to try and combat reports of off-road bikes driving on the LLHT, it is illegal to ride motorbikes on the Heritage Trail. Police did a talk with P6 & 7 pupils at Portmoak Primary School discussing substance misuse and the danger of drugs and alcohol rates to try and promote healthy choices. Chair raised issue of road safety action with BSamson, with the understanding that the police were aware of speeding through the Portmoak communities and were conducting patrols in the area, as he wanted to flag that Speedwatch was being relaunched. PCC need to get people vetted and also identify positions for Speedwatch locations. Chair intended to provide a list of positions with what3words. BSamson confirmed that if emails and names were provided for volunteers then he could start the vetting process and send out forms and information. There was currently a little bit of a delay on checking. Police would also risk assess potential Speedwatch locations according to a set criteria. Suggestion to send emails and names directly to Police Scotland due to GDPR and then once vetted forward the names onto MOCC.

GMarshall had reviewed the Police report and had not found any info of particular import to Portmoak.

b. **Planning**

- (1) New Planning Applications:

PKC Ref#	Address & details	Closing Date for Public Comment
26/00650/FLL	Formation of balcony 8 Gamekeepers Road Kinnesswood Kinross KY13 9JR	Wed 24 Jun 2026 Agreed No Comment

- (2) **PKC Call for Sites – Local Development Plan (LDP3)** – update. There was no draft plan yet forthcoming from PKC. There would be a second round of consultation. Secretary to compile a draft letter to PKC,

Note: the Minutes of Council can be found on the Community Council website. www.portmoak.org

for PCC review and discussion, regarding the areas within Portmoak that were proposed in the Call for Sites.

- (3) **Westfield Site Community Liaison Committee:** Fishtail Road road works were due to commence but had not started, works appear to about to go ahead, but seems to be a delay. Roadworks over 3 days.
- (4) **Sustainability Group: update:** SMcGregor had attended a recent meeting of the Sustainability Group (SG) at which ePower had made a presentation on their application. One of the main takeaways had been that within the context of the Sustainability Group participation in the group by PCC included them in the scope to receive Community Benefit, on a quid pro quo and goodwill basis, should a comparable situation of a wind farm project be proposed within Portmoak other CC Communities in the SG would reciprocally stand to benefit. In this sense it was beneficial to remain within the group and keep moving forward with it. The application and project for Wind Farm is separate to the application for the connection to the National Grid Applicant could not guarantee £5000 / MW /yr, equivalent to over £16M over the 25yr life of the wind farm. There was some pushback from a number of CCs as to whether this sum was negotiable without commitment from ePower. There was discussion about habitat and heritage management on-site and also recreational access. Next steps are ePower are awaiting consent from the Energy Consents Unit, they may apply for a joint connection with Craighead dependant if the consent was granted. Interestingly ePower thought a connection to the grid was unlikely to happen before 2035, so 9 years away from operational turbines. The project is a long-term one. Secretary had raised the concerns of the Portmoak Gliding Club and ePower were well aware of the concerns raised by the club. The Gliding Club may have an opportunity to benefit from any Community benefit which could hopefully mitigate against the limitations that may be imposed upon them by the increased restriction in flying North over the Ochils which would be caused by the turbines.
- WRobertson flagged a case in East Lothian where a community had successfully challenged a Wind Power company application for a wind farm on the basis that the applicant could not guarantee a connection into the Grid, the Court of Session had ruled in the Community's favour. WRobertson asked if this had been mentioned at the meeting. The Secretary said this had unsurprisingly had not been mentioned but noted that all the details from ePower were very uncertain and nebulous and appeared contingent on the granting of the consent. The Chair commented that while windfarms were not ideal, they were a convenient solution for green energy at present and they were not intended to be permanent solutions, they do have a lifespan, and in time other improved sources of green energy will probably be developed and take some of the place of wind farms.

6. Paths Group update: no update

7. Treasurer CC Accounts:

Portmoak Community Council account balance - £300.49

Michael Bruce Way account balance - £1434.36

There is one outstanding payment of £127.16 for website maintenance. This is being processed by the Credit Union and will be paid from the PCC account.

All payments are authorised by three signatures - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer - and copies of all invoices and authorisations are kept for the audit purposes.

- 8. Ward Councillors' Reports:** WRobertson highlighted that he is a member of a committee that reviews the performance of the Council. Has requested a review to see about PKC paying out claims against PKC for damage to vehicles from hitting a pothole. Interim report in 2024-25 had 123 claims for damage after hitting a potholes. 7 of these were settled and a total of £3090 was paid out (5.6 %). WRobertson considered this sum extremely low given that affected people have to go through a considerable process to put in a claim, taking photos, getting quotes for repair etc. WRobertson felt that there was a whole system within Council and their insurers to avoid paying out funds. WRobertson had asked for a follow up report to explain how so few people in P&K had their claims honoured. KDonaldson remarked that legal fees may constitute considerably larger sums than are being paid out. WRobertson would keep the CC informed of how this progressed.

9. AOB:

Portmoak Gala coming up at the weekend.

Auchmuir Bridge road closure on 3 August 2026 for 1 day

- 10. PCC July Meeting: to be held on 14/07/26, 1930 – 2100hrs, Online via Zoom:** Agreement to cancel July meeting. August meeting to be held on 11/08/26 1930 – 2100hrs.