

Portmoak Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday, May 10th 2011 in the Primary School.

1. Attendance and apologies: CClr's M. Parkin (Chairman) J. Bird, R. Cairncross, T. Smith, WCllr's Baird and Robertson and 5 residents. **Apologies** were received from CClrs Williamson, Strang Steel, Forde and WCllr Barnacle.

2. Previous minutes: were approved and signed.

3. Police Report

PC Euan Mitchell said that there were no incidents reported during the last month in the parish of Portmoak. However, in Milnathort, elderly residents had been targeted by rogue workmen, and in Kinross, cars with valuable accessories had been targeted.

PC Mitchell reported that thefts from cars at Burleigh Sands had ceased following Police action to identify a suspect. The CC thanked him for this action, as did WCllr Robertson.

An explanation of a new project within Tayside Police, "Transforming Tayside," was given, details of which are on the CC website.

4. Treasurers report: No activity since the last CC meeting, £555.64 in the 2 accounts at end of March. Audited accounts have been sent to P&KC to release our annual grant.

5. Matters arising from previous meetings

1. Stephen's Field, Kinnesswood

The Chairman reported that it had been agreed that insurance to cover public liability would be provided free of charge by P&KC if the field remained unused. There were certain requirements, such as no buildings to be erected, and provision to P&KC of an accurate map of the area owned by the community. Should a community group wish to use the land on a regular basis, an additional insurance would be available via P&KC at low cost, and insurance for a single event, such as a village fete, could also be provided at reasonable cost. The figure of £100 had been indicated to the Chairman.

The secretary gave a brief history of how the field will be transferred to the community. To date we are still awaiting Council/Owners agreements. One area of concern was that the land should not be transferred to the community before its use by the present owners for things such as the dumping of topsoil was complete. It was agreed that the gate and fencing from Bishop Terrace was in need of repair, and the present owners would be asked to do this now while the field was still in their ownership.

2. Balgedie Toll to Mawcarse Road.

WCllr Baird would follow up on one missing Horse Warning sign, and also agreed to follow up on two damaged signs on the A911 at Wester Balgedie.

3. Hedge alongside playing field, Kinnesswood.

Now complete. It was noted that the CC had written to P&KC thanking them for the work which had been carried out.

4. Kinnesswood Bus Shelter area.

The Chairman had spoken with a local resident who had stated that his gable wall had become damp since paving slabs had been lifted in the garden area and replaced with soil. The resident also had a concern over any development of this particular area, particularly if vehicular access was involved. The Chairman had suggested to the resident that "improvement" would be a better description of any likely work to the area, as it was the word "development" that had triggered the concern and contact from the resident.

Cllr Smith explained the suggestions which had been made by Kinnesswood in Bloom for improvement of the Bus Shelter Area.

1. Screed the floor in the bus shelter
2. Paint the seats
3. Reposition the notice board within the shelter if sufficient lighting could be established.

The CC welcomed and supported these suggestions. WCllr Robertson suggested that contact be made with P&KC re the state of the Bus Shelter roof and to ask them to repair it. He agreed to provide a contact name.

5. Meeting with Gliding Centre

There had been another meeting with the Gliding Centre. This would be an on-going situation, and would not be minuted in the future.

6. Build Outs

There were a number of issues with the new style build outs which WCllr Baird would progress.

7. Snow clearance and gritting of roads during last winter

The report had been forwarded to P&KC and would be made available on the CC website.

8. Water level in Loch Leven.

The Chairman had contacted the River Leven Trustees via their website and had not received a reply. He had also written to the Chairman of the Trustees on 3rd May, requesting information about the method of control of the water level in Loch Leven, and expected a reply for the next meeting.

9. The Convention of Perth and Kinross Community Councils

The Chairman had attended the meeting on April 20th held for the purpose of dissolving the Convention. This had not happened, and another meeting will be held.

6. Subcommittee reports

Paths, Pavements and Roads

Cllr Smith had reported two incidents of potholes to Clarence on the P&KC website. This was a good system for residents to report a road problem.

There is sufficient money available for this year's cutting of the MBW grass, but suggestions to fund next year would be considered by Cllr Smith and Parkin. There was also maintenance work required on the path.

With regard to the path alongside the A911 it was agreed that the CC should write and thank P&KC for completing the work.

A copy of a letter received by a resident from the Planning Officer at P&KC regarding the path, and specifically the retaining wall at Portmoak Hall, was read out. No copy of the original letter sent by the resident to P&KC had been received by the CC.

Some discussion then arose in trying to determine the exact cost of the whole of the project. The Chairman said that his understanding from information received was that the whole of the works had cost in the region of £57,000, with some adjustment to be made due to ongoing snagging and retentions made by P&KC to the contractor's account, but the copy of the letter from the Planning Officer at P&KC, given to the CC by a resident, as mentioned above, said that to date £69,814 had been paid, and even that figure would be liable to change, as the Roads Department had not agreed all costs with the Contractor to date. It was agreed that the final figure would emerge in due course.

WCllr Baird agreed to follow up the replacement of the Kilmagadwood sign.

A resident questioned whether the handrail on the retaining wall opposite the hall was properly secure, as he thought that it was only bolted to the top row of bricks, and had moved when he had used it recently. WCllr Baird would follow this up with P&KC.

Discussion then followed on where the CC should direct their efforts on further paths in Portmoak, and the need for paths between Wester and Easter Balgedie, and also from Scotlandwell to the Church.

It was suggested that more residents were likely to use the path from Scotlandwell to the Church and it might be possible for a grassed part of the fields between Easter and Wester Balgedie to be used.

WCllr Robertson agreed to follow up on certain suggestions regarding these paths, particularly in view of visitors to the area who were walking around the various Loch paths, and then finding themselves without any pavement whatsoever between Wester and Easter Balgedie.

Planning

Cllr Cairncross explained that the latest information regarding planning applications could be found on the CC website. All of the 2010 applications had been determined although there were still outstanding applications which had been submitted in 2008/9.

Three applications were mentioned:

1. Erection of dwelling house, livery, stables and associated buildings at Portmoak Livery Stables, Scotlandwell (11/00496/IPL) This is in the area between the sewage station and the newly built houses, alongside the track to Portmoak Moss.
2. Alterations and extension to house at The Clunes, Leslie Road, Scotlandwell. (11/00388/FLL)
3. Alterations to dwelling house and installation of windows at Priory Bank, Back Dykes Road, Kinnesswood. (11/00659/FLL)

Apart from recognising that two were in conservation areas, no other comments would be made regarding the applications.

The status of the retrospective application regarding the static caravan at the Stables, alongside the airfield, remained to be established.

The CC would consider the request by residents at Kilmagadwood to have the village boundary changed so that the potential third building plot was excluded.

The CC was awaiting the response from a meeting planned between P&KC Legal and Planning departments, following procedural problems that had been brought to their attention, as detailed in last month's minutes.

7. Ward Cllr reports

(Issues which were going to be raised have been included in previous items)

8. AOCB

1. The secretary had received information from P&KC re "The Big Lunch Scotland" planned for June 5th 2011. Further details can be found on P&KC website, facebook, and twitter.

2. The Peoples Postcode trust was looking to give grants. Interested parties should look at www.postcodetrust.org.uk

3. A resident who had previously sent a letter to the CC regarding future building work at Wester Balgedie gave further information regarding the letter, and made a brief presentation of the contents of that letter to the Meeting.

He stated that there had been a meeting of Wester Balgedie residents (who lived in the immediate vicinity of the farm buildings) who were affected by the recent planning application.

The residents were not against development, just the previous proposals put forward.

The content of the Report (which can be found on the CC website) was considered on the basis of care for the hamlet in which they lived, and the further investment of the heritage of the village.

The Chairman thanked the residents for their input and supported the pro-active approach made by the residents (also supported by the Ward Cllrs) although the CC could not make a formal comment until such times as a planning application had been submitted.

The Chairman however felt that the CC could write to P&KC, to whom the Report had already been sent by the Wester Balgedie residents, and express support for the positive approach they had taken.

9. Communications since last meeting

10.5.11 Notice of AGM for Association for Protection of Rural Scotland, May 28th 2011

10.5.11 P&KC Planning list

8.5.11 Copy of letter, P&KC Planning and Regeneration dept. to resident re wall at Kilmagadwood.

28.4.11 Letter from WB resident re future planning suggestions at WB

7.5.11 P&KC Kinross High School, Young person award

5.5.11 T in the Park, Local community Forum meeting

2.5.11 P&KC Weekly planning list

2.5.11 P&KC Weekly decision list

2.5.11 Peoples Postcode trust, grants over £2000, close of applications May 27th 2011.

30.4.11 Message from resident to website re Kinnesswood bus shelter area.

28.4.11 Planning Aid Waste training day May 7th 2011

27.4.11 P&KC weekly list of planning applications

26.4.11 Convention of P&K CC's Planning Users forum

26.4.11 Weekly decision list of planning applications

24.4.11 Special meeting of CP&KCC's

19.4.11 Planning weekly list

19.4.11 E mail from WCllr Baird, info on Kilmagadwood wall

19.4.11 Weekly decision list

14.4.11 P&KC info on The big lunch Scotland, a one day get together for neighbours on June 5th 2011

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday June 14th 2011 in the Primary School at 7.00pm