

Minutes of a Meeting of Kinross Community Council

Wednesday 2 May 2018

at 7.30pm at the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross

Present: CCLrs Bill Freeman (Chair), Eileen Thomas (Secretary), Margaret Blyth, Jonathan Bryson, David Colliar, Dave Cuthbert, Barry Davies, Lynne McKay and David West; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, C Purves and R Watters; and seven members of the public.

1. **Apologies** were received from CCLrs Ian Jack and Thomas Stewart; P&K Cllr W Robertson and PCs A Spalding and D Stapleton.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of Meeting of 4 April 2018:** Agreed as a true record on a motion proposed by CClr D Colliar and seconded by CClr D West.
4. **Police Report:** The community police officers were unable to be present but had sent a report by email. Incidents of note were: Housebreaking to a garden shed; Vandalism to car tyres; Housebreaking to a residential property; Drink driver arrested; Stolen quad bike; Housebreaking to commercial property and theft of a motor vehicle; Theft of a purse from person within Sainsbury's. There were no queries to pass on to the police.
5. **Matters Arising from the Meeting of 4 April 2018:**
 - a. **Swansacre:** The Secretary had emailed Cllr Purves who in turn had emailed Mr C Haggart to request a no right turn sign for drivers exiting the Learning Centre. No reply yet from Mr Haggart.
 - b. **20mph signs:** Cllr Purves has also emailed Mr Haggart regarding the 20mph signs for the roundabout area at the town centre.
 - c. **War memorial:** CClr Colliar awaits a reply from PKC regarding a meeting. Cllr Purves has also contacted the relevant PKC officer but has not heard back.
 - d. **Website meeting:** CClr Cuthbert reported that three community councillors met with representatives of Kinross-shire Partnership on 6 April to discuss the management of the jointly owned kinross.cc website. There does appear to be a way forward and a joint sub committee is to be reinstated. No further meeting has been arranged yet. It was agreed at a recent KCCNL charitable fund meeting to award a sum of £778 to Kinross-shire Partnership towards the running costs of the website, with conditions attached. CClr Colliar is preparing a letter in this regard. **ACTION: CClr Colliar.**
 - e. **Recycling information:** Cllr Purves had sent the CC an email with details of the quantity of PKC recycling waste that is exported. CClr West wondered, however, if PKC actually knows what happens to the exported waste. PKC is trying to reduce the amount of waste exported.
 - f. **M90 electronic sign:** CClr West reported the missing sign via Twitter. He will pursue this via Twitter. **ACTION: CClr West.**
 - g. **Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS):** CClr West had submitted the CC's suggestions to Cllr Barnacle, who had received a response from council officers. Cllr Barnacle will forward this to the Secretary. **ACTION: Cllr Barnacle.**
 - h. **Action Partnership:** The Secretary has now written to Mr McNamara about the Participatory Budget event (action point from March meeting). (See also other items 14c and 14h below.)
 - i. **Path gritting route:** Cllr Watters advised that this is available to view on the PKC website. He will send a link to the Secretary. **ACTION: Cllr Watters.**

- j. **Green Park developer contribution:** Cllr Purves confirmed that Persimmon did make a contribution of £45,000 towards the upgrade of the Green Park play area as part of the conditions of their planning consent for the former High School site.
- k. **Bus stop signs:** Cllr Purves had reported the lack of signs to the Public Transport Unit. Cllr Colliar said the signs are not missing, just faded. In any case, the PTU will be checking.

6. **Matters Arising Without Any Update:**

- a. **Wreaths:** CCllr Freeman has not yet informed the cadets that they will need to pay for their 2018 wreath in advance. **ACTION: CCllr Freeman.**

7. **Kinross Town Centre Regeneration:** The Secretary has still not received a reply from Mr Haggart to her email of 19 February suggesting single-lane traffic at the former Town Hall during the redevelopment works, which will probably finish in September. Cllr Purves said a temporary traffic order would not be necessary. Cllr Barnacle has not received a reply to his email of February to Mr Haggart requesting a review of the regeneration project. The Secretary will send a reminder to Mr Haggart. **ACTION: Secretary.**

A car transporter travelled down the High Street on 28 April while part of the street was closed for the Farmers' Market. The driver spent a considerable amount of time turning round at Burns Begg Street. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to BCA to emphasise that car transporters should use the Junction Road-Clashburn Way by-pass. Cllr Barnacle volunteered to do this. **ACTION: Cllr Barnacle.**

8. **Planning Matters.**

- a. **New Planning Applications to be Considered:** The CC made no comment on the applications below except application 18/00540/FLL.

18/00616/FLL Erection of a community broadband hub (in part retrospect), 5 Newton of Classloch, Kinross.

18/00599/FLL Siting of 24no. additional storage containers, Alligan House, 2 Clashburn Close, Bridgend Industrial Estate.

18/00539/FLL Installation of replacement windows, First Floor, 127 High Street, Kinross.

18/00508/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse, 34 Argyll Road, Kinross.

18/00503/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse, 30 Springfield Park, Kinross.

18/00540/FLL Formation of access road, turning head, soakaway, installation of LPG tanks and associated works, land 110m SE of Beaufield, Balado. Permission has already been granted for this site but it was thought that the proposals which currently have consent are undeliverable, hence this application. The members of the public present were from Balado. The site was included in the settlement envelope late in the first Local Development Plan (LDP) process, without residents being informed. A formal complaint about this was partially upheld. The site is not included in the settlement envelope in the proposed LDP2, to be discussed by Council in August. The residents informed the CC of their concerns in respect of the application. It was agreed that the CC would object to the planning proposal for the following reasons: it is contrary to policy on water environment and drainage, due to the inadequate distance of the proposed sewage soakaway from private water supplies; the site will not be within the settlement envelope in LDP2 (a material consideration); the access road will not be suitable to allow removal of refuse; and the settlement is unsuitable for several more houses as the main road has no pavements or lighting.

- b. **Planning Applications Determined by Perth & Kinross Council:**

18/00248/FLL Replacement garage, 29 Muirs. Approved.

18/00285/FLL Garage, workshop and carport at Oak Brae, Hatchbank. Approved.

18/00446/FLL Garage etc and vehicular access, Ardgarney Cottage, Kinross. Approved.

18/00402/CON and 18/00401/FLL Demolition of buildings, erection of 2no houses and 6no flats and associated works, former Kirklands Garage: Withdrawn.

c. **Former Kinross High School site:**

The **FOI response** regarding sale price etc was received. Questions had been answered but only one committee report had been provided, and it was redacted. Two reports should have been provided. It was agreed that the Secretary should ask for a formal review, asking for both committee reports (unredacted), minutes of meetings and confirmation that Persimmon has paid for the site. **ACTION: Secretary.**

Disputed levels: Cllr Robertson had copied the CC into his email to Nick Brian regarding a constituent who has had the levels of the Persimmon development professionally measured to support his contention that the development is higher than allowed by planning consent. Ward councillors have asked for a meeting with Nick Brian, PKC Interim Head of Planning to discuss the matter. Cllr Watters has a degree in Surveying and Mapping and would be happy to meet with the constituent's surveyor to ensure he is fully updated with the survey work prior to any meeting with Mr Brian.

Renovation work on the Edwardian building appears to have stopped. It is supposed to be completed by the end of July. Cllr Purves will try to find out why work has stopped. **ACTION: Cllr Purves.**

d. **Planning Correspondence and Other Planning Matters:**

i. **Lochside House:** A letter and drawings had been received from A J Montgomery concerning revisions to plans for a vehicle hardstanding, relocation of core path and revised fencing proposals for BCA car auctions, Lochside House, Bridgend. The CC was invited to comment. The CC has no comment to make at this time. It may comment on an actual planning application publicised by PKC.

ii. **Petition:** Email from a steering group in Bishopbriggs objecting to a housing development. They have drawn up a general Scotland-wide petition called 'Reform of Scotland's Unjust Planning Laws' and invite the CC to sign. It was agreed this could be signed as individuals if desired but not as a CC. CCllr Thomas may include some information on this in the Newsletter. **ACTION: CCllr Thomas.**

iii. **Scrutiny Committee:** The CC has still not received a reply to its letter to the convener of the Scrutiny Committee in support of the Kinross-shire Civic Trust's letter. However, Cllr Purves reported that a sub-committee of the Scrutiny Committee is to be set up to identify planning issues to be brought to the committee. An example would be unenforceable conditions. Why are these added to planning consents? It is hoped that, in particular, problems occurring multiple times in large developments will be identified. Examples will be taken from across the P&K area. It is hoped that some recommendations will result.

9. **Licensing:** None.

10. **Street Naming:** An email and map had been circulated. Ward councillors are invited to suggest new street names and out of courtesy consult with the local CC. A name is required for a new street south of the GS Brown development at Levenfields. The streets in the GS Brown development have railway-themed names so it was suggested the same theme should continue and a railway word chosen. An alternative suggestion was to use the name of one of the local burns Myre, Queich and Clash, though several streets have these already. Cllr Barnacle has asked PKC to review its street naming and numbering policy.

11. **KCCNL charitable fund:** At the spring grants meeting, the following awards were made:

- **Kinross First Responders** for equipment: £1,258.
- **Kinross Curling Club** for 350th anniversary events: £1,000.

- **KLEO**, towards design and print of festival brochure: £375.
- **Milnathort Nursery** for trip to Vane Farm: £185.
- **Kinross-shire Partnership** for kinross.cc website (with conditions): £778. (See also 5d above.)

12. **Miscellaneous Correspondence:** Most email correspondence had been circulated to community councillors and a summary provided. Items mentioned at the meeting were:

- Winter Service letter:** Cllrs should bring any comments to the next CC meeting. **ACTION: All.**
- Litter on M90:** Email from member of the public. It was passed on to Cllr Robertson who kindly contacted BEAR Scotland.
- Potholes:** Email from member of the public about potholes on Sutherland Drive and other places. He has reported them via the PKC website but hopes that PKC will be held to account over the standard of repairs. Cllr Robertson has replied. Proper repairs at Sutherland Drive appear to have been carried out.
- Tillyochie Road:** Email from member of the public who had originally emailed the CC in 2012 with concerns regarding dangerous traffic. The 2012 email had been passed by D Cuthbert to council officers. At the time a speed limit could not be justified. It was agreed the recent email be sent on to PKC officer Mr Haggart for comment. **ACTION: Secretary.**
- Pavements:** A member of the public had telephoned the Secretary to ask if anything can be done about the poor state of pavements. She uses a mobility scooter and finds the uneven and damaged pavements difficult to negotiate. The Secretary had checked that the member of the public was happy for her details to be passed to one of the ward councillors to get in touch with her. These were passed to Cllr Watters, as he had organised an accessibility audit recently. He said the Centre for Inclusive Living has produced its report. **ACTION: Cllr Watters.**

13. **Reports from P&K Councillors.**

- Crossing:** Cllr Purves reported that residents of Levenbridge Place would like a crossing on Junction Road to allow safer access to Sainsbury's. He has consulted with council officer Mr McKeown who indicated the request could be put on a secondary list. Cllr Cuthbert thought this had been on the roads list when he was a councillor. The CC would be interested to know which location roads engineers would recommend.
- Reserved Places at Kinross High School (KHS):** Cllr Purves reported that the number of reserved places at KHS has been significantly increased. KHS now has the highest number of reserved places in P&K. Reserved places are spaces kept for pupils who may move into the KHS catchment area. This is in consideration of the quantity of house-building taking place locally. It is understood that some requests for places at KHS from outwith the catchment area have been refused (pending appeal).
- Traffic Survey:** Cllr Watters reported that an internal evaluation of the survey will take place then another meeting will follow.
- Potholes:** Cllr Barnacle reported that PKC has over 2,000 potholes to deal with, at a cost of £100 per pothole. There is a significant contribution from the Scottish Government to assist with repairs. The figure 2,000 refers to reported potholes that meet the criteria.
- A977 Mitigation Measures:** Cllr Barnacle reported that the consultation has concluded. One proposal is traffic counters at Balado.
- LDP2:** Cllr Barnacle reported that this will go to full Council at the end of August.
- CC Information:** Cllr Barnacle recommended a leaflet that Portmoak CC had produced to inform the public of the work of Portmoak CC. Perhaps Kinross could produce something.
- Changes at PKC:** Cllr Barnacle reported that, at the last full Council, there was a move to remove an Independent councillor from two committees. This had not been notified in advance to the Independent group. He moved for deferral but this was refused. As a consequence, the three

Independent councillors have left the administration group and have formed a group with the one Labour councillor. Cllr Barnacle has lost the convenorship of the Environment Committee. A meeting is due to take place with committee services on 3 May. The Independent councillors want a fair share of committee places based on the number of councillors elected. Cllr Watters confirmed that the composition of local authority committees is meant to be proportional according to the numbers of elected members for each political group.

14. Any Other Competent Business.

- a. **Foul water at golf course:** Cllr Davies brought this to the attention of the CC on behalf of a resident. There is a foul boggy area near the path along the golf course close to the Windlestrae Hotel. The resident had been told by PKC that it was not a health risk. Cllr Robertson is contacting SEPA to see if it might be an issue for them.
- b. **Dog mess:** Cllr McKay again raised the idea of highlighting dog mess with special paint. In some places it has reduced fouling by 70%. It was agreed to have a formal proposal to buy paint at the next meeting, when the treasurer is present.
- c. **Kinross-shire Decides:** Cllr Bryson reported that the Primary School Parent Council has still not received an update from Tracey Ramsay as to why their project was not shortlisted for the participatory budget event. He stressed the need for transparency in respect of the shortlisting process. (See also items 5h and 14h.)
- d. **School Fair:** Cllr Bryson reported that this had been provisionally planned for 9 June but the Better Place to Live Fair has been rescheduled for the same date. The School Fair will now take place in August. The Parent Council will have a presence at the BPTLF and will be holding a raffle.
- e. **Better Place to Live Fair:** Cllr Thomas asked if the Chair had responded to the invitation to have a stall on the new date. Cllr McKay is willing to assist on the day. The Chair will confirm the stall booking. **ACTION: Cllr Freeman.**
- f. **Muirs:** Cllr Blyth reported that ponding is bad on the east side of the Muirs. Cllr Purves will look into it. **ACTION: Cllr Purves.**
- g. **Premises for community:** Cllr Cuthbert notes that several community groups require premises, e.g. the Hub, Men's Shed, Cycling Without Age. Unfortunately PKC seems to have sold off most spare land or premises locally. He suggested that ward councillors look for a budget to buy land or premises. Cllr Colliar pointed out that there is a PKC-owned lock-up in Mill Street not being used.
- h. **Action Partnership:** Cllr Freeman also raised this subject. (See also items 5h and 14c above.) Three vacancies were advertised a few months ago. Shona Fowler and Dr McCracken were appointed. Cllr Cuthbert applied but was rejected. Other attendees at the Kinross-shire Action Partnership are the four ward councillors, Pauline Watson and the police. Minutes of meetings are not made publicly available as regularly or promptly as they could be. Cllr Cuthbert has made a FOI request relating to the Action Partnership meetings and activities. In Cllr Barnacle's view, the officer-led Action Partnerships are undermining community councils. He reiterated his preference for an area committee for Kinross-shire to involve CCs and with significant funding. Cllr Watters believes it is appropriate to have different forums for different issues. All were agreed, however, that Action Partnerships need to be more democratically accountable. It was agreed to wait until the CC receives a reply from Mr McNamara before taking further action, if any. Cllr Cuthbert's FOI response is also due soon.

- The Meeting Ended at 9.30pm •
- Minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting •

**The Next Meeting of Kinross CC will take place on WEDNESDAY 6 JUNE 2018
at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.**