

Milnathort Community Council

Minute of the Milnathort Community Council (MCC) Meeting held on Thursday 8th October 2015, in Orwell Parish Church Hall

1. **Welcome:** CClr Hamilton, Chair, welcomed CClrs Halford, Pettinger, Smith and Thomson. Also in attendance were Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) Clrs Barnacle, Cuthbert and Giacopazzi, and 7 members of the public. PC James Wilson and PC Rhiannon Lorimer attended for item 3 below.
2. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from CClrs Milne-Home, Cottingham and Bennet and from PKC Clr Robertson.
3. **Police matters:** PC Wilson presented the Police Report; he cautioned householders to make their homes secure as the darker evenings draw in, and perhaps to use devices such as timers to deter potential intruders. He advised that there had been several instances of people attempting to sell expensive portable items, such as chainsaws, particularly in rural areas; he asked members of the public to note vehicle registrations and to report them to the Police where there were suspicious circumstances. He also outlined recent crimes, which had included vandalism in Stirling Road, and also in South Street where, on 2nd October 2015, windows and a gate had been drawn upon with a permanent marker. He advised that a male had been arrested following a sneak-in theft in New Road.

CClrs and members of the public raised issues about drivers ignoring the recently introduced permanent one-way traffic system – eastbound flow – in Victoria Avenue; and about drivers exiting Back Loan into Wester Loan at inappropriate speeds, whilst diversions were in place for the Sewage Works in New Road. PC Lorimer reported that there had been a Police presence in the vicinity of Victoria Avenue/Back Loan/Wester Loan, and several drivers had been cautioned; further patrols would be carried out. The MCC noted that the one-way road signs at the eastern end of Victoria Avenue were not sufficiently clear and that better signage would be needed. Clr Giacopazzi agreed to raise the road signs issue within PKC.

A member of the public also raised concerns about vehicles speeding in Burleigh Road, and enquired about progress to install shared temporary speed warning devices, advising that none had been installed thus far. Clr Giacopazzi agreed to check on the matter within PKC.

Clr Barnacle raised concerns about a large, and currently blank, advertising board on the edge of a field along the A977 out of Kinross towards Balado, which was obstructing drivers' view of on-coming traffic. PC Lorimer advised that the landowner had been approached by Police Scotland and had agreed to move the board, but no action had been taken yet; she agreed to discuss the issue further with the landowner.

4. **Minutes of last meeting:** The Community Council approved the minutes of the meeting on Thursday 10th September 2015. CClr Halford proposed approval and CClr Pettinger seconded the motion.
5. **Matters arising:** The Chair advised that, following notification and discussion of impending changes to Post Office services in the village, a flippant letter from a member of the public, which dealt with redundancy issues insensitively, had been published in the October edition of the Newsletter. He asked that the Minute record MCC's dismay that the Editor should agree to publish such inappropriate material, noting that this was not the first instance of this kind recently.
6. **Planning applications:** The following planning applications in Milnathort were discussed, but no objections were raised:

15/01502/FLL: Erection of 14 dwellinghouses and erection of garage at Mawcarse Farm, KY13 9SJ for Mr P Giacopazzi

15/01581/FLL: Extension to dwellinghouse at 4 The Fairways, KY13 9FW for Mr and Mrs D Cochrane

15/01457/FLL: Change of use of antique showroom to form extension to dwellinghouse at Tudor House Antiques, 11 South Street, KY13 9XA for Mr AJ Bole

15/01609/FLL: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at Hattonburn House, KY13 0SA for Mrs M Munro

15/01634/LBC: Alterations at Thomanean House, KY13 0RF for A Harley Seeds Ltd

7. **Planning applications determined:** The MCC advised that the following application had been approved, but expressed dismay that PKC had not acted on MCC objections to the planning application in Wester Loan:

15/00503/FLL: Erection of 5 flats and ancillary works at 2-12 Wester Loan for Waverco Ltd

Clr Giacopazzi advised that he had raised MCC's concerns, particularly about parking and potential flooding issues with the Development Management Committee, PKC, but his advice had been overruled by the DMC.

The MCC also noted the following approval:

15/00687/FLL: Extension to dwellinghouse at Bridge House, Dalqueich, KY13 0RG for Mr E Waugh

8. **Sewage Works/Victoria Avenue Update:** The Chair advised that, following a large number of recent emails to PKC, the one-way system – eastbound – in Victoria Avenue had been implemented, several years later than initially advised by PKC. Clr Giacopazzi advised that he had written to an official in PKC asking that a temporary 20 mph restriction be implemented for the duration of the sewage works, but had not received a reply. Following discussion it emerged that such a restriction may not be implementable in the timescale of the works. (See also item 3 above).

Clr Giacopazzi updated the MCC on progress with the sewage works. Scottish Water had modified its planned activity because of the routing of several service pipelines in New Road; a chamber would now be built in his driveway, not under the road as originally planned, and a pipeline would run under existing services to connect with the chamber. He advised that such chambers were pre-cast and the changes to plan may cause some delay.

The MCC recorded its thanks to Scottish Water and to its contractor for carrying out the works in South Street in such a timely, accurate and courteous manner, and commended both on the work-ethic shown.

9. **Boundary Commission Update:** The Chair drew attention to the article in the October Newsletter and urged members of the public to contact the Commission giving their grounds for objection, if they disagreed with proposals. Clr Cuthbert reinforced this advice and advised that more support was needed from the public if the Commission's recommendation to split the Kinross-shire Ward was to be overturned. Advice is provided in the Newsletter and Petition forms are available in the Post Office. Clr Barnacle advised that the issue had been debated again within PKC on 7th October and he had taken opportunity to express the views of the four PKC Clrs most strongly.

10. **Community council Elections update:** The Chair advised that insufficient applications had been received by PKC to serve on MCC from November 2015, and as most current members were withdrawing, the MCC would be wound up. Following discussion, during which PKC Clrs expressed their support for CCs, Clr Cuthbert advised that a petition/request should be raised by at least 20 residents to PKC asking that a MCC should be formed; he strongly urged residents to sign

up and would be canvassing support in the area. The MCC agreed to use existing funds to install a new noticeboard in a more visible place in New Road (instead of the board under a bus shelter in South Street), and thanked Clr Giacopazzi for his agreement to place the noticeboard on the wall of his premises between Robertson's farm supply shop and his shop.

11. **New Matters and Correspondence:** CClr Smith noted that the grass in Donaldson Park had been neatly strimmed recently, and commended PKC on the work carried out thus far. The Chair advised that a further cut of the wild flower section would be made later in the year and the cuttings would be removed. He also advised that work would be carried out on Junction 6 of the M90 from 8th October for repairs to the bridge and road surface.

CClr Thomson advised that the Orwell and Portmoak Church Office had been informed that PKC was planning to receive five refugee families from Syria, and there had been a good number of people offering help, which the Minor Communities Hub was intending to co-ordinate. The UK Government would be providing some funding. Further information would follow.

CClr Halford raised concerns about the state of the fence on the west side of the road over the bridge between Milnathort and Kinross and the potential danger to pedestrians. Clr Giacopazzi agreed to raise the issue within PKC.

12. **P&K Councillors' Comments:** Clr Cuthbert advised that the recent street party in Kinross to celebrate the completion of the roadway improvements on the High Street had been well attended and the event was a success, particularly as the promulgation of the event had encouraged the contractor to complete the work in a timely fashion. The MCC agreed that the High Street had been much enhanced by the work carried out for PKC there. Clr Cuthbert also advised that 'Cats' Eyes' would be fitted on the A911 towards Portmoak.

Clr Giacopazzi expressed his regret that insufficient volunteers had been forthcoming to continue MCC without a break.

Clr Barnacle advised that during a recent meeting of a working group of PKC Clrs and officials several issues had been discussed, including the Council's policy for Travellers'/Gypsy sites. He understood that a report would be formulated for discussion by PKC in due course.

13. **Comments/Questions from the floor:** A member of the public raised concerns about the volume of weed in local burns, which restricted water flow. The Chair advised that, owing to SEPA controls of ditching causing phosphate flow into Loch Leven, little could be done to alleviate the problem.

Another member of the public advised that he had been in discussion with TRACKS and PKC seeking to create a pathway to Burnside from Cuthill to link with existing paths at Burnside, but he had been informed that MCC's support was required before any funding/action would be forthcoming. After a short discussion the Chair asked that he forward details to both Clr Giacopazzi and himself so that the matter could be progressed

14. **DONM: No date could be set at this stage, because of the imminent and hopefully temporary demise of the MCC.**