

Milnathort Community Council

Minutes of the meeting of Milnathort Community Council on 13th August 2015 in Milnathort Church Hall

1. **Welcome:** Cllr Hamilton, Chair, welcomed Cllrs Bennet, Halford, Milne-Hume, Smith and Thomson. Also in attendance P&K Cllrs Barnacle, Giacomazzi, Robertson and Cuthbert, and eight members of the public.
2. **Apologies:** Cllrs Cottingham, Pettinger, and minute taker D. Baudains.
3. **Local Plan:** P&K Cllr Barnacle gave a resume of the New Local Plan, a draft of which will be published in the Autumn.

There have been 272 submissions made but it is unlikely they will all be accepted. There will be a potential need for 890 houses in Kinross-shire. However Milnathort has approximately 150 undeveloped sites with planning permission and PKC is keen to keep all development within the registered boundaries. Now the UK is coming out of the dip of recession developers will hopefully develop these sites in our area (Pitdownies, Hattonburn, Athronhill and Drunzie). Where here is no longer a settlement boundary in country areas they are bound by the Housing in the Countryside Policy.

With a projected population increase in the shire of 22% by 2031 there would be a shortfall of approximately 50 houses in the Plan. Developers have asked for a further 13 Ha to the east of Milnathort village, but councillors thought it unlikely they would be added to the Local Plan. However we must await the publishing of the New Local Plan, when consultation with the local public will happen.

Gypsy Traveller Sites: retrospective planning has proven to not be effective, especially drainage arrangements.

Renewable Energy: Cllr Barnacle would like to see guidance on the need for further wind farms. He noted that the Westminster Government withdrawing subsidies will make this less of an issue.

Transport: Parking in settlements and HGVs on unsuitable routes are concerns.

A request has been made for the removal of the permission for industrial use, and undeveloped, on the strip of land to the east of Milnathort.

Cllrs and members of the public had the opportunity to ask questions.

To stop all Retrospect Planning Applications would be unlikely to be legal.

Reviews have to be done dictated by the Scottish Government every 5 years.

It was suggested if employment in the area was not increased then all the extra housing and burden to the infrastructure was not needed.

Cllr Barnacle was thanked for his detailed presentation.

4. **Presentation by Scottish Water:** Mr Scott from Scottish Water gave a presentation on the works about to start in Milnathort. This work will involve tanks being built and large diameter pipes to the burn south of New Road and at the Cross where the flower bed is currently. This will take the pressure off any flood water and stop sewage flooding back into five properties.

The work has already started, and the £1.6 million works will be completed in five phases.

- 1) At the Cross in a private garden, an emergency outfall to the burn at the foot of the garden.
- 2) South Street will be closed on 7th September for 3 weeks. This closure will be from The Cross to the Tudor Antique shop. Diversion is via Bridgefauld Rd and Stirling Rd. It would appear Church St will remain open.
- 3) New Road will be closed from 3rd October for three weeks, as new manholes are constructed.

Cllr Giacopazzi noted that Scottish Water have offered for the work to progress seven days a week to reduce the time of disruption. This offer was welcomed.

It was asked if week end work was not to go ahead that a single file traffic system can be set up in New Road at week ends

Diversions will be set up when Roads are closed, but the New Road on will be very long as it will be via Lethangie.

Victoria Avenue should be one way by this time, and Burleigh Road will be open.

PKC Roads Dep are invited to attend our next MCC Meeting. Cllr Giacopazzi to arrange this.

5. **Minutes:** The Minutes from the May meeting were proposed by Cllr Thomson and seconded by Cllr Halford
6. **Police Report:** a brief report was read by the Chairman.
 - Crimes in the Area include youths setting fires in the Park area of Beech Park.
 - Theft on Old Perth Road of number plates stolen from a parked vehicle is under enquiry.
 - Vandalism over a few months at Milnathort Golf Club. Greens have been damaged and bunker rakes snapped in half. This is still under enquiry.
7. **Planning:** MCC considered the following application and no objections were raised.
15/01342/MPO N8 Modification of planning obligation (08/01124FLL) relating to section 6 (phosphate mitigation measures) of section 75 agreement. Land East of Tillyrie Farm Milnathort
8. **Mountain Bike Track and Donaldson Park:** Rumours regarding the making of a Mountain Bike Track in Donaldson Park are just that and unsubstantiated.
9. **Mains Gas:** This is being installed in Bridgefauld Road. Householders who own their houses were not all told of the disruption and some had their access blocked without warning.
10. **Proposed Ward Boundary Changes:** All the homes north of the M90 would no longer be in the Kinross-shire MCC ward, but sent to Earn miles away. These changes would divide the present MCC area and destroy MCC. There would have to be Cllrs from Earn and Kinross-shire at meetings should MCC survive, i.e. eight not four Cllrs. Milnathort and the PKC Cllrs are against this proposed change. We have spent years protecting the Kinross-shire boundary and this must

not be allowed to destroy the centuries old boundary of our County. Glenfarg also wish to be in the Kinross-shire Ward.

PKC are also against the proposed changes. Our Councillors are to keep us up to date.

11. NEW COMMUNITY COUNCILORS NEEDED: There will be an election for Council and Community Council members on November 5th 2015. Any person aged 16 or over and on the electoral register are eligible to stand and vote in this election. If there are eight or less nominations there will not be an election for the seats. Nominations close by 4pm on Thursday 24th September. We need new members on MCC, as four of the present Cllrs are not up for re election.

12. Comments/ Questions from the Floor:

- There was a request for country verges to be cut twice a year instead of once. Junctions are dangerous with over grown vegetation restricting vision. P&K Cllrs said they would bring this up at the next budget meeting to see if there were funds for a second cut.
- Burleigh Road resurfacing was efficiently and well carried out.
- The pothole in Wester loan has been repaired.

13. PKC Councillors Comments:

- The Zebra crossing in New Road is now painted.
- Weeds in Donaldson Park have been strimmed a last. (It only took two men forty minutes)
- A joint meeting was proposed of the Kinross-shire Community Councils and ward councillors to combat the Local Boundary Commission Scotland's proposed Ward Changes. It was agreed MCC would support such a meeting.
- The Kinross Civic Trust has applied for Milnathort to a Conservation Area despite Milnathort being almost entirely against this. PKC are trying to reduce the cost of Conservation Areas and are unlikely to approve more in Perth and Kinross.

14. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on September 10th in Orwell Church Hall at 7.30pm.