

Milnathort Community Council

Minute of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and routine Meeting of the Milnathort Community Council (MCC) Meeting held on Thursday, 14th May 2015, in Orwell Parish Church Hall

Annual General Meeting

1. **Welcome:** CClr Hamilton, Chair, welcomed CClrs Bennet, Cottingham, Pettinger, Smith and Thomson. Also in attendance were Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) Clrs Giacomazzi and Robertson, and 8 members of the public.
2. **Apologies:** Apologies were received from CClrs Halford and Milne-Home, and from PKC Clrs Barnacle and Cuthbert.
3. **Minutes of the 2014 AGM:** The Community Council approved the minutes of the AGM held on Thursday 8th May 2014. CClr Thomson proposed and CClr Cottingham seconded the motion.
4. **Chairman's Annual Report:** The Chair read out a brief report:
 - During the past year we have discussed the 31 planning applications submitted in our area; this is up from the 24 the year before. We have only objected to a few, and these objections were treated as no more important than any from a private individual. Currently PKC has agreed a trial whereby comments from CCs undergo greater scrutiny by the Planners, and if deemed appropriate, they will draw CC comments to the attention of the Development Management Committee (DMC). Hopefully, in the future CCs will become statutory consultees, and this should ensure that our opinions will be given due weight when taken into account. There are small signs of this from neighbouring CCs.
 - We continue to be an excellent conduit for local issues, and try to ensure that PKC Councillors follow through on issues raised.
 - The CC's commitment to our parks and paths has continued with a new picnic bench for Donaldson Park, and ongoing path weed control.
 - We were successful in helping to block the appeal about refusal of permission for provision of a private water supply to the Ochil Hills former Hospital site for a development of 35 houses; and it looks likely that the development will go ahead, with a mains water supply, as PKC has agreed to reduce the affordable housing contribution required.
 - Thanks to my fellow Community Councillors, our Minute Secretary and to the PKC Councillors for all their hard work.
 - Finally, I feel that I have done my stint as Chairman and will therefore not be putting myself forward for re-election at the October elections. I understand that neither Patrick Milne-Home nor Dorothy Thomson will be putting themselves forward, and so some fresh blood will be required.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** CClr Bennet summarized the accounts for 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015:

Opening Balance: £562.16

Total Income: £700

Expenditure Total: £691.18

Cash in Bank: £8.82

Accounts Outstanding: £0.00

Expected Closing Balance: £8.82

She advised that PKC now tops up each CCs account to reach a maximum of £700 at the beginning of each financial year, rather than the previous practice of adding £700 to each CC's budget.

6. **Election of Office Bearers:** The Chair proposed that all members should hold their current office until new elections in October 2015. CClr Thomson seconded the motion.
7. **Date of next AGM: Thursday 12th May 2016.**

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8. **Police Report:** PC Rhiannon Lorimer presented a brief report. There were no crimes or youth calls reported in Milnathort since the last meeting. She reminded people to enjoy the outdoors responsibly, in particular to respect the needs of local people, to co-operate with those working in the countryside, to drive carefully, and to keep dogs under control. She also briefed on the Community Watch initiative, advising that communities should register at: www.pkccommunitywatch.co.uk and that those wishing further information should contact Sgt Amanda Nicholson: tel 01738 892943 or email to: Perthkinrosscommunitywatch@scotland.pnn.police.uk

CClr Pettinger raised again the issue of cars being parked fully on the footpath outside the Chemist's shop in New Road, stating that he had personally witnessed two cars parked there; he had noted the registration and details of one vehicle, and PC Lorimer asked that he pass on the details to PC Sadie Allan.

A member of the public also raised an issue of High School pupils walking in the roadway towards Milnathort during lunch breaks, and causing danger to both pedestrians and road users.

9. **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising:** The MCC approved the minute of the meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2015. CClr Thomson proposed and CClr Smith seconded the motion. CClr Pettinger, Chair of the last meeting, updated members on matters arising:
 - Copies of the presentation given by INEOS at the meeting held by them on 19th March 2015 still had not been received; he has written to the Director of INEOS requesting that copies be sent to MCC.
 - A response has not been received from SSE about incidents of power fluctuations on 8th April 2015.
 - He had been unable to attend the introductory Community Watch meeting held on 30th April 2015, however CClr Hamilton had attended – see Police Report above for contact details.
 - He has not yet followed up the telephone kiosk adoption initiative; but the MCC agreed that the kiosk at the Cross was still in operation, so no further action was needed.

CClr Thomson corrected the form of display asked of shopkeepers for the Milnathort Festival during the first weekend in June 2015. Displays should reflect the theme 'Yesteryear'.

10. **Planning Applications submitted and determined:** The MCC considered the following applications:

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

The MCC noted that this was a new application. Following discussion of the plans with members of the public, the MCC agreed to object on the following grounds:

- Overdevelopment of the site, especially when considering that the site was fringed by listed buildings;
- Insufficient off-road parking provision;
- Loss of daylight to houses to the west; and
- Road safety issues, given the narrow roadway in Wester Loan and the one-way system in Back Loan.

15/00732/FLL: Change of use of flat and garden ground to café and outdoor seating area (Class3) (in part retrospect) at 19A South Street (Heaven Scent)

No objections were raised.

The MCC also noted the following decisions by PKC:

15/00188/IPL: Residential development (in principle), former steading at Newhill Farm, Glenfarg – refused

14/02144/FLL: Erection of a dwelling house on land at Redhouse Wood, Tillyrie farm – approved

15/00360/MP: Development of erection of 35 dwellinghouses on site of former Ochil Hills Hospital for Fossway LLP – approved

14/02014/FLL: Erection of a dwellinghouse at Tannerhall - approved

- 11. Proposed CC Boundary Changes:** Cllr Robertson updated the meeting on proposed boundary changes by the Boundary Commission, which if enacted, would split Kinross-shire and reduce the number of PKC Cllrs from 41 to 40. Cllr Robertson advised that so far, although PKC had objected to the proposals, the Cllrs representing Ward 8 wished to encourage a firmer response showing their strong concerns about the consequences of splitting Kinross-shire areas, such as moving the areas north of the A91 and M90, including the Tillyrie area, into Bridge of Earn. He also advised that the proposals were for consultations with Councils until 19th May 2015, and that a public consultation would follow over 12 weeks between July and October 2015. He asked for a strong response to the public consultation, supporting Ward 8 Cllrs concerns.
- 12. Landscape Designation LLA:** PKC Cllrs confirmed that use of revised designations had been accepted by PKC.
- 13. Ochil Hills Hospital site Update:** The Chair advised that the Developer had requested a recalculation of the affordable housing contribution by PKC. Cllr Pettinger asked for clarification about the document on the Planning Portal (reported at the last meeting), which suggested that the developer was seeking planning permission unlimited by time. PKC Cllrs advised that PKC could not grant permission in perpetuity, and also that further detailed planning was still to be provided to PKC by the developer.
- 14. Travelling People Site Update:** The MCC noted that the objection by PKC to the site at Mawcarse had been overruled by the Reporter; the number of permanent caravans on site had been reduced to 2 with further permission for temporary touring caravans for travellers, but subject to conditions including the following::

- The applicant should submit a detailed plan for waste water disposal; and

- The site be screened from public view.

15. New Matters and Correspondence: The Chair read out an extract from a letter sent by a member of the public forwarding concerns about an incident in Donaldson Park on 4th May 2015, when she and her small dog had been frightened by an unruly golden Labrador, which was off a leash and had jumped up at her and her dog (which at this stage she had picked up). Unfortunately the owner of the Labrador dog, a lady, could not be identified. Following discussion the MCC noted that following consultations with experts, dogs could be exercised off the leash, but it was the responsibility of dog owners to keep full control of their animals. Cllr Giacopazzi agreed to ask PKC to provide appropriate signs for the Park, advising owners of their responsibilities when exercising animals.

The Chair advised that Brenda Lackie, CC Liaison Officer, PKC had retired, and that Pam Rogalski would take on the role.

The Chair also noted that PKC had accorded more weight to a CC's reservations about planning applications, citing recent comments by Glenfarg CC about a development proposal to replace a hotel in the village.

The Secretary drew attention to a TAYplan series of public information events across Tayside as they develop a Proposed Plan setting out how the Dundee and Perth area should develop over the next 20 years. A period of representations will run from 11th May to 3rd July 2015; and an event will be held at Perth Concert Hall on 20th May 2015 between 3.30 pm and 7.00 pm. People could also comment on: www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk/tayplan2015

Cllr Bennet thanked PKC for erecting signs near Kinross-shire Community Woodland near Burleigh castle, but also noted that not all riders had paid heed to them. She also queried the state/legitimacy of a designated footpath – MTHT/127 – in the vicinity of the Standing Stones near the A911; the path was believed to be an old coffin barrow path leading to the cemetery in the old Orwell Parish Churchyard. A barn/shed had been erected near the path and the track north of the barn has been ploughed away into the field. Cllr Robertson agreed to raise the issue with PKC officers.

Cllr Cottingham drew attention to a Planning Training Meeting for CCs to be held at the Lochleven Campus at 6.00 pm on Thursday 21st May 2015 and provided an outline agenda. Cllr Pettinger advised that he would try to attend a further session in Perth on 24th June 2015.

16. PKC Councillors' Comments: Cllr Giacopazzi advised of the following:

- A footpath from Mill Steadings northwards towards the A91 had been provided by the developer.
- The Gannochy Trust had donated £20,000 towards the Town Hall refurbishment, thus freeing access to the £150,000 donated by the Thompson Trust. Work will be carried out in two phases, beginning with the kitchen.
- PKC would be converting houses in Bridgefauld Road from electricity to gas heating commencing in July 2015.
- He had met with PKC Greenspace Ranger to discuss the state of the footpaths near Burleigh Castle.
- The new Barber's shop in New Road did not require further planning permission as it had previously been retail facilities.

17. AOCB – DONM: Thursday 11th June 2015 in Orwell Church Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm