

## Kinross Community Council

### Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 1 February 2017

*at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross*

**Present:** CCllrs Bill Freeman (Chair), Eileen Thomas (Secretary), Margaret Blyth, Jonathan Bryson, David Colliar, Barry Davies, Ian Jack, David MacKenzie and Thomas Stewart; P&K Councillors D Cuthbert and J Giacomazzi; Sgt Nichola Forrester and PC Atholl Spalding. No members of the public.

1. **Apologies** were received from CCllrs M Scott and D West and P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and W Robertson.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of meeting of 7 December 2016:** Agreed as a true record. (Proposed by CCllr Colliar, seconded by CCllr Blyth.)
4. **Police Report:** Sgt Nicky Forrester and PC Atholl Spalding were welcomed. Sgt Forrester explained that there is a new policing model for the area (with effect from January 2017) with more emphasis on community engagement. Maggie Pettigrew is still Chief Inspector. There are Inspectors for Perth City, Perth North and Perth South (which includes Kinross-shire). Kevin Chase is the Inspector for Perth South. Sgt Forrester is the sergeant for an area approximately equating to the Kinross-shire and Almond & Earn multi-member wards. Atholl Spalding and Douglas Stapleton are the officers for Kinross-shire and there are two other officers for Almond & Earn. Community policing has suffered under the change to Police Scotland. Budget restrictions mean the new policing model won't be quite as things were under Tayside Police (before Police Scotland), but the community is already seeing a difference. PCs Spalding and Stapleton have been out on foot patrols and have visited some of the local schools to help build relations with young people. They plan to hold a community surgery once a month. Sgt Forrester explained that a lot of police matters now are concerns rather than crimes, e.g. vulnerability, threats, drugs, alcohol and mental health issues. The CC had sent an enquiry recently about detection rates. The police can give feedback on arrests but not on conviction rates. There were some sneak-in thefts recently and the theft of a vehicle, which were all linked to a male and female (drug users) who were arrested. There was one recent incident of driving without a licence. Cllr Giacomazzi wondered if the former warning system to alert shopkeepers to shoplifters might be reintroduced. The police will look at this. Other topics discussed were: speeding and techniques for dealing with it, litter in the countryside, supply of alcohol to children, anti-social behaviour by youths, selfish parking at primary schools and Police use of social media. Sgt Forrester said that CCs will get better feedback from now on. She and PC Spalding were thanked for their attendance.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 7 December 2016.**
  - a. **Queen's tree:** postponed until next meeting.
  - b. **Defibrillator and telephone kiosk:** CCllr Davies reported that BT have released the Muirs kiosk to PKC. Mrs Hunter sent an update regarding fund-raising and will be in touch with CCllr Davies.
  - c. **Toilets at Pier:** Cllr Robertson has held further meetings with stakeholders. TRACKS will steer the project. Representatives of SNH and HES are consulting with their organisations. There will be a cost benefit if Kinross CC submits the application. CCllr Davies has attended meetings as the CC representative. He stressed that the proposed toilet block should be regarded as a temporary measure; ultimately, the aim should be to have a high quality visitor centre.
  - d. **Streetlights:** Cllr Robertson had forwarded information from a Council officer: the lights on the Muirs had been brightened previously. Nothing can be done to increase the spread of light.
  - e. **Campus Review:** PKC's Lifelong Learning Committee had discussed the campus review report at its meeting on 25 January. Cllr Cuthbert reported that there will be several

changes beneficial to the community, e.g. reduction in room hire charges and more flexible arrangements for not-for-profit groups organising refreshments. A member of the public had left a message on the CC Facebook page (under the post advertising the December minutes) expressing disappointment that the CC is “trying to overturn the campus ban on children bringing food in from outside...” The CC was puzzled by this remark as the CC had not taken any particular stance on this issue. It was agreed that a response should be posted, quoting the relevant parts of the December minutes.

**ACTION: Cllr Thomas**

- f. **Hearing loop:** Lodge St Serf have fixed the hearing loop and supplied a microphone. The Secretary had thanked the Lodge Treasurer.
- g. **Venue:** The Secretary had checked with CC Liaison to see if CCs are entitled to free room hire at the campus; they are not.
- h. **Paperless bin collection calendars:** Yvonne Bell of PKC had responded to the CC’s complaint over the Council’s change to calendars having to be downloaded from the internet rather each household being sent one. Ms Bell explained all the various ways that the public have been informed about the change and repeated that residents without a computer can access a computer at the library. Residents who require a large print version are entitled to have a calendar mailed to them.
- i. **Street Naming:** Reply received from Lisa Wilkie, PKC Street Naming and Numbering officer. GS Brown will not change the name of Bishop View as they have sold nine of the ten apartments and the name is in the deeds. If there is any system in place to avoid confusion or repetition, it is not working, as Ms Wilkie quoted several more street names in Kinross-shire with the word ‘Bishop’ in them. The CC has reached an impasse in attempting to be consulted, in that ward Councillors had encouraged the CC to write to Ms Wilkie but she had said the decisions lie with the Councillors. The Secretary was asked to forward all emails on this subject to Cllr Giacopazzi who will follow it up.

**ACTION: Cllr Thomas & Cllr Giacopazzi**

## 6. Planning Matters.

### a. Planning Applications Submitted to PKC.

- i. 16/02166/LAW Extension to dwelling house, 20 Pier Road, Kinross. No CC comment.
  - ii. 16/02132/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2 garages, land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm, Kinross. No CC comment.
  - iii. 16/01931/ADV Display of a sign, former Kinross High School, 8 High Street, Kinross. Agreed to object, as experience has shown that development names end up becoming permanent and the CC would like proper consultation on the name.
- ACTION: Cllr Thomas**
- iv. 16/02146/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and stables and formation of a private riding arena and vehicular access (change of house design), land 120m W of Chance Inn Farm. No CC comment.
  - v. **Kinross Town Hall:** 16/02053/LBC Alterations, 108-114 High Street, Kinross, and 16/02054/FLL Change of use and alterations to former town hall, public library and post office to form 9no flats and installation of replacement windows and doors. The CC had requested an extension to comment. PKC had failed to send out the relevant planning list in mid December so community councillors were unaware of the application until January. The applicant’s design statement referred to a meeting with ward councillors on 21 November. Cllrs Cuthbert and Giacopazzi were asked why ward councillors had not mentioned this at the CC’s December meeting. They said the developer had not even decided what use he was putting the buildings to when they met him so did not think there was anything to report to the December CC meeting. The CC planning sub-committee had drawn up a report with draft comments for the CC to consider. It was agreed to submit a letter of comment largely in line with this. Comments included: welcoming the reuse of the buildings but expressing regret that there is no commercial or community element; welcoming the retained single ownership of the building group (dwellings are to be let); stating that unauthorised works must be dealt with appropriately; strong objection to the

suggestion that the developer could acquire the public areas around the fountain and in front of 117-129 High Street for private parking.

**ACTION: CCIlr Thomas**

**b. Planning Applications Determined by PKC.**

- i. 16/02166/LAW Extension to dwelling house, 20 Pier Road, Kinross. Approved.
- ii. 16/01972/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house and erection of a garage, 6 Millbridge, Kinross. Approved.
- iii. 16/01930/FLL Removal of condition 5 (use and ownership) of permission 09/00925/FLL, change of use from ancillary accommodation to dwelling house and erection of fence, 126 High Street, Kinross. Refused.
- iv. 16/01901/FLL Erection of 2 holiday accommodation units, land 25m NE of Leepark, Coldrain. Application withdrawn.
- v. 16/01894/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 400m NE of Leepark, Coldrain. Application withdrawn.
- vi. 16/01894/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, 193 High Street, Kinross. Approved.
- vii. 16/01884/FLL Extension to dwelling house, The Ranch, 11 Hatchbank Lane, Gairney Bank, Kinross. Approved.
- viii. 16/01763/FLL Extension to dwelling house and erection of replacement garage, 73 Muirs, Kinross. Approved.
- ix. 16/01931/ADV Display of a sign, former Kinross High School, 8 High Street, Kinross. Approved.

**c. Planning Correspondence.**

- i. **New Primary School landscaping.** The CC had received an email in December saying that, due to new fencing, more of the beech hedge had to be removed than originally planned.
- ii. **Conference:** Joint PAS and Scottish Mediation Conference on a more collaborative planning system on 21 February.
- iii. **Scottish Government Consultation** on plans for the future of the Scottish planning system, with closing date of 4 April. Cllr Giacopazzi said this is about 50 pages long. It was suggested that community councillors look at it before the March meeting.

**ACTION: All**

7. **Kinross Town Centre Regeneration:** CCllrs Davies and Thomas had accompanied the four ward councillors and three council officers on a two-hour walkabout in the town centre on 13 December to discuss issues with the regeneration project. The four Councillors had a meeting with roads officers in January to discuss measures to be implemented. Cllrs Cuthbert and Giacopazzi said these would be: a pelican crossing near the Co-op; *perhaps* a pelican or zebra crossing at the southern end of the regenerated area; perhaps more narrowing at the southern end; signage; reflectors on the bollards in town hall area; bollards separating traffic from pedestrians at the give-take. The CC noted that in his letter to the CC dated 7/10/16, PKC officer Willie Young had said that the CC could be present at a meeting with ward councillors and key representatives following the walkabout, but the CC had not been invited. It was agreed the Secretary would write to Mr Young pointing this out and asking for a definitive list and description of the measures to be implemented.

**ACTION: CCIlr Thomas**

8. **Advertising on Roundabouts:** Bright pink boards had appeared on roundabouts in Perth & Kinross towards the end of 2016 inviting businesses to advertise on the boards. PKC has entered into an agreement with a company with experience of arranging advertising and sponsorship of local authority assets across the UK. PKC expects this to generate income for the Council early in 2017. There are three boards on the Station Road/Springfield Road roundabout in Kinross. An invitation to comment on this on the CC and Newsletter Facebook pages had elicited over 60 comments in 23 hours, approximately 87% of which were negative. The main points made were: the signs are tacky looking and spoil the entrance to Kinross; they are distracting; they obscure other traffic and the signals of other traffic; don't they require

planning consent? Several residents took the opportunity to state that traffic coming off the motorway is travelling too fast on the approach to this roundabout. CCllrs Jack and Davies pointed out that advertising on roundabouts is not advisable according to the Dept of Communities and Local Government Planning Practice Guidance 2014. Cllr Cuthbert read out an email from PKC officers which said: *“As these signs are not classified as advertising but promoting sponsorships, they do not fall into the category of requiring planning consent, Nick Brian Head of planning supports this.”* Take-up of the sponsorship appears to be zero so far. CCllr Bryson wondered why PKC had not tried a pilot scheme for one or two of the busier roundabouts in Perth first before rolling this out across the whole authority area. More details of this PKC initiative can be found in a Report on “Transformation Review of Council Assets for Commercial Sponsorship” which was approved by PKC’s Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 30/11/16. Other assets available for sponsorship are bins, lighting columns etc. In the next tranche, the naming rights of greenspaces and parks will be available. This could cause anger in communities if parks named after local people were changed to commercial business names. It was agreed that the secretary should write to the appropriate Council officer expressing the CC’s concerns. Cllr Giacopazzi said that PKC committees cannot rescind a decision within six months.

**ACTION: CCllr Thomas**

9. **kinross.cc Website:** Postponed to next meeting.

10. **KCCNL Charity Changes:** A report on changes to the Memorandum & Articles of KCCNL had been circulated to community councillors. The actions suggested were agreed, i.e. to pay the solicitor’s bill and to call a meeting of KCCNL Directors and community councillors to discuss various matters.

**ACTION: CCllr Thomas**

11. **New Primary School:** No report made.

12. **Miscellaneous Correspondence:** A summary of all correspondence received since the December meeting was circulated prior to the meeting. Items mentioned were:

- a. **Twenty’s Plenty:** Request from “20’s Plenty for Us” to start a campaign group in our area. The CC decided not to.
- b. **MSPs:** The office manager for MSPs Murdo Fraser, Dean Lockhart, Elizabeth Fraser and A Stewart ask if the CC wishes to bring any particular issues to their attention. Suggestions can be made at the next meeting.

13. **Reports from Ward Councillors:** Cllr Giacopazzi mentioned that the new surface at KGV is being laid.

14. **Any Other Business.**

- a. **Attendance:** Why do so few members of the public attend Kinross CC meetings? Perhaps the Newsletter is too comprehensive.
- b. **Apologies:** CCllr MacKenzie gave apologies in advance for the April meeting.
- c. **Bus information:** CCllr Jack raised an anomaly with the signage and timetable information at the bus stops at the park & ride. The secretary will write to PKC’s Andrew Warrington.

**ACTION: CCllr Thomas**

- d. **Chance Inn potholes:** CCllr Stewart reported that the potholes have returned.
- e. **LUK Quiz:** CCllr Colliar asked community councillors to take part in this (24 February).
- f. **Campus parking:** A query was raised about parking rules at the campus. CCllr Colliar said that some visitors recently received parking tickets while attending an evening event. Cllr Cuthbert asked to be sent the details and he may be able to help with an appeal.

**ACTION: CCllr Colliar**

15. **Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 1 March 2017.**

The meeting ended at 21:34 hours. Minutes are Draft until approved at the next meeting.