

Kinross Community Council

Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 1 March 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 and David West; P&K Cllrs M Barnacle, D Cuthbert and W Robertson. No members of the public.

Apologies were received from: CCllrs M Scott, D MacKenzie and T Stewart; and from P&K Cllr Giacomazzi.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Minutes of meeting of 1 February 2017: Agreed as a true record. Proposed: CCllr Colliar. Seconded: CCllr Bryson.

Police Report: No police present and no report submitted. Recent Area Commander bulletins noted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 1 February 2017

Queen's Tree: CCllr Colliar reported. The trees have not been planted yet. CC members should think about wording for the plaque. Perhaps it should now commemorate the Queen's Sapphire Jubilee (65 years of reign) in 2017, rather than her 90th birthday, which was in 2016. Suggestions could be circulated by email before the next meeting. Thought should also be given to material, e.g. granite, brass, bronze. Cllr Cuthbert has mentioned the tree to the Lord Lieutenant of Perth & Kinross. It might be possible for a member of the royal family to be present for an official ceremony. **ACTION: All**

Defibrillator/Telephone Kiosk: CCllr Davies reported. PKC has submitted its consultation response to BT. The CC expects to hear from BT regarding the CC's wish to take over the kiosk. There is a ten-page contract regarding kiosk adoption. CCllr Davies has met with Mrs Hunter. Apparently there are seven defibrillators in Kinross, but none is registered with the ambulance authority. The ambulance authority provided information regarding maintenance costs etc. A defibrillator located outside a building needs to be in a heated box. Hunters of Kinross customers have raised £500 so far.

Toilets at Pier: Cllr Robertson reported that George Lawrie of TRACKS is looking into costs.

Street Naming: The secretary had passed email correspondence to Cllr Giacomazzi to follow up. Cllr Cuthbert had obtained further information. He confirmed that it is supposed to be local councillors who name streets, and in Kinross local councillors normally consult the CC. PKC officers would like the Kinross-shire councillors to provide a bank of names for future use. It was agreed this is inappropriate, as names should be chosen with the specific location in mind. For example, names of former headteachers would be appropriate for the former High School site.

Bus Stop Information: Andrew Warrington, PKC's Public Transport Manager, responded. It would appear that a member of the public broke into one of the timetable cases and redistributed the information, including sticking one information board with tape on the outside of the 'new' shelter. This action is highly regrettable and has caused unnecessary confusion. Information boards should not be tampered with and if anyone spots an error they should contact the Council's Public Transport Unit (PTU) in the first instance. PTU has now put out new information boards at both bus stops.

The bus stop opposite the park & ride is a second-hand one and although a base real time unit is installed, PKC does not intend to provide an electric connection to allow this unit to function,

or to provide a real time unit in the main Park & Ride shelter. This is because of budgeting constraints. Information for most local bus services can be obtained via Traveline Scotland on the internet and mobile phone apps.

CCllr Colliar would like to consult with PTU to find out what it would cost to enable real time units. This was agreed. **ACTION: CCllr Colliar**

Cllr Robertson has tried to press for real time information to be displayed. One problem is that Stagecoach buses are tracked but Citilink buses are not.

The problem of poor bus service from Edinburgh was discussed. Kinross is now served by fewer express bus services than before. Cllr Barnacle wrote to MSPs after the reduction in service. He believes all Park & Ride facilities should be served as a condition of the bus contract. Cllr Robertson said the Minister appears to have washed his hands of the problem.

Cllr Cuthbert said that there are now two new request bus stops at the south end of the town.

Planning

New Planning Applications

- 17/00202/FLL Alterations to dwelling house, 4 Kirkland Court, Kinross. No CC comment.
- 17/00166/FLL Extension to dwelling house and installation of rooflights, 11 Talla Park. No CC comment.
- 17/00005/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 20m W of Gellybank Farm. No CC comment.
- 17/00299/FLL Extension to dwelling house, 14 Gallowhill Gardens. No CC comment.
- 17/00201/FLL Erection of garage and ancillary accommodation, 103 Lathro Park. No CC comment.
- 17/00069/FLL Erection of 2 dwelling houses, land to the north of Kellieside. No CC comment.
- 17/00320/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2no garages, land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm. No CC comment.
- 17/00096/FLL Change of use of shop (class 1) to café (class 3) and installation of flue, 129 High Street. Agreed to send comment of support.

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

- 16/002247/FLL Alt and ext to dwelling house, Craigwell, Milnathort, Kinross. Approved.
- 16/02132/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and 2no garages, land 50m W of Easter Cockairney Farm. Application withdrawn.
- 15/02158/FLL Erection of 2 houses, former warehouse, Pier Road, Kinross. Approved.

Planning Correspondence and Other Planning Matters

- **Proposal of Application Notice: Erection of holiday park, visitor centre (café and restaurant) and recreational infrastructure, land at Burleigh Sands.** Mailing received from Rapleys (planning consultants) on behalf of Kinross Estate Company and D King Properties (Scotland) Ltd. There will be public consultation events on 29 March (1230-1930hrs) and 1 April (1000-1400hrs). In a letter on PKC's planning portal, Rapleys say that they will present the plans at public meetings of Milnathort CC, Kinross CC and Portmoak CC, but no one has been in touch. Ref on portal: 17/00002/PAN. It was suggested that one joint meeting to present plans might be better than separate ones. It was agreed that the secretary should contact all local CCs to see if they would be interested and also Rapleys. In the meantime, all are encouraged to attend the public events at the campus on 29 March or 1 April.

ACTION: Secretary and All

- **Appeal:** Cllr Barnacle mentioned that application 16/01738/FLL (partial change of use from garden ground to form car sales area in retrospect, Orchard House, Old Cleish Road), which was refused, is going to appeal.
- **Former High School:** CCllr Thomas asked the ward councillors if the plan to convert the Edwardian building to four dwellings has changed. It has not changed, to their knowledge.
- **Numbers in LDP:** Cllr Barnacle referred to some statements made by PKC that numbers of dwellings for sites in the LDP may be varied because there is flexibility for density to be

increased depending on location, e.g. town centres are suited to higher density. He raised the point that surely site locations have already been taken into account by the reporter when examining the plan and therefore the numbers are already at a suitable density for the site.

Scottish Government Consultation on plans for future of Scottish planning system: Further emails and letters with information have been received since the last meeting. It was agreed that members should look at the consultation and email other community councillors with any comments by 24 March.

ACTION: All

Community Website, kinross.cc: Cllr Cuthbert explained that the Kinross-shire Partnership (KP) is no longer receiving funding from PKC, although KP is looking for other sources. KP is joint owner of the website along with Kinross CC, although KP has always had the principal role in administering the website. The possibility of the CC taking full responsibility for the website was raised. It was agreed that a representative of KP should be invited to the next CC meeting to discuss what is involved. See also reference to funding under item 'Secretarial Workload' below.

ACTION: Secretary

Town Centre Regeneration: Response received from Willie Young of PKC regarding measures to be taken on the High Street. These are: (1) Puffin crossing outside Co-op. (2) Move 20mph signs outside Co-op to High Street north of the mini roundabout and introduce them on Station Road on the approach to the mini roundabout. (3) Additional bollards outside the Salutation Hotel. (4) Reflectors on existing stone bollards. (5) Possible Puffin crossing at south end of regenerated area. (Location of bus stop and parking is making this difficult logistically.) Measures suggested by Kinross CC in its letter of 3/10/16 that do not appear to be taken forward are: Bringing back the stop line at the Give-Take by a short distance; Reintroducing Give Way indication at Burns Begg Street junction with High Street; Speed reduction measures; Return of some on-street parking spaces; Signage to indicate shared space at start and end of regenerated section of High Street. A suggestion was made at the meeting that it might be appropriate to extend the 20mph area, i.e. to have it begin at the Kinross Business Centre on High Street and on Station Road at its junction with Swansacre. This was agreed. Secretary to write to PKC. The Secretary should also stress that the CC is keen to see the additional Puffin crossing at the south end of the regenerated area.

ACTION: Secretary

CCllr Bryson referred to an issue Cllr Cuthbert had raised with PKC officers about the number of vehicles passing through the High Street. The recommended maximum number for a street receiving "shared space" treatment is 100 per hour. Cllr Cuthbert said there are around 400 vehicles per hour in Kinross at peak times. CCllr Jack suggested that Cllr Cuthbert obtain traffic figures for shared spaces in other towns for comparison.

New Primary School: Cllr Cuthbert reported. He had attended a Parent Council meeting. The Parent Council is pleased with progress. There won't be a fete this summer. The new building is on schedule for entry in December. Cllr Cuthbert had received comment from a parent concerned that there is no additional support need area. He had also received comment from a neighbour who has requested a change to the landscaping.

Action Partnership: Bids for project grants up to £1,500 are invited. Projects are supposed to tackle inequality and social deprivation. The CC is not keen on the method of choosing winning projects, i.e. by public vote at a farmers' market. The CC agreed to submit a bid that proposes subsidised use of the synthetic pitches at the campus for children during school holidays. This currently costs £2 per child. CCllr Bryson will draft the application. The deadline for applications is 10 March.

ACTION: CCllr Bryson

Miscellaneous Correspondence. Approximately 50 emails had been forwarded to Community Councillors by the secretary since the February meeting and a summary of all mail was circulated before this meeting. Items mentioned at the meeting were:

1. **Hall hire:** Bank details for paying hall hire have changed. The treasurer is aware.
2. **Dog mess:** Email from Blairgowrie and Rattray CC with suggestion regarding action on dog mess. They've asked their local Tesco store to put a poster near the dog food, reminding owners to obtain poo bags. They're asking all CCs to mention this to their local supermarkets. Cllr Davies said that when helping with a TRACKS survey, 90% of comments were complaints about dog fouling. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Sainsbury's and the Co-op.
ACTION: Secretary
3. **Winter service.** Usual request from PKC re performance. Responses required by 21/4/17. It was agreed that the secretary should write with the following comments: More plant is required to be based in Kinross rather than Perth; Snowploughs returning from clearing major roads should clear any minor roads they are travelling on when returning to base; Recently drivers were advised to use the B912 during roadworks, but the B912 was very icy; Request for comments is premature again (weather conditions can be poor into April).
ACTION: Secretary
4. **Castle Huntly:** Community Projects Team officers at Castle Huntly are looking to form links with CCs. It was agreed to suggest two projects: (1) picking up dog mess bags on Heritage Trail and (2) clearing out the burn that runs through Sunnypark Wood. The latter will require a letter to the owner first to request permission.
ACTION: Secretary
5. **TRACKS** are preparing a bid to Sustrans for funding for proposed phase 2 of Kinross to Crook of Devon route and would like a letter of support. Agreed.
ACTION: Secretary
6. **Astronomy lectures and Aerospace update:** All welcome to free event in campus on Thursday 16 March but booking is required. Details in email circulated and in March Newsletter.

Reports from Ward Councillors

PKC Budget: Cllr Cuthbert gave a brief update on the budget process at the Council. He explained that the Independent Group had worked with the Labour and Liberal Democrat Groups and had negotiated the inclusion of a number of items in both the Council's Revenue Budget and Capital Budget. These had included: £250,000 for Action Partnerships, which would mean that the Kinross-shire part of the Action Partnership would have £25,000 available to spend locally in the next financial year; £1,621,000 for road safety improvements, including vehicle activated signs, road crossings, new speed limits and road and pavement upgrades (this was a key objective of both the Liberal Democrat and the Independent groups); £100,000 of capital for new pavements. This budget was completely used up, thereby preventing new pavements being built. (See reference to Gairney Bank in 'Speeding' below).

TRACKS: Cllr Barnacle has written in support of the phase 2 Kinross to Crook of Devon route. (See above.)

Turfhills to Balado: Cllr Barnacle reported that the consultation event at Fossoy on 18 Feb had given rise to a suggestion that there should be a reduced speed limit on the A977 from Turfhills to west of Balado crossroads. This could be 50mph or 40mph rather than the current 60mph. The CC agreed to support this. The secretary is to write to Chic Haggart.

ACTION: Secretary

Speeding: Cllr Robertson has received complaints from residents regarding speeding on Springfield Road in Kinross and the main road south of Kinross at Gairney Bank. There is no pavement at Gairney Bank, making it dangerous for residents walking to the bus stop at Hatchbank Road. It was agreed that the secretary should write to Barbara Renton in support

of the residents' request for a pavement at Gairney Bank. Cllr Robertson to supply the secretary with further details.

ACTION: Cllr Robertson and Secretary

Secretarial Workload: CCllr Davies suggested employing a minute secretary from outwith the CC to help reduce CCllr Thomas's workload but the treasurer stated that the grant is insufficient to cover this. CCllr Thomas is willing to continue taking minutes if the letter-writing duties are shared out more. This was agreed. The treasurer summarised the regular outgoings. The army cadets still owe the CC money for a poppy wreath. Running a community website is a legitimate expense in PKC's grants guidelines for CCs and this CC should ensure that our full annual grant is spent by paying for some of the CC's share of the kinross.cc website costs from the CC grant rather than wholly from Newsletter profits. The secretary is to write to the Kinross-shire Partnership to check payment arrangements.

ACTION: Secretary

Any Other Competent Business

Rural Broadband: CCllr Jack said this is still very slow. Cllr Barnacle has contacts with BT Openreach and offered to pass these on.

Driver warning: CCllr West related that someone recently faced a £100 fine for driving without having properly cleared windows.

Attendance: Members of the CC need to think of ways of encouraging the public to attend the CC meetings.

Hustings: It was suggested that Kinross CC could hold an election hustings, as Portmoak CC are doing. This was not agreed. CCllr West might look into organising a hustings without CC involvement.

Sainsbury's: A car was damaged recently on a post at the parent and child parking area at Sainsbury's. A one-way system in that section may have helped to avoid the incident. CCllr Davies had recently circulated a photo to the CC of the overflowing bottle banks at Sainsbury's. This is the responsibility of Sainsbury's, not the Council. Cllr Robertson will write to Sainsbury's regarding bottle uplift and to offer the one-way suggestion.

ACTION: Cllr Robertson

Campus: CCllr Davies expressed regret that the post for managing and generating events at the campus had been removed, despite council officers saying it wasn't part of the recent review. One person has been appointed to cover events in four campuses, with other campus staff also trained to help. It was agreed that the CC should write to Greg Boland to express concern about the loss of the post and the marketing of the campus venue and to ask for monitoring statistics. CCllrs Bryson and Davies will write. Cllr Cuthbert said that the campus management group should include councillors in future.

ACTION: CCllrs Bryson and Davies

Councillor initiatives: Cllr Barnacle mentioned that he had tried to set up a Fossoway sport hub and wanted to do a survey but had nothing but obstacles put in his way by officers and Live Active Leisure. Cllr Robertson agreed that only initiatives coming from officers seem to be taken forward.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 5 April 2017. Apologies received in advance from CCllr Blyth.

The Meeting ended at 9.38pm.