

Kinross Community Council
Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 3 May 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 Thomas Stewart; P&K Cllr D Cuthbert; Sgt N Forrester and PC A Spalding of Police Scotland; and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies** were received from CCllrs M Scott, D MacKenzie and D West; and P&K Cllrs M Barnacle and W Robertson.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Minutes of meeting of 5 April 2017:** Agreed as a true record. Proposed: CCllr Colliar. Seconded: CCllr Bryson.
4. **Police Report:** PC Spalding reported on recent incidents in Kinross: theft of a LED brick from a garden in Montgomery Street; a break-in to a car in Green Road; some calls regarding youths at Kinross House and egg-throwing at Wilson Court. The first community police surgery held at the Church Centre was successful. They may hold one at the High School soon. The school is supportive and encouraging of the community police's efforts to engage with young people. There were no questions and Sgt Forrester and PC Spalding were thanked for their attendance.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 5 April 2017:**
 - a. **Queen's trees:** CCllr Colliar is obtaining quotes for an inscription. To be discussed at the next meeting.
 - b. **Bus stop real time unit:** CCllr Colliar said there was no feedback yet from A Warrington of PKC public transport unit.
 - c. **Networking event:** CCllr Colliar said this had been quite interesting with one or two useful ideas put forward, but representation of groups could have been wider.
 - d. **Telephone kiosk:** CCllr Davies is completing the form to apply for adoption of the kiosk on the Muirs. Once acquired, this could be the location of a public access defibrillator.
 - e. **Defibrillators:** CCllr Davies reported that Mrs Hunter of Hunters of Kinross has raised £3,500 from public donations. A public access defibrillator will be located at Hunters shop, with plans for a second and perhaps a third at other locations.
 - f. **Sponsored roundabouts:** CCllr Davies is currently preparing a report to send to PKC. He has been observing how other local authority areas indicate sponsorship of roundabouts and has been taking photographs.
 - g. **Litter:** CCllr Davies had not received a reply from the head teacher of KHS. [Post meeting note: a reply was received the day after this CC meeting. KHS would like to engage with Kinross CC to improve the situation.]
6. **Planning.**
 - a. **Applications submitted to PKC:**
 - 17/00510/FLL Extension to dwelling house, 2 Emslie Drive, Kinross. No CC comment.
 - 17/00628/FLL Erection of a showroom/workshop and associated works, land 150m NW of Unit C, Kinross Business Park, Clashburn Close, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Kinross. No CC comment.
 - 17/00506/FLL Demolition of building and erection of 8 flats, land 30m E of 177 High Street, Kinross. A previous application for 9 flats at this site was refused by PKC. No CC comment on this application.
 - b. **Applications determined by PKC:**
 - 17/00380/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land to the west of Balado House: withdrawn.
 - 17/00379/FLL Erection of a dwelling house, land 60m NW of West Courtyard, Balado: withdrawn.

- 17/00497/IPL Renewal of planning permission 14/00186/IPL (erection of a dwelling house) (in principle), land to the rear of Station Road, Kinross: approved.
- 17/00343/FLL Alterations to dwelling house, Myrewell House, 5 Montgomery Street, Kinross: approved.
- 17/00069/FLL Erection of two dwelling houses, land to the north of Kellieside: approved.
- 17/00166/FLL Extension to dwelling house and installation of rooflights, 11 Talla Park, Kinross: approved.

c. **Planning Correspondence and other Planning Matters:**

- **Extensions for comment:** PKC sent an email to all community councils reminding them that if a CC wishes to have an extension to a deadline for a planning application, that CC must contact PKC within 7 days of the weekly list. A CC is given 21 days from the date of reply by PKC to submit a comment. Extensions do not apply to the rest of the community.
- **Persimmon at Lathro Farm:** An email from Nick Brian of PKC in response to the CC's letter was received. PKC is closely monitoring the Lathro Farm site. Mr Brian will respond to other points raised in the letter in due course.

7. **KCCNL Grants Meeting:** CCllr Davies reported on recommendations by the CC following a meeting held on 2 May 2017 to consider twelve grant applications. Anyone who had declared an interest in an application left the room during discussion of that application. The recommendations are:

- **KLEO:** Award a grant of £800 towards the cost of road signs to assist with events, particularly farmers' markets.
- **Otters:** Award a grant of £2000 towards the cost of five back ledges.
- **Milnathort Town Hall Association:** Award a grant of £500 towards the cost of more comfortable seating for the Town Hall.
- **Seamab School:** Award a grant of £360 towards the cost of science education.
- **Powmill in Bloom:** Award a grant of £200 towards the cost of project (theft prevention measures, strimmer purchase and landscaping).
- **Kinross-shire Cricket Club:** Award a grant of £300 towards project to provide storage (acquiring a refurbished storage container, shelving etc).
- **Portmoak CC:** Pledge £1500 towards the project to acquire land to provide public car parking near Portmoak Moss. To be awarded when Portmoak CC confirms they have the balance required to undertake the project.
- **Heart Start:** Pledge £1300 towards the cost of acquiring and installing a second public access defibrillator. To be awarded when a second site has been identified and agreed with relevant parties. Pledge guaranteed until 23 October 2017.

The above figures are not necessarily the amounts applied for by the groups concerned.

The following were unsuccessful on this occasion: Kinross-shire Sport Hub for Park Run project; Kinross Duke of Edinburgh Group for equipment; Fossoway Access & Amenity Group for Penney's Wood access; Hannah Johnstone.

The CC approved the above recommendations, which will be put to the trustees/directors of KCCNL for final approval. Payments will be slightly delayed as the KCCNL charity is in the process of opening a new bank account.

As John Ross of Kinross-shire Cricket Club was present, it was explained why the CC did not recommend awarding the full amount requested. It was suggested by the CC that the cricket club could perhaps obtain a second hand storage unit from Kinross Primary School, which would be disposing of units. Mr Ross said that the primary school units are too large, and the cricket club needs the storage unit urgently, but was very grateful for the sum awarded.

8. **Town Centre Regeneration:** Work to install the puffin crossing has begun, but progress is slow. CCllr Thomas asked Cllr Cuthbert for clarification regarding the junction of Burns Begg Street with High Street. He confirmed that council officers would not take steps to show right of way at this junction. There is no further information on a possible second crossing at the south end of the regenerated area at this time.

9. **New Primary School:** Nothing to report.

10. **Miscellaneous Correspondence:** Approximately 29 emails or other communications had been received since the April meeting. Most had been forwarded to community councillors and a summary provided. One email from George Lawrie of TRACKS suggested funding sources to any community groups that have taken on responsibility for path maintenance. Mr Lawrie plans to attend CC meetings soon to give an update on TRACKS projects.

11. **Reports from P&K Councillors:** As PKC was in “purdah”, Cllr Cuthbert had nothing to report.

12. **Other Business.**

- a. **CC membership:** The Chairman and Secretary were authorised to insert a suitable notice in the Newsletter to advertise applications for a co-opted member or members should any vacancies arise on the CC between the May and June meetings.
- b. **Survey of residents:** CCllr Bryson suggested that as we have just had an AGM and PKC is about to begin a new term, this would be an appropriate time to carry out a survey of residents’ concerns. The CC could take themes from the survey results when drawing up agendas. CCllr Bryson would design the survey etc, which would probably take place in September. This was agreed. CCllr Jack suggested that some words could also be added to each CC report in the Newsletter, inviting residents to raise an issue.
- c. **Contractor performance:** CCllr Davies had been in contact with councillors about the play park at Lathro, which was supposed to have been refurbished. However, it has still not reopened. A response from Cllr Robertson indicated that the delay is due to “poor contractor performance”. CCllr Davies drew parallels with the Kinross High Street refurbishment and the works at the former High School and Lathro Farm sites. However, Cllr Cuthbert pointed out that the High Street refurbishment was of a high standard; any dissatisfaction had been over which measures should or should not have been implemented. The works at the former High School and Lathro Farm sites have not been contracted out by PKC; they are works by a developer on sites purchased by the developer. CCllr Davies hopes that councillors will take a lead on obtaining improved contractor performance going forward.
- d. **Participatory budget:** Several community councillors commented on this recent exercise, whereby a number of community groups received a share of funding following a public vote (“Kinross-shire Decides!”) at the April farmers’ market. Comments made were:
 - The voting process was open to abuse. Residents could vote via a form delivered to each household and then via raffle tickets at the “Kinross-shire Decides!” event. There was no way of checking whether people had voted once or multiple times.
 - Applicants were not made aware that there would be a shortlisting process before going to the public vote. Some organisations were therefore disappointed to be deselected before the vote.
 - One shortlisted project was a Fife-based group, yet the funding was from Perth & Kinross Council for Kinross-shire.
 - Two projects shortlisted (both of which went on to receive funding) were from one organisation yet other organisations were deselected before reaching the public vote for reasons that remain unclear.

John Ross of Kinross-shire Cricket Club, who was present, said his club asked the organising committee why it had been deselected prior to the public vote. They were told it was because they were not a community group! Further enquiries have not been met with a satisfactory response.

It was agreed that CCllr Davies would draft the main points of complaint and forward this to the secretary to put in a letter to PKC officer Keith McNamara, as advised by Cllr Cuthbert.

ACTION: CCllrs Davies and Thomas

13. **Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting of Kinross CC will take place on Wednesday 7 June 2017 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Muirs, Kinross.

The meeting ended at 8.33pm.