

MILNATHORT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, December 8, 2011 in Orwell Parish Church Hall.

In attendance:- CClr Hamilton, chairman, welcomed CClrs Giacomazzi, Halford, Smith, Cottingham, Bennet and Milne-Home to the meeting. Also in attendance were P&KClr Robertson, minute secretary E.Rougvie, PC Riches of Tayside Police and seven members of the public. Apologies were received from CClr Thomson and P&KClr Baird.

Police matters:- PC Riches reported as follows:

- Two campaigns were to be run over the festive period, namely Homesafe, which was aimed at reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, and the national drink/drug driving campaign.
- There had been a theft of construction materials from Tillyrie, which was still under inquiry.
- People are being warned about an internet scam involving a pop-up purporting to be from Strathclyde Police. The message claims that the user's computer has been locked and asks for £100 to unlock it.
- Complaints about speeding in North Street and parking issues at the junction of South Street and the Fairways are being addressed.
- Discussions had been taking place about the proposal to allow an extra 10,000 people into T in the Park on the Friday. The CC were due to discuss this later in the meeting and agreed to pass their comments to the police as soon as possible.
- PC Riches agreed to pass on comments by P&KClr Robertson regarding the police apparently ignoring drivers parking on double yellow lines. Although they can no longer give out tickets, it was felt to be preferable to stop and speak to the drivers concerned rather than driving past.

Adoption of minutes:- The minutes of the November meeting were proposed by CClr Smith and seconded by CClr Halford.

Matters arising:-

- T in the Park meeting: CClr Hamilton apologised for any inconvenience caused to organisers of the T in the Park meeting held in November after the incorrect time for the event appeared in the October minutes.
- Wind turbine policy: P&KC have advised that their policy on the siting of individual wind turbines is currently being updated and supplementary guidance will be issued in the new year.
- Civic Trust seminar: This event, due to be held on December 8, was cancelled.
- Sign at Jessie's Park: P&KClr Robertson has met with the family of the late Mrs Jessie Porter and officials from P&KC and agreed on a design of the sign to be erected at Jessie's Park.

- Donaldson Park: CClr Hamilton has met with the Placecheck team about the areas of long grass in Donaldson Park, which some local residents feel are too extensive. It has been agreed to cut a tractor-width strip on the mound, but the rest will be left to encourage the growth of wild flowers.
- Bike trail: An informal suggestion has been made that Donaldson Park may be suitable for a trials loop. This is only an idea at present and, after discussion, the CC agreed to re-visit the idea in the new year.
- Parking issues: P&KClr Robertson is to write to the council's traffic warden department to ask them to take action in Kinross and Milnathort over illegal parking. The CC endorsed this.
- Church Street: P&KClr Robertson advised that the process of extending the single white line in Church Street would take about 18 months as it is a complicated process but he had started the ball rolling. In the meantime if a vehicle is causing an obstruction by parking on a white line the police can move it on.
- Back Loan: As far as is known there is no truth in the rumours that parking restrictions are to be introduced in Back Loan.
- Benches: CClr Giacomazzi advised that the Kinross-shire Fund was donating £1000 for the purchase of benches to be installed along the old railway track. CClr Bennet will meet with P&KC to discuss their construction and location. The new benches at Tillywhally Wood are to be located in the same place as the original four.

Planning matters:-

Applications received: erection of house at Devon Cottage, Middleton. Noted.

Alteration and extension to house at Devon Cottage, Middleton. Noted.

Modification of existing consent, change of layout and change of house types, plots 1-4, Netherhall Farm. Noted.

Formation of mains water storage and pump facility on land 500m south of Holtonburn Cottage (in retrospect). Noted after brief discussion.

Application decided: Extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage and workshop, 14 Old Perth Road.

Correspondence:-

- Letter from T in the Park organisers re proposal to increase Friday tickets by 10,000. This was discussed later in the meeting.
- Letter from P&KC advising that CClr Giacomazzi has been appointed the CC's data controller. Noted.
- Letter re Voluntary Action Perthshire Winter Watch campaign. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to call 01738 452227. More information is available at www.vaperthshire.org
- Letter from Andy Heer, chair of Auchtermuchty Community Council, asking if the CC wished to comment on proposals to erect a 260-foot wind turbine at Bannaty, less than 1km from the Milnathort boundary. While agreeing not to

comment on this particular application, the CC remind the public that anyone can make comments on any planning applications regardless of the local authority area if they feel it would impact on them.

Other business:-

- T in the Park: P&K Cllr Robertson advised that the licensing committee was shortly due to decide whether to allow the sale of 10,000 extra Friday tickets. Concerns had been expressed by Kinross Community Council and others about the increased traffic. Following discussion, the CC agreed that the situation should be monitored and if problems were created the numbers should be reduced again for 2013.
- Tayside Police: A letter was received indicating that the three divisions of Tayside Police have been merged as an economy measure.
- Placecheck: A letter was received from Diane Cassidy of Placecheck expressing thanks to the CC for delivering newsletters.
- Minute secretary: It was noted that in the KCC minutes reference was made to the secretary of MCC receiving an honorarium. This is not the case. It is the minute secretary, who is not a CC member, who is remunerated.
- TRACKS update: George Lawrie of TRACKS was in attendance to provide an update on the projects that are currently ongoing, including the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. A small section between Kinross Pier and the mill had now been opened and progress was being made with regard to negotiations with the RSPB. The final route would be agreed by June 2012 to satisfy Lottery funding requirements. Mr Lawrie also gave details of a number of cycle routes and footpaths in Kinross-shire that were being created or upgraded. In addition, TRACKS have signed a partnership agreement with the East Lomond Partnership with a view to creating a route between Falkland and Scotlandwell. The statutory scoping procedures were currently being carried out. CClr Hamilton commended Mr Lawrie for his efforts and expressed the hope that the projects would come to fruition.
- Brown signs: It was noted that the brown signs for South Lissens Pottery were still in situ. P&K Cllr Robertson will action.

Members of the public:-

The following issues were raised:

- Tree in Donaldson Park: A member of the public had brought with her a letter from a tree surgeon she had commissioned after P&KC declared that a sycamore tree in Donaldson Park that overhung her garden was not dangerous. The tree surgeon recommended that the tree be removed for safety reasons and wanted to meet with PKC. P&K Cllr Robertson will send a copy to the council and follow it up.
- Complaint re CC: A member of the public complained that a letter he had sent to the CC had not been adequately dealt with at the last meeting. He

was reminded that, as indicated in the minutes, his complaints about faulty drains had been addressed but that the rest of the letter had been considered offensive. It was suggested that he should refer any complaints directly to PKC in future.

- Wester Loan: A member of the public expressed concerns about plans to put a tree in Wester Loan as she felt it could cause problems at night and at weekends when parked cars were lining the street. Councillor Hamilton advised that residents' views had been taken into account by the Placecheck team and they were satisfied that it would not impede the traffic or interfere with the snow-dumping area.
- Donaldson Park: A member of the public sought clarification on the plans for grass cutting in Donaldson Park as he was concerned that nothing was to be done on the other side of the mound where the ground was water-logged. Councillor Hamilton stressed that as far as the Placecheck team were concerned the plans had been fully approved by the community and their only concession was that the mound would be partially cut as indicated previously. In common with other communities in Perth & Kinross, grass cutting would now only take place once a year as a cost-cutting measure, but it was noted that the grass had not been cut in September/October and, after discussion, it was agreed that the CC would contact PKC in this regard. The Placecheck team insist that there were a number of public consultations that were well-publicised and the local community must take responsibility for the actions that have been implemented. Wild flowers have been planted in the park, which will appear in a year or two, and the CC will ascertain which areas are involved before the next meeting.
- Bike trail: In response to a query by a member of the public, Councillor Bennet emphasised that the idea for a bike trail in Donaldson Park had been mooted as part of an informal discussion and Kinross Cycle Club had no involvement.

Date of next meeting:- The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council was arranged for Thursday, January 12, 2012, in Orwell Parish Church Hall.