

MINUTES of a Meeting of Kinross Community Council
On Tuesday 28th November 2023
in the Masonic Hall, Kinross at 7.45 pm

Present: Councillor L McKay, (Chair), Councillor W Freeman, Councillor E Leslie, Councillor B West, Councillor M Wilson, Councillor T Stewart, Councillor C Wilsher, Councillor S Wells and Councillor P Chan.

Ward Councillors: Cllr D Cuthbert, Cllr W Robertson and Cllr R Watters

Members of the Public: 5

Minutes: Mrs C Aird

1. Welcome

Councillor L McKay welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr N Freshwater and PC B Samson, Police Scotland.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest or transparency statements made in respect of any item on the agenda.

4. Police Scotland Report

Whilst no-one from Police Scotland was able to attend the meeting, a report had been provided. Since the date of the last meeting (24th October 2023), there had been 100 calls to Police from the Kinross area, resulting in 29 crimes being recorded on Police systems. This included 12 crimes for thefts at Sainsbury's in Kinross. Officers are investigating these reports. A 36-year-old man has been arrested and charged in relation to six shopliftings with the stolen value reaching around £2000.

Crimes of note (since last meeting 24/10/2023)

DATE	OFFENCE	RESULT
26/10/2023 – 27/10/2023	Theft by housebreaking (Kinross Golf Club)	Subject to live investigation

Community officers continue to carry out speed checks across the area during patrols.

5. Proposed New Pharmacy, 145 High Street, Kinross

Councillor McKay welcomed Raymond Kelly and Kristopher Archibald to the meeting advising attendees that they were here to present and discuss the background to their application for a new pharmacy in the town.

The meeting was advised that Mr Kelly and Mr Archibald had more than 20 years pharmacy experience, having owned/run pharmacies across the area, as well as in Kinglassie and Falkland, with residents from further afield using their services.

Mr Kelly advised that he and Mr Archibald had undertaken some preliminary work to determine how busy the current pharmacies are, and what services they provide. Their findings showed that it would be beneficial for the town to have another pharmacy to meet the needs of residents,

particularly due to the current strain on GP practices and the increasing number of new homes in the area, and they therefore asked to come along to the meeting to hear comments and thoughts on their proposal from attendees.

Cllr McKay confirmed that there had been positive comments on the Facebook page and she would welcome another pharmacy to the town. In response to a comment from Cllr C Willsher, who felt that the potential location was wrong, the meeting was advised that a suitable venue needed to be identified prior to submitting an application. Cllr M Wilson asked if consideration had been given to supplying an automatic dispenser, like the one in use in Milnathort, Mr Kelly advised that while this is something they may look into, they were looking to provide a service where residents could access professional advice, without having to make an appointment with a GP.

Mr Archibald, in response to a question from Cllr S Wells, confirmed that they would be operating as an independent company, something which had to be set up to progress their application. He went on to say that the pharmacy would be known as a pharmacy first plus as they would be able to prescribe medication for a range of illnesses/infections as well as offering vaccination services. They confirmed that they were unaware as to whether other pharmacies in the town offered this service.

In response to a question from a member of the public about employment opportunities, Mr Kelly and Mr Archibald confirmed that there would be a range of opportunities available including dispensers, delivery drivers and technicians. Employees would also be given the opportunity to undertake training allowing them to progress their careers. They both confirmed that they would need to look at the requirements for being a living wage employer but that pay ranges would be wide ranging and increase as employees progressed.

Prior to submitting a joint application, with Tayside Health Board, a survey will be issued asking for comments on whether another pharmacy is required and whether there were any other services which residents would like to see being provided. The survey will conclude in March 2024 when the application will be submitted.

Cllr McKay thanked Mr Kelly and Mr Archibald for coming along and Mr Kelly confirmed that he would forward the survey link which could be circulated. He also confirmed that Mr Archibald and himself would be delighted to come back to a future CC meeting to discuss the matter further.

6. Broke Not Broken

Cllr McKay introduced Annie McCormack to the meeting, advising that she had asked to come along to update members on the work that the group had undertaken.

Ms McCormack advised that the group had provided over 2000 food parcels, supporting more than 2600 children in 2021/22, an increase of 70% and 31% on the previous year. Referrals to the organisation came from a range of organisations including social work, housing tenancies and schools, as well as self-referrals. In 2022, a total of £82,000 had been spent on vouchers and both perishable and non-perishable items, and while they had received a donation from the Thomson Trust, most had come from the community. However, it is expected that more will be spent this year, although donations are reducing, mainly due to the current cost of living crisis. It was noted that 80% of users were women.

While the organisation offers food parcels and energy payments, they also offer a wide range of services including counselling, organised trips during school holidays and support groups. January

and February tend to be the busiest months. They currently operate with one part-time member of staff and 45 volunteers.

In response to a question from Cllr Willsher in terms of what the CC could do to help, Ms McCormack asked for residents to write to MSPs asking what they are doing to help. She said that the system is not keeping up with the increase in requests for help, the eligibility criteria is not fit for purpose, and particularly highlighted that PKC has no poverty strategy and any funding for this is not spent in a strategic way. Structural change is required. It was also suggested that the CC reminds residents to purchase something which can be donated when they are doing their shopping (there is a list of suitable items in Sainsburys). Cllr Wells asked if it was possible to tap into unused Nectar card points and Ms McCormack advised that they could not do this, but that there was a gift card which sat in Sainsburys which people could add funds to. The CC were not aware of this and agreed to advertise this more prominently.

Cllr R Watters asked if any difference had been made following last winter's energy payments and Ms McCormack advised that there had been 35 referrals last week alone.

In response to a question from Cllr W Freeman about contacting bakers etc regarding receiving unsold produce at the end of the day, Ms McCormack confirmed that they had done this during Covid but this had stopped as recipients had felt that this made them feel like second class citizens.

On behalf of KCC, Cllr McKay thanked Ms McCormack for attending to update them on the work of the group.

7. Minutes of meeting held on 24th October 2023

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. These were proposed by Cllr E Leslie and seconded by Cllr W Freeman.

8. Matters arising from meeting held on 24th October 2023

- a) Parking** – Cllr N Freshwater has raised several issues regarding parking in the shared spaces with PKC and these have been added to the list for the road safety programme.

Cllr E Leslie and Cllr R Watters advised that they had spoken with several business owners in the High Street and all had supported the removal of the 1 hr parking restrictions as this caused issues for customers, an example was given of customers of the Funeral Directors being issued with parking tickets. Businesses had confirmed they would be willing to give statements in support of the recommendation.

With regard to the issues highlighted at the previous meeting re irresponsible parking causing issues for a disabled resident, Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he had walked around the town to see the problem for himself, and he was now chasing PKC officers for a date for them to visit. An update will be given in due course.

- b) Bus Shelter (Kirklands Hotel)** – Cllr Cuthbert advised that there has been a delay in replacing the bus shelter due to an issue with the final amount for the claim.
- c) Banking Hub** – Cllr R Watters advised that Cash Access UK had requested a meeting (Cllr Watters will attend the meeting) and an update will be given in due course.
- d) Walking Bus** – the meeting was advised that this had been scrapped due to a lack of volunteers.

9. Kinross Town Centre

- a) **Parking** – further to the discussion in item 8, members were advised that an email had been received from a resident highlighting parking concerns and it was agreed that the email would be forwarded to Councillors. Cllr Cuthbert commented that a request could be made for PKC parking wardens to visit in the evening. He also commented that a new parking restriction was being introduced across Scotland where it would be illegal to park on pavements.

10. Planning Matters

(a) Planning Applications Received

23/01751/FLL - erection of a staff welfare/storage unit, workshop and canopy at Loch Leven Fisheries, Pier Road, Kinross, KY13 8UF.

23/01718/FLL - erection of dwellinghouse (revised design - plot 14) at land 130 metres west of Copperbank, Balado, Kinross, KY13 0NH.

23/01811/FLL - alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of patio at Cottar Fauld, High Street, Kinross.

23/01777/FLL - alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at 20 Cameron Avenue, Kinross, KY13 8BG.

23/01859/FLL - erection of a dwellinghouse at land 20 metres southwest of Braeside House, Hatchbank Road, Gairney Bank, Kinross, KY13 9JY.

23/01819/FLL - alterations to garage to form ancillary accommodation unit at 94 Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AZ.

23/01890/LAW - extension to dwellinghouse and erection of fence (proposed) at 14 Sutherland Drive, Kinross, KY13 8BJ (**in retrospect**).

(b) Planning Applications Determined

23/01369/FLL - extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage/workshop at Lochlea, Hatchbank, Kinross, KY13 0LF (**REFUSED**).

23/01194/FLL - installation of replacement door at Kinross Parish Church, 64 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AJ (**APPROVED**).

23/0137/IPL - renewal of permission 20/00507/IPL (erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle)) at land to rear of Station Road, Kinross (**APPROVED**).

23/01413/FLL – **formation of** access road at land 60 metres southwest of Baltree Farm, Hatchbank for Greyhound Rescue Fife (**APPROVED**).

23/01607/IPL – **erection of** a dwellinghouse (in principle) at land 45 metres north of Chance Inn Farm, Kinross, KY13 0LE (**APPROVED**)

23/01604/FLL - alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at The Bungalow, Brunthill Farm, Kinross, KY13 0LB (**APPROVED**).

23/00323/FLL - siting of combined heat and power unit (CHP) and erection of steam boiler enclosure, transformer and compound, radiator, low temperature hot water boiler enclosure

and fencing at Todd and Duncan Ltd, Lochleven Mills, High Street, Kinross, KY13 8DH **(APPROVED)**.

(c) Other Planning Matters

22/01004/FLL - erection of a retail unit (Class 1), formation of parking areas, landscaping and associated works (LDP site E21) at Auld Mart Business Park, Kingfisher House, Orwell Road, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9DA

There was a general discussion about the applications for Auld Mart Business Park and the BCA site and it was felt that while it would be beneficial to have a choice of retail units (Aldi/Lidl) in the town, there was an impression that there was only support for one.

In respect of the revised planning application for the proposed retail unit at Auld Mart Business Park, there was a discussion around this and in response to a question from CCllr Leslie, it was noted that the CC had not yet submitted any comments on the application. The CC had been given an extension to allow them to submit any comments if they so wished. Following discussion, a decision was taken to vote on whether to support the application or not. Members voted in favour of supporting the application (8 votes) with one member voting against. It was also noted that while one CC member voted in favour, they felt that the location was wrong.

11. Reports from PKC Councillors

Cllr Cuthbert advised that he had completed a walkabout in the town centre following the issue raised by a disabled resident regarding cars parking at dropped kerbs etc and he will chase up PKC about its findings. He also commented that there had been a recent announcement where Scottish Government may start to charge up to double the amount of council tax for second homes, which may affect several residents.

Kinross Newsletter Fund had recently made seven funding awards to local groups.

Glenfarg Transport Hub had recently purchased e-scooters with the Civic Trust providing funding for bike storage/shelters for customers waiting on buses.

Cllr R Watters advised that survey markings had been put down at the bridge connecting Milnathort and Kinross CC areas.

He also reported that flood defence mechanisms had been discussed by PKC the previous day and it had been agreed that the culvert behind Montgomery Way would be redirected.

Cllr Watters advised that the options for the BCA site were being looked at, and that there had been an increase in costs regarding flood prevention. It is hoped that the flood work will be complete by 2025 but it should be noted that any application for the BCA site may take 3 – 4 years to get through the planning process.

Cllr Watters also advised that a report on several options regarding regional transport would be put to the Kinross Partnership Committee in February 2024 and an update will be given at a future meeting.

12. Reports from KCC Councillors

Cllr T Stewart advised that his farm had received two green bins a few months ago and had received a smaller bin yesterday and asked for advice as to who to speak to about this. He was advised to report this to PKC via their portal and he agreed to do this.

Cllr S Wells reported an increase in the amount of dog fouling in the area and although she has reported this to the dog warden, Cllr D Cuthbert asked her to forward him the details and he would also report the issue.

ACTION: Cllr S Wells/Cllr D Cuthbert

Cllr E Leslie asked if it would be possible to have double yellow lines painted outside the primary school to deter motorists from parking there and Cllr Cuthbert advised that this request was on schedule of works for the road traffic programme. Cllr McKay commented that there had been an incident the previous day where an ambulance could not access the tennis club due to parked cars.

Cllr W Freeman asked that sub-committee membership be added to the agenda for the next meeting, with a sub-group for planning to be added to the list.

ACTION: Minute Secretary

Cllr L McKay asked for an update on drain cleaning and was advised by Cllr Cuthbert that this is undertaken on a rotational basis and he would investigate whether any issues had been reported.

ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert

Cllr McKay also commented on the dangerous parking which had been witnessed during the successful festive market in the Muirs/Springfield Road areas.

13. Licencing Applications

No licencing applications had been received.

14. Correspondence

All relevant correspondence had been circulated to KCC members.

15. AOCB

a) PKC Grey Bin

In response a question from a member who sought clarification on whether medication blister packs should be placed in their grey bin, Cllr Robertson advised that information provided by PKC should be followed.

b) KOSAG

David West from the group advised the meeting that the group were close to finalising the second stage of their application regarding their Community Asset Transfer application and it was hoped to submit this prior to Christmas. The group will continue to keep KCC updated on their progress.

c) Remembrance Parade 2023

Cllr McKay thanked everyone for their support and help in making the Parade successful. She also thanked Lodge St Serf for the use of the hall to provide refreshments to the community.

16. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 2142 hours approximately
All minutes are draft until considered at the next meeting