

MINUTES of a Meeting of Kinross Community Council
On Tuesday 26th September 2023
in the Masonic Hall, Kinross at 7.30 pm

Present: CClr L McKay, (Chair), CClr W Freeman, CClr H Phillips and CClr C Collins, CClr T Stewart and CClr S Wells

Councillors: Cllr D Cuthbert and Cllr N Freshwater

Minutes: Mrs C Aird

Members of the Public: 3

1. Welcome and introductions

CClr L McKay welcomed everyone to the September meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from CClr E Leslie, CClr M Wilson, Cllr R Watters, Cllr W Robertson and Police Scotland.

3. Declarations of interest

CClr W Freeman declared an interest in the discussion about twin townings which will be raised under item 13.

4. Police Scotland Report

Police Scotland were unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report as below:

- 86 calls to the Police from the Kinross area with 15 crimes being recorded since the August 2023 meeting.
- Crimes of note (since last meeting)

DATE	OFFENCE	RESULT
06/09/2023	Tender counterfeit currency (Giacopazzis, Kinross)	Subject to live investigation.
15/09/2023	Theft by housebreaking (Seaforth Drive, Kinross)	Subject to live investigation.

- Enquiries continue into the spate of vandalisms to cars in Kinross and this is currently subject to a live investigation.
- Traffic statistics - Community officers are aware of regular areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Kinross. These have all been added to their speeding matrix. Speed checks across the area will continue during patrols.

5. Minutes of meeting held on 22nd August 2023

Minutes of the August meeting were accepted as an accurate record. These were proposed by CClr W Freeman and seconded by CClr S Wells.

6. Potential Kinross Community Action Plan (Bruce Crawford)

Cllr McKay welcomed Mr B Crawford to the meeting and asked him to speak to the meeting.

Mr Crawford gave some background information, advising that in the late 1990s, Kinross Strategy proposals had been put forward and had been well supported in the community, and PKC had created a plan in 2017 but it had been decided that it was not granular enough.

In trying to improve the area, Mr Crawford advised that Kinross-shire Partnership had previously considered creating a plan but had stepped back due to The Big Conversation work but that the time was now right to reintroduce such a plan, the purpose of which is for members of the community to come together as one and to request funding from PKC to improve the services and introduce projects into the community and have shared ownership of these projects. He also advised that Government agencies are leaning on action plans to determine whether potential projects have support from communities prior to implementation.

In considering whether it was appropriate to create a plan, Mr Crawford advised that he had recently met with Cllrs McKay and Freeman and Cllr D Cuthbert regarding the setting up of a Kinross-shire Community Action Plan to determine who would be the most appropriate body to lead on the work. Mr Crawford has also spoken to STAR, a local action group, who were PKC's recommended body to undertake any such work.

STAR has extensive experience of working with rural and small-town communities to prepare Community Action Plans (CAPs). They originally designed the process of CAPs for communities approximately 25 years ago, and it has now become widely used as a way of communities becoming more proactive in shaping their own future.

Their process of CAP has won several awards for its approach to community engagement and more importantly communities have found the process a sound platform for delivering, successful projects, raising and allocating funds, developing partnerships, and influencing decision making, and as such, they believe that the process of preparing the CAP is as important as the final Plan, and that it is done in a way that encourages participation, strengthens existing organisations, and forges partnership working. The resultant Plan is therefore truly community owned, and gives a mandate for Community Councils, Development Trusts, and other community bodies to deliver priority projects and actions.

If the decision to go ahead with a CAP was agreed, STAR (or another group) would be involved in the process for around 6 months undertaking several activities to produce the plan. These include working with a local steering group, undertaking a survey and analysing the results of this, arranging, and participating in community conversations (stakeholder/focus groups), the creation of a community profile (facts and figures, assets, activities, services etc), holding an interactive open day event to feedback results of the process and finally, the production of a CAP. This work obviously comes at a cost and in response to a question from Cllr S Wells, the meeting was advised that STAR (or another group) would apply to PKC for funding, as would KCC, and if successful, the funding would be paid to KCC to pay the group undertaking the work.

Mr Crawford advised that the deadline for submitting an application was fast approaching (14th October) and that KCC would need to move quickly. As such he had populated the application form to help KCC meet the deadline. Cllr D Cuthbert commented that if KCC do not apply for the funding, it would be given to another area. The CAP may also help with LDP3.

Cllr C Collins expressed his frustration at not having had the information prior to the meeting and, while he was not going to object to KCC submitting an application, it felt like a fait accompli. Cllr Collins therefore asked CC members to vote on whether to submit an application or not. This was unanimously carried, with Cllr Collins agreeing on the understanding that his reservations were noted.

Cllr McKay thanked Mr Crawford for presenting the information to the CC, with Mr Crawford confirming that he would be happy to help in this project in any way the CC felt. It was also noted that other CCs in the area could apply for funding.

Cllr Freeman agreed to send an email.

ACTION: Cllr W Freeman

7. Matters arising from meeting held on 22nd August 2023

- Wind Farm – it was noted that the company attended the Milnathort CC meeting on 28th September.
- CC Bank Account – there was currently £236 in the account, and it was agreed that CC would arrange wreaths for the Remembrance Parade and purchase a camera to cover the defibrillator with the remaining funds. Sourcing of extra funds ongoing. Quotes were to be obtained ASAP. In response to a question from Cllr H Phillips, the meeting was advised that the CC had been unable to spend the whole grant from PKC previously due to issues with changing the bank mandate signatories due to the retirement of the previous treasurer.

8. Kinross Town Centre

Cllr Wells advised that new parking signs had been erected at Curate Wynd and Mill Street Park advising that vehicles could not park for more than 72 hours consecutively, otherwise they were liable to a £100 fine. Cllr Cuthbert commented that the parking bays required to be marked out and agreed to contact PKC regarding this.

Cllr McKay and Cllr Phillips commented that the CC were not receiving notifications as often as expected and agreed to contact PKC to ensure that the email address was on their mailing list.

ACTION: Cllr H Phillips

Cllr McKay also raised concerns about a drain cover in Springfield Road. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to investigate this concern.

ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert

9. Planning Matters

(a) Planning Applications received

Prior to discussing the applications submitted to PKC, Cllr Collins advised that he had been successful in requesting extensions to submitting comments on three applications, namely 54/56 High Street, Burleigh Sands golf range and Loch Leven Fisheries Pier.

23/01349/FLL - Part change of use and alterations to building to form 10 short-term let accommodation units, 54 - 56 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AN.

This application is for bed and breakfast type accommodation in the High Street. In response to a question from Cllr Collins about access to the accommodation, Cllr Wells advised that this would be via the car park. Cllr McKay raised concerns regarding the lack of disabled access, and apparent lack of windows. It was also noted that ten parking spaces would be lost. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

ACTION: Cllr C Collins

23/01413/FLL - Formation of access road, land 60 metres southwest of Baltree Farm, Hatchbank.

An application had been submitted for an access road through woodland to the greyhound rescue centre and it was noted that this woodland was classified as 'ancient' (since 1750) and is therefore meant to be protected. It was agreed that CClr Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

ACTION: CClr C Collins

23/01366/FLL - erection of ticket office etc, Pier Road, Kinross.

The CC discussed this application, noting that Kinross-shire Civic Trust had submitted an objection. The CC felt that the application did not match the land photography and that, while they supported the application in principle, there was enough room elsewhere in the car park. It was agreed that CClr Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

ACTION: CClr C Collins

23/01341/FLM - Mixed use development comprising golf driving range (class 11) with café (class 3), retail unit (class 1A), formation of vehicular access and parking, landscaping and associated works, land 240 metres northeast of Lethangie Waste Water Treatment Works, Kinross.

It was noted that the Kinross-shire Civic Trust had submitted a 'neutral' comment about this application and the CC agreed to the same. It was agreed that CClr Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

ACTION: CClr C Collins

23/01537/IPL - Renewal of permission 20/00507/IPL (erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle)) at land to rear of 32 Station Road, Kinross.

23/01194/FLL - Installation of replacement door at 64 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AJ.

23/01369/FLL - Extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage/workshop at Lochlea, Hatchbank, Kinross, KY13 0LF.

(b) Planning Applications determined

22/01587/MWM - Extension to quarry at Balado Quarry, Balado (**Approved**).

23/00997/FLL - Installation of solar panels at 8-10 Piper Row, Kinross KY13 8TF (**Refused**).

23/01131/IPL - Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) at land 50 metres north of The Stackhouse, Hatchbank, Kinross, KT13 0LF (**Refused**).

23/01370/FLL - Extension to dwellinghouse at 8 Gordon Place, Kinross, KY13 8QX (**Approved**).

23/01070/FLL - Siting of an above ground fuel tank and associated works at The Control Tower, Balado Airfield, Kinross, KY13 0RF (**Approved**).

23/00762/FLL - Erection of office/workshop building, formation of parking area, hardstanding and associated works at Land North of Macduff Place, Kinross (**Approved**).

23/01039/FLL - Alterations and formation of balcony at Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX (**Approved**).

23/00794/FLL - Erection of replacement boundary fence and gate at land northwest of Old Cleish Road Kinross KY13 8EN (**Refused**).

(c) Other planning matters

Cllr Cuthbert advised that PKC officers were currently monitoring the use of the recycling centre and the situation will be reviewed in due course.

10. Reports from PKC Councillors

Cllr N Freshwater advised that complaints had been received about rubbish piling up in the garden of a property in Mill Street. PKC have spoken to the tenant and asked for this to be removed.

There is a VAS missing from Gairneybank – this has been reported to PKC but no response yet.

The issue of a pedestrian crossing in Balado has been added to the topics for discussion at the road safety meeting next month. An update will be given in due course.

The VAS in Gallowhill Road is still not working. Cllr Cuthbert is to chase this up.

ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert

11. Reports from CC Representatives

Cllr Wells – raised concerns around speeding at the lower end of the High Street. There were no speed limit signs on the road (20 MPH) and while a survey had been conducted, she had not seen any results. She also highlighted concerns about private parking signs which have been erected, by residents, in Millbridge Hall. These are not enforceable.

Cllr Collins advised that he had not yet sent the email about bin protection and would do so as soon as possible.

ACTION: Cllr C Collins

Cllr McKay advised:

- that PKC arboreal officers are looking into what can be done about the trees in Gairneybank and at LLHC which had been cut down. An update will be given at a future meeting.
- The railing at the bottom of Kinross Primary School at Bowton Road needs replaced. Also requested a 20 MPH limit in Bowton Road.
- PKC are looking at the parking situation at the school. The car park is regularly full of parent's cars. There is also an issue with cars parked on zig zags outside of the school.
- Concerns had been raised regarding farm machinery (tractor) travelling between Kinross and Milnathort at more than 40 MPH.
- To reduce vehicles travelling at speed, she wondered if it would be possible to purchase stickers and would email PC B Samson direct.

ACTION: Cllr L McKay

Cllr Freeman advised that Kinross-shire Committee were looking for a CC representative to join the group. He is happy to continue in that role if the CC were content for him to do so. This was agreed, and Cllr Freeman will advise the CC if he is unable to attend meetings, as necessary.

12. Licensing Applications

No applications had been received.

13. Correspondence

- Town Twin Requests for Scotland
PKC have been in touch following a request from the mayor of a small town in the North of France which have submitted the request. The request was briefly discussed, and it was agreed that Cllr Freeman would obtain more information before a decision was taken.

ACTION: Cllr W Freeman

All other correspondence had been forwarded to the CC.

14. AOCB

- Trees in Gallowhill Road – it was confirmed that the trees were not in a conservation area and had been ‘trimmed’ by a private contractor. Cllr N Freshwater to chase up with Cllr W Robertson.
- BBC Scotland Programme - Debate Night – an email had been received looking for audience members for recordings of the programme in October. Audience tickets can be obtained via www.bbc.co.uk/debatenight and click ‘Apply to the Audience.’
- Hire of LLHC – Cllr McKay raised concerns about the cost of hiring LLHC which included it being overpriced (groups unable to afford the fees) and the inability to block book. Cllr Cuthbert asked for groups to contact him directly with their concerns.
- LLCC Management Group – meeting on Thursday 5th October at 10 am. CC to be represented.
- Cllr McKay requested that Catch be added to the agenda for the October meeting.

ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert

ACTION: Mrs C Aird

No other items of business were raised.

15. Date of next meeting

- Tuesday 24th October 2023 at 7.30 pm

Meeting closed at approximately 2123 hrs.
All minutes are draft until considered at the next meeting.