

**MINUTES of a meeting of Kinross Community Council
On Tuesday 23rd April 2024 at 1930
In the Masonic Hall, the Muirs, Kinross**

Present: CClr L McKay, CClr S Wells, CClr W Freeman, CClr C Willsher, CClr P Chan and CClr T Stewart

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

Members of the Public: 4

Minutes: Mrs C Aird

1. Welcome and Introductions

CClr L McKay welcomed everyone to the May meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from CClr B West, CClr E Leslie, CClr K Spain as well as 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

In the absence of PC Samson and his colleagues, CClr W Freeman advised that a report covering the period from the last meeting in April 2024 had been submitted. It was noted that there has been approximately 88 calls to Police from the Kinross area with 16 crimes being recorded on police systems within this period.

| DATE | OFFENCE | RESULT |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 12/05/2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to provide a specimen of breath for analysis • Threatening or abusive behaviour • Possession of a knife • Careless driving (Travelodge, Kinross Services) | 1 x charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal |
| 14/05/2024 – 19/05/2024 | Vandalism (MO - scratch a vehicle) (Green Hotel car park, Kinross) | Subject to live investigation |
| 19/05/2024 | Vandalism (MO – Smash a glass window) (Avenue Road, Kinross) | 1 x charged and given a recorded Police warning |
| 20/05/2024 | Theft (MO – steal and use a bank card) (Day Centre, High Street, Kinross) | Subject to live investigation |

Community officers continue to make efforts to conduct speed checks across the area during patrols and on 9th May 2024, roads policing officers were on mobile patrol at the Muirs near to Sunnypark, Kinross where they observed a driver to be using their mobile phone whilst driving. The driver subsequently stopped and charged accordingly.

On Thursday 2nd May 2024, PC Samson and PS Craig attended at Kinross High School to speak to a modern studies class who were learning about the work and role of Police. This linked in with the class's ongoing studies.

Should residents have any questions or issues they wish to raise, please feel free to contact us by telephone (call 101) or by email (taysidekinross-shirecpt@scotland.police.uk) PCs Samson or Duncan we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

5. Community Resilience

CCLr McKay welcomed Frank Campbell, Parking & Civil Contingencies Officer, PKC, to the meeting advising he had asked to attend to highlight community resilience and discuss the possibility of setting up a local group.

Mr Campbell advised that PKC were working with social care partners and the emergency services in respect of community resilience and he was looking for the CC's opinions and thoughts on the possibility of setting up a community resilience group in the area to carry out welfare checks on the elderly/vulnerable, distribute sandbags during difficult times, whether that be flooding, power outages, storms.

Mr Campbell advised that SSEN were setting up resilience groups, which will be managed by PKC, to provide equipment (e.g., generators), battery packs, hi-viz vests, torches, urns etc for the community, with PKC providing funding for establishing and supporting the resilience groups in terms of training (first aid, water safety). In order to set up such a group, a plan had to be drawn up, specific to the local area, and help would be available to do this.

CCLr Willsher asked whether Kinross was part of the Perth and Kinross plan and had a couple of initial questions – what could we do? where would the equipment be stored? What about insurance?

Mr Campbell replied that Kinross would be in the generic Perth and Kinross plan, but each local area's plan would be an appendix to that plan. He did not see an issue with storage and would work with the group in regard to this. Insurance would be via the CC insurance, which is ultimately PKC's insurance.

CCLr Wells asked if there were any other groups in Kinross, and Mr Campbell advised that Broke Not Broken may be an option, as they had been fantastic during the Covid pandemic.

CCLr McKay commented that there had been feedback previously and liability and insurance were the main obstacles as people were worried that they would be personally responsible. She commented that if a group were to be set up, a lot of volunteers would be required, and she did not wish to add pressure to anyone.

Cllr W Robertson commented that it would be useful to hear what was proposed, and he believed there was a list of vulnerable people in the area; it would be helpful to get sight of this. In response Mr Campbell advised that there were a number of lists but unfortunately it was not possible to get access to them. Cllr Robertson suggested putting an advert in the next edition of the newsletter to gauge interest in a community resilience group.

A member of the public suggested it would be beneficial for any group to plan for three specific scenarios and for boundaries/safeguarding. In response to a question from Cllr Freeman, Mr Campbell advised that funding was non-recurring so it was unlikely that PKC would take on the maintenance of equipment. He also confirmed that volunteers would be there to reassure worried residents, they would not be expected to go into burning buildings etc to rescue residents.

Cllr Freeman asked about the timescale for using the available funding and was advised that there was no timescale - it would be available until it ran out.

Cllr McKay confirmed that the CC would be willing to look at options and asked if there was a group set up in another area which they could speak to. Mr Campbell suggested speaking to the Blair Atholl group, and agreed to pass contact details to the CC.

Cllr R Watters commented that there had been discussions about an asset register for resilience groups and asked where this was – Mr Campbell advised that Fire Scotland have the register and he was trying to get access to this.

It was agreed that an advert would be included in the next edition of the newsletter with a date for a meeting. It was also agreed that a separate email address be created for this purpose.

ACTION: Cllr L McKay/Cllr W Freeman

On a separate topic, Cllr Robertson asked what could be done to stop people from parking on zigzags and Mr Campbell suggested changing these to double yellow lines.

Cllr McKay thanked Mr Campbell for coming along to the meeting and confirmed that the CC were happy to be a link to the proposed group. Cllr D Cuthbert confirmed that he was also happy to be involved.

6. Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd April 2024

The minutes of the March 2024 meeting were accepted as an accurate record and were proposed by Cllr C Willsher and seconded by Cllr S Wells.

7. Matters Arising from 23rd April 2024 meeting

a) Gallowhill Road Access

Cllr P Chan enquired about the access to Gallowhill Road and the possibility of reducing speed limits. Cllr Robertson advised that there are proposals from Scottish Government to reduce speed limits to 20 MPH and PKC offices are currently reviewing all streets to see if they are suitable for this. An announcement is due at the end of the month. He thought that PKC would be considering Gallowhill Road as part of this, and he hoped that the new Speedwatch campaign would also help to reduce the number of cars speeding in the area.

Cllr Robertson advised that he had met with Trax recently to see if a number of roads in the town could be made more pedestrian/cycle friendly, and if so, Gallowhill Road could be made into a 'green route' which would reduce the speed to 40 MPH. A request to make Gallowhill Road a green route previously had been refused.

ACTION: Cllr W Robertson

In response to a question from a member of the public with regard to the connection of VAS in Gallowhill Road, Cllr Robertson advised that PKC were still waiting on the signs being connected to the electricity.

b) Pavements

Cllr McKay raised the issue of the state of the pavements in the town and the number of potholes etc. Cllr Cuthbert advised that a mechanically operated sweeper is scheduled to visit

on a daily basis but due to staff shortages this had not happened. Appointments had now been made and hopefully this should start to see improvements soon.

c) Parking at Tennis Courts/Station Road

Cllr E Leslie was not present at the meeting so no update was available.

ACTION: Cllr E Leslie

d) KCC Website

At the April meeting, Cllr Leslie was tasked with contacting the editor of the Newsletter to gain access to the Website but due to Cllr Leslie's absence, there was no update available.

ACTION: Cllr E Leslie

8. Kinross Town Centre

Cllr McKay questioned the narrowing of the barriers and Cllr Cuthbert advised that replacement barriers had been ordered and PKC were to check whether these had been delivered to Tayside Contracts. Cllr Cuthbert agreed that the area needs widened but that would mean road safety teams being involved and their work had been diverted to 20 MPH work instead.

There are currently 105 jobs on the work list and these need to be prioritised. In response to a question with regard to the impact of the shared space with regard to pavement parking, Cllr Cuthbert did not know the answer to this.

Cllr Wells commented that the issue may be helped by the removal of the parking restrictions at the bottom of the High Street.

Cllr McKay commented that Springfield Road was due to close in July for 3 – 4 weeks for works.

Cllr Wells enquired about the additional spaces in Millbridge Hall car park and while there was no update, Cllr Cuthbert advised that the current spaces were slightly smaller than they should be and any redesign works may result in a reduction of the number of spaces.

Cllr Robertson raised a concern re a slight sightline issue with the two vans parked on Clashburn Road and was advised that as the vans were parked on private land, there was nothing the CC could do about this.

Cllr Chan enquired about the repair of the wall at Greens and was advised by Cllr Willsher that the wall would be repaired once the insurance money had been received, and a team had been put together to repair it.

9. KCC Website

Cllr McKay advised that she had been unable to contact the editor of the newsletter and asked for the item to be added to the May agenda.

ACTION: Minute Secretary

10. Planning Matters

(a) Planning Applications Received

24/00720/FLL - erection of dwellinghouse, garage, installation of air source heat pump and associated works (revised design - plot 4) at land to the south of the A977 Balado.

(b) Planning Applications Determined

2400154/FLL – erection of storage building (in part retrospect) at Turfhill's Depot, Turfhill's, Kinross, KY13 0NQ (**APPROVED**)

24/00607/FLL - extensions to dwellinghouse at 71 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EH
(APPROVED)

(c) Other Planning Matters

None

11. Reports from PKC Councillors

Cllr N Freshwater advised that the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service had recently issued a consultation “Shaping Our Future Service: Your Say” and he asked for the link to be included in the minutes ([Shaping our Future Service: Your Say | Scottish Fire and Rescue Service \(firescotland.gov.uk\)](https://www.firescotland.gov.uk)).

ACTION: Minute Secretary

It was suggested that the CC review the consultation and submit a response.

ACTION: All

Cllr Cuthbert advised that there had been two objections to the South Kinross Flood Scheme and if the objections cannot be resolved satisfactorily, then they would go to a public hearing. It was not possible to find out what the reasons for the objections were.

Cllr Cuthbert also advised that there would be a public meeting of the Community Transport Forum on 28th June (7.30 pm, venue likely to be LLCC) with regard to public transport provided in the area. It was noted that the 202 service was not reliable and discussions are ongoing with the hope of Glenfarg Transport taking over the route.

It was suggested that this may be evidence that the route was required and could be used to show bus operators this. Cllr Mckay also commented that the Ember service was excellent, with travellers having the opportunity book online, as well as track the services.

Cllr Cuthbert advised that the play park at Weaver’s Gait was in a temporary position and once the 100th house had been built/occupied, the park would be moved to its permanent position.

Cllr Robertson advised that a resident had contacted him to ask if it would be possible to fund seats/benches along the Old Railway line and he confirmed that funding was available. Cllr Mckay advised that this was spoken about when the land/park was being renovated and she was happy to submit an application. There was also a suggestion for seats/benches on The Muirs/road to the Health Centre and near the fire station.

ACTION: Cllr L McKay

Cllr Robertson also advised he had been reviewing the PKC LDP and suggested that a new community hospital be proposed as people often need palliative/recuperative care and often have to travel outwith the area which causes additional pressures/stresses on family. It was agreed that this should be looked into.

ACTION: Cllr W Robertson

Cllr Watters advised that he had been contacted with regard to issues with paths in Lathro Meadows (Lath Dubh Lane) and that there were no paths on the Persimmon Homes plans. He advised that a PKC Enforcement Officer had pre-empted issues and had been chatting with Persimmon Homes who had already agreed to do this.

Cllr Watters also advised that a new bridge had been placed near Persimmon Homes and in response to a question from Cllr Robertson, he confirmed that once adopted, PKC would be in touch with Persimmon Homes.

Cllr Watters advised that the draft transport plan was out for consultation and also reported that PKC’s trial of using vegetable oil to fuel refuse lorries appeared to have been successful with no

issues being reported. PKC are to review the trial with a view to moving all vehicles over 3.5 tonnes to use vegetable oil as fuel.

Applications for both wind farms had been logged with the energy conservation unit. There was a meeting arranged for the end of June re the wind farm at Braco. An email re a memorandum of understanding with regard to distribution of funds has been sent to CC and all agreed to sign this.

Members were advised that the PKC 'Let's Talk Transport' report is available (<https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/communities/lets-talk-transport/>) and it would be beneficial for as many responses to be submitted as possible.

12. Reports from CC representatives

Cllr Willsher reminded those present that last year, PKC had stopped the Green Hotel from having a beer tent last year but that they had now given approval (for 3 years) for the same over the summer months. While Cllr Willsher was pleased to see the space being used, he advised that he had been asked by the Sir Alan Smith Gardens (SASG) residents association to raise an issue with regard to the facility, which is adjacent to their homes.

Cllr Willsher advised that the main concern related to the safety of children (some who appear to be as young as 3 years old), who are left unsupervised by the parents, as they are not allowed inside the enclosure, to play in the field. As you would expect, the children tend to gravitate towards the fence surrounding the pumping station to play ball games, which inevitably means the balls frequently cross the boundary into SASG or go into the locked pumping station enclosure. This results in children regularly crossing the wire fence as well as climbing the pumping station fence to retrieve balls and an example was given of an incident the previous weekend when a young child followed an older child over the fence and into the road when a delivery van was travelling in excess of the speed limit, and it was only sheer luck that a serious accident was avoided.

In response to a question from Cllr McKay, Cllr Willsher advised that concerns had been raised with the Green Hotel last year without success so they had not spoken to them about the current issues. Cllr McKay confirmed she would speak to the hotel on behalf of the resident's association.

ACTION: Cllr L McKay

While the SASG residents acknowledged that PKC had approved a noise management plan, which will be monitored closely by SASG residents, and the residents were mainly supportive of the application, it was noted that there now appeared to be a smaller marquee in the park which housed a pool table and therefore invited a different type of clientele to the park, and the CC were asked whether this complied with the planning approval which was granted. Concerns were also raised that with the forthcoming football competition, there would be TVs installed in the marquee, again increasing noise levels.

Cllr Freshwater advised Cllr Willsher and the residents association to raise their concerns with the Planning Department at PKC since any activities that are to be held in the market park would have needed to be listed on the planning application. Cllr Robertson agreed with these comments and suggested that the hotel management did not have total sight of what was happening in the park at all times. He also commented that if there serious concerns raised with regard to noise, licences can be revoked.

A member of the public commented that there was a duty of care to measure noise levels but they had no information as to how often this was taking place. They went on to advise that there

are a number of vague statements made by the Green Hotel in their planning application such as children only allowed until 9 pm and permitted access was only allowed if they were 'accompanied' by an adult – there is no specific instruction as to who this adult should be, e.g., a parent/guardian.

The hotel are advertising all types of events but there is no evidence of bouncers or gatekeepers and no indication of noise levels reducing after 11 pm (as per the application) or being checked. Cllr Robertson commented that PKC can provide noise level checking equipment to residents to check on these levels and report back. He advised that there had previously been issues with other establishments whose events/customer behaviour were affecting the lives of nearby residents.

Cllr McKay suggested that the resident's association look at the myPKC portal (<https://my.pkc.gov.uk>) where they would be able to record their concerns.

Cllr Willsher advised that he would contact PKC with regard to the marquee, liquor licence and noise levels and report back.

ACTION: Cllr C Willsher

In response to a question from Cllr Robertson about the removal of the fence around the pumping station, a member of the public advised that the screening hedge planting appeared to be incomplete. Cllr Cuthbert advised that he had asked about the adoption of the road but had heard nothing further so he will chase for an update.

ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert

13. Licensing Applications

While no applications had been received, Cllr Wells enquired about the fast-food van which had appeared in the town. Cllr McKay advised that she had contacted PKC for more information about this but she could not be given any information without submitting an FOI request. Cllr Wells advised that the application was dated 19th April but it was noted that the CC had not received a request to comment on the application.

14. Correspondence

While all appropriate correspondence had been circulated to Members, Cllr McKay raised the issue of bike storage/shelters at Mill Street and while she had previously invited residents to attend a meeting, they had not taken up the offer. After discussion, it was agreed that the residents should be advised to contact Cllr Watters.

15. AOCB

Portrait of HM King Charles III

The portrait had now been received and suggestions were requested of where to place the portrait.

ACTION: ALL

Kinross Show

A member of the public wanted to thank KLEO for their help with the parking at Saturday's show.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 1930 hrs in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Meeting closed at 2125 hours approximately
All meetings are draft until considered at the next meeting.