

**DRAFT Minutes of a meeting of Kinross Community Council  
On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 1930 hrs  
In the Masonic Hall, the Muirs, Kinross**

**Present:** CCllr L McKay, (Chair), CCllr W Freeman, CCllr S Wells and CCllr P Chan

**Ward Councillors:** Cllr D Cuthbert and Cllr W Robertson

**Members of the Public:** 30 approx.

**Police Scotland:** 3

**Minutes:** Mrs C Aird

**1. Welcome**

CCllr L McKay welcomed everyone to the October 2024 meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from CCllr E Leslie, CCllr C Wilsher, Cllr N Freshwater and Cllr R Watters.

**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**

Representatives from Police Scotland were in attendance at the meeting

PC B Samson started the report by giving an update on the dog incident from Sunday, advising that he and his colleagues were unable to discuss in detail due to the incident being part of an ongoing investigation.

He advised that Police Scotland had become aware, earlier in the month, of four large dogs living in the accommodation. A joint visit with the dog warden had been undertaken where the dogs had been assessed and measured, the results of which did not require the dogs to be identified as XL bully dogs. In response to a question from a member of the public, PC Samson advised that if animals, in this case, dogs attacked other animals, it was a case for the dog warden and the police only get involved if a dog attacks a human.

There had also been an incident the previous Thursday which they believe involved the same dogs and therefore the police had collated information and shared this with the dog warden.

On Sunday, a call had been received at around 1429 hrs regarding a dog attack which resulted in the death of another dog. On receipt of the call, police were at the incident very quickly where the dogs were contained in a house, and firearms colleagues joined their police colleagues. The incident involved an attack on two dogs in the High Street/Burns Begg Street, resulting in the death of one dog and its owner also being injured. At this point four dogs were deemed as dangerous and were seized by the police, with a report being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal in due course.

Sgt Mark Craig commented that he and his colleagues have a really good relationship with the dog wardens, and the four dogs which were seized would not be returning to the property. Since

becoming aware of these dogs, Sgt Craig advised that the police had done everything they could with the powers available to them. In response to a question from Cllr Mckay, the meeting were advised that two dogs were allowed to stay in a council property at any one time.

The audience members raised a number of concerns regarding the dog's owner who they said mistreated the dogs resulting in them being aggressive, assaulted residents, failing to keep the property and garden in an appropriate state and despite logging complaints/concerns with PKC, each member of staff gave a different answer to the same questions.

Cllr Robertson advised that he PKC had been engaging with the tenant but that things had deteriorated and as such he had contacted the Head of Housing at PKC to raise concerns on behalf of residents.

Sgt Craig appreciated the concerns of the audience and having worked with dangerous dogs before, he said he was comfortable with the decision which had been made that the dogs did not meet the XL bully criteria. He also said that if the dogs are running loose then a joint visit with the dog warden would be undertaken where the warden can issue a dog control notice. This would have been a consideration but there had been such a short period of time between the two incidents that this could not be arranged. Sgt Craig reminded the audience that the investigation was ongoing and that if people had seen the tenant mistreating the dogs, or training them to attack, then to were trying to trace the tenant to speak to him about the incident, and they were working with PKC.

In response to a question from a member of the public, Sgt Craig advised that the decision as to whether the dogs would be destroyed was not for the police to take, and in response to a question from a member of the public, Sgt Craig advised that there had not been sufficient time between the two incidents (Thursday and Sunday) to arrange a joint visit with the dog warden.

The audience advised that residents were scared, not just of the dogs but also of the tenant and as such, PKC need to deal with the matter urgently. Cllr Mckay asked residents to contact the ward councillors with concerns, which they would raise with PKC.

Residents were extremely concerned that the tenant may return to the property that evening and Sgt Craig advised that if he did return, which they had a legal right to do, he hoped that there would be no animosity/aggression/criminality shown by him but if there was, residents should not hesitate to contact the police, either by phoning 999 or by visiting the station.

PC Ashleigh Duncan advised the audience that they should not assume that someone will report an issue, everyone should report their concerns to PKC, that way PKC would need to work to resolve the matter. A member of the public advised that, on reporting incidents to PKC, they had been told that they were the only person complaining and they could not understand why PKC were saying this, particularly when the person had evidence of emails and calls being made to PKC. Cllr Mckay asked for that evidence to be forwarded to Cllrs Cuthbert and Robertson.

A member of the audience asked if the dog warden and PKC had been invited to the meeting with Cllr Mckay advising that there was not enough notice to do so.

In a separate issue, a member of the public raised an issue with regard to damage to his property by another tenant, with drug users, a car being set on fire and Cllr Cuthbert agreed to chase PKC with regard to this.

**ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert**

Another member of the public advised that they had been involved in an incident in Kirkgate Park where the warden had issued a dog control notice to another dog owner, and despite asking for details of what that notice involved, PKC would not disclose the information.

In closing that particular part of the discussion, Sgt Craig advised that he and his colleagues are dedicated to making Kinross a safe place to live and they too are devastated with what has happened. PC Duncan reminded the audience that if anyone needed support having witnessed the traumatic incident, they should contact the police.

Moving onto the rest of the report, PC Samson advised that since the last KCC meeting, there had been approximately 105 calls to Police from the Kinross area of which 15 crimes recorded on Police systems.

**Crimes of note (since last meeting 24/09/2024)**

DATE	OFFENCE	RESULT
25/09/2024	Dangerous driving, threatening or abusive behaviour, fail to stop / report a road traffic collision  (Junction Road, Clashburn Road and High Street, Kinross)	2 x charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal
05/10/2024	Threatening or abusive behaviour  (Church on High Street, Kinross)	Subject to live investigation
20/10/2024	Dog(s) dangerously out of control in any place  (High Street and Burns-Begg Street)	Subject to live investigation

**Traffic Statistics**

Community officers are aware of the regular areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Kinross. These have all been added to the speeding matrix and Police will continue to make efforts to carry out speed checks across the area during patrols.

On 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 roads policing officers were on mobile patrol on The Muirs, Kinross when they stopped a vehicle with excessively tinted windows which resulted in the driver being issued with a ticket.

**Community Team Activity**

Please follow the team on their Twitter page, @PSOSPerthKin, where regular updates on what they are doing active in the local area under #KinrossCPT

PCs Samson and Duncan have been carrying out talks at Kinross High School with 4<sup>th</sup> year pupils in relation to drugs - all talks have been a success with pupils engaging well.

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024, PCs Samson and Duncan held a community drop-in session at the Kinross Community Campus. Despite being advertised in the local newsletter and on Police Scotland's social media, the turnout was disappointing. There are no current plans to hold similar events in the future. Cllr Mckay suggested that holding future events at the bottom end of the town may help attendance figures.

#### 5. Minutes of Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024

The minutes of the August 2024 meeting were accepted as an accurate record and were proposed by Cllr S Wells and seconded by Cllr P Chan.

#### 6. Matters Arising from 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024

- **Community Action Plan** - Cllr Freeman confirmed that funding had been obtained to create a CAP for Kinross. Cllr Mckay advised that an external agency would undertake a letter drop survey to residents to ask what they would like to see in Kinross. There is a one year time limit for the survey, with timescale still to be confirmed.
- **Double Yellow Lines at Primary School** – Cllr Cuthbert advised that this was going through a legal challenge and it was unlikely that the lines would be implemented soon as PKC are concentrating on implementing the 20 MPH limits.
- **Glenfarg-shire Stronger Together Community Meeting** – minutes from the meeting had not yet been received.
- **Refuse Bin Straps** – issue resolved.
- **KCC Website** – no update available due to Cllr E Leslie's absence.

#### 7. Kinross Town Centre

##### • **Unauthorised use of land at Old Cleish Road Development**

Mr A Vaughan, who had attended previous meetings, to discuss the issues relating to the activity at the Old Cleish Road development advised that he had forwarded his concerns regarding the Section 71 to Cllrs Robertson and Cuthbert. It was noted that Mark Dunlop from PKC had refused the request for a site visit.

##### • **High Street traffic issues**

The email from the member of the public which had been received with regard to the traffic issues had been forwarded to Cllr Cuthbert.

Cllr Mckay enquired as to what the issue was at Greens and was advised that the blocks were sinking due to subsidence and despite reporting the issue earlier in the year, work had not yet commenced. Cllr Robertson is to contact PKC for an update, and Cllr Mckay agreed to write to PKC asking them to arrange repairs as a matter of urgency.

**ACTION: Cllr W Robertson/Cllr L Mckay**

#### 8. Planning Matters

##### (a) **Planning Applications Received**

No update was available.

##### (b) **Planning Applications Determined**

No update was available.

**(c) Other Planning Matters**

**21/00037/FLL-** part change of use from café/takeaway to retail (Class 1) – it was noted that this application was for a book shop and concern was raised with regard to the paint colours which had been used. These appeared to contravene the conservation area rules and it was agreed that contact be made with PKC to advise them of this.

**ACTION: Cllr L McKay**

An email had been received from the architects dealing with the site at the Boathouse. It was noted that two planning applications had been submitted to PKC – one application detailed the alteration, refurbishment, and extension of the main Boathouse building, and the other detailed the erection of a separate store and permanent welfare office building for Historic Environment Scotland. While these applications have been submitted, they have been done so after the owners carried out an appraisal and fuller investigation of the previous recently consented scheme, which subsequently determined that it did not fully justify the potential opportunities at the Boathouse.

Following more detailed consultations, the owners propose to submit further planning applications which would detail proposed landscaping, interpretation, and wayfinding on the site.

As such, the architects are keen to meet with KCC and invited members to a meeting on 29th of October at 10am to discuss the proposals.

A member of the public enquired as to whether someone selling cars required a licence and Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that this was correct. The member of the public was advised to report this incident to David Rankine in the Licensing Department at PKC.

Cllr Cuthbert advised that he had forwarded the concerns re the Section 71 for Old Cleish Road to Mark Dunlop at PKC who had advised he would look into these.

**9. Reports from PKC Councillors**

Cllr W Robertson advised that he had been contacted by the residents of The Sycamores with regard to parking issues and requesting double yellow lines be painted at the junction. Having spoken to PKC it was agreed to have white lines painted out onto the main road but this is unlikely to happen until Spring 2025.

Cllr Robertson also took the opportunity to request residents to cut back vegetation. It was agreed that this request be included in the newsletter.

**ACTION: Cllr L McKay**

Cllr Robertson advised that Tracks had received funding to upgrade the final third of the heritage trail, and this will be completed in Spring 2025.

Cllr Cuthbert advised that due to the strikes, LLCC was closed which had resulted in a number of users being unable to follow through with their bookings.

**10. Reports from CC representatives**

Cllr P Chan commented that despite the property at 35 Simpson Wynd submitting a planning application for a garage conversion, which had been granted, the property had now been sold.

Cllr S Wells asked if there was any progress on the removal notices for the vans at Clashburn Road and Cllr Cuthbert advised that he would chase this as he had not heard anything.

**ACTION: Cllr D Cuthbert**

Cllr McKay advised that the King's Portrait would be hung in the Church.

She also advised that the quote for the KCC signs/banners had been approved and as such only the wording needed to be agreed. After discussion it was agreed that the signs would read "Kinross Community Council All Welcome"

Cllr McKay also advised that she had been visited Dunkeld recently and picked up a map which showed the town and had details of all the shops in the area. While it was agreed that this would be helpful to have for Kinross, there was concern as to who would draw the map and keep the information up to date.

A meeting of KCCNL was required to be arranged.

**ACTION: Cllr L McKay**

It was noted that parents/guardians were struggling with the strikes currently underway in the area.

### **11. Licensing Applications**

No licensing applications had been received.

### **12. Correspondence**

- **PKC Pavement Parking Ban**  
It was noted that PKC planned to implement the pavement parking ban with effect from November 2024.
- **Overgrown Hedges**  
Concerns have been raised again with regard to overgrown hedges and trees and the CC took the opportunity to remind residents of the need to cut back hedges and trees to avoid this.
- **Road Crossings**  
Concern again raised with regard to the lack of a crossing at Springfield Road. Cllr McKay asked anyone who had concerns about this, to please pass these to the Councillors. It was noted that there was only one pavement in Sutherland Drive/Springfield Road and a question was raised as to whether it would be possible to have another pavement created.

All other correspondence had been dealt with.

### **13. AOCB**

- **Remembrance Parade**  
Cllr Freeman took the opportunity to remind the meeting that the Remembrance Parade would be held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November with a service at the church followed by refreshments at the Masonic Hall. Donations for the refreshments were requested.

He has arranged to get access to the Court House for the sound system and was looking for volunteers.

Cllr McKay is to put a notice in the next edition of the Newsletter.

**ACTION: Cllr L McKay**

- **Community Council Vacancies**  
Cllr Freeman advised that there were a number of vacancies for the Community Council and invited interested parties to apply via the PKC website (<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/14906/Community-Councils>) .

No other items of business were raised.

**14. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 1930 hrs in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Apologies have been received in advance from Mrs C Aird.

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