



MILNATHORT AND ORWELL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft minutes for Thursday, 13th February, 2025

1 Welcome and apologies

The meeting started at 7.31 pm

Neill Bingham (chair), Kevin Heneghan(vice-chair), Allan Macrae (Secretary),
Audrey Wanless (Treasurer), PKCllr Richard Watters , PKCllr Neil Freshwater, PKCllr
David Cuthbert

Apologies

PC Ben Samson, PKCllr Willie Robertson, Phil Britton

Audience – 7

Key:

PKCllr – Perth and Kinross Council Councillor

CC – Community Council

CCllr – Community Councillor

MPS – Milnathort Primary School

2 Minutes and matters arising from last meeting

No matters arising from the December minutes

Proposed – Audrey

Seconded – Kevin

3 Police matters

The police were not present.

4 Actions from previous meeting

Fleming Court gate has now been left open by Hillcrest Housing which enables residents to walk from Fleming Court to Lathro and vice versa helping with the Safer Routes to School. Thanks to PKCllr Watters for facilitating this with Hillcrest, the farmer and PKC officers.

Replacement of the gate from the LATHRO field on to South Street is awaiting adoption by PKC from the Persimmon developer. PKCllr Watters updated that Persimmon developer updated that they expect the adoption of the first phase of the new Lathro development which includes the bridge and path to be complete soon.

5 Correspondences

R100



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The Scottish Government is investing in broadband infrastructure in your area through its **Reaching 100% (R100) programme** and we're keen to get your support to help gather feedback.

The £600+ million programme is extending access to faster broadband to sub-30 Megabits per second homes and businesses who are unlikely to receive upgrades through commercial plans. You can find out more about R100 at: gov.scot/digitalconnectivity.

To understand whether and how households and organisations have benefited from R100, the Scottish Government is undertaking an evaluation of the programme. As part of this, we are surveying households and organisations who:

- Are **scheduled to receive** broadband access via R100 but **have not yet been connected**
- Have been **provided with broadband access via R100** and **have** taken up the connection
- Have been **provided with broadband access via R100** but **have not** taken up the connection

The surveys are available online and can be accessed at:

<https://tinyurl.com/R100Evaluation>

Developing Community Energy

'Developing Community Energy in Perth & Kinross' workshop scheduled to take place on **Wednesday 19th of February** has been launched on Eventbrite, Follow the link below to sign up and for more details such as exact timings and location.

6 Roads

No PKC updates

Neill, along with some residents, officers from PKC and PKCllr Watters had a meeting in the town and walked around the problem areas to understand the options to help reduce speeding, congestion, careless driving and accidents. Traffic lights were suggested at the roundabout in the centre of town (New Road, Wester Loan, Stirling Road, South Street). The PKC Officer highlighted that if traffic lights were installed then on the occasions that the M90 traffic was detoured through the village, there could be a number of large lorries, queued traffic at very early times in the morning, causing pollution and noise along all approach roads. The outcome of the meeting was for the residents to identify what we would like to be put in place to reduce speeding. To help identify what is needed a walk around the town will be organised by Neill in the following weeks.

It was highlighted by PKCllr Watters that as part of the Active Travel Plan for Kinross-shire it was proposed that there should be a pedestrian crossing across



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South Street and also Stirling Road, and that PKC will be asked to consider traffic lights that remain at red until traffic is driving at the speed limit.

An observation from the meeting in the town was that it might help if the street signs were cleaned and obstructions removed that appear to be blocking them.

Neill also raised the issue of pavement parking and reminded residents that it is now an offence to park on the pavements and enforcement officers are out in the village at all hours, and check on all roads and not just the main thoroughfares.

7. Milnathort Primary School

No update as on Primary School is on holiday

8. Core Paths Update

We've been active after storm Eowyn which caused several trees to fall on many of the Core Paths in our area. We shifted these trees by brute force or by cutting them up with a borrowed chain saw. We asked the landowner's permission before we did this.

Following confirmation of the rental of a site at Auld Mart we're having our secure unit delivered in March. We'll prepare the site before this date and lay slabs to provide a secure base for the unit. The unit will arrive flat-packed and we'll build it onsite. This enables us to store our tools in one place, rather than them taking up space in Core Path Group members' garages and sheds.

We're aware that the arrival of Spring is also the time birds begin nesting, so branch trimming and cutting back will be done so as not to disturb any nest-building.

9. Planning

Applications

24/01907/FLL	P8- Kinross-shire	Alterations and extension to outbuilding to form ancillary leisure/games facilities, swimming pool and associated works at The Stables, Shanwell House, Milnathort for Mr D Hynd c/o CRGP Ltd Ross Geddes	14-Feb-25
25/00067/FLL	P8- Kinross-shire	Erection of Class 4 Business unit at Land 90 Metres West Of 1 Orwell Farm Kinross KY13 9HB for Orwell Farm Ltd	21-Feb-25
25/00139/42L	P8- Kinross-shire	S42 to vary condition 16 (use limited to Class 4: Business) of permission 20/00498/FLL to permit additional use as Class 6: Storage and Distribution at	28-Feb-25



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		1 Orwell Farm Kinross	
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Decisions

24/01730/FLL	P8- Kinross-shire	Erection of agricultural building Blairfield Farmhouse Milnathort Kinross KY13 OSG for Cygnet PB Ltd c/o Algo Design And Build Lucy Normand Algo Business Centre Glennearn Road Perth PH2 0NJ	Approve the application
24/01764/FLL	P8- Kinross-shire	Erection of 2 garages and associated works Shanwell House Milnathort Kinross KY13 ORG for Mr Dale Hynd c/o CRGP Ltd Ross Geddes 145 North Street Glasgow G3 7DA	Approve the application

The Community Council will write a letter of support for Orwell Farm Planning application due to the benefit to the community that Orwell Farm brings to the area, through employment and business opportunities. Neill raised this suggestion at the meeting which was agreed by all Community Councillors present and with no objections from the audience.

LARGE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Windfarms / Aldi / Loch Leven Gateway (ex-BCA site)

The owners of Loch Leven Gateway at the old BCA site have been advertising for bidders interested in taking on a plot at the site which may include residential enquiries. PKCllr Freshwater gave an update that he had contacted the developers for an update on their retail development in light of the advert. The developers are still wanting to pursue a retail solution however Aldi have decided to not progress a store in Kinross-shire and Lidl have put on hold any new retail developments until later in the year. The developer highlighted that the retail development is not viable without a Lidl or Aldi supermarket.

PKCllr Watters updated that there are 2 objectors to the flood defences which will likely cause a 12 month delay to the work starting and that a local enquiry is likely to be required to resolve the objections. He also clarified that no development at Loch Leven Gateway whether retail or housing is likely to be approved by PKC without the flood defences being in place.



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10. Sustainability Group

Last meeting last month in Cliesh, all CC's were there bar Kinross and Richard W MoU signed by CC's to work collaboratively develops are waiting to be decided by ECU and PKC, so both are needing to be re-submitted.

No community benefit until they are decided, formal group will take over the running and be constituted with help of SG Cares

RW – essential to do it separate from the planning, which the Sustainability do and I'm fully supportive. Credit to all the cc's for coming together, very productive, and there is a lot of knowledge and hard work. It is right that it will be a community fund.

Consultation out with SG on community benefits – SG are responding to it.

Important that communities have a say and that they stay as community funds.

The Sustainability Group have been asked to provide an update to the upcoming Kinross-shire committee.

11. Councillors' reports

PKCllr Freshwater

The recent storm affected a lot of broadband in the area, if you are still suffering from issues, then best to contact Open reach, however most of the rural areas impacted are now back on.

PKCllr Watters

The council are working on the budget but are still to find out what is happening with the increase in Nation Insurance from employers, this will potentially add £2.3million on to the PKC budget for direct employees. There is likely to be an impact from the services provided by private companies as they will pass on some of the increased cost to PKC as their costs increase.

18 out of 26 Bin lorries have been converted to run on HVO, which reduces the carbon footprint and pollution. The remaining bin lorries are based in satellite locations so will either not be converted or it will be later.

PKC are looking at developing/reusing a Walking app to cover Kinross-shire, to include all the paths, Core Paths, points of interest, defibs, cafes, benches etc.

PKCllr Cuthbert

The Budget is up for review/discussion with a meeting on 26th Feb, to discuss, there are weekly updates on changes, what's in and what's out, whether NI will need to be covered by PKC and how much if any by UK government. There is also a proposal for the Council Tax to be increased by 10% in 2025, 10% in 2026, 6% in 2027, but it has still to be reviewed and discussed and what the alternatives would be with regards cutting services if it is not passed.



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12. Any other matters.

- The Milnathort Primary School Bike bus will be starting next month, the CC look forward to this new initiative starting and wish it every success.
- Neill attended the Perthshire and Kinross-shire tourism strategy meeting last week, all the attendees from Kinross-shire were interested to know whether it will include Kinross-shire.
- Edinburgh have introduced a 5% tourism tax and Fife are looking at doing the same but there will be a consultation.
- Neill attended the Milnathort in Bloom AGM last week, you may notice that the Cart opposite the Primary School will be stripped and new wood will be installed to renew the cart.
- This year is the 80th celebration of VE day, there is likely to be a ceremony at Kirkgate park which was used in Jubilee celebration - Neill asked if any other areas would be considered for the lantern so it could be seen by the surrounding area ie Ba'Hill

Meeting ended at 8.48pm

13. Date of next meeting (second Thursday of each month):

13th March 2025, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall



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