

Portmoak Community Council

August Meeting

Tuesday 11 August 2026, 1930 – 2100hrs

Minutes

- Attendance:** WCllrs NFreshwater and WRobertson; Cllrs AMiller (Chair), KDonaldson (Vice-Chair), ADavidson (Treasurer), AClark, LHatch, JHornal, GMarshall; Police Liaison Officer BSamson; and 1 member of the public
Apologies: SMcGregor (Secretary), LHatch.

The Chair apologised for any confusion arising from the late change to the August meeting to hold it as on-line rather than previously stated in-person. A decision to hold the August meeting online had been made due to the PKC notification of the closure of the A911 in Kinnesswood to avoid any attendees having to drive around the loch to attend, though it was subsequently confirmed that the road closure was during working hours only.

- Comments and Approval of previous Minutes from PCC June meeting on 09/06/26**
Proposed: GMarshall Seconded: AClark Minutes from 09/06/26 approved

- Matters arising from Previous Minutes:**

Item 1: Kinross-shire Committee and other Committee updates: no update until after next meeting on 17 September '26

Item 2: Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan: AClark informed that the path from Cobbles to Kinnesswood Play Park was due to be resurfaced imminently (at time of meeting) and hopefully before the new Portmoak Primary school term started. AClark continued to engage with local residents on other paths around the area.

Item 3: Portmoak Travel Plan: at June PCC meeting WRobertson had suggested PCC should engage with MRoy at PKC to discuss possibilities for improved public transport through Portmoak. PKC were to be reviewing bus services across the entire PKC catchment. AMiller had reached out to MRoy on this pending review and the proposals and had received an encouraging response suggesting meeting to discuss proposals for a route that joins with the #19 service that commences at Ballingry and travels to Kinross Park & Ride for connections onto Edinburgh, Halbeath, and Perth. The #19 service would connect Kinross to the major hubs for commuting or travelling to airport. MRoy agreed to find out what may be possible on this proposal. PCC are hopeful that with WCllrs support we can get an improved bus service. This is particularly in light of the X56 service being axed also. More information at future PCC meetings.

Item 4: Road Safety Action: Disappointingly there was no update from PKC Roads on the more recent requests. The Chair sought assistance from WRobertson to try and move forward the requests for traffic calming as traffic speeds continued to be excessive and dangerous throughout Portmoak. WRobertson requested that the Chair raise this item to WCllr DCuthbert for inclusion to the agenda of the next KC meeting to discuss other options for traffic speed control such as Average Speed Cameras. The viability of an average speed camera system was still being assessed but the Chair confirmed that Portmoak would welcome the opportunity to be part of any trial of Average Speed systems.

The next KC meeting is on 17 September and the Chair was intending to attend.

ADavidson also alerted the VAS flashing signage was in conflict with the roundel signs and this was confusing to drivers. The Chair also noted the Scotlandwell VAS signs were not working at all. The Secretary had reported these items to PKC. The signage on the New Gullet Bridge (squint bridge at Turfitt) had now been repaired and reoriented, so PCC thanked PKC for fixing these.

Item 5: Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: there was no update on the current path proposals.

The Chair noted that upgrade of the lamps along the A911 was being hindered by creep of the land as the lamps had become embedded in the banking and PKC had issued notifications to landowners to allow access to cut back trees and undergrowth.

A member of the public suggested an alternative solution to the current path proposals would be to widen the pavement by having a single lane for traffic controlled by traffic lights. This would be better use of an available space and would discourage large vehicles from using the A911.

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GMarshall expressed concern that the current proposed alternative path on the West side of the road had potentially become rolled into the Draft LDP3 the execution of which was some years away, and an alternative as suggested by the member of the public was a simpler solution. WRobertson commented that traffic lights had been rejected in the past by Scotlandwell residents due to the wish to avoid standing traffic in Scotlandwell village. It was felt that modern traffic lights were more efficient and there may be a better simpler solution. The expansion of the width of the pavement was a positive goal. PCC felt that any solution that widened the pavement, reduced traffic speeds and provided a safer pedestrian route out of Scotlandwell was worth investigating, though cost for traffic lights may be prohibitively expensive. PCC also need to find out from PKC the status of the current path proposal was currently sitting and perhaps find alternative solutions that can be delivered more quickly. Any future local development could only exacerbate the issue with increasing traffic volumes. NFreshwater commented that due to the 20mph roll-out very few other projects had progressed in the last 2yrs and that PCC should keep persisting with requests for improvements.

Item 6: Portmoak Church – future for the church and car park: Portmoak Church was currently up for sale. The car park had been purchased. WRobertson had no update regarding adoption of the car park by PKC for future maintenance.

Item 7: Adoption of road: Wellside Park, Scotlandwell: WRobertson assured that Wellside Park was for all practical purposes adopted by PKC, but the final adoption had not been fully confirmed yet.

Item 8: Portmoak Moss – Peatland Restoration project: There is a meeting for 24/09/26 which was the earliest date that Peatland Action could attend. A similar group as previously will attend this meeting at the Community Campus. PCC are aware of the importance to the community, and it is hoped that after the 24/9/26 meeting there will be a tangible update that is acceptable to all representative parties and which can be presented to the wider Community

Item 9: Portmoak Community Action Plan & Funding: An application has been submitted by KDT. There is a groundswell of opinion that the KDT will be widened to the Portmoak Development Trust as it would be able to look at the wider issues that face Portmoak, however, currently the KDT are the best vehicle for the rollout of a Community Action Plan. PKC have confirmed receipt of the application.

4. New Matters arising:

Item1: Reclassification of B9097: it was felt that the traffic volumes at present merited an upgrade of the road, which would in turn take care of necessary more frequent upgrade of road surfacing. GMarshall had circulated data to PCC members from a FOI request he had made to PKC about the A911, the A91 going to Kincardine Bridge and the comparison of B9097 Vane Farm Road. On the same date at Easter Balgedie the 5 day average was 3162 vehicles a day on the A911. On the A91, just 1.2 miles west of M90, 2571 vehicles used the road. To the West of Loch Leven Cottages on the B9097 on 13 Aug there were 6423 vehicles using that road. So the time scales differences but the raw data volumes of traffic show there is a strong argument for changing the B9097 road to an A-Road classification. GMarshall offered to circulate information to the WCllrs. In Easter Balgedie, in terms of speeding on the A911 in the morning going South 43% exceed the speed limit. But at night only 33% on the return journey. These are PKC figures and it seems improbably that they could argue against reclassification. The Chair summated that the A-Class roads in the area appear to have at least half the traffic of the A911.

AClark commented that if you cycled through Kelty there is a cycle path along the road. If PKC are upgrading the B9097 to an A-Road then is it possible to add a proper cycle path? There is the LLHT path adjacent to the B9097, but it was recognised that there were no access or exit paths at Gairney Bank. WRobertson asked PCC to formally request the road reclassification. NFreshwater queried if the whole of the B9097 through Cleish would need to be reclassified also, as he had concerns that certain sections on the Cleish side were narrow and would not be suitable for large vehicles. It was felt this was not necessary, only the stretch of the B9097 through Portmoak from the fishtail at the junction with the B996 (on the other side of the M90) heading East through to the junction with the B920 to Ballingry. AClark also highlighted the danger at the RSPB Vane Farm carpark where fast travelling vehicles could suddenly find they were behind a stationary vehicle waiting to turn across the traffic into Vane Farm car park.

5. Reports:

- a. **Police Reports:** Police Liaison BSamson was in attendance and provided an update for June and July. 20 calls to police from Portmoak. 2 vehicles had been keyed in Bishop Terrace subject to a live vandalism investigation. On 13 July a person had been stopped for drink driving on the Ballingry-Scotlandwell road.

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The Police Community Team activities had been limited over the Summer holidays, but the police had held bike marking events in Kinross. There had also been a couple of Landrover Discoverys stolen through key-less theft the Police had circulated some information to share on this item.

On Speedwatch, 12 members of the Community had indicated they would like to participate. The Request for information had been sent out and interested parties needed to respond. In terms of supporting documentation ID such as passport, driving license utility bills etc. could be photographed or copied and submitted with the applications for participation in Speedwatch.

b. Planning

(1) New Planning Applications:

PKC Ref#	Address & details	Closing Date for Public Comment
26/00831/FLL	Alterations to dwellinghouse and installation of replacement windows (in part retrospect) Meikle Balgedie Wester Balgedie Kinross KY13 9HE	Fri 21 Aug 2026 Agreed no comment

(2) **PKC Call for Sites – Local Development Plan (LDP3)** – still on agenda but no update at this time.

Secretary following up on a number of items for clarification with PKC

(3) **Westfield Site Community Liaison Committee:** no update. Meeting on 12/08/26

(4) **Sustainability Group:** the Secretary was not present to update. Further update in September

(5) **Green Knowes Wind Farm Repowering App Case#: ECU00006364 at Scot Gov Energy Consents**

Further update in September

6. **Paths Group update:** AClark and JHornal to pick up with Paths Group for an update. PCC thank the Paths Group their continued work which is always appreciated

7. **Treasurer CC Accounts:**

CC Account £ 173.86

Michael Bruce Way Account: £1437.04

£150 grant in process to be credited to the Michael Bruce Way Account

Zoom licences for 2025-26 still need to be submitted to Treasurer by Secretary.

8. **Ward Councillors' Reports:**

WRobertson updated that he and NFreshwater are trying to stop the withdrawal of the X56 bus service which currently is scheduled to cease on the 24 Aug 2026. PKC have put out a tender in conjunction with Fife Council asking for a service connecting with Halbeath. It is an important service for both employment and those in education.

GMarshall expressed thanks to WRobertson for getting gulleys unsilted in Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood. There are concerns in Kinnesswood about flooding on Main St. WRobertson commented that this is a known issue and it is uncertain what remedial action can be taken.

NFreshwater mentioned street lighting, there had a complaint from a Kinnesswood resident that the taller street lights were more intrusive in their home. Engineers had been able to make adjustments that had improved the situation. Any other affected residents can raise issues to PKC or via PCC.

9. **AOB:**

Item 1: JHornal Resignation from PCC: JHornal has indicated she would be stepping down from the Community Council. The Chair and all the members of PCC were grateful for Jo's many valuable contributions and input during her time at PCC.

Item 2: Balgedie Toll / change of management from December: ADavidson flagged that Neil Cairney will be stepping down from managing the Balgedie Toll at the end of the year, from 24 December. PCC wished Neil all the best with his future plans. It was hoped the pub would find new management soon as it was an important asset to the local community.

10. **PCC September Meeting: to be held on 08/09/26, 1930 – 2100hrs, In-person at Portmoak Village Hall**

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