

Dear Resident,

February 2010

KINROSS AREA LOCAL PLAN 2004
FOSSOWAY SETTLEMENTS LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (LTDS)
NEW SINGLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME FOR PERTH & KINROSS 2009

In May last year I wrote to all residents in the Fossoway villages of Blairingone, Carnbo, Crook of Devon/Drum, Powmill and Rumbling Bridge regarding the above. This followed previous letters, planning and public meetings plus a landscape questionnaire between May 2005 and July 2008.

You may recall that the preparation of a long-term development strategy for the area grew out of a recommendation by the Inquiry Reporter included in our current Local Plan 2004 by Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) after community representations. The Fossoway Community Strategy Group (SG) have assisted me throughout this process and finalised maps on landscape capacity (excluding Carnbo) in response to the Tyldesley Study Report of August 2005 were enclosed with the May 2009 letter, having assessed representations received and taken account of subsequent planning consents, etc. A further simple questionnaire was sent with that letter in order to assist with my submissions, on behalf of the community, to the Main Issues Report for the new single Development Plan being prepared by PKC (COVERING THE PERIOD TO 2024).

On the 30th June 2009 I made my initial submission to PKC on this, which included a strong plea for PKC to recognise the significance of the increased traffic volumes (especially HGV's) on the A977, their impact on the communities affected in Kinross-shire and suggest solutions. On the 31st August 2009 I made a further submission on this following a meeting of the SG on 12th August 2009 to appraise the outcome of the May 2009 questionnaire that had been collated by PKC's planning service. Both these submissions are available on the PKC website.

It is encouraging that the overall response to this latest consultation questionnaire was 115 replies from 570 delivered and I suggest that a 20% response rate is significant and compares favourably with the 12½% response to the 535 questionnaires on landscape put out in the Fossoway villages (excluding Carnbo) in May 2005. I am assured by PKC planning that this response will be given due weight in their deliberations on the Main Issues Report of the New Plan and that the work done since 2004 on the LTDS by the SG will form a key input to it. I note that there is strong disagreement to large-scale housing development for the area! The SG have not materially altered the maps on landscape capacity enclosed with the latest questionnaire and note there was no appetite for any change materially to the existing village envelope for Carnbo. In Crook of Devon, however, the SG and myself now consider that the Naemoor Road site should be retained in its entirety as 'village setting'. We have a very attractive rural area which we all enjoy and we must ensure that any development framework preserves and hopefully enhances what we have for future generations. **At this time I feel it is imperative that the community take ownership of this development strategy that we have been working on since 2005 and do not allow the development sector to subvert it.**

It is interesting to note that although PKC's Finalised Alteration to its Structure Plan cannot be processed formally, Policy Guidance was approved by Council in January 2010 and shows a total updated housing land requirement for the period 2008-2020 for the whole of the Kinross Planning Area of 855 houses (of which only 312 apply to the landward area outwith Kinross & Milnathort). Although this figure will increase once the new Strategic Development TAYPLAN (covering Angus, Dundee City, PKC & N.E. Fife) is proposed to 2032 and the newly released 2008-based population projection figures are taken into account, it is not expected to be a significant change.

However, PKC's planning service have now received significant proposals for development in Fossoway from the development sector that they will have to appraise for the Main Issues Report for the New Plan. In summary, the following number of residential sites are proposed, Blairingone 6, Carnbo 4, Crook of Devon/Drum 13, Powmill 5.

Powmill residents will note the well attended public meeting on 16th November 2009 at the request of Thomson Homes Ltd to outline their submission proposing approximately 300 houses on 2 of these sites.

The SG have met to review these submissions from the development sector and there is now an urgent need to consult residents and ascertain the wider community view; I need to report on the questionnaire responses, my submission to the Main Issues Report, outline development sector submissions, timescales for comment on the new single development for PKC and the new Tayplan, recent house completions and population changes, etc. To this end, it is intended to hold four evening public meetings in Fossoway during March 2010 per attached Notice.

I URGE YOU TO ATTEND THEM IF AT ALL POSSIBLE AND MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN ON THE FUTURE OF OUR AREA TO 2024.

Kind Regards & Best Wishes for 2010


Cllr Michael Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire