

## Councillor Barnacle

### B9097 Route Action Plan

Copy of an email to Brian Cargill  
and Daryl McKeown, PKC:



Dear Brian and Daryl

I refer to the above Plan and enclose a letter received from a resident of East Brackley for your consideration.

I note that Fossoway Community Council are in broad agreement with the Plan, Cleish CC are to discuss it at their next meeting on 5/12/16 and Portmoak CC held a significant discussion thereon at their meeting on 8/11/16.

I have noted from the Plan that all 3 sections of the B9097 are subject to the national speed limit and have no street lighting or footways. I further note that 28% of vehicles west of the M90 travel above 60 mph whilst it is approximately 24% east of the M90. Daily traffic is 3 times the volume in the east, compared with the west.

I note the 15 proposals in the Plan; in particular the 40 mph speed limit from Crook of Devon to the U241 at Drum, a prohibition of entry restricting vehicle access in Drum Main Street to discourage commercial traffic, a 30 mph speed limit at Watergate, all subject to community support, which I hope is forthcoming.

I note that Blind Summit signs for the crest at West Brackley are to be implemented in 2016/17 but would suggest signage along this stretch should also refer to concealed entrances/exits beyond hidden dips/summits.

At the Portmoak CC meeting there was support, which I endorse, for a 50 mph limit along the section east of the M90, with a further reduction around Vane Farm visitor centre.

In my view, given the nature of the road there is justification for a 50 mph for the whole length of the B9097 from Crook of Devon to the Fife boundary area, with reduced limits within that as noted above.

Kind regards

Councillor Mike Barnacle

Independent Member for Kinross-shire

### Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2017 – 2022

This was debated at the October meeting of the Full Council and was full of 'negativity' regarding PKC's budgetary position.

Fiscal Affairs Scotland's pre EU Referendum 'worst case' scenario was adopted as the basis for projections. A number of other 'so-called' economic experts were quoted, who have been wrong before in failing to predict previous financial crises and forecasting the dire consequences of a 'Brexit' vote that I have yet to see materialise. I note that Councillor Giacopazzi mentions 'What Brexit means' for PKC's budget in his November article, warning of difficult times ahead. What he fails to mention was his party of Government in Scotland have presided over a **10-year unprecedented council tax freeze** that has had a much greater effect on local authority finance than the recent referendum outcome. This is now compounded by the centrist SNP Government, thanks to Green support, planning to enforce significantly increased council tax on higher band properties to fund their education policies nationally (rather than using the devolved tax raising powers available); with only around one quarter thereof available to local authorities and that effectively ring-fenced. This sets an extremely bad precedent outlined in Councillor Robertson's excellent letter to the Scotsman of 5/11/16.

I very much hope and expect that the British economy will flourish post-Brexit (if that ever happens) and that the prophets of doom over the budget scenario will again be proved wrong.

### Forward Planning

Readers should note my article in November's edition regarding the delay in producing Local Development Plan 2 until after the next Local Authority Elections and post the summer recess of 2017; this revised timetable was presented and approved at the Enterprise & Infrastructure Committee on 9/11/16. I highlighted the opportunity this delay presented for further community consultations and would again mention **parking** and suggestions for land that could be used in settlements.

Further consultation on proposals for development in Fossoway at Blairingone, Crook of Devon and Rumbling Bridge is considered particularly valuable and I understand that a Saturday in February 2017, probably at Crook of Devon Village Hall, is being looked at for this involving the community, local members and PKC Forward Planning Officers. Final details will be in the February 2017 Newsletter.

### Independent Councillors' Update

Councillor Dave Cuthbert and myself produced this, which has been distributed throughout the Kinross-shire Ward in November. However, since it was printed for circulation, two planning applications were determined by PKC's Planning Committee (DMC) on 19/10/16 so a further update for residents of Glenlmond, Kinnesswood and Wester Balgedie was included as follows:

#### Further Update on Planning for Residents of Glenlmond, Kinnesswood and Wester Balgedie

Since our Autumn 2016 Update was printed for circulation, 2 planning applications were determined at DMC on 19/10/16. Part demolition of Lomond Country Inn, Kinnesswood and erection of 4 houses in a Conservation Area.

The Report stated that the Inn had closed in 2012 due to poor economic conditions but Mike considered that it could have been a management issue, recalling earlier times when the Inn had thrived before the increased visitor numbers to the recently completed Lochleven Heritage Trail. Dave and Mike moved an amendment to refuse the application as contrary to Conservation and Placemaking Policies but were outvoted by other members.

Erection of 13 houses at former Levensglenn Nursing Home site in Glenlmond. The applicant has agreed to provide 2 new passing places between Glenlmond and Wester Balgedie but there appears to have been no discussions regarding contributing to any off-road footpath initiative between the 2 settlements.

Dave and Mike, although agreeing to the concept of housing in principle, supported a motion to refuse the application as contrary to Placemaking and Rural Development policies, particularly in relation to the proposed linear layout of the site, but this was narrowly defeated and permission granted.

Please let me know if you have not received our update.

### Christmas and New Year

Lastly, may I take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Councillor Mike Barnacle*  
Independent Councillor for Kinross-shire

**Contributors – please send your item  
well before the deadline if you can**