



Minutes of the meeting held on

11th January 2017

I. Present/apologies for absence:

Present: Jamie Pearson (Chair), Meg Duckworth, Michele Bennett, Dawn Roberts, Ron Garvie, Ken Smith (Vice Chair), Angela May (Secretary), Sue Wallace, Mandy Agnew (Treasurer)

1 member of the public

Apologies:-

II. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:

Approved

III. Police Report

See attached.

IV. Stirling Councillors Report

See attached

V. Roles within FCC and Decision Making Process

- LDP and Roads: Ron Garvie (Michele as a back-up).
- Bins: Michele Bennett (Any issues with bins should be brought up with Michele and she will report back to Graham Lambie, Stirling Councillor).
- Treasurer: Mandy Agnew
- Planning: Meg Duckworth
- Communications: Ken Smith (back-up for noticeboards and posters is Angela May).
- Paths: Sue Wallace (back-up Michele Bennett).

- Sports Centre Representative: Sue Wallace (back-up Jamie Pearson).
- Elderly Representative: Meg Duckworth
- FDT Representative : Jamie (back up Mandy & Angela)

VI.Finance

- Following a vote it was agreed that FCC should continue banking with the Co-op Bank. Forms need to be signed to continue this.
- £1000 from the Goodwill Fund has been paid out to W.Nugent for paths maintenance carried out over the past year.
- Audited accounts need to be presented at the June AGM.
- Meg introduced an informal request she had received for help with the cost of repairing the Sports club car park as it is used as a general car park within the community. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the FCC Goodwill Fund should donate some money to this.
- Jamie suggested that as no formal request or amount of money has been requested, it was perhaps premature to make a decision and that Sue as Sports Club Rep could report back following the next meeting
- Michele asked about a request she had from the Football Club for funding - this would need to be done via a request form from the Goodwill Fund
- Fund request forms are at the Sports Club, from Mandy or can be downloaded from the web site for any groups who would like to request funding.
- The request for board games at the Fintry Inn has been dropped by HENDY Spence.
- Jamie raised the question of how FCC should make decisions regarding whether or not to fund requests from the Goodwill fund (especially as there could be circumstances as above where the person requesting was actually present). Up until now the assessment has been made by a sub group of Treasurer, Secretary & Chair and the proposal brought to the next meeting for approval of FCC.
- Jamie suggested that whilst this may still work for smaller amounts ,when dealing with larger amounts in the future we would need to be transparent in our decision making process.
- A discussion ensued regarding whether this could be done via e-mail prior to a meeting or held fully in public when Councillors would then vote on the decision or there was a suggestion to consider a closed session. A proposal was made that whilst decisions could be

voted by a FCC corium when larger sums were involved the whole Council should vote. A final decision was not made.

- Councillor Lambie suggested that decisions of the Council have to be transparent.

VII.Planning

- Approval for replacing existing Scottish slates on the East Lodge, Ballikinrain with Spanish slates.
- Approval for a new toilet and laundry unit at Campsie Glen Holiday Park.
- Approval for the conversion of a garage to a granny flat at Hillend Cottage, Quarry Road for Mr Martin Turner.

VIII.Broadband Update

- Meg Duckworth met with Jamie Parsons of Briscona and Douglas Boulie who is in charge of digital mapping. Meg has arranged for Jamie to come to the next FCC meeting. Meg has prepared some questions to ask him. It has also been arranged that a resident from Gartmore who has this satellite internet will also come to the meeting.
- Briscona will discuss the possibility of a satellite signal being on top of a turbine if it can reach the whole of Fintry.
- Ken thought this was an impractical idea due to interference and the need for the signal to be in line of sight
- Meg is meeting with Douglas Bailey, the Stirling Council Digital Broadband Representative next month.
- There has been improved funding for broadband in rural areas, so Meg will try and find out if Fintry qualifies for this funding.

IX.Verges Update

- Jim McGregor is meeting with Meg to determine if any properties in Fintry have anything that could be classed as an obstruction on verges/pathways.

X.Roads Update

- Road closure on Main Street - The road will be closed for 5 days from 23 January to allow services to be connected. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not traffic could pass by with the use of traffic lights or at commuting times and night. Angela (whose house is being connected) said that it would not be possible as the services are 4.5m deep and will require shoring for safety reasons leaving little road space for passing.

- Jamie suggested that it wasn't really relevant whose house was being connected but it was the duty of FCC to request that traffic lights be deployed or timed openings if this was at all possible in any circumstance given the long detour options available for those living in Fintry. Councillor Lambie is to approach the Council with this request and Michele is going to contact the Council on FCC behalf.
- Several people raised a complaint about a large pot hole on the Crow Road - Jamie asked if anyone had reported it - no one had.
- If it is necessary to report a pothole, the Stirling Council number should be called (01786 404 040) then the pothole should be repaired within 2-3 days. The number is not on the website, but it will be placed on the noticeboard as well as Fintry Buddies.
- If a pot hole is not repaired then let Ron or Michele know
- The issue of gritting along the Crow Road was brought up as often Stirling Roads are later than GCC and Jamie asked Stirling Councillor Lambie to look into having gritting done earlier in the day if possible.

XI.Speed Limit Lurg – Fintry Update

- A reduction in the speed limit is a favourable idea as 83% of residents questioned on an online poll agreed the limit should drop from 40mph to 30mph and 30mph to 20mph.
- Ron said he was against a compulsory speed limit of 20mph
- Jamie stated that it was important to reach as many people as possible via other means than just on line to be sure FCC were representing the view of most residents before asking for a change in the speed limits
- Michele offered to help with a door to door survey about the speed limit through Lurg as well



as the limit through
Fintry, Jamie suggested posters should be put up to make everyone aware of the proposal.

XII.FDT AGM

- The FDT AGM is on the 26th of January held at the Sport Club.
- Two directors have to stand down if others are interested in becoming directors then an election will take place. If no one else is standing they will be re elected.

XIII.A.O.B.

- LURG FOREST- 320 loads of logs will be coming through the village. If any damage occurs it is a possibility to apply for timber obstruction and funding may be provided. The bridge is the major concern.
- MENZIES HALL AGM- Stirling Council help maintain the village hall. The Menzies Hall Committee will have an AGM meeting on Monday the 16th. Ron will attend as an FCC representative.
- SCHOOL BUS- There are children running across the road in front of the school bus. Ron suggests children should be educated that this is dangerous.

XIV. Correspondence

- None.

XV. Date of next meeting

- 8th February 2017

Fintry Community Bowling Club

I. Present

- Jamie Pearson, Meg Duckworth, Ron Garvie.

II. Update on any relevant progress

- No update.

III. A.O.B.

- None.

IV. Date of next meeting

- 8th February 2017

Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Fintry Community Council

Reporting

January 2017 Compiled by PC Graham

Ward Plan

Antisocial Behaviour

There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour in the Fintry area since the last meeting

Road Safety

There have been no reported RTCs since the last meeting.

Local officers have continued to carry out high visibility patrols and speed checks in the area.

Please check and maintain your vehicle for road worthiness. The winter weather causes roads and driving conditions to be hazardous. This

Theft

Since the last meeting there has been no reported thefts

Community Engagement and Reassurance

PC Ray Murphy and PC Steven Graham are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.nnn.police.uk Both officers have access to

**Other Incidents
/ Activity of
note**

Air Weapons

From 31 December 2016, it is now an offence to use, possess, purchase or acquire an air weapon in Scotland, without holding an air weapon certificate.

The deadline for air weapon applications being processed before the new laws were introduced on 31 December 2016, was 31 October 2016. If you have applied on or before this date your application will be progressed and you will receive a payment notification which you should proceed with ASAP. The air weapons licencing team have received a significant number of enquires and as a result will not be able to provide a date of when individual certificates will be granted. Should a person's application be refused they will be notified in writing. Any applications received on or before this date will be processed, and in line with legislation for the application process, (Section 4 of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 (Commencement No. 3 and Transitional Provisions) Order 2016, all applications for an air weapon certificate, which were received by Police Scotland after 31 October 2016, will NOT be processed until 2017, which is after the new legislation takes effect.

Should an individual not have sent an application form in prior to 31st October 2016 it will not be subject to processing in 2017.

As a result, the individual MUST ensure that one of the following measures are taken, while awaiting the new certificate and authorisation being granted, or they will be committing an offence from 31 December 2016:

1. Store your air weapon(s) with someone who has an Air Weapon Certificate.
2. Store your air weapon(s) with someone who has a current Firearm or Shotgun Certificate.
3. Store your air weapon(s) with a Registered Firearms Dealer.

Police Message of Local Residents

At 2am on Sunday 30th October the clocks went back an hour to mark the end of British Summer time. This also marks the start of the darker nights which can make it easier for thieves to target your property if they can see that nobody is home. We need your help to make it make it harder for the thieves so please consider the following:

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look as if your home is occupied.
- Ensure all doors and windows are secure when you leave and when you go to bed.
- If possible use secure lighting at the front and back of your property.
- Make sure all garden tools and ladders are locked away when not being

Issues raised

Community
Council
Feedback

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Councillor Lambie Report

- **New Waste Collection Service:** There have been concerns raised about changes to waste and recycling collection policy. The new policy will see residents given 5 recycling boxes under the following collection timetable:
- **2 Week Collection:** Brown Bin (Garden & Food Waste); Blue Bin (Plastic, Cans & Cartons); Grey Bin (Non-Recyclables); Blue Bin Small (Glass)
- **4 Week Collection:** Green Bin (Paper & Cardboard)

The service are keen to work with residents and CCs on this. For example with people living in flats sharing of bins will be a preference which should cut down on the number of bins. The service are also planning on running collections on a 7 day week basis – what time will this be – early Sunday mornings may not be appropriate. The service will be investing in new, rear loading collection vehicles which are easier to operate. **Update:** Most rural villages have now received the new bins. I've received differing views of the roll out and am keen to hear from as many CCs as possible. Cllr Muirhead has contacted George Sommerville (Service Manager Waste) about collection delays and he has responded and highlighted some operational issues which are being worked through. I have had a number of bin enquiries from residents which have been passed onto to officers.

- **First Bus Changes and DRT:** First Bus have changed or withdrawn a number of routes in the Stirling area. The council will be extending the Demand Response Service DRT to accommodate some of these changes to the scheduled services. Elected members are looking for the views from residents on these changes. At Croftamie CC the feeling was the DRT should be given the chance to work with a review if residents were unhappy with the service. **Update:** All 6 rural councillors from Wards 1 and 2 met with FirstBus and Council officers last October. A number of suggestions were made including establishing a reverse loop route using smaller buses: Balfron > Drymen > Croftamie > Bearsden > Milngavie > Strathblane > Killearn > Balfron. This suggestion came from Avril (Strathblane CC) and looks like an extension of the Number 10 service which has support from Drymen CC. The First Bus representative did not dismiss this idea, but smaller buses are not always the more economical. The council transport officers said that scheduled buses services in rural areas may be difficult to sustain over the longer period. It may be that DRT could be applied over the wider rural area with agreements with neighbouring councils for crossover routes e.g. Drymen <>Mingavie; Fintry <> Lennoxton; Killen <> Aberfeldy etc. The other area we are investigating is using the **City Deal Programme** under the Connectivity category to lever resources for – roads maintenance, public transport, and broadband for the rural areas. We would also like to look at other bus companies as it is felt that 1st Bus have a monopoly in West Stirlingshire, reflected in recent large fare increases.

- **After School Transport from Balfron High:** I recently met with Kevin Kelman (Chief Education Officer) to discuss the after school bus transport at Balfron High and am hoping to meet with the HT and the Parent Council to find a workable solution. Cllr Muirhead and I met with the Parent Council, Head Teacher, CC Chair, and Council transport officers on Tues 6th Dec and a potentially workable solution has been agreed.
- **Road Maintenance Programme 2016 – 2017:** Forth and Endrick programme: **A Roads:** A811 (Redlairston – Buchlyvie) Inlay = £60K; A811 (Strewiebank – Kippen) Structural Inlay = £40K; A811 (Glinns Road on Kippen Gargunnoch Straight) SD + Patching = £45,000; A811 (Touch Bridge – Cambusbarron Turnoff – Ward 5) SD + Patching = £27K; A81 (Garrauld Balfron Station) SD + Patching = £35K*; A81 (Balfron Station) SD + Patching = £65K*; A81 (Devil’s Elbow – Strathblane) Inlay = £55K*; A809 (Finnich Blair – Croftamie) Structural Inlay = £45K **B Roads: B818 (Loch Walton – Fintry) Overlay = £50K; B822 (Balafark – Kippen) Overlay = £50K; B818 (Bogside – Fintry) Overlay = £40K; B837 (Milton of Buchanan) Overlay = £50K C Roads:** C54 (Ballochruin Rd – Balfron) Structural Inlay - Passing Places = £20K; C56 (Mugdock Country Park) Overlay = £30K; C21 (Station Rd – Balfron) Inlay = £40K **Unclassified Roads:** Barnsford Rd. (Gartness) Full Reconstruction = £100K* Streets: Kirkhouse Rd/Crescent (Strathblane) Inlay = £50K; Glinns Rd (Kippen) Overlay = £40K
- **Notes:** Key: SD = Surface Dress; * Questions to Roads officers
- **Fintry – Roads Projects:** I’ve checked the two completed projects – Loch Walton and Balafark which look good although more work is required on both of these roads. On Monday 9th I drove over the Crow Rd. from Strathblane in a relatively balmy 5^o C and looked the Bogside section which I am told will be resurfaced this March. I note the agenda refers to a speed limit at the Lurg. I would strongly support an enforceable or failing that some form of advisory limit/better warning signage on this stretch.
- **Roads Inspections:** Last year I met with roads officers to look at two jobs. A81 (Devil’s Elbow) and Kirkhouse Rd/Kirkhouse Crescent. The overall impression I got was these were two very good jobs ably supervised with a motivated, hard-working team who took a quiet pride in their work. The challenge now is to provide the resurfacing team(s) with sufficient resources to keep this good work going. Another area of concern is the quality and frequency of the white lining. This is carried out by a contractor who I understand services more than one council. I’ve suggested that the white lining is brought in-house.
- **Road Safety A809:** The 40 mph signs were erected in December, and hopefully will help to curb the inappropriate speeds on this road. I had asked previously if the camera safety van could be deployed on this road and was told that +60 mph speeds are not the main issue on this road, as many of the accidents/fatalities are down to driver error and not necessarily breaking the national speed limit. **Update:** I have inspected these and the Edenmill signage appears to in the wrong place i.e. before the Edenmill turn off and not after as was agreed.

- **Roads Spend to Save Proposal:** Following a question to council and information supplied by roads officers at the May 2016 Strathblane CC meeting the council is currently resurfacing 2.6 % of the road network – it needs to do 4% to maintain the status quo. Cllr Muirhead and myself are looking at methods where the council can lever extra resources on a **spend to save** basis where it is more cost effective to resurface on a 25 year future proofing model than leave a road to deteriorate with ultimately a more expensive bill. According to roads officers we are looking at circa £90 million to fully repair the council road network of 1100 kms. We have asked if the **CDF City Development Framework** resource planning will factor in investment for rural roads.
- **Balfron Station Bridge Site Visit:** I met with Scottish Water onsite to inspect the works. This is a much more complex repair than was first thought as it involves damage to one or more of the 6 water pipes and the sandstone bridge structure. The water is currently being diverted via the Ross Priory facility as the pipes are being inspected. Scottish Water are hoping to setup a temporary traffic light at the bridge which will allow cars and vans to pass, but will restrict HGVs and wide vehicles which may include some agricultural vehicles. I'm assuming there will be some form of gantry setup on both sides of the bridge which will simulate the width and height of the restricted underpass. I drove under the bridge in both directions on Wed 7th Dec and the lights and gantries are in place. I would also make the point that the damage was caused by the carelessness of a non-local contractor who has underestimated the height of the bridge. **Update:** There is a meeting to discuss the above at Balfron High school at 7pm Thursday 19th January as it looks like there will be a further road closure from Feb to May.
- **Roads A811 Motorway Slip Road Proposal:** The **City Deal** has included the proposal to link the M9 to the A811 with a slip road development thus allowing north flowing traffic to move directly onto the A811, part of the proposed City Park project. At a recent meeting in Buchlyvie this development once again raised the issue of upgrading the A811 to trunk status.
- **Balfron High School – Community Day Year 3:** I attended this event on Tuesday 20th Sept and was very pleased to see the number of stands from local community groups, including some CCs. We are hoping that this will be repeated in following years and would extend my thanks to the Head Teacher Elaine Bannatyne and her Deputy Tracey Patrick for facilitating this.
- **Stirling City Deal:** There is cautious optimism that both the Scottish and UK governments will be backing this, and it is anticipated that it will feature in the Scottish Government draft budget statement on 15th Dec. While fully supporting the City Deal project, rural councillors are concerned about all of the high profile project being urban centric and would like to be reassured that part of the funds will be allocated to Rural connectivity > Roads > Public Transport > Broadband. **Update:** This has now been approved and indeed was referred to in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement. Elected members attended the 'official' launch of the **City Deal Programme** at the Scottish Parliament on 29th November and it was pleasing to see among the over 300 guests, many business owners, small and large, urban and rural. More details about the city deal on the following link: <http://www.investinstirling.com/why-stirling/city-development-framework/>

- **Stirling Council Budget:** This is due to be presented to Full council in late February and, partly due to council elections this May, is unlikely to yield any contentious proposals. At this stage I do not have any specific details of the administration proposals and the PBB (Priority Based Budget) community meetings did not reveal much clarity. However, we would like the budget to address areas such as – Road/Bridge/Footway Maintenance, Road Safety Mitigation, Public Transport, Broadband Communications, Care Services, and Community Support Services.
- **Policing - Report:** Alongside the ward officers are response officers who provide 24/7 cover for the ward. For major incidents such as serious road collisions ward officers could be called to assist with these. Contact details for local police are ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk or use the 101 number. For Stirling Police matters check the **Stirling Police Twitter** at <https://twitter.com/stirlingpol> This site had recently reported a driver caught at 47mph, in Station Rd Killearn, with the consequence of a £100 fine and 3 penalty points. From a property protection perspective the use of **SmartWater** and similar products have been discussed at the Public Safety committee with reference to the encouraging results from the Killearn SmartWater operation. SmartWater is traceable liquid which carries a unique forensic 'code' which is registered to an address or location. Once applied it is almost impossible to remove and can only be seen under **UV light**. Forensic analysis provides conclusive proof of ownership. SmartWater is guaranteed to last for a minimum of 5 years outdoors. Update: I note that Fintry Kirk has SmartWater deployed. Statistically, SmartWater will deter over 70% of would be criminals.
- **Stirling Council – Local Government Boundary Changes (LGBC):** Following the sensible decision not to change the Forth and Endrick ward boundary, there are plans to reduce the number of constituencies for the next West Minster election, from **59 to 53** in Scotland. This includes Stirling where the city would be split according to the boundary proposals - into **Clackmannanshire and Stirling North** and **Stirling South**. The consultation on the proposals will run until 11 January 2017. **Update:** I have submitted a list of objections to the proposal and have received no support from residents for the boundary changes. Indeed there is universal political opposition to the proposals.
- **Planning – Stirling Council:** Both the Park of Keir Tennis Centre (Dunblane and Bridge of Allan), and Airthrey Kerse (Graham's Dairies at Bridge of Allan and Causewayhead) are now subject to appeals by the applicant as they were both rejected – Park of Keir by the planning panel and Airthrey Kerse by full council. Cllr Muirhead and my-self supported both applications. **Update:** A public enquiry for the Park of Keir application was held in Dunblane chaired by a planning reporter with findings sent to Scottish Government ministers. The Airthrey Kerse plan has also been appealed and I believe a decision is imminent.
- **Broadband Suppliers Meeting Balfour High– 7th Dec:** I attended this session which included representatives from Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband, BT, Forth Valley Leader, and a number of commercial suppliers of Satellite and Wireless solutions. Contact Person is Douglas Baillie at Stirling Council webpage: <http://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/business-and-trade/advice-and-support-for-businesses/broadband/broadband-enquiry>
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