



Minutes of the meeting held on
14th March 2018

I. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Ken Smith (Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Michele Bennett, Angela May (Secretary), Ron Garvie
- Councillor Robert Davies
- Community Prefect – Amber Hilmi
- 8 members of the public
- P.C.McNally
- **Apologies:** Jamie Pearson (Vice Chair), Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing)

II. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:

Approved

III. Stirling Councillor's Report

- Stewart Carruth, Stirling Council's Chief Executive did a tour of the ward on 09/03/18 looking at the condition of the roads, parking issues, etc.
- A meeting of the Councillors scheduled for 01/03/18 had to be cancelled because of the snow and has been rescheduled for 15/03/18. There will be an assessment of the Community Council structure to be reviewed in June with the most likely change being to the boundary of Drymen and Buchanan.
- Council Tax has been increased by 3% but the budget projections for the next 4 years are dire so cuts/savings will also have to be made.
- There are proposals to allocate more money to roads but this may not be approved.

IV. Police Report

- **Antisocial Behaviour:** There have been no issues of this nature since the last meeting.
- **Road Safety:** There have been no notable road traffic collisions or incidents in the Fintry area over the reporting period. Local officers have continued to carry out high visibility patrols in the area. 'The Beast from the East' caused considerable issues in the village but these have now been resolved. There have been issues surrounding traffic at the Primary School. The police have been liaising with Mrs. Gibb, the Head Teacher, regarding these issues. She has spoken to the Nursery children's' parents and notes have been sent out to school pupils' parents. There is also a sign in the school car park. The issue has been better but there was a higher traffic volume this week due to focus groups that have been running in the school. The police continue to work with Mrs. Gibb regarding this matter.
- **Theft:** There have been no issues of this nature in the Fintry area since the last meeting, however there continues to be issues within the Strathblane/Dumgoyne area relating to the theft of unattended vehicles and houses/ outbuildings being broken into, so once again, the police would ask everyone to remain vigilant. It is of note that two people were disturbed acting suspiciously around vehicles in Kippen on Sunday.
- **Community Engagement and Reassurance:** PC Steven Graham has now taken up a new role within response policing at Balfron Police Office and PC Scott Craigie is presently the only community ward officer for the Forth and Endrick area, based at

Balfron Police Office. He can be contacted at Balfron Police Office, on 101, or by emailing ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. A process is presently taking place to identify a replacement for him and PC Craigie will keep us up to date with the progress of this process.

- **Neighbourhood Alert:** This is a community messaging system which sends alerts regarding crime, safety and resilience to communities. Ruralwatch is an information platform that has been set up by what was formerly Neighbourhood Watch; however the big difference being that any members of the local community can sign up to have the relevant alerts sent to them by various means including E-mail or Text message. To receive free alerts simply register at: www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk. Please note that I've heard that residents are having trouble logging onto the Fintry area. I've passed that on to the people who sent the information to me. Useful information can also be found on Twitter - @stirlingpol
- **Police Message for Local Residents:** It is getting to the time when it gets darker earlier 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 secured 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 used. Don't give the thieves the tools to break into your house.
Use a good quality lock on any garden sheds and outhouses.
Make a note of all makes, models and serial numbers of expensive items in your home.
If you note anything suspicious in your neighbourhood report it on 101.
If anyone would like further crime prevention advice, please contact PC Scott Craigie who will be happy to assist.
- A resident raised the issue of cars parked dangerously when there's an event at the Sports Centre. P.C.McNally said that cones could be provided by the police to help create passing places if they are notified a couple of weeks before the event. The Sports Centre has taken steps to improve the situation and this has helped. There was a suggestion that cars could be parked on land at the edge of the village and a shuttle bus provided.
- A resident reported that asbestos had been dumped at the side of the B818 near the Kirk O'Muir cemetery. This has been reported to Stirling Council.

V. Finance –Micro grants

- The 7 applications were considered. 5 were approved from Fintry Babies & Toddlers, Fintry Community Garden, Menzies Hall, funding for litter collecting and funding for defib training and battery. 1 application was from a resident from Kippen so did not meet the criteria.

VI. Community Garden Maintenance

- There was discussion regarding the cutting of the grass in the Community Garden at the far end of the Sports Centre. This was previously done by the Sports Centre but they are not doing it any more. A Fintry resident, Matt Hall, would be willing to help with the grass cutting using his own mower. It was agreed that FCC would pay for the fuel. Matt and Ian McKay would also be willing to cut the grass either side of the Menzies Hall as this is cut infrequently and badly by Stirling Council at the moment. There was some concern over whether this would be allowed by Stirling Council. Councillor Davies said he would look into it.
- Michele confirmed that the rose beds near the Menzies Hall would remain as rose beds and be maintained by Stirling Council.

VII. Riverbank Path

- Michele had met with Norman McKnight who has agreed to give advice regarding the repair of the riverbank path next to the Sports Centre but does not wish to oversee the project. Michele will take on this role. SSE will provide machinery and manpower alongside volunteers from Fintry if the necessary materials are provided. The Forestry Commission may also be willing to help. FCC agreed in principle that the funds for the materials would be made available but felt that more information from the groups involved was needed. Michele will follow up on this.
- The path from the Manse to the cemetery was also discussed. It was noted that the path is in a very bad condition at the moment. It is hoped that it will be recognised as a 'safer route to school' and then funding can be obtained from Sustrans to make it into a hard core path. In the meantime, there was discussion about who would cut the grass along the path and the grass alongside the riverside path.

VIII. Planning

- An application to build a house at Branshogle Sawmill on Killearn Road has been approved with conditions.
- An application to replace doors and windows at 47, Main Street has been approved.
- An application to replace a porch and garage at Westview has been approved.

IX. Glasgow Airspace update

- It is not clear how much of an impact the changes will make to Fintry residents. It is hoped that some residents will attend the drop-in sessions to get more information.
- Leaflets will be distributed throughout the village.

X. Office Bearers new roles

- All changes have been approved and bank details will be updated accordingly.

XI. Community Prefects

- Every community council has been allocated a prefect to represent the views of the younger members of the community. FCC's community prefect is Amber Hilmi.

XII. A.O.B.

- Broadband – BT have been active in the village but there is still no definite date for superfast fiber broadband. Stirling Council has funding available for communities that wish to seek alternative connectivity options or suppliers but there was concern that not all residents would commit to this.

XIII. Correspondence

- None

XIV. Date of next meeting

- 9th May 2018