



***Minutes of the meeting held on  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2018***

**I. Present/apologies for absence:**

- **Present:** Ken Smith (Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Michele Bennett, Angela May, Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing), Ron Garvie
- Councillor Graham Lambie
- Ian Denver (Community Link Officer)
- 23 members of the public
- **Apologies:** Jamie Pearson (Vice Chair), P.C. Scott Craigie, P.C. Gary Martin

**II. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:**

Approved

The Chair asked for any declaration of interest regarding any items on the agenda. None were given.

**III. Stirling Councillor's Report**

- Councillor Lambie Report:
- **Fintry Primary School:** I was pleased to see that work has been carried out to repair fencing at the school, particularly the boundary fence next to the burn. I've emailed and spoken to Kevin Kelman (Chief Education Officer) about installing a CCTV camera the school, similar to the ones at Buchlyvie and Kippen. There is a budget of over £100K for CCTV cameras in schools this financial year so I'm hoping we can install one. **Update:** The lead officer for this installation is Drew Leslie who confirmed Fintry was included in the proposed package for Schools.
- **Fintry Roads – Clachan Footpath:** I looked at the works on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June and noted the substantial reinstatement works using gabions. I asked the roads officers who owns the fence as it is poor condition. The council confirmed that they do own the fence and it will be replaced including a more substantial wooden post and rail fence section, which will be anchored into the gabions. **Update:** I've asked for confirmation of work completed.
- **Fintry Roads – B822 and B818:** I had look at the recent works at Kippen Firs which looks like inlay to be followed with a surface dress. The B822 Crow Road works are a bit more substantial as they will lay an HRA (Hot Rolled Asphalt) resurface, which will probably be chipped for better friction. Earlier in the year I drove up the B818 to look at the planned works which are mainly centred on Carron Village which is in the Stirling West council ward but is in Area 2 for road maintenance which also includes the whole of the Forth and Endrick ward. **Update:** According to the road maintenance programme all works for Fintry appear to have been completed for this financial year but I have asked officers if any additional projects have been added. Kippen CC were also keen to have the Cuthbert Bridge at Station Brae B822 resurfaced with new white lining.
- **Winter Service Policy Changes:** Following the severe winter weather of last year there have been some suggested improvements to the Winter Service Policy including: Provision of Community Salt Bins for villages that do not qualify for salt bins i.e. gradient of 1:17 or less; Faster deployment of the Tayforth Machinery Ring contractors; Current Policy - "The Hire arrangements of the Tayforth Machinery Ring will only be instructed if the Director of Localities

& Infrastructure considers that extreme adverse conditions are likely to prevail for a period in excess of **10 days**". Proposed Policy Change will delegate that deployment to the Senior Manager (Environment and Place) **without the 10 days**. I would also encourage all communities to re-visit their Community Resilience plans. It is also recognised by the Council the great efforts by communities in 'digging' out their villages and the crucial role of volunteers in extreme weather conditions.

- **Fintry Crow Road B822 Priority 1 Retained:** I am very pleased to see that there is no change to the winter treatment of the Crow Rd. It will remain as a Priority 1 route (**Appendix 1**) I will be asking what the traffic flows are on the B818 to Denny and if it qualifies for an upgrade to Priority 1.
- **Police Patrols attended by Cllr Lambie:** I attended an Iron Works National Park police patrol in August. This included a visit to the Police Safety Camera at Lochearnhead. The camera is permanently manned, not automatic as I had first thought, and has been a significant factor in the reduction of fatalities in rural Stirlingshire including the Forth and Endrick ward. I have arranged to attend two additional patrols over the autumn with a focus on speeding, and road safety.
- **Road Maintenance – Croftamie and Forth and Endrick Potholes:** Having driven along many of the Forth and Endrick roads recently, including the **A809, A811, A81, and A875**, the increased pothole damage after winter conditions damage is plain to see. Indeed the **A809** has arguably the worst surface of any **A road** in Stirling Council. This damage has also been confirmed by roads officers and Cllr Jim Thomson (Environment and Housing Committee Convenor). I have requested as a matter of urgency that the council uses some of the **Reserve Budget** for emergency pothole repair. I have also requested that the Council adds pothole damage to the risk register. Also, for the first time I am now a member of the Environment Committee and have direct input into the road maintenance budget. If you see a pothole and want to report it type into Google: "Stirling Council Potholes" and it will take you directly to the page with the number and form. If the pothole is dangerous and will/has caused damage or injury, please call on **01786 404040**
- **Road Maintenance - Capital Programme 2018/2019:** This has still to be approved by council at the budget meeting on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. Having seen a draft of the programme I would be confident that the council will approve an increase in Road Maintenance which will allocate funding as follows:
  - **Carriageways – 77%**
  - **Footways – 15%**
  - **Bridges, Structures and Retaining Walls – 5%**
  - **Road Safety Improvements – 3%**
- **Road Safety Improvements:** These will include Speed Activated Signage, new and /or School travel plans, and 40mph buffer zones. It is the intention that there will be much more participatory opportunities for communities to engage with officers about roads issues in their communities. In December 2017 I attended 2 road site visits in Killearn and Strathblane with CC members and roads officers. Indeed the Strathblane visit to the foot of Station Rd. resulted in roads officers reversing the priority arrows on their proposed plan, after consultation with community members.
- **Roads – Bridge Repair/Reconstruction Projects:** The Ballat Bridge was opened at the beginning of June. The delay was due to installing a collision barrier underneath the bridge which is a substantial structure visible as you drive under the bridge.
- **Roads A811 Kippen Bridge Repair Update:** I am glad to see that the works have been completed and that the original parapet has been restored with lime mortar rather than a cheaper, but less aesthetically pleasing pre-cast, alternative. The contract also went to a local firm based in Ruskie, near Port of Menteith.

- **Springkerse Bridge Stirling:** Works are progressing well and it is planned that one lane will be open to traffic in October.
- **Roads – A811 Trunk Upgrade Request:** Last year I wrote to Humza Yousaf MSP (Minister for Transport and the Islands) requesting that the A811 is considered for an upgrade to Trunk Road status and what criteria are applied by Transport Scotland when considering an upgrade. One of my reasons for this request is a proposal, as part of the city/region deal, for building two slip roads from the M9 onto the A811. This, in my opinion, makes the road more strategic and consequently busier, particularly for commercial traffic. I received a reply on 18<sup>th</sup> Jan from Roy Brannen (Chief Executive) which unfortunately states: "We have no current plans to consider the reclassification of the A811 as a trunk road." He has also added the criteria used to classify a trunk road:
  - **Linking major urban centres and areas of population change**
  - **Providing links to international gateways, airports, ports and borders**
  - **Linking remoter communities**
  - **Linking key tourist areas**
  - **Facilitating freight routes, and**
  - **Linking areas of economic activity and regeneration areas of national significance**
- **Roads – A811 Trunk Upgrade Request Follow Up:** Since the original request a new Transport Minister has been appointed. Michael Matheson MSP. He is also relatively local being the MSP for Falkirk West and knows Stirling well. I will redraft the request and ask the minister to attend a route visit to the A811.
- **Road Safety – Finnich Glen:** Warning signs have been installed and officers are working with the landowner to look at future car-parking provision and safe access routes. Cllr Davies and my-self met with officers from Balfron Police Station, Balfron Fire Station, and Lomond Mountain Rescue to discuss safety issues at the Glen. **Update:** We now have a dedicated officer working on this site where the council are now exploring a potential partnership with the landowner to install car-parking, footbridges, fencing, and viewing platforms to make the site safe for visitors. We are also monitoring the Fairy Pools site on the Island of Skye site which has received funding for car parking and visitor facilities etc. Cllr Davies and I recently met with the landowner and 4 council officers to look at access from the B834 onto a potential carpark. We also discussed access footbridges, and safety fencing. The council have recently passed the first phase of a funding application from the Scottish Government for carpark and visitor facilities.
- **Transportation – DRT and Scheduled Bus Services:** A pilot early evening service C12 from Balfron to Stirling departing at 18:10 every Friday and Saturday, has been extended until August 2017 and usage numbers will be presented to the Environment committee after that. At a recent meeting in Balfron the Use it or Lose it statement was stressed. I have also raised a request from Drymen CC to extend the B9 service to include a 4pm run. **Update:** To complement the Drymen request there has also been calls for a Sunday service to Stirling, possibly including Larbert Hospital.
- **Planning – Forth and Endrick Ward:** There is an ambitious plan for a large solar farm near Gargunnoch on the Carse. As I understand it this would be the largest solar application in Stirling and a unique one for planning officers.
- **Planning - Referrals to Planning Panels:** There has been a very significant change to the referral to planning panel procedure which now allows a referral to come from **Significant Local Objection:** "The application receives 5 or more competent written objections on a non-householder planning application and the Appointed Officer is minded to approve the application." This means that if a local Cllr 'missed' a referral or didn't want to make one (It's not a statutory duty for a Cllr) then there is a backup procedure for a community.

- **Mugdock Country Park:** We are hoping that the Engine Shed (Stirling) team will take on the Craighend Castle site as a live restoration project. Commercial income is looking very positive with £177K from the last financial year. Planning for the 2018 Mugstock festival is on schedule and support from communities is very positive. On a less positive note the feasibility visit for a potential solar farm below the gun emplacement site has come up with a negative view on financial viability so a smaller project is being looked at.
- **National Park:** The planning committee attended two site visits to look at approved applications: Buchanan Hydro; Loch Achray and Loch Chon Camping Sites. Also, very positive reactions to RSHA Housing at Balmaha approval. I also attended the launch/opening of the Balmaha Pontoon.
- **Fintry Deep Clean:** We are pleased to see that Fintry will be included in the Deep Clean programme for 2018/2019 although I would be hoping that this would commence after the autumn leaf fall.

<b>Appendix 1: Road Maintenance Programme 2018 – 2019</b>			
<b>A Roads</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>A811 Dasherhead to SD</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>£114 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A811 Buchlyvie to Redlairdston</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>£43 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A811 Arnprior Approach (East)</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>£28 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A81 Balfroon Station to Blane Smithy</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>£190 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A811 Kecipulloch (A875 Junction)</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£93 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A809 Edenmill</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£71 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>B Roads</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£539 K</b>
<b><u>B822 Kippen Muir</u></b>	<b><u>SD</u></b>	<b><u>£32 K</u></b>	<b><u>Completed</u></b>
<b><u>B822 Crow Road</u></b>	<b><u>Inlay</u></b>	<b><u>£142 K</u></b>	<b><u>Completed</u></b>
<b><u>B818 Carron Valley (Bentend)</u></b>	<b><u>Inlay</u></b>	<b><u>£150 K</u></b>	<b><u>TBC</u></b>
<b>C Roads</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£324 K</b>
<b>C56 Craigallian Rd @ Junction A81</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£10 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>C118 Pirniehall @ Junction A809</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£17 K</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Unclassified</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£27 K</b>
<b><u>Balfroon - Lernoock Rd</u></b>	<b><u>Overl ay</u></b>	<b><u>£36 K</u></b>	<b><u>TBC</u></b>
<b>Buchlyvie - Heights Rd</b>	<b>Overl ay</b>	<b>£39 K</b>	<b>Oct</b>
<b>Streets</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£75 K</b>
<b>Balfroon – Kirkmill Rd</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£32 K</b>	<b>Oct</b>
<b>Killearn – Elm/Cedar Rds</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£40 K</b>	<b>Oct</b>
<b>Footpaths</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£72 K</b>
<b><u>Fintry – B818 Bogside</u></b>		<b><u>£50 K</u></b>	<b><u>Completed</u></b>
<b>Balfroon – Spinners Street</b>		<b>£10 K</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Balfroon – Kirkmill Rd</b>		<b>£45 K</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Killearn – Elm/Cedar Rds</b>		<b>£50 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>

Additional Capital Projects		TOTAL	£155 K
<b>A809 – North of Finnoch Toll</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£61 K</b>	<b>Oct</b>
<b>A875 – Co-op</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£46 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>A811 – Kippen Roundabout</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£107 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b><u>B818 - Drum Farm Carron Valley</u></b>	<b><u>Inlay</u></b>	<b><u>£35 K</u></b>	<b><u>TBC</u></b>
<b>C56 Craigallian Rd @ Junction A81</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£10 K</b>	<b>Completed</b>
<b>C54 Ballochruin Rd to C21</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£62 K</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Glinns Road</b>	<b>Inlay</b>	<b>£52 K</b>	<b>TBC</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£373 K</b>

**Appendix 2: Priority 1 Gritting Routes Stirling Council**

Crow Road will be maintained as a Priority 1 route:

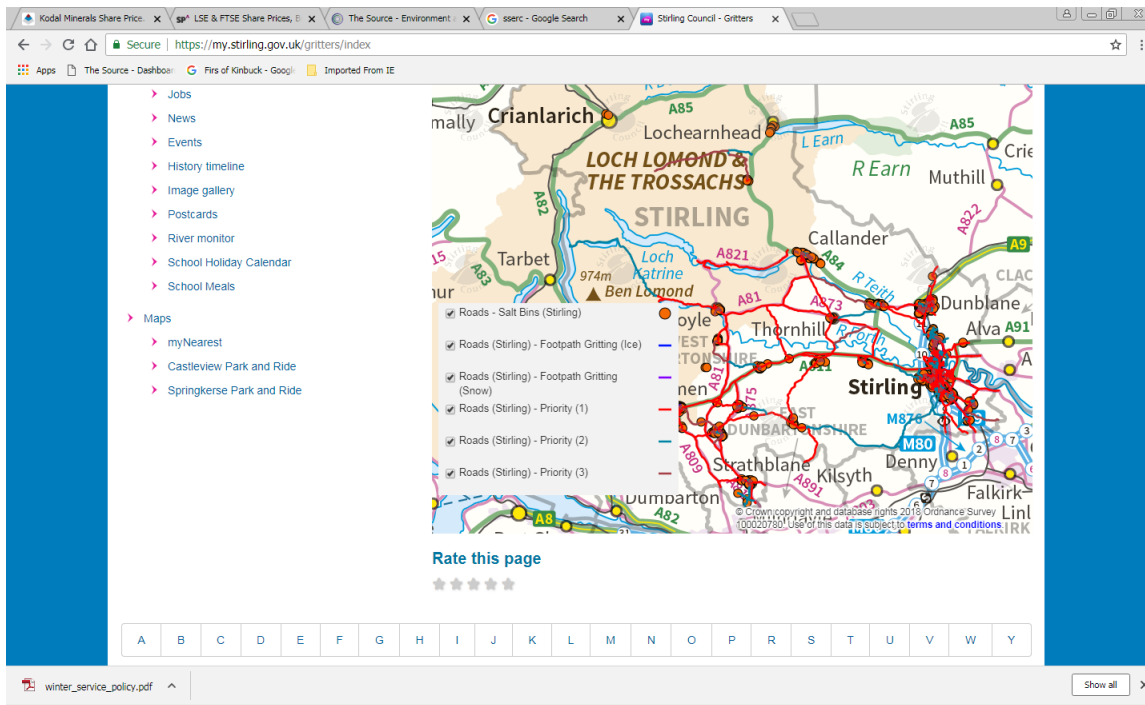
**Priority 1 Routes – (vii):** Cross boundary treatment routes with daily average flows (both ways) greater than 500 vehicles per day.

**Priority 1 Treatment Service Details:**

These routes shall receive precautionary salt treatment between 05:30 am and Midnight and:

- Clearance of snow accumulations 24 hours per day
- The treatment of ice formations 24 hours per day

Where the cumulative number of vehicles is within 5% of the threshold value then a 5 day (weekday) average will be used to determine the winter service policy.



**IV. Police Report**

- **Antisocial Behaviour:** A report in relation to a fire started at the rear of the Church in Main Street. It had allegedly been set by a group of youths. Fire service attended also and it was confirmed there was no damage, no trace of the persons responsible. There were calls in relation to loud music in the Main Street area. Police attended and the issue was quickly remedied with no further disturbances reported after the Police attendance.

- **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. Traffic Officers have also been in the villages and carrying out more high visibility patrols which is a tremendous asset to the area.  
There was a reported abandoned car on A875. Police attended, confirmed the vehicle was owned by a walker/camper and the issue was quickly resolved and the vehicle moved.  
There have been numerous calls in relation to sheep and cows, even horses on the surrounding roads so please be extra vigilant and careful on your travels.
- **Theft:** There have been no issues of this nature in the Fintry area since the last meeting, however there continues to be issues in neighbouring villages in relation to theft from outbuildings. In Kippen there was a report of the theft of metal and power towels from an outbuilding.  
Again, we would ask everyone to remain vigilant in relation to this issue.
- **Community Engagement and Reassurance:** PC Scott Craigie and PC Gary Martin are the only community ward officers for the Forth and Endrick area, based at Balfron Police Office. They can be contacted at Balfron Police Office, on 101, or by emailing [ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk).  
Apologies that we cannot attend the meeting tonight. It is our intention to attend as many meetings as possible in the coming months as our attendance is important to us. Apologies again re tonight.  
Please contact us at Balfron should there be any issues you would like to discuss and we will be delighted to assist.
- **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](http://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.

## V. Broadband

- A new cabinet has been erected near the church but is not expected to be in use for at least six months.
- KS has been looking into the possibility of white space internet. This has been looked at previously but was not financially viable. Since then, broadband has improved and white space internet now costs less. This would mainly be for outlying properties but could also be used for residents within the village as an alternative to using BT. The costs will be dependent on the number of people taking up the option. KS hopes to provide more information at the next FCC meeting.

## VI. Finance/Grant applications

- The FCC account is the account used primarily for holding money provided by Stirling Council for the running of the community council. At the moment there is also money in there received from grants applied for by MB for the Fintry Resilience Plan. £5,000 has been received so far with a further £10,000 expected soon. More funds can be applied for in February. Information about how the money has been spent will be made publicly available. MB was thanked for all her hard work in putting the resilience plan together and securing the grants.
- The Kingsburn Fund account currently stands at £42,000 since last year's report was reviewed and approved and this year's funds were granted. Information about all macro- and micro-grants that are funded will be made publicly available.
- There have been two grant applications: one for a Christmas tree and one for lights for the Christmas tree. The tree will be a living tree (a Korean pine) and will cost between

£2-300. The lighting will be battery powered LED lights. As it is to be planted on Stirling Council land (at the cross), permission will need to be obtained from Stirling Council. It is hoped that the Primary School children could be involved in helping to decorate the tree and residents will be invited to add a decoration that has a special meaning to them.

#### **VII. Shoppers Bus/Transport**

- The taxi service Crescent Cabs is no longer running. Buchanan Cabs have agreed to take over the running of the Shoppers Bus on Wednesdays under the same agreement that existed with Crescent Cabs. John Buchanan suggested it may be worthwhile approaching David Brown from Stirling Council to ask if the service could be provide as a DRT service.
- AM brought to the attention of Graham Lambie the situation of three children who cannot use the school bus to get to school and require a taxi and a chaperone. Since Crescent Cabs no longer provides their transport, none has been made available to them by Stirling Council.
- It was agreed that the Christmas bus to Glasgow will be offered again at a cost of £5 per passenger. Eight people used the service last year and eight people have already expressed interest in using it again this year. Buchanan Cabs confirmed that they could provide this service for £80 for an 8 seater vehicle and FCC confirmed that they would pay half of this. It was also agreed that two 8 seater vehicles could be provided if the demand requires.

#### **VIII. Planning**

- An application for an access gate to garden ground at West View, Fintry.
- An application for a new access road to Dean Cottage, Fintry.
- An application for 3 houses in garden ground at the Mill House, Kippen Road has been approved with conditions.
- An Enforcement Notice has been issued after the erection of a rear boundary fence at Menzies Avenue.
- An application has been made by Endrick Renewables to convert three silage clamps into industrial units on the Fintry side of Claylands Farm and create one portable storage unit.
- An application has been made for an extension at the rear of 9 Menzies Avenue, and an extension to an existing workshop and garage.
- An application for two timber huts for tourist accommodation at Gartcarron.
- An application for a manager's house and one self-catering woodland hut at Dovetail Scotland.
- An application for a ground floor extension to form a new vestibule entrance at Craigton House has been approved.

#### **IX. Riverbank Path**

- Nothing has been decided yet – FCC will meet up to decide which quote gives the best value for money and the decision will be presented at the FCC meeting in October.
- Fencing will be erected in the near future to close off a part of the path that has become dangerous.
- A member of the public asked if the scope of work could be made public and KS confirmed that this was available for anyone who wanted to see it.

#### **X. Traffic Calming**

- A traffic survey is currently taking place on Main Street to count traffic and monitor speeds. The results will help to decide what kind of traffic calming measures will be put in place.
- A decision is to be made soon as to whether a 20 mph speed limit will be instated throughout the village and whether or not priority signs should be erected on the bridges.

- Sustrans (an external organisation looking at Safer Routes to School) are looking into the option of a pelican crossing at the cross and/or double yellow lines on the corner of Kippen Road and Main Street to improve visibility for children crossing there.
- A member of the public noted that the sign pointing to Fintry at the junction from Killearn has disappeared.
- A member of the public highlighted problems with cars parking on Main Street particularly around Menzies Hall and the cross when events are on. A member of the public noted that Stirling Council's Planning Department had added to the problem by allowing a self-catering holiday apartment to be created without off-street parking.

**XI. A.O.B.**

- A vote was taken regarding a grant application from Strathendrick Welfare which had been made previously but not been voted on. Funding was agreed.
- Bins – 3 extra bins are required at the Sports Field. A member of the public noted that a bin has recently been removed from the Play Area and wondered if that could be sited at the Sports Field. The recycling bins at the Sports Centre have been replaced. Both they and the glass recycling bins in The Fintry Inn car park are for public use. It was noted that although parking has been created at Todholes with signs asking for dog waste to be picked up, there are no bins there. Some people have been putting litter, including dog waste, into the farmer's recycling bins, resulting in them not being emptied.
- MB noted that she has requested bushes to be cut back around the play equipment at the play area.
- A member of the public asked if there were any plans to deal with the Himalayan Balsam along the riverside. The only way to get rid of them is to pull them up and this would be a big undertaking. Some of the plants will go when the path is made wider.
- Elections for the community council will take place in October. Nomination forms will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> October and must be submitted by 19<sup>th</sup> October. If there are more nominations than places on any Community Council, a ballot will take place. Ballot papers will be issued on 5<sup>th</sup> November and must be returned by 27<sup>th</sup> November. Following this process each Community Council will be inaugurated at an initial meeting before business can commence. Information regarding these elections will be available at the Sports Centre.
- A member of the public asked about the bench at the cross which has disappeared. MD noted that it had been moved whilst building works were being done and that the house owner needs to reinstate it and make the pavement good.
- A member of the public requested that FCC information be posted in the noticeboard at the cross as well as at the Sports Centre. AM noted that this happens whenever possible but the noticeboard leaks so any information going in there has to be laminated.

**XII. Correspondence**

- An email had been received asking if the FCC could help to fund a system of transport for Fintry residents with hospital appointments. KS agreed to look at the criteria for how the Kingsburn money could be used.

**XIII. Date of next meeting**

- 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018



## **Fintry Community Bowling Club AGM**

### **I. Present/Apologies**

- **Present:** David Smith, Gail Reid, Meg Duckworth, Ronnie Garvie.
- **Apologies:** None

### **II. Demit/election of Office Bearers**

- Chair – David Smith, Secretary – Gail Reid, Treasurer – Moira MacKay, Trustees from FCC – Ronnie Garvie, Meg Duckworth, Michele Bennett.

### **III. Fun Day**

- This was held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September and was very successful with seven local groups represented. Ideas for future events were suggested including music afternoons, pottery classes, craft classes, social events, shared office space and a biker's event.

### **IV. A.O.B.**

- A small group of volunteers have been working on keeping the grass cut, repairing the bowls hut, painting etc. and Matt Hall has offered to help out with improving the drainage of the bowling green.
- DS noted that it costs approximately £8-900 per year to pay for essentials such as electricity, water, insurance etc. The FCC were asked if they were able to help financially in any way but no funding was agreed.

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### **V. Date of next meeting**

- 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018