



Minutes of the meeting held on

13th November 2019

I. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Ken Smith (Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Angela May (Secretary), Michele Bennett, Hendy Spence, Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing)
- Councillor Alistair Berrill
- 3 members of the public
- **Apologies:** Karen Milliken

II. Declaration of interest in any items of business

None

III. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:

To be circulated for approval.

IV. Stirling Councillor's Report

- The General Election next month means that, although the normal functions of Stirling Council (for example, waste collection etc.) continues as normal, other things quieten down.
- A residents' survey is currently available for completion either online or on paper. The results of this will be compared with other councils in Scotland. Stirling Council's audit committee has reviewed last year's survey. The areas where Stirling is performing well compared to other councils are: education, economic development (supporting local businesses), library services and leisure facilities. Areas where Stirling Council is not doing well include waste collection and roads maintenance. The full report is available on the Stirling Council website.
- Councillor Berrill met recently with Bruce Reekie the Senior Manager for Environment and Place. They discussed, amongst other things, waste collection at weekends in areas that rely on tourism.
- There is a meeting of the Environment and Housing committee scheduled to discuss the figures for the issuing of notices with regard to fly-tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles and parking tickets.
- The Police Chief Superintendent has recently expressed an opinion that the attendance of Community Police Officers at Community Council meetings is not a valuable use of time. Most community councils value the contribution of the police officers and some community councils were planning to write to the Chief Superintendent to let him know their views.

V. Police Report

- Once again it has been a fairly quiet period in the village in relation to calls over the last month which of course is good news for residents and Police alike.
- ROAD TRAFFIC - There was a report of a Road Traffic Collision on the outskirts of the village on the B818. A head on collision however luckily no persons were injured. Police attended and assisted with recovery etc. Further reports of cows and sheep on the road on the outskirts of the village. Please take care on these twisty damp roads. Local

officers will continue to carry out high visibility patrols to improve road safety. Please check and maintain your vehicle for road worthiness. The winter weather causes roads and driving conditions to be hazardous. This includes ensuring that vehicle windscreens are defrosted and you have a full view of the road ahead prior to driving off. On that note, please do not defrost the windscreen by leaving your engine running unattended on the road or driveway.

- THEFT - A report of a Theft by Housebreaking during October at a residential property in the village. A rear patio door had been smashed and entry gained. Cash and jewellery were stolen from within. Fortunately the resident was not home at the time of the break in but they did return from a weekend away to find the damage which is obviously a terrible experience. Enquiries are still ongoing in relation to this crime. There have been reports in relation to suspicious vehicles and persons in the other various surrounding villages. Police will always attend to these incidents with the surrounding areas been checked thoroughly with a negative result. As stated, all reports of suspicious persons and vehicles are always welcomed and will be dealt with immediately by local officers. It is also of note that there was a recent theft of a motor vehicle from a village whereby it would appear the perpetrators have placed wire or similar through the letter box and removed the keys from within. Please keep that in mind when leaving keys around the house. I have however again submitted information we have been given in relation to anti-snap locks at the end of the report for home security.
- SHUT OUT SCAMMERS - Doorstep Crime affects some of the most vulnerable within our communities. It manifests in many forms including online and telephone scams, exploitation by persons known to the victim and the fraudulent activities of unscrupulous persons purporting to be bona fide tradespeople. There is no specific look to a bogus caller or rogue trader. If you have any concerns at all, do not allow an individual entry to your home, or provide them with any form of payment and do not hesitate to phone the police immediately. Always ask for ID and only let callers in if they have an appointment and you know that they are genuine. If you would like to receive any of our advice and guidance on preventing crime then you can visit your local police station, call 101 or visit our dedicated webpage at <https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/personal-safety/Shut-Out-Scammers>.
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND REASSURANCE - PC Steven Graham 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. Please contact us at Balfron should there be any issues you would like to discuss and we will be delighted to assist. Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision
www.facebook.com/policescotland
www.twitter.com/stirlingpol
www.twitter.com/policescotland
- 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 Neighbourhood Alert
- PREVENTION IS THE CURE - Are you considering upgrading the locks on your external doors? Europrofile cylinders tested and certificated to the following standards should be considered:
 - a) Door Hardware Federation Technical Standard 007 (DHF TS 007) - 3-Star rating,
 - b) DHF TS 007 1-star cylinder may be utilised if accompanied by DHF TS 007 2-star external hardware (handle set or secure escutcheon) or cylinder protection.

c) Sold Secure SS312 (Diamond) standard cylinders;
How do I know if I have anti snap locks? Essentially there are two ways you can ensure the euro cylinder locks on your doors are anti-snap proof:

1. The lock is an SS312 Diamond Approved Cylinder (as below) SS312 Diamond is the highest level of approval for a euro cylinder lock.

2. Look out for the 3 Star Kitemark Logo

If your lock has the 3-Star Kitemark Logo on it, this indicates the lock is tested against snapping.



For further information on enhanced security products including doors, windows, glass and locking mechanism please go to www.securedbydesign.com and www.policescotland.co.uk

VI. Planning

- An application has been received for the demolition of a barn and garden shed at garden ground of 43, Main Street, Fintry from Euan and Fiona Waddell.
- An application for planning permission for a dwelling house and garage at garden ground at 43, Main Street has been approved with conditions.
- An application from John and Meg Duckworth to erect a 6 metre flag pole in the back garden at Dundarroch, Fintry has been refused.
- An application for an agricultural shed for straw bale storage at Jaw Farm, Fintry has been approved.

VII. Treasurer's Report

- The £32K requested from the Kingsburn Fund has been received.
- Money spent on grounds maintenance has gone over-budget but the majority of this has been for the work on the path (approximately £7K including fencing and signage).
- An invoice from Buchanan Cabs has been received for the FCC's contribution to the Shoppers Bus for the last six months. Angela to find out exactly how many people are using the service.
- £15K has been allocated for the macro- and micro-grants. So far there has been only one application in this round. It was agreed that there needs to be better advertising that these grants are available.
- Funding of £2K has been awarded for the resilience project from the Postcode Lottery.

VIII. Fountain Listing

- An application has been submitted for the fountain to be recognised as a listed structure. A reply has been received to confirm that it has been put forward for consideration as Category C. These are listed buildings or structures that are of local

importance or lesser examples of a given period, style or building type, as originally constructed or moderately altered. There was a question raised as to who owns the fountain and it was confirmed that it belongs to the village. A decision should be made within 21 days.

IX. Fintry Brochure

- The closing of Culcreuch Castle will have an effect on many local businesses in Fintry so a proposal was put forward to create a 'Fintry Brochure' to advertise the local businesses. The brochures could be available in places visited by tourists to the area for example, the train station and/or mentioned on the Visit Scotland website. Assistance with the brochure has been requested from Stirling Council's Economic Development Team Leader, Steven MacDonald but no reply has been received yet. Councillor Berrill said that he would also contact Steven MacDonald. It was agreed that a sub-group should be formed to move forward with this consisting of FCC members and other members of the community.

X. Local Development Plan (LDP)

- The piece of land earmarked for the building of 40 houses alongside the castle drive has recently been up for sale. An offer believed to be from a housebuilding company has been submitted but not finalised. The original proposal on the LDP was for 20 houses to be built between 2010-2019 and another 20 between 2020-2024. Four of the houses to be built will be affordable housing. A lot of requirements are already in place from Stirling Council with regard to drainage and flooding issues. A question was raised about secondary access to the site but it is unclear where that will be and who will make that decision. It was agreed that a sub-group should be formed to look at the planning application once it has been submitted to deal with any potential issues.

XI. Community Garden

- Michele said she had received a report from a resident to say that there had been some vandalism in the Community Garden. Trees had been ripped out.
- Another resident had asked if they could plant fruiting shrubs in the Community Garden but Angela said that this had been tried before and they had been ripped out and trampled.
- The question was raised as to how residents can become involved in the garden as there are tubs which are not being used but there is no information available as to how to adopt one. It was agreed that a note should be put on the noticeboard in the Spring and a sign should go on the shed in the garden with contact details. Information could also go in The Fintry Focus.

XII. Graveyard Path

- Signs are to go up soon and a grant application has been submitted for funding to purchase plants to be planted alongside the path. Some bulbs have already been planted but volunteers will be needed to plant more. The fencing and the gates have been completed and a press release about the path should be going out next week.
- The West of Scotland Dry Stone Walling Association has agreed to repair the dry stone wall in April. They will do this as part of one of their training courses and have asked if any Fintry residents want to be involved before it is advertised more widely as there is a limit of twenty places. Ken to put information on Fintry Buddies.
- A question was asked about creating access from the path to The Courtyard Café but it is too dangerous for people to cross the road there as it is on a bend. A resident wondered if it would be possible to extend the riverside path to get to the café but this would be on privately owned land so the Community Council would not be able to do that. Another resident asked if it would be possible to have the 30 m.p.h. zone moved further away from Fintry to make the walk along the road to the café safer. Michele said this has been raised with Stirling Council previously but that she would ask again. She

confirmed that traffic calming measures are to be installed on all entrances to the village with the first one being on the Kippen Road quite soon.

XIII. December meeting

- The Menzies Hall will be being used as a polling station on Thursday December 12th so Fintry Primary School can no longer use the hall that evening for their Christmas play. They would like to use the hall on Wednesday December 11th instead which clashes with the next FCC meeting. It was agreed that the next FCC meeting would be held on Tuesday December 11th at 6 p.m. at The Fintry Inn. Angela will inform the Councillors and the Community Police Officers and the information about the next meeting will be posted on Fintry Buddies and advertised around the village.

XIV. Sub groups update (Five year plan/village feature

- No update

XV. Correspondence

- None

XVI. A.O.B.

- Mrs. Roy asked that information about the work the Community Council has been doing be submitted to her for inclusion in The Fintry Focus by the 1st of December.
- An application for a micro-grant for £250 from John Aitken for the installation of a water filtration system for three properties including two holiday lets was approved.
- Meg attended the Fintry Sports and Recreation Club A.G.M. in October. Section reports from the Indoor Bowling, Rugby, Squash, Football and Gym were given at the meeting. Members of the club were asked to consider a proposal from the Committee to approve the following resolution: "That the Objects Clause of the Club's Constitution be and is hereby amended by the addition of the following further objects:- 'To promote the advancement of public participation in sport' and 'To relieve the effects of rural isolation'. Club membership for 2019/20 will shortly be complete but is already over 500. The operating profit of the club is £296.86. Michele commented that cars had parked on the pavement along the Kippen Road at a recent event and had made them unusable for anyone with a pram or wheelchair. She asked that this issue be raised by Meg or Hendy at the next meeting.
- Hendy confirmed she would be attending the next Community Hub meeting.
- The Fintry Development Trust have facilitated a meeting of Fintry Community Groups for people to get together and let others know what they are up to and support each other. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th December at 7 p.m. at The Fintry Inn.
- Meg had noticed that there were Stirling Council path markers at each end of the riverside path and requested that they be removed.
- Angela asked when the noticeboard at the Police House would be replaced. A price needs to be confirmed and included in the budget.
- Chris Drapper from The Menzies Hall committee had asked again about assistance from the Community Council with the costs associated with the annual family ceilidh on January 2nd. The cost would be approximately £500 for hall hire, cleaning costs and paying for a band. The FCC felt it was not appropriate for them to pay for the ceilidh but would be more than happy to consider an application from the committee for a micro-grant. A resident pointed out that the band was usually made up of local musicians and their friends who played for free so there should not be any cost involved in paying for a band.

XVII. Questions from the floor

- None.

XVIII. Date of next meeting

- Tuesday December 10th 2019, 6.00 p.m. at The Fintry Inn