



Minutes of the meeting held on

9th December 2020

(A virtual meeting held via Zoom)

I. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Michele Bennett (Vice Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Angela May (Secretary), Hendy Spence, Ian Rodger, Pam Campbell (Community Link Officer)
- **Apologies:** Ken Smith (Chair), Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing)

II. Declaration of interest in any items of business

None

III. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:

Approved

IV. Stirling Councillor's Report

- No report submitted. This is the fourth month where no report has been submitted.
- Pam will contact the Councillor's and highlight that no report has been received and no Councillor's have attended the virtual meetings.

V. Police Report

- Antisocial Behaviour – There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour since the last meeting.
- Road Safety – There have been no reportable RTCs in the Fintry area since the last meeting. We have carried out hand held radar within the village due to complaints of speeding. A pop up Police officer which looks like a speed check has also been placed within the village with a view to slowing vehicles down. More speed checks will be carried out in the future. Here is a picture of the pop up Policeman in another village.



- Vehicle care - Prepare for the winter by keeping your vehicle well maintained before you take to the road. Take special care that brakes, tyres, lights, batteries, windscreens and wiper blades are in good condition. In addition, washer bottles need

to contain an additive to stop the water from freezing. Tyres should also be checked weekly to ensure they are legal and at the correct pressure (consult your vehicle handbook). The minimum legal tread depth for cars is 1.6mm across the centre 3/4 of the breadth of the tread around the entire circumference. They should also be checked for bulges, cuts or tears which weaken the tyre. Failure to maintain your tyres could lead to a maximum of £2,500 fine and 3 penalty points per tyre. Please ensure 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 - There have been no thefts reported in the Fintry since the last meeting. There have been thefts from vehicles in Mugdock Country Park previously so please heed the following advice:
 - Never leave bags or any valuables lying on the seats of your parked and unattended vehicles. It is so very quick and easy for thieves to smash a car window, reach in and take any valuables in an instant. If a thief observes a bag in a car, they may think the bag contains something valuable and will smash your window to get in, even if it contains absolutely nothing of value! Please take any bag and or valuables with you but if this is not possible, place the items in your boot or out of sight, but preferably, take all valuables with you.

All incidents in relation to suspicious persons or vehicles are welcomed and Police will attend to all these incidents immediately. We urge people to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious. The evenings are getting darker earlier and it is a time where traditionally housebreakings can occur. 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 your house is fitted with an alarm then please use it. This is a good deterrent should thieves manage to force entry to your house.
- Create a FREE and secure inventory of all your personal property at www.immobilise.com
- If you note anything suspicious in your neighbourhood report it on 101.
- Community Engagement and Reassurance - It is important to you to have community officers who you know, who are accessible and who address local problems. PC Steven Graham and PC Gary Martin are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact. 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

VI. Treasurer's Report

- General Fund Account
The current balance in this account is £9,435. We have just received £5,000 from Foundation Scotland for COVID-19 work and Christmas Hampers. This will be transferred to the Foundation Fund Account to cover the continued COVID-19 work.
- Foundation Fund:
The foundation fund balance to date is £32,493.

Foundation Scotland Budget	Description	Budget	Spend	Remaining
Commissioned Service	Community Transport Scheme	£2,500	£672	£1,828
Commissioned Activity	Continued Path Maintenance	£5,000	£4,508	£492
Commissioned Activity	Maintenance of resilience fund assets	£1,000		£1,000
Commissioned Activity	Community Notice Board	£1,500	£1,428	£72
Fintry Special Project	Community Garden & Resilience Fund	£2,000		£2,000
Fintry Special Project	Menzies Hall Resilience Hub	£11,500		£11,500
Fintry Special Project	COVID-19 Hardship and Resilience Fund	£5,160	£2,609	£2,551
Micro Grants-A	Individual Grants £250-500	£2,000	£250	£1,750
Micro Grants-B	Individual Grants £250-500	£2,000		£2,000
Main Grants	Constituted Groups £500-2500	£10,000	£2,500	£7,500
Student Study Grant	Student Study Grant	£1,000		£1,000
Administration Fee	FCC Admin work	£500	£200	£300
Post Code Lottery	COVID Grant	£2,000	£1,500	£500
	Total	£46,160	£13,667	£32,493

The new notice board has been ordered and is due for delivery in January.

A micro-grant application was received from Joy Moore for assistance with the Christmas weekend celebration and this was agreed by email with the Community Council members and paid out to her.

VII. Planning

- An application for the formation of a driveway and the erection of a garage at Glendaruel (10A) Main Street. It was noted that this would result in the loss of part of the flower bed on Main Street.

VIII. Lade Path

- The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) have been working along the Lade path clearing back trees and rhododendrons. They have offered to install French drains in a couple of locations along the path. (A French drain is a trench, filled with aggregate that directs subsoil and water away from your property in areas that are prone to flooding or surface water pooling. Installing a French drain does not require any specialist tools or equipment, making it a relatively simple and cost effective way of draining land.) They would only ask for payment for the materials used and will submit a quote to the FCC in the New Year for consideration. The drains will not affect the core path and the work could probably be done in a day. Permission would be sought from the landowner before any work commenced.

IX. Ongoing resilience

- Stirling will be moving to Level 3 on Saturday 12th December. Covid related support in the community is continuing as before really.
- Advent calendars were given to all pupils in the primary school and the community council has received Christmas cards from them as a thank you.
- Presents will be distributed to secondary school pupils funded by a grant from Foundation Scotland.
- Christmas hampers will be distributed to elderly residents at the end of next week.
- Pam is making enquiries regarding resilience volunteers receiving the Covid vaccine.
- The trees to be planted in areas prone to flooding will be arriving at the end of January.
- The Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust has raised a concern to the community council with regard to ashes from the bio-mass boiler at the Sports Centre being emptied into the Endrick. The community council will send a letter to the Sports Centre regarding this.

X. 2021 Meeting dates

- Angela will work out the dates of the meetings in 2021 and circulate to council members.
- Angela was conscious of the fact that no money was being paid to the Menzies Hall for meetings as all meetings have been virtual meetings recently. She wondered if it would be possible to make a donation of goodwill to them for their loss of income. Pam said that, unfortunately, the community council's administration grant could not be used for that

purpose. If the hall committee is struggling financially, they should contact Pam or Jean Cowie (Funding Officer, Stirling Council) as funds are available to help out.

XI. Correspondence

- There was discussion regarding how correspondence received should be minuted. It was agreed that going forward the policy would be to acknowledge receipt of any correspondence, give a brief outline of the context and record FCC's response or action taken. No names will be minuted. Anonymous correspondence will not be accepted. A resident whose named correspondence was minuted in June at their request has now asked for their name to be removed. Pam confirmed that the minutes could be redacted, the name removed and minutes reposted. Pam will ask her colleague to carry this action out on the Stirling Council website.
- A resident had questioned why some properties on Main Street were being provided with trees by Stirling Council to replace diseased trees that had been cut down but not all properties had been offered one. Michele to make enquiries.
- Two grant applications have been received. FCC will discuss the applications and respond directly to the applicants.
- A resident had contacted FCC about four different issues:
 - i. Access to the play park. In discussion with Stirling Council, there had been an idea to create access from the Castle Drive. The resident has questioned why the public have not been consulted about this and has pointed out that there is nowhere to park on the Castle Drive. The community council has taken these points on board and noted that discussions are still in an early stage. Stirling Council will be consulted to see what is viable and local residents will be consulted when the time is right.
 - ii. The notice board outside the old Police House. The resident has asked what materials will be used for the board and whether a new board should be put onto the old posts. FCC have examined the old posts and found them to be in good condition.
 - iii. Communication via Facebook. The resident had noted that Facebook was used as a means of communication but not other communication channels. The FCC confirmed that Facebook is used as a means of communicating to as many residents as possible but the noticeboard in the Sports Centre and the noticeboard outside the old Police House are also used when appropriate. It was agreed that future agendas posted on Facebook would carry an additional statement asking residents who have any comments or questions to address these directly to the FCC by email (admin@fintrycommunitycouncil.org.uk)
 - iv. Tree in the play park. The resident had complained about the condition of a tree in the play park. The FCC have passed these concerns on to Stirling Council and have been offered reassurances that there are no issues with the tree.
- Angela informed the rest of the FCC that the Christmas bus would not be going ahead this year.
- A resident had asked about the situation with the emptying and replacement of waste bins in the village. Michele posted on Facebook to gauge the situation and has contacted Stirling Council.
- Correspondence was received thanking all those involved in putting up the Christmas lights over the bridge in the village and acknowledging and appreciating the work that the FCC do throughout the year.

XII. A.O.B.

- Liability insurance is being purchased to cover the Christmas lights. The lights this year have been run from two homes on Main Street and both homeowner's will be offered reimbursement for the electricity which will be funded through the Kingsburn fund. A request has been made to Stirling Council to allow access to the street lighting which will allow us to run the lights in all proceeding years through this system.
- Information about the macro and micro-grants will be published in the Fintry Focus.
- Michele has spoken to the FDT about the possibility of help with providing electricity for Christmas lights at the cross next year.

- Pam had been asked to carry out due diligence for the co-opting of Ian onto the FCC. This is to ensure that he is on the electoral register and is a resident of Fintry. This should be done in time for the meeting in January at which time the members of FCC will vote to co-opt Ian. Two thirds of the council need to agree.

XIII. Date of next meeting

- 13th January 2021