



***Minutes of the meeting held on
8th January 2020***

- I. Present/apologies for absence:**
- **Present:** Ken Smith (Chair), Sue Wallace (Treasurer), Michele Bennett, Hendy Spence, Meg Duckworth (Planning/Licensing)
 - 3 members of the public
 - Angela May (Secretary), **Apologies:** Karen Milliken
- II. Declaration of interest in any items of business**
None
- III. Approval of Minutes of last meeting:**
Approved.
- IV. Stirling Councillor's Report**
- Councillor Lambie was not present
- V. Police Report**
- P.C. Martin was unable to attend however sent the following report.
 - Once again it has been a very quiet period in the village in relation to calls over the last month which of course is good news for residents and Police alike.
 - **Anti-Social Behaviour –**
 - A female was traced and charged in relation to a minor assault which occurred on the outskirts of the village.
 - **Road Traffic -**
 - There have been no road traffic collisions reported since the last report. However, with high winds and heavy rainfall, the driving conditions having been very poor in previous weeks.
 - Local officers will continue to carry out high visibility patrols to improve road safety.
 - **Drink Drive Campaign**
 - We are having a Festive drink/drive campaign running through December and into January. Please be aware that you may be still over the legal limit of alcohol to drive the next day so be careful. If in doubt, don't drive.
 - **Theft -**
 - No reports of theft in the village since the last report.
 - Look out for your neighbors!! On many occasions housebreakers are immediately apprehended due to a neighbor acting quickly in relation to something they may have witnessed from their address. There is no issue if anyone contacts Police and it turns out to be a false alarm. Also, if you do see a crime being committed, contact us on 999, it is quicker than the 101.
 - 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.

- As the evenings are darker earlier at this time of year 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 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.
- **Advice for Drivers**
 - 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.
 - Make sure your windows are clean, properly demisted and clear of snow and ice before you drive. Also make sure that your roof is clear of snow as this affects drivers behind you and can also cause obstructions on your windscreen when braking. Be careful with low sun as it can make it difficult to see and a dirty, greasy or damaged windscreen can make this worse.
 - All lights must be kept clean and clear and be in good working order, including registration plate lights. Use the help of someone to check that all of your lights are working.
 - Consider keeping an emergency kit in your car for severe weather, this should at least include:
 - An ice scraper and de-icer
 - A shovel for snow
 - A torch and spare batteries
 - Warm clothes, boots and a blanket
 - Some food and a warm drink in a flask
 - A first aid kit
 - Battery jump leads
 - A map or device with offline maps for any unplanned diversions.
 - In wet weather, stopping distances will be at least double those required for stopping on dry roads. Aquaplaning can be a frightening experience; this is where a wedge of water builds up between the front tyres and the road surface. If this happens, the safest solution is to remove pressure from the accelerator, allowing the vehicle to lose speed which will help the tyres regain their grip.
 - Ice and snow can increase stopping distanced by up to ten times so keep well back from the vehicle in front. Anticipate when you will need to be stopping and be alert to other road users. When the roads are icy, drive at a slow speed in as high a gear as possible; accelerate and brake very gently.

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

VI. Treasurers report

- Still awaiting acceptance forms from David Smith, Sports Centre and Overton farm in order to process grants.
- The grant applications remain open, this will be re-advertised on Facebook and the notice board
- Discussion of postcode lottery money and ways to use funds allocated for the 'Fintry project'

VII. Planning

- There are no applications, recommendations or decisions on the current Stirling Council Planning Schedule for Fintry
- It was noted that the council have written to the owner of Culcreuch Castle r.e. the right of way usage of the castle drive. We will continue to check that the gates are not padlocked. Hendy also raised concerns about the state of the road, potholes getting worse as that is the responsibility of the owner as well.

VIII. Correspondence

- The FDT have invited the Community Council to do a presentation on the resilience work as part of the FDT sustainability day on 02.02.20. It was agreed that Sue would attend.

IX. A.O.B

- A new notice board will be ordered.
- Mrs Duckworth requested that the community council support her appeal to erect a flagpole on her land as her planning application was refused in December. It was agreed that the Community council will support this.
- Frances Hall was co-opted onto the board.
- Mr Craig raised concerns about Fintry not being 'on the map', particularly a map in Stirling just outside the train station, this will be raised with Councilor Lambie at the next meeting.
- It was noted that the council will not extend the 30mph zone on the Kippen Road however they will erect speed restriction signs before the bend, encouraging drivers to slow down.

X. Questions from the floor

- Mr Craig raised concerns about the 30,000 new houses being planned within Stirling and how this may impact the new builds in Fintry.

XI. Date of next meeting

- Wednesday 12th February, 2020