



Draft Minutes of the meeting held on
13th May 2026

1. Present/apologies for absence:

- Present: Michele Bennett (Chair), Moira Mackay (Treasurer), Ian Rodger (Vice Chair), Hendy Spence (Secretary), Ronnie Garvie, Findlay Hand
- Brian Roberts (Chief Executive, Stirling Council)
- Ian Denver (Stirling Council Community Link Officer)
- 15 members of the public
- Apologies: None

2. Declaration of interest in any items of business

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Approval of Minutes of last meeting

The previous minutes were approved.

4. Stirling Councillors Report

- No Councillor was present and no report had been provided.

5. Police Report

- 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 Matt McCammon and PC Darren Gibson are the Ward Officers for the Forth and Endrick area. They are based at Balfroon Police Office and can be contacted at the office, by calling 101, or by email at Forthvalleycommunitypolice@scotland.police.uk.
It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact however this should not be used to report crimes.
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:
<https://www.facebook.com/PoliceScotlandForthValley>
<https://www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland>
X - @PSOSForthValley
X - @PoliceScotland
ADVICE/REASSURANCE
With the better weather coming we thought it would be a good time to remind everyone getting out and about with their dogs to be mindful when walking in or around farms/farmland or other areas where livestock are being held about Livestock Attacks/Worrying.
What livestock attacks and worrying are:
Livestock attacks and worrying is when a dog attacks, chases, or disturbs livestock animals.
If worrying or attacks happen:
 - you may need to pay large fines

- the farmer can shoot your dog
- you can be prosecuted

The impact of livestock worrying:

The stress caused by the dog disturbing or chasing pregnant animals can:

- cause pregnant animals to miscarry
- separate lambs from their mothers (which can lead to death)
- cause animals to injure themselves when they try to flee
- cost the owners large sums of money (for vets, disposal, and to replace the animal)

What to do if livestock attack or worrying happens:

If your dog has worried or attacked livestock:

- recall your dog and put them on a lead
- call the landowner to tell them your dog has attacked or disturbed their animals
- report it to us
- if you cannot get control of your dog and animals are being hurt, call 999

If you've found an injured or dead animal:

- call the landowner and tell them what you've found
- give a What 3 Words or map reference for where you found it
- write down what time you found it
- take photos of the animal and where it is
- report it to us

IF IN ANY DOUBT THAT A FIELD HAS LIVESTOCK WITHIN, PLEASE PUT YOUR DOG ON A LEAD.

FINTRY –

Crime:

Enquires are ongoing into a theft by house breaking after an outbuilding was broken in to and a quantity of metal was stolen.

Another outbuilding was broken into by forcing open a panel in the wall, fortunately nothing was removed. Enquiries are still ongoing.

A vandalism has been recorded after damage was caused to the public toilets of the holiday park. Enquires are ongoing to trace the person responsible.

A vandalism has been recorded after a driver of a vehicle collided with a parked car causing minor damage. The driver thereafter failed to stop and report the collision. There are no further lines of enquiry and this remains undetected.

Incidents of Note:

None

6. Vice-Chair Election

- MB proposed IR as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by HS. IR accepted the position.

7. Finance

- There is a small additional amount to pay for FCC insurance. Stirling Council covers most of the cost.
- An invoice from Craigmarloch was mistakenly sent to FCC – it was for the Kirk and has been forwarded to them.
- A grant which was previously awarded to the Hub for their Open Day will be paid as agreed this financial year.
- An application for the Stirling Council Admin Grant needs to be submitted by the end of July.
- A receipt has been requested from the Kirk for flowers.
- Community Council has been awarded a grant for Christmas lights.
- Malcolm, the FCC contact at Nadara, is leaving soon and will be replaced.

8. Resilience update

- MB has asked Stirling Council for an update with regard to any help that may be available in the event of fuel shortages. BR confirmed that a resilience plan is in place and will be initiated if necessary.
- A resident asked if a date has been set for the willow spilling that is planned for the river bank behind the Sports Centre as the old Christmas trees are very close to the Sports Centre building and could cause a fire risk if there is a spell of dry weather. MB is waiting for a date from the contractor.
- A grant application to Clackmannanshire & Stirlingshire Environmental trust was unsuccessful.
- Doug MacPhee, the Scottish Flood Forum Resilience Manager is retiring.
- A grant application has been submitted for the next phase of the Leaky Dams, Woodland Project and Willow spilling works project but no response is expected until August.
- A grant application has been submitted to pay for skips etc. to clear rubbish which has been dumped in the 'jungle'. BR encouraged FCC to contact Stirling Council if this application was unsuccessful as they may be able to help.
- The crows nesting in the 'jungle' are causing the same issues as raised previously. A member of the public noted that the crows can be dealt with if they are deemed to be causing a mental health issue to any of the residents.

9. Roads/Paths

- The C23 (Balfron back road) has been closed. The work is scheduled to be completed tomorrow (14/05/26).
- The new bus service drops off/picks up at the Doctors' surgery in Kippen but does not go down to the bus stop that the Stirling bus goes from/to. MB will contact Stirling Council to ask if this could be changed. A member of the public had been told that it was not safe to turn the bus around at that point and that the drivers are not allowed to reverse the bus. MB wondered if the bus could continue down to the roundabout and turn round there. Some householders had not received timetables. There are timetables at the bus stops the Fintry inn, Sports Club and online and paper copies are available on the buses.

10. Correspondence

- Information about Stirling Council's Local Development Plan has been received and will be discussed in Agenda point 12.
- Benches – new benches will be installed around the village. The bench opposite the old shop will be reinstated, 2 benches will be installed at the cross and one bench will be sited in the orchard.
- MB will be meeting a representative from Stirling Council tomorrow regarding the installation of a flying fox zip wire at the play park.
- An email has been received from the Forestry Commission asking for a spokesperson from FCC. IR will take a look at what it will involve.
- HS/MB met with David from the Cairnoch Hill Wind Farm developers .
- Parking costs in Stirling have risen by approximately 80 pence per hour.
- Signs have been erected regarding parking at Culcreuch Castle. FCC have contacted them.
- A suggestion has been received that all community groups in Fintry publish their meeting minutes on Fintry Buddies. MB will contact the groups to suggest this.

11. Any Other Business

- MB has asked FCC's solicitor to suggest some dates/times for a meeting with Fintry Sports Club with regard to the lease and is awaiting a reply.
- A member of the public addressed BR regarding the significant amount of time and resources being spent by residents, community groups, volunteers, and Stirling

Council officers in responding to repeated complaints and reports from a local resident. Concern was expressed about the impact this has on volunteers and community organisations, and whether there are any council or national policies in place that provide a duty of care to protect individuals and groups from persistent or unreasonable complaints and negative comments.

BR stated that he is keen to ensure that residents, volunteers, and community groups feel supported and protected. He confirmed that Stirling Council's Legal and Governance Team has been made aware of the situation and will consider any appropriate action or guidance.

- MB has contacted Stirling Council about the blocked drains but has not received a response yet.
- A representative from the Sports Centre referred to the reseeded of the Rugby pitches and explained that it will not now be necessary to close off the pitches with the way that it is going to be done.
- A representative from the Sports Centre confirmed that the picnic benches have been delivered and will be put into position soon.
- A member of the public raised an issue with the use of the Household Waste and Recycling Centre at Balfron and questioned why it was still necessary to book a slot (a measure introduced during Covid). The resident is limited to the number of drop-offs he can make as he has a trailer. BR responded to say that he was not aware that there was a restriction on the number of drop-offs available for small trailers and would look into it. He also noted that the booking system has resulted in less queues and an increase in recycling. The number of slots available/being used is constantly under review.

12. Planning/Local Plan

- An application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to vary Condition 1 on planning application 23/00001/FUL at Old Balglas Fintry G63 0YH has been approved with conditions.
- Stirling Council's Local Development Plan (LDP 3) has identified three possible sites for housing in Fintry. FIN-01 Main Street; FIN-02 Menzies Terrace; FIN-03 Kippen Road. The Menzies Terrace site was an allocated site in LDP 2 and SEPA have previously advised that this land is subject to flooding and should not be built on. A request was made to remove this from the LDP and should not be included in the next LDP. MB/BR will check that this is the case with the Planning Department. A call for sites was made three months ago and FIN-01 and FIN-03 were identified as possibilities.
- In relation to LDP 3, a member of the public asked the following questions:
 - What consultation has the Community Council carried out to date on the local development plan and what does it intend to do for this site options stage?
 - Is the CC requesting a LDP community consultation event through Stirling Council in line most other surrounding villages?
 - Does the CC know who submitted sites FIN1 and FIN3? [If yes, what consultation was done on this?]
- The following replies were given:
 - A housing survey had been conducted and there had been strong support for the development of affordable housing. At this stage, FCC will be encouraging individuals to respond to Stirling Council directly. This needs to be done by the end of July.
 - FCC will request a community consultation event thorough Stirling Council.
 - FCC submitted site FIN-01 on behalf of the landowner who is keen for affordable housing to be available to Fintry residents and/or relations of Fintry residents. FIN-03 was submitted by a private individual.

13. Date of next meeting

- **The next FCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th June at 7.30 p.m.**
- **BR thanked FCC for allowing him to come along to the meeting. He is aware that the rural areas of Stirling can be neglected and noted that he had already been in touch with the Roads Department after noticing the lack of road markings on the Kippen Road. BR was appointed as Chief Executive last October but has worked for Stirling Council for 30 years. He is keen to make a difference although he is aware that there have been a lot of cuts in the last few years. He encouraged FCC and Fintry residents to continue to raise any issues they have and is hoping to get Stirling Council's Senior Managers out to community councils in the future.**
- **A member of the public stated that they really appreciate everything that FCC do and acknowledged the work that goes into obtaining grants etc. They thanked all the councillors for the effort, time, thought and consideration that they give voluntarily.**