

Strathfillan Community Council

working for and representing the people



St. Fillan's Crozier
The Quigrich

www.ecommunitycouncil.org.uk/strathfillan

MINUTES OF MEETING **HELD ON MONDAY 9TH JUNE 2008** **IN CRIANLARICH VILLAGE HALL** **AT 7.30PM**

1. Present: Moira Robertson, Mary Anderson, John Riley, Alan Smailes, Elizabeth MacLellan, Isla Craig, Joyce Russell, Provost Fergus Wood, Cllr. Jim Thomson, Owen McKee [NPA] PC Craig Murray, Cameron Taylor, Jimmy Allardice, Bill Muir Jeanette Bevin [Lixtoll Garage]

Apologies: Angela Sclater

It was agreed to change the order of the agenda, PC Craig Murray to report followed by Jeanette Bevin and then the agenda as advertised.

2. Police Constable Craig Murray's report.

2.1 The roads are busy as expected as this time of the year. An air ambulance was called for an accident involving a motorcyclist.

2.2 Operation Ironworks is proving very successful and is still on-going. The police are working with the NP Rangers at Loch Earn. An incident where 10 people had to be rescued from a boat designed for 5 involved boats, and helicopter. The skipper was drunk, but being there are no byelaws [as on Loch Lomond] and it was not a commercial boat he could not be charged for drunkenness. He was charged with culpable and reckless conduct. There has been talk of NPA purchasing a boat for Loch Earn and it could be very useful. A fixed penalty was issued to a man who chopped down a tree.

3. Jeanette Bevin, Lixtoll Garage

3.1 Lixtoll garage had been contracted to recovery vehicles in the area for the police. This was not renewed a couple of years ago. The new owners of Lixtoll, have complied with all the legislation and been inspected by the AA [who issue the contracts] and although the garage and vehicles reach the required standard, they have not been given a contract for this area, but do have it for general AA work and Tayside police. Recovery has to come from 50 miles away which is bound to cause hold-ups on the trunk roads in busy periods.

3.2 It used to be that the police would call in the local recovery, but now all contracts are issued by the AA and the service is run and operated outwith the police.

3.3 Just last weekend, the police were targeting vehicles for drugs. Our local policeman was tied up waiting 1½ hours for a recovery vehicle to uplift a suspect vehicle, during which time he could not leave the immediate area.

3.4 John will send the relevant information to Fergus Wood who will consult with Bruce Crawford MSP and Inspector Kevin Findlater [Central Police] **Action John and Fergus**

3.5 Craig will email his sergeant. **Action Craig**

3.6 Jeanette will email John Riley with the name of the person she has been dealing with from the AA. **Action Jeanette**

Jeanette and Craig left the meeting.

3. Approval of minutes of last meeting [12.5.08]

Proposed, Joyce Russell seconded Alan Smailes

4. Cllr Jim Thomson

4.1 Jim is one of the Councillors for Castle Ward in Stirling. He holds the Environment Portfolio which has a wide remit of Structure Planning, Roads Transport Maintenance and Improvement, Street Lighting, Streetscape [grass cutting and litter collection] Cemeteries, Countryside Management, City Centre Management and Waste Services.

4.2 Tonight he wanted our views on public toilets [PT]. He is consulting throughout Stirling district and has a blank sheet. There are a range of options open to SC, and any decisions will incorporate the views of the residents. Crianlarich is the second most used PT in the area.

4.3 The PT in Crianlarich serves a purpose, but is not fit for purpose and requires investment.

4.4 The NP is also consulting on PT. This is a Gateway to the NP. The PT at St. Fillans was proposed for closure and the residents were prepared to take it over and run it locally, but the proposal has been overturned.

4.5 The PT in Crianlarich was built 25 years ago and the only investment has been painting the walls.

4.6 There is no hot water in the disabled toilet but is available in the Ladies and Gents toilets.

4.7 Jimmy Allardice [who looks after the PT] has repeatedly requested gauntlets as well as disposable gloves in order to safely clean the mess that some people leave behind. His request has gone unanswered.

4.8 The door on the disabled PT in Tyndrum does not open or close fully. It needs a bit taken off the bottom of the door. This must make it very difficult for people with a disability to use the PT.

4.9 If PT were improved then the users would treat them better.

4.10 The signs for the toilets need improving; they are not very visible.

4.11 If there was a charge for use, then PT would need an attendant and this would be 2 ½ persons a year, which is probably not viable.

4.12 Improvements could include a shower and a place for caravanners to empty their tanks. At present the tanks are emptied down the toilet with the impact that this has on the local sewage system

4.13 The users could be surveyed to see if they have any ideas.

4.14 Summary:-

[a] The PTs are needed in both Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

[b] They both need upgrading.

[c] The PT in Crianlarich could be upgraded to include more features such as a shower and place for caravanners to empty the waste.

[d] The village officers need proper equipment.

4.15 The NP could ask for PT as a planning gain in a planning application

4.16. Advertising in the toilets could bring in revenue

4.17. Jim will put together a paper with a range of options taking account of the public consultations.

4.18 Cemeteries: - Kirkton and Tyndrum

4.18a Mary brought photos of the state of Kirkton cemetery.

The grass is long and when cut, the cuttings are left

The fence to keep the sheep out is the same type of fencing as keeps people out of building sites

The paths were filled in to allow for extra lairs, but now that the Tyndrum cemetery is open, they could be reinstated.

The access via Kirkton is awful

4.18b A fence is required at the turning circle, Tyndrum, because there is a steep drop.

4.19 Tidiness of villages

If the village officer had sufficient training and extra hours, he could keep the grass verges between the villages of Tyndrum, Crianlarich and Inverarnan clear of litter and trim the grass. A local person would take more interest and also notice what needed doing.

4.20 Litter

4.20a The 'take your litter home' policy does not work. There are a lot of visitors who are not going home. In Ayrshire the lay-bys have a commercial bin which is locked and large enough to handle enough rubbish for a weekly collection.

4.20b Crianlarich shop owners empty the bin outside their shop at least once daily, but the bags are only collected weekly and lie at the side of the bin. The bin men who empty the commercial waste and those who empty the resident bins will not take the bags from the public bin; the sight of several bags encourages visitors to add to it with their own bags.

4.20c John tried hard to get uplifts for commercial glass recycling but no private firm will do it. Cameron also tried for commercial recycling with the same result. There is a need for commercial waste to be uplifted for recycling where possible and not for it to be dumped in landfill.

4.20d Fortnightly collections are fine for this area as most people recycle where they can and have access to a fire for burning rubbish. It is only when people have visitors that bins may overflow.

4.20e Killin skip is open for people in Strathfillan to use as is the one in Callander. Polmaise is too far away.

5. Office Bearer's reports

Secretary Moira's report

5.1 John and Moira attended the official opening of the NPA new building – Carrochan, in Balloch on 20th May. The building is lovely and very environmentally friendly and sustainable.

5.2 War Memorial Trust [WMT] is dedicated to the conservation and repair of war memorials throughout UK. This year is 90th anniversary of the end of WW1. Through its grant schemes WMT can contribute financially towards repair and conservation projects to war memorials. We had an offer a couple of years ago from someone to clean the war memorial in Crianlarich, but it did not materialise. Fergus told us that a Bill MacDonald of Glasgow Road Stirling renovated the war memorial in Aberfoyle and made a very good job of it. Alan will investigate what needs doing, whether we can get a grant and if Bill MacDonald could do it.

Action Alan

5.3 Letter to say that our comments on the Local Plan Issues Report consultation will be taken into consideration in the preparation of a draft NP Local Plan

5.4 Invitation from Anne McGuire MP to Money Matters meeting on 30th May in Lesser Albert Hall, Stirling at 8.30am -10.30am

5.5 Letter for Housing Sub-group about the Service Standards for Housing Services that are being developed

5.6 Provost Civic Awards – Nominations; there are several categories and it is for those individuals or organisations that have made a substantial contribution during the 2 years from 1st June 2006 to 31st May 2008. This has also been publicised in the Killin News. It was agreed to discuss this in private. **Action All**

5.7 Poster for Councillors Surgeries

5.8 A Public Partnership Forum Open Meeting was held on 7th June at Council Chambers Viewforth Stirling to discuss the New Acute Hospital Larbert and Stirling Community Hospital. 10am to 12.30pm.

5.9 Rural Housing Service have carried out a Housing Needs Survey in Crianlarich on behalf of SCDT and RSHA

5.10 Letter from Bruce Crawford MSP drawing attention to the consultation of CCs. Moira answered this. Also enclosed was a copy of the latest draft of SC Roads Maintenance Schedule.

5.11 Magazine from Big Lottery

5.12 Area Network meeting was held in Balquidder village hall at 7pm on 5th June. Topic was litter with a question time panel to discuss the issue. No-one attended; this was the third AN meeting in succession to be held in Balquidder. It should be held at this end of Breadalbane sometimes. Whilst it is recognised that Killin and Lochearnhead halls were not available, there are village halls in both Crianlarich and Tyndrum.

5.13 Letter from Napier University regarding the options available regarding the Strathfillan CC website – see 6.4.

5.14 Litter Day of Action – June 3rd when 4 teams were out around designated areas in Stirling District

5.15 Letter from Cllr. Jim Thomson offering to come to CC meeting to discuss Public Conveniences and other matters within his remit. He is attending this CC meeting.

5.16 Copy of Stirling Council Road maintenance: Five-year Works Programme 2008/09 to 2013/14

5.17 Requested and received a printed copy of the emerging preferred route of Crianlarich bypass from Natural Capital.

5.18 Planning in Scotland: National Strategy, Local Vision, Effective Delivery conference is being held in Edinburgh on 18th June; delegates fees for voluntary sector is £135.13 including VAT

5.19 Letter from Bruce Crawford MSP. He had received a letter from constituents regarding the condemning of play equipment in Crianlarich play park and enclosed a copy of the response from David Cameron, Director of Children's Services. Main text copies below

I refer to your letter dated 21st May 2008 regarding the above. Due to wood decay it had become an unacceptable safety hazard and has been fenced-off in recent weeks as a precaution pending removal.

Unfortunately Stirling Council does not have a budget for the routine replacement of children's play equipment and as a result equipment is generally only replaced where developer's contributions are available or through community fundraising. Following recent consultation with members of Strathfillan Community Council it was indicated that the Community Trust did not at this time wish to fundraise for new play equipment as they are currently focusing on a longer term project at Lower Station Yard. This includes a new replacement play area.

Children's Services recently de-commissioned a play area due to housing regeneration and have been able to make available a re-conditioned item of play equipment that the Community Council has agreed to accept. This is scheduled for installation within the next fortnight and the play area will be available for use again in early June. The equipment can later be relocated should the project at Lower Station Yard be realised.

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5.20 On 21st May, John, Joyce, Effie Crompton and Moira met with John Withers Area Manager North West Transport Scotland, Derek C Donald Traffic and Safety Engine Scotland TranServ and PC McLean to discuss the 30mph limit wanted through Tyndrum. They are going to do some more surveys and will liaise with Effie for the most appropriate times to give an accurate reading. From the results, they will decide on a speed limit which must be self-policing.

5.21 The NP have organised an event to help community organisations communicate better. It is on Tuesday 17th June at 2pm in Carrochan, the new NP HQ. Information to be sent to Cameron **Action Joyce**

6. Delegated Groups' reports

Transport

Nothing

Planning

6.1 A certificate for change of use from dwelling house to guest house [retrospective] was issued.

6.2 Advance notice for community comment on proposed mast by O2 at Inverardran for use by emergency services. CC decided we have no real choice, so will not make adverse comments.

Communications

6.3 John congratulated Moira and Joyce for their articles in the Killin News on the CC and Trust.

6.4 Napier University are to close the ECC website that they host at the end of June and Danny Owens is going to create a static archive, on behalf of the SCT (Scottish Communities Together) group
There is a possibility that a new site will continue with the help of Napier.

Environment

6.5 There are spars missing from the fence at the side of the pavement just prior to the tunnel in Crianlarich.

Housing

6.6 The Stirling Tenants Assembly is meeting in Crianlarich tomorrow; all council tenants are welcome to attend the meetings. Last week 4 volunteers from STA came out to the village to ask tenants to complete a questionnaire.

6.7 Alan reported that 1to3 Strathmore Terrace still have dampness in their houses. Moira has reported it to Repairs department at the Stirling Council Open Day on Saturday 7th June.

Lower Station Yard Project

6.8 Moira and Joyce will meet with Lesley Malkin, SC, Sandra Logan and a representative from the Education Department to see if a MUGA on the school playground is a possibility. This will be a second choice to the Lower Station Yard.

6.9 RSHA approached SC to say that they were interested in a joint project with us for the site, but SC Housing said there was only a casual approach. Owen will follow this up and liaise with Fergus if the project is being held up.

7. Provost Fergus Wood's report

7.1 Cllr Paul Owens is convalescing well and hopes to attend the SC meeting on the 19th June and should be at the next Strathfillan CC meeting.

7.2 There is a Veterans Weekend Celebration in Stirling, 11-13th June and all who have served in the armed forces are veterans. It is a family affair and will culminate in King's Park on Saturday.

7.3 The Shamrock and Thistle Rural Action Partnership which was set up by local people in rural communities in Ireland and Trossachs in Scotland have held 2 events – B&B Communication and websites for small businesses. The project is now spreading beyond the Trossachs to the whole of Stirling rural area. A business plan is being developed and they are looking for groups to get involved.

7.4 From 26th June to 6th July a group delegation is going to Nova Scotia, Canada who has requested a relationship with Stirling, [not a twinning which is between local authorities] but individual communities in the NP could be twinned with communities in Nova Scotia for a business and cultural relationship. Next year there will be a Nova Scotia week in Stirling.

Owen McKee's report

7.5 The National Heritage Grant Scheme operated by the NP has had quite a lot of uptake but not from this area. Joyce assured Owen that the Trust is in the process of applying for grant funding for the paths project. The hold-up has been getting 3 estimates.

8. Matters arising [not covered in minutes]

3.7 Illegal exhausts – Moira has yet to report this officially to Craig. **Action Moira**

4.28 ASCC draft constitution – John will reply to this **Action John**

4.31 Mary has asked Elma Scott to audit the accounts. **Action Mary**

8.2 Bypass questionnaire from Bruce Crawford MSP. There was a hiccup in the mailing system and only houses with numbers received copies of the questionnaire, but this has now been rectified.

8.4 Meeting to discuss development wanted in Crianlarich in view of the proposed bypass took place on June 2nd and was attended by about 30 people. People were asked to write down at least 3 proposals.

Questionnaires for those not present were available in the shop.

Isla and Cameron will collate the information and display it on the notice board. They will organise a petition of the findings to send to Bruce Crawford MSP and Transport Scotland and speak to neighbouring CCs on A82 and those communities that have bypasses. The NPA will need to be consulted on some parts of the

upgrading of the A82, but planning permission is not required for the bypass. Isla and Cameron will form a sub-group. **Action Isla and Cameron**

9. A.O.C.B.

9.1 It was proposed by Joyce Russell and seconded by Isla Craig and agreed by all that Cameron Taylor be co-opted as a Community Councillor; Welcome Cameron

9.2 In answer to a query raised, it is perfectly acceptable and legal to start outside work at 7am.

10. Date, time and place of next meeting

Monday July 14th 2008 in Crianlarich village hall at 7.30pm