

# Strathfillan Community Council

*working for and representing the people*



St. Fillan's Crozier  
The Quigrich

[www.ecommunitycouncil.org.uk/strathfillan](http://www.ecommunitycouncil.org.uk/strathfillan)

## **MINUTES OF MEETING** **HELD ON MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007** **IN CRIANLARICH VILLAGE HALL** **AT 7.00PM**

**1. Present:** Alan Smailes, Elizabeth MacLellan, Mary Anderson, Moira Robertson, Angela Sclater, John Riley, Joyce Russell, Owen McKee [NPA] Police Constable Craig Murray

**Apologies:** Brian Cairns, Cllr. Fergus Wood, Suzanne Player [SC]

### **2. Lorne Anton gave an update on the proposed wood yard in Crianlarich**

Lorne has been involved with the project since 2004, when he was employed by EWS, whose contract with Kronospan was not renewed and has been taken over by Colas Rail. Lorne is now self-employed and contracted by Kronospan to continue with the project. Colas Rail already operates profitably elsewhere in Scotland.

When the plans are submitted, the CC could make representation to NP about the noise at night from the engines.

Lorne gave copies of emails from NP, SEPA and SNH regarding their concerns and constraints that would need to be taken into consideration, particularly pertaining to the watercourse.

There are 3 areas of concern to Lorne to be studied before an accurate costing can be done:-

- 1] The road access
- 2] Environmental consideration
- 3] Survey of northern boundaries to see how much land would need to be purchased.

This should be carried out in the next 4-6 weeks, and then a grant application will go to SE, which will take another 4-6 weeks. 12 weeks after submission they should be in a position to put out to competitive tender. The job will cost about £2 ½ m.

The concrete has to be designed to take 60 tonnes lorries, which will be the EU limit soon.

It will be an open access terminal which means that it is not under the control of one contractor and will be able to take other traffic than wood.

SE will insist on new connections at the points.

The timber harvest over the next 20 years will be colossal.

Kronospan and Colas Rail will be looking for portacabin accommodation on site which will require water, sewage, power etc.

The wagons used will be bigger than with EWS at 560 tonnes per load.

Parallel lines will make for easy loading and connection.

Work at Glenfalloch Road will begin again within the month. It is hoped that Network Rail and Colas Rail will have worked at timings to eliminate the noise in the early morning hours. Lorne will send emails to them tomorrow.

The CC hoped so as well because that was the reason it got involved in the first place.

Issues at the proposed site will include noise, light and dust and NP will probably get involved with all of them. SNH will probably insist on indigenous species for screening.

Lorne will let us know when the applications go to SE and NP.

The planning application will not go in until a contractor has been appointed to design and build the project.

NP is in favour of putting freight onto rail instead of road, but conditions must be fulfilled.

There will be a weighbridge on site, and also wagons will need strapping. This will create employment.

Maybe timber could be sawn in the area in the future.

As soon as any of the milestones are reached, Lorne will inform CC. He has also offered any help or information we may require.

John thanked Lorne for coming along to update the CC and Lorne left the meeting.

Nigel Brooks, Transport Initiative, NP had attended the meeting to hear the update. He informed the CC that TranServ Scotland is planning to do resurfacing work from the junction of A82/A85 and the Junction at Willow Brae. As this will cause considerable disruption especially to the Hotel, work is planned for January/February time. New chevrons with yellow backing boards will be installed at the bridge.

Nigel was asked to take back the community's concerns about the method of resurfacing which caused such disruption on the A82/Glenfalloch Road recently. We understand that the first attempt was incorrect in some way, but even the second attempt left pedestrians vulnerable to flying stones – this was while the work was being carried out, so cars were not travelling fast. Children are especially at risk. It is our opinion that this is not a suitable method for roads within a village. How would you feel if it was your child that was killed or lost an eye? One resident was hit just below their eye and was told that the contractors were not responsible if cars caused the stones to fly. This was after the first resurfacing attempt when cars could not go fast as they were sliding about.

Nigel left the meeting.

## **2. Approval of minutes of last meeting [9.7.07]**

Proposed Mary Anderson, seconded Elizabeth MacLellan

## **3. Police Constable Craig Murray's report.**

3.1 A large item of plant and an 8-wheeled lorry were stolen from the area.

3.2 There has been minor vandalism by fishermen.

3.3 There have not been any serious RTA in our area, but have been in nearby areas.

## **4. Office Bearer's reports**

### **Chair John's report**

4.1 John received an email from Chris Mairs, S&SE regarding the proposed sub-station at Inverarnan which has been refused planning consent by the NP. S&SE have a right to appeal and will probably go to the SE. We must do our best in damage limitation if they are given permission.

4.2 Letter from Malcolm Reed, Transport Scotland to Bruce Crawford MSP regarding the proposal for the A82. See Appendix 1.

4.3 Copies of the Community Partnership Newsletter were given out.

4.4 John and Moira have filled in a questionnaire from ASCC regarding the important issues for CC.

4.5 Jim Biddulph, Balloch and Haldane CC is giving a presentation entitled 'Berlin Play Study Tour -An insight into how educators in Berlin make play part of a child's education, dangers and all' at the ACC meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September. This is the Study Tour that Moira attended

4.6 Anne McGuire is in both village halls on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September.

4.7 Gwyneth Scott has resigned as a Community Councillor. She was an asset to the CC and we wish her well. This brings us down to the minimum number of Councillors, so if you know of anyone interested, please talk to them about joining.

### **Secretary Moira's report**

4.8 CC Conference – Workshop Questions. At the Conference, a question and answer session was held instead of the workshop questions. Community Planning would like to hear the CC response to the workshop questions.

4.9 Road Consultation Document – an additional maintenance funding worth £500,000 has been allocated for C class and unclassified roads. How this money is spent is dependent upon community involvement and a consultation meeting on rural roads was held on 4<sup>th</sup> September in Port of Mentieth village hall. It is proposed that £330,000 is spent on rural roads. Details of proposed schemes to aide discussion were also sent.

4.10 Area Community Planning Forums – Proposed Alignment with Council Wards. The proposals do not affect our area, which consists of Strathfillan, Killin and Balquidder CCs.

4.11 Letter from Anne McGuire re Post Office Network Change Programme. The public consultation will commence in October 2007 for the Greater Glasgow, Central, Argyll and Bute area plan. Post Office Ltd will take careful account of relevant local factors in preparation of the Local Area Plan.

4.12 Second National Planning Framework [NPF2] The draft will go out for public consultation in Autumn 2007. Further details at [www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/planning/national-planning](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/topics/planning/national-planning) Also received the National Planning Framework Newsletter which summarises the feedback for the Small Country Big Plans campaign on the themes Economy, Sustainability, Communities and Connectivity.

4.13 Trading Standards are writing to every CC in Stirling Council area offering the opportunity to discuss the 'No Cold Calling Communities'. Signs are put on lampposts within a community to show that the residents do not buy from the door. To combat doorstep crime, the communities of Balfron and Killearn participated in a pilot scheme which has shown a dramatic drop in doorstep callers. We are invited to a performance by Riverside Amateur Dramatics of the play 'Doorstep' is being held on 4<sup>th</sup> October at Viewforth at 2pm, which depicts 5 scenarios that potential criminals may use.

4.14 John organised a meeting to discuss the proposed Crianlarich By-Pass for 2pm in Crianlarich village hall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> August. It was attended by about 16 people. Those who live between the villages thought that it would speed up the traffic making it dangerous for them to join the A82/A84. Those with businesses in the village thought that the benefits to drivers were far outweighed by the detriment to the businesses. The proposed plans would isolate Tyndrum Terrace. Traffic approaching Glenfalloch Road would be speeded up and this would increase the noise for Stronoa. Crianlarich would need controlled access at the south and the west [roundabouts] which could encourage people to visit the village. Traffic calming is required to slow the traffic down. If the railway bridges on the A82 were widened, this would solve the problem and could be more cost effective. Traffic lights at the bridge on the A82/A84 could prevent accidents. Land-take for future areas of development needs to be protected. The proposed roundabout at the Tyndrum end of the village would have an impact on queuing traffic which would build up under the bridge.

4.15 It was brought up that the Kingshouse bus travels to Tyndrum in the morning (school holidays) but declines to pick up passengers until Killin. The reason is that it will take passengers from the post bus. It was thought that during school holidays a bus service ran from Tyndrum to Stirling? Kingshouse bus service runs from Killin (Tyndrum) to Callander but no further.

David Brown, SC, replied: The situation is that 09:00 Callander - Tyndrum journey arrives in Tyndrum at 10:11. It then returns out-of-service to Killin to take up the 10:55 journey to Callander. The 09:00 departure time from Callander is dictated by the need to connect there with a journey from Stirling. However, this means that it arrives in Tyndrum; just as the 10:11 Postbus is leaving. We felt it would be unfair to the Royal Mail to run two subsidised journeys at the same time. However, as you've now raised this point and as the Royal Mail are now using smaller vehicles, I think we should now ask Kingshouse Travel Ltd to register this journey, which would then run right through to Callander. As there is a competitive issue, this would have to be done on the full 70-day period of notice, which would mean an introduction at the beginning of October. However, I'll set this in motion.

4.16 Lets talk money is a new government initiative to help people with money worries. Freephone 0800 012 1656 for advice or visit [www.nowletstalkmoney.com](http://www.nowletstalkmoney.com)

4.17 Stirling Heritage Days - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September. Entry is free to many places in Stirling such as Cowane's Hospital and Stirling Sheriff Court. Other place include Gartmore House, Leighton Library [Dunblane], Blair Drummond House and Mugdock Castle [Milngavie]. September is also Archaeology Month with events in NP area including Strathfillan Gold on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

4.18 Jane McKenzie Regional Community Manager Forth Region Scottish Water wrote to introduce herself. She is a member of the community Affairs Team. Contact numbers are 07796994119 email [Jane.McKenzie@scottishwater.co.uk](mailto:Jane.McKenzie@scottishwater.co.uk)

4.19 Community News NHS FV newsletter. Cancer waiting time reduced.

4.20 Town Break Group Stirling and District. This is a charity whose aim is to help people with dementia by providing lunch club or befriending services.

4.21 SEPA View, Stirling Council first to make the composting grade. Calculate your carbon footprint, visit <http://actonco2.direct.gov.uk> .Renewable Fife Office. National Planning Framework article. How to make your business more efficient – interest-free loans available. Eco-friendly funerals.

4.22 Money worries? Visit [www.nowletstalkmoney.com](http://www.nowletstalkmoney.com)

4.23 Breadalbane Area Network meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> August at Balquidder.

4.24 Association of Scottish Community Councils [ASCC]. Helen Geddes, SC, wrote to encourage our CC to nominate a representative for the Stirling area. The proposal to nominate Terry Barlow of Bannockburn CC, who wishes to stand, was agreed. Talk together - Talk to your MSPs on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October in Falkirk. This has been organised by the ASCC. John may attend.

4.25 Copy of Stirling Focus received.

4.26 Rural Stirling Housing Association [RSHA] AGM is being held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September in Callander.

4.27 Recyke-a-bike – this is a non-profit organisation which aims to remove bikes from the waste stream and encourage the use of bikes as a resource for communities within Stirling. They also sell reconditioned bikes and repair bikes. They will also come out to communities to check and do minor adjustments. To cover labour costs, the charge is £120 a day.

4.28 Stirling Licensing Board Quarterly Board Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Rod & Reel Bar and Restaurant has applied for regular extensions of permitted hours.

4.29 Executive meeting 14<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Treasurer Mary's report**

4.30 No change

### **5. Delegated Groups' reports**

#### **Transport**

5.1 Transport was one of the issues brought up at the Community Action Plan meeting on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September in Crianlarich.

#### **Planning**

5.2 Pre-planning notification of a proposal to site a mast for emergency services on the hills by the junction of the A84/A82 in Tyndrum. This is not a Tetra mast, so CC is not likely to oppose it. John will ask if it can be disguised as a tree if it is visible to the roads. **Action John**

5.3 Planning application for change of use of land behind Willow Square was refused.

5.4 John asked for a volunteer for planning [Gwyneth was planning correspondent] Mary will do it for Crianlarich and Angela for Tyndrum.

5.5 There have been no further developments in the gold mine application.

#### **Communications**

5.6 The deadline for the Killin News is 14<sup>th</sup> September. Joyce will write an article on the Community Futures day and Moira on the CC meeting.

5.7 Moira needs instruction on how to post onto the SCT website. Invites to the rest of the CC will be sent out via the site.

#### **Environment**

5.8 The leak causing water onto the road opposite Laurel Bank was coming from Willow Square. It has been fixed by Scottish Water.

5.9 The leak at the bottom of Strathfillan Terrace has disappeared. Alan will now put the bench in place.

5.10 The CC would like to thank the SCDT and the NP Volunteers for all the work they have done in tidying up Crianlarich.

5.11 Joyce handed out leaflets on the Natural Heritage Grant Scheme funded by LL&TNP until March 2010. It will encourage and support measures that will conserve and enhance the natural heritage of the NP and promote understanding and enjoyment of the NP special qualities. It is open to individuals [including Land managers] organisations [excluding publicly funded government agencies] and community or voluntary groups. This means that the CC can apply and all members were asked to think about projects before the next meeting. **Action All**

## **Housing**

5.12 The Strathfillan Housing Group hosted a meeting with Tony Cain, Head of Housing, at which he described his hopes for the future including new build council housing and increased tenant participation.

## **Lower Station Yard Project**

5.13 After an email from Tony Cain stating that he wished to retain the Lower Station Yard in case the opportunity arose to build on it in the future, John wrote to Corrie McChord, Leader of Stirling Council. He has not received a reply, but all Councillors for Highland Ward back our project. It is likely to be discussed on October 4<sup>th</sup> at the Council meeting.

*John has since received a letter from Bruce Crawford MSP enclosing a letter to him from Brian Devlin, Director of Environmental Services, to say that he agrees with Tony Cain. The group will be responding to this letter.*

## **6. Councillor's report**

None present

## **Owen Mckee's report**

6.1 The NP held a Celebratory Cruise on Loch Lomond to applaud Bill Dalrymple, Chief Executive, for his work and mark his retirement. It was also a chance to introduce Bill Morton, Interim Chief Executive and LA Councillors appointed since the Election.

6.2 SE has made it clear that in future LA's must nominate more than one Cllr. so that choices can be made especially relating to gender balance, equality, etc.

6.3 Bill Morton will hold office until about April 2008, which gives time for the selection of a new Chief Executive. The NP has reached the stage where it requires more business orientation. The appointment will need Government approval.

## **Suzanne Player's report**

*[received by email after the event with apologies for absence]*

In terms of anything I had to report, the main thing was about the new look Leader fund which is not yet finalised but Anne Michelle Ketteridge is looking for local people to come onto the Leader Action Group, who make the decisions about where money is awarded. She would like to speak to people direct and if you are interested, I will try and fix up a meeting with reps from this area.

BVLC - waiting for outcome of 3 year lottery bid. If this fails, the project is unlikely to be able to continue for long - though there is some discussion going on with MSP about this.

A Breadalbane Arts Week is being organised for early next year.

## **7. Matters arising [not covered in minutes]**

4 -5.8 The feeder by Kirkton Cemetery has been moved.

4 -5.9 and 4- 8.2 These were being taken forward by Gwyneth. Grass cutting of kick-around area and using young offenders for litter pick-up. Nobody volunteered to take this forward.

9.1 Cllr. Fergus Wood is still investigating the lack of commercial waste facilities for recycling in the north of the LA district. **Action Fergus.**

9.4 Joyce and Moira attended the workshop in Lochearnhead on water resources in Scotland. Interesting exercise but debatable if the information will be used.

### **8. A.O.C.B.**

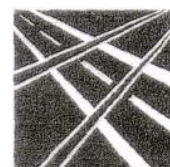
8.1 Kingshouse Travel has got the contract for the School Bus. This should improve the journey for the children.

8.2 The road to Kirkton cemetery needs improving; perhaps the chippings lifted from Glenfalloch Road could be used? John will contact Tayside Contracts and Tony Waterhouse. **Action John**

### **9. Date, time and place of next meeting**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in Crianlarich village hall.

## APPENDIX 1



Chief Executive's Office  
Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 OHF Direct Line: 0141 272 7112 Fax: 0141 2727111  
chiefexecutive@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk

TRANSPORT  
SCOTLAND

Bruce Crawford MSP  
Constituency Office

51 Cowane Street  
STIRLING  
FK8 1JW

Date  
23 July 2007

Thank you for your letter of 13 June 2007 to the Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, John Swinney MSP, on behalf of your constituents in Crianlarich, Tyndrum, and Strathyre, about road safety issues on the A82 trunk road within the above communities. As this is a matter delegated to Transport Scotland your letter has been passed to me for reply.

Transport Scotland appreciates the importance of the A82, and has recently produced "The A82 Tarbet to Fort William Action Plan" This plan is available on the Transport Scotland website at:

[http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/uploads/documents/scott\\_wilsgn\\_A82\\_Route\\_action\\_plan\\_executive\\_summary\\_march\\_06.pdf](http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/uploads/documents/scott_wilsgn_A82_Route_action_plan_executive_summary_march_06.pdf)

The plan outlines a ten year improvement programme at a cost of £90 million. Already approved by Ministers is a £16 million investment to be delivered over the next five years.

This package includes improvements at Pulpit Rock between Tarbet and Ardlui to remove the notorious bottleneck at Loch Lomond and the traffic lights which have been there for 20 years, as well as a new Western bypass at Crianlarich, allowing A82 traffic to travel north and avoid the bridges, junctions and narrow roads in the town. It also includes road safety measures such as more signage, improved road markings, antiskid surfacing, drainage improvements, as well as

work on carriageway width and junctions. Drivers will also benefit from lay-bys being provided at 5 to 8 km intervals alongside the route and six new picnic sites to add to those already at Tarbet, Inveruglas and Loch Linnhe.

In 2006 the then Transport Minister, Tavish Scott, announced that design work would commence to provide a bypass of Crianlarich. Consultants, Grontmij, have been appointed to take forward the design of the scheme and are currently proceeding with the assessment and promotion of the scheme through to the draft Order publication stage. Consultation with Strathfillan Community Council has taken place and will continue through the scheme assessment. The publication of draft Orders will mark the start of the formal statutory consultation period and it is at this time that the public and interested parties will be able to comment and make representations on the scheme. It is envisaged that a public exhibition outlining the details of the scheme will be held to coincide with the publication of draft Orders. Details of scheme programme can be found on our web site at: [http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/defaultpage1221\\_cdeO.aspx?pagelD=180&riiD=106](http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/defaultpage1221_cdeO.aspx?pagelD=180&riiD=106).

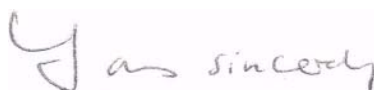
The local community in the village of Tyndrum on the A82 Trunk Road have previously expressed concerns regarding road safety and a study was undertaken into road safety and potential improvements. The report indicated that the 40mph speed limit be extended northwards and that a village gateway feature be erected alongside enhanced signing and road markings. I am sure you appreciate that the promotion of a speed limit order is a legal process and Scottish Ministers are required to adhere to guidelines and standards before reducing a speed limit. The study concluded that whilst traffic calming and additional signs could be introduced a reduction in speed limit on the A82 at Tyndrum could not be justified in terms of current guidelines and criteria and would not stand any judicial challenge. The situation will be monitored after the gateway is erected and additional signs and markings are introduced. No definite timescale for this work has yet been set but it is hoped that it will be delivered within this financial year.

The A84 Trunk Road at Strathyre has also been the subject of a road safety study and consideration is being given to an extension of the existing 30mph speed limits and the erection of a new village gateway with appropriate signs and road markings.

All three of the communities mentioned by you have received road safety reviews and appropriate actions will be taken. I am sure you appreciate that each location is considered on its own merits and improvements are allocated to meet the needs of each situation so therefore not every location will be signed in the same manner i.e. electronic warning signs.

I hope this is helpful.

I am copying this reply to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Yours sincerely" followed by a stylized signature.

**MALCOLM REED**

