

# Community News Sheet

Update on community issues

January 2019

## Welcome

Welcome to the January edition of Stirling Council's Community News Sheet. This is a free news sheet from Stirling Council's Community Engagement Team which includes a variety of information gathered from different sources and organisations that we hope groups and communities will find useful. We endeavour to ensure all information is accurate and up-to-date. We can also include information about community activities and topics, please feel free to email us any contributions.

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please contact us: [communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk)

## Community Council Elections



In November 2018, 30 out of 42 Community Councils successfully formed across the local authority area, establishing a formal tier of local democracy to represent the voices of local people in their communities.

However, there were 12 areas where sufficient numbers were not achieved to form a Community Council. Those villages and areas have now been given a second chance to gain representation, by submitting nominations **no later than Friday 8 February at 4pm**.

The areas are:

- Balquhidder, Lochearnhead & Strathyre
- Buchanan
- Drymen
- Hillpark & Milton
- Killin
- King's Park
- Kippen
- Plean
- Riverside
- Thornhill & Blairdrummond
- Throsk
- Torbrex

Community Councils are involved in a wide range of activities and issues, including planning and licensing applications, bringing inspiring projects to life and passing on expertise.

Anyone over the age of 16, and on the electoral register for their community council area, can stand for election and get involved in a rewarding role which will ensure communities have a voice. Nominees need a proposer and seconder who both must be on the electoral register and live in the same Community Council area. Further information, including boundary maps and nomination forms, can be found online

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/communitycouncilelections/>

## Community News Sheet – please tell us what you think

The Community Engagement Team is keen to hear your views of our monthly News Sheet and how we might develop it in the future. Please give us 5 minutes of your time to answer a few short questions about taking it forward by completing our survey – <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CETNews>

The Community Engagement Team is keen to expand the mailing list and get the News Sheet out to those who would find it useful. If you know of anyone who would be interested in receiving the News Sheet please feel free to send it on to them or ask them to get in touch with us at [communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk)

Thank you.

## Rural Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)

A new booking system for the council-backed rural transport service (DRT) has been launched in Stirling giving customers a simpler and more flexible way of booking and managing their journeys.

Registration and booking requests for DRT can be made at [www.stirling.gov.uk/drt](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/drt) allowing users to manage journeys 24 hours a day/7 days a week.

Phone bookings can still be made Monday to Friday, 9am-3pm on 01786 404040.



## Consultation on Scottish Charity law

This Scottish Government consultation seeks views on potential improvements to the statutory charity regulation framework in Scotland, in light of proposals put forward by the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

The proposals broadly focus on improvements to charity law that would increase transparency and accountability in order to maintain public trust and confidence in charities and OSCR.

It has been 17 years since the Scottish Charity Law Review Commission (the 'McFadden report') proposed establishing a new regulator for Scotland and more than 13 years since the passage of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, which forms the basis of the legislative framework for charities in Scotland.

Given the passage of time since the Act was passed, and the changing environment that charities are operating in, Scottish Government feels the time is right to check how well the current arrangements are working and to explore potential improvements.

Views are sought from members of the public, the charity sector, and anyone with an interest in charity law. Scottish Government wants to learn from the charity sector's expertise and experience and hear first-hand about what really makes an impact on levels of public trust and confidence.

<https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/scottish-charity-law/consultation/>

**The consultation closes on Monday 1 April 2019.**

## Good Food Nation consultation

Scottish Ministers remain committed to the concept and reality of Scotland as a Good Food Nation.

A great deal of work is already happening now to make a real and positive difference to the lives of the people of Scotland: helping to improve their access to and understanding of the benefits of healthy local foods; ensuring sustainability of our wonderful food industry; and looking to grow Scotland's reputation as a Good Food Nation from which other countries can learn.

Scotland is well on its way to becoming a Good Food Nation, as the Programme of Measures published in September 2018 demonstrates. While legislation is not the **only** way to make progress, Scottish Government recognises that there is a clear place for legislation to underpin the considerable work that is already being done to realise our Good Food Nation ambitions.

This consultation sets out proposals for legislation around the Good Food Nation ambition.

All feedback and responses from the consultation will be analysed and will inform the further development of plans for policy action and legislation. Please click on the link to access the consultation:

<https://consult.gov.scot/food-and-drink/good-food-nation/consultation/subpage.2016-07-07.1474135251/>

**The consultation closes on the Friday 29 March 2019.**

## Action on Elder Abuse Scotland Survey

Action on Elder Abuse Scotland is a Scotland-wide charity working to protect older people from harm, abuse and exploitation. This might include physical, financial, psychological, sexual or neglect.

Action on Elder Abuse Scotland would like to hear your views on what's important to you in relation to safety and well-being, as well as your suggestions for tackling the problem. The results of the survey will guide Action on Elder Abuse Scotland's work and help inform the Scottish Government's new Framework for Older People.

Any older person can answer this survey - you don't need to have experienced harm or abuse. The survey is available through this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/55M9SVZ>

**The survey is open until Friday 8 February 2019.**

## MacRobert Arts Centre - Creative Breakfasts

Join the MacRobert Arts Centre for a regular chat over breakfast as they host a new gathering by and for Stirling's creative community. Whether you're a professional practitioner, an arts student, or simply enjoy getting creative in your spare time, these events are for you. Meet inspiring creative people, share projects and ideas, and hear from a different speaker each month about some of Stirling's most exciting creative happenings.

The Creative Breakfasts in March and April will be held at MacRobert Arts Centre 9am-10am with the following speakers:

- **Friday 1 March: Rachel Davies, Mosaic Artist based in Dunblane.** Rachel will be talking about the challenges and opportunities of her work, including designing and creating a giant mosaic penguin for Maggies Penguin Parade, 2018.
- **Friday 5 April: Petre Dobre, dancer and BSL Director Trainee.** Petre will share his experience of developing his skills as a Deaf dancer, and his work to champion the accessibility of the arts for Deaf audiences and artists.

Tickets for all Creative Breakfasts are free, but should be booked online:

<https://macrobertartscentre.org/event/creative-breakfasts/>

## Searching for funding?

Do you know about Funding Stirling? This is a funding search website which is provided by Stirling Council in partnership with SCVO who own and maintain the website. It is up to date with all Scotland-wide and local funding opportunities.

It keeps you informed about all the latest new opportunities and upcoming deadlines for funding for community groups, charities, social enterprises and voluntary organisations of all shapes and sizes - don't miss out on any grants your organisation and projects could be eligible for.

Please register for free on this website and you can search for funding possibilities based on your own criteria.

When you register, you can also sign up to receive regular electronic Funding Bulletins which give you the updates on new funds released and upcoming funding application deadlines.

The website has been available for 18 months now and has attracted a sizeable number of users who have fed back that they find it useful but we need more users to make it viable longer term.

If this could be useful for your organisation please register now and start using the website; as time goes on let us know what you think of it and if it helps you to get funding for your organisation. Send any comments to [cowiej@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:cowiej@stirling.gov.uk)

Visit <http://stirling.fundingscotland.com> to access the website, register and start researching all the funding opportunities open to your organisation.

## **FVL LEADER/Crowdfunder UK**

FVL LEADER have just embarked on a new project with Crowdfunder UK to coach and mentor community groups and businesses in the rural area who are thinking of undertaking Crowdfunding campaigns. It is called Crowdfund Scotland (it includes other LEADER areas too).

The project has just started and a first workshop was held in January in Stirling. There will be more workshops in the next 18 months. The workshops are suitable for anyone who wants to find out more about this method of fundraising and the potential uses for local projects. The workshops will explore match funding available for projects in Stirling and beyond via Crowdfunder and how you can access this.

Topics to be covered:

- What is crowdfunding?
- Introducing Crowdfund Scotland
- What are the benefits of crowdfunding?
- What makes a good crowdfunding project?
- Three steps to success
- Accessing advice and support

Keep a watch on FVL LEADER website for news of further workshops [www.fvl.org.uk](http://www.fvl.org.uk)

The Crowdfund Scotland project is being part-financed by the Scottish Government and the European Community LEADER 2014 – 2020 Programme. For further information visit <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds>

## **Stirling Council – Community Grants Scheme & Community Pride Fund**

There is one last deadline this financial year and funding is still available so don't miss out. These are flexible small grants programmes up to £1500 that will fund a wide range of projects which will benefit the people who live and work throughout the Stirling Council area. Community groups, voluntary groups, charities, social enterprises can apply.

Full details at <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/community-leisure/support-to-communities/community-grants/> or contact the Funding Officer on 01786 233143 [cowiej@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:cowiej@stirling.gov.uk)

**Deadline date – Wednesday 6 February 2019**

## **WREN – FCC Scottish Action Fund**

The FCC Scottish Action Fund offers funding to projects, within eligible communities, through the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund (SLCF). WREN will consider applications across all types of projects included in the SLCF Objects including: land reclamation, community recycling, public amenities and parks, biodiversity and historic buildings.

The programme is currently open with the next deadline on **Wednesday 13 March 2019**.

For full details and to check eligibility visit <http://www.wren.org.uk/apply/fcc-scottish-action-fund>

## **The Prince's Countryside Fund**

Communities running projects to tackle rural isolation are invited to apply for grants of up to £25,000. This dedicated programme of support for community projects in England, Scotland and Wales is funded by Players of People's Postcode Lottery. It focuses on tackling isolation and improving the health and wellbeing of people living in sparsely populated areas. More information is available at:

<http://www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/grant-giving-programme/rural-four>

## Woodward Charitable Trust – Childrens Summer Playschemes

Each year the trustees of the Woodward Charitable Trust set aside funds for summer playschemes for children between the ages of 5-16 years. Programmes must run for a minimum of 2 weeks or 10 days across the summer holidays.

Grants can only be paid to registered charities. Most grants awarded are in the range of £500 to £1,000. Around 35 grants are made each year. Preference is given to:

- small local playschemes that provide a wide-ranging programme of activities
- schemes that involve a large number of children
- schemes catering for those from disadvantaged backgrounds or that have a disability
- schemes that are inclusive such as projects that work with children from a range of backgrounds, abilities and race
- schemes where past users are encouraged to come back and help as volunteers

More information is available at: <http://woodwardcharitabletrust.org.uk/childrens-summer-playschemes/>

**The deadline is Friday 5 April 2019**

## NHS Forth Valley

NHS Forth Valley Nutrition Health Improvement Team offers small grants for specific pieces of work to encourage organisations or groups to take forward food activities. This may involve cooking or non-cooking food activities but would support the development of skills around food or perhaps use food activities as an engagement tool.

The closing date for the grants has been extended to **Monday 25th February 2019**. For full criteria, application forms and other information please contact Fidelma Guest, Specialist Health Improvement Dietitian on 01786 434446 / 07557 633741 or by email at [fidelma.guest@nhs.net](mailto:fidelma.guest@nhs.net) on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

## Useful websites: Care Opinion

Care Opinion is a place where you can share your experience of health or care services, and help make them better for everyone.

At Care Opinion they make it safe and simple to share your story online and see other people's stories too. You can see how stories are leading to change. They believe that by sharing honest experiences of care, we learn to see the world differently - working together, we can all help make care better.

<https://www.careopinion.org.uk/info/about>

## The Communities Channel Scotland

This is a website Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) developed to help put communities in the spotlight by connecting people and sharing ideas. They recently added a new section on the website to provide straightforward introductions to legislation, government programmes and programmes by other agencies which might be relevant to your community group.

<http://www.communityscot.org.uk/resources/policy-developments/>

If you are receiving this News Sheet you are part of the Community Engagement Team's mailing list. We collect, use and store your information in order to support the community development needs of you and your organisation.

Your information will be kept secure and not shared with other Council services or Partners. You have various rights with respect to your personal data, including the right to access a copy of what we hold about you; have it changed or removed. If you no longer wish to receive this information, please contact the Community Engagement Team on 01786 233076 or email [communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk)