

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet February 2016 No 39

Funding Raised for Three Path Projects

Three years' effort by the Strathblanefield Community Development Trusts's Path Development Group have, at last, generated the funding for three new stretches of 'multi-user path' — to be completed by the summer.

1. **The Railway Line Path** from the allotments entrance to Station Road, Blanefield will be regraded and made into a 2.3m wide hard surface path with a separate softer track for horses along much of its length. Work will begin in the week of February 22nd and should last for 11 weeks.
2. **The John Muir Link Path.** Scottish Water will fund a completion of the track leading from the allotments entrance up to the Gowk Stane Track — again as a firm Toptrek surfaced multi-user path. We hope work will begin in March and take about 4 weeks
3. **Danny's Brae.** The dangerously eroded stepped path leading 100m down from the Edmonton Hall to the bridge over the Blane will be completely renovated with three sets of steps with stone risers and hard surfaces, a handrail for the whole length, improved drainage, and a wheel ramp allowing bikes to be easily taken up and down. Work will begin in mid-March and take up to six weeks.

In all **£200,000 of funding** has been raised from **Sustans, Clackmannan & Stirling Environmental Trust, the Brown Forbes Memorial Trust, and Scottish Water.**

A Warning to Walkers, Cyclists and Horse Riders

This work will inevitably cause inconvenience for potential path users and everyone is asked to observe any warning signs. Danny's Brae will have to be closed completely for up to six weeks.

We are confident that, come June, the benefits will make this short-term inconvenience worthwhile.

Alan Hutton, Convenor, Path Development Group

Fellow Citizens

Please Be Good Neighbours

Margaret Vass, SCC Chair

I'm sure we all know that we should think of how things we do or don't do impact on others. Sometimes a wee reminder helps. Community council members receive a small but steady flow of gripes from the community which are very difficult for us to do anything about.

Speeding—it is bad enough on our main roads but it is downright dangerous to speed on our residential roads such as Kirkland Ave or past the school. We are finding out more about having a 20mph speed limit throughout our estates. Killlearn is about to achieve this.

Dogs—fouling is on the increase again. Dog owners can be fined, and have been in this village, for not picking up after their pet. Please do the right thing. Recently there was a serious incident in the play park where a child was terrified by a dog not on a lead. Notices make clear that dogs should be on a lead in the playpark.

Hedges and trees—please help everyone by making sure your hedge or tree does not overhang a pavement or path. The council can require you to cut back overhanging growth but we don't want to have to involve them. The Ash Track from Wood Place has been highlighted as a problem. There are others.

Litter—if you see litter please pick it up and put it in one of the bins provided.

THANK YOU

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Copy Date for the March BVB is Wednesday 16th. Please send Calendar items and other news for late March & April to cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

Why not join the growing number of local businesses, voluntary organisations and individuals who **SPONSOR AN ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN?** Contact cc@stathblanefield.org.uk for more details.

Community Council February Update — from SCC Chair Margaret Vass

Highlights from the February Community Council meeting include:

Health and Social Care Integration: we continue to be involved with ensuring that we have local care and support facilities in Balfron based around the current Strathendrick Home. There are already 4 beds specifically allocated for intermediate care, this is care between hospital and home. The next meeting to take this forward is on the 23rd February.

Issues for young people: we hope to have 2 young people attending our meetings from Balfron High to highlight local issues and concerns. Julie and Grace are working with the high school and other local groups to have a special assembly in April to highlight local issues and opportunities to volunteer to help our local groups and activities.

Local problems: our recent awful weather has highlighted a number of areas where flooding has arisen from blocked gullies. Please report these things to the council info@stirling.gov.uk the more people who report faults the more likely we are to have them fixed. This applies to potholes, streetlights etc too. We also discussed areas where home owners could do more to keep paths and pavements clear of overhanging hedges and trees. (see page 1)

The housing site at the devil's elbow: We have been advised that Westpoint Homes are likely to bring forward proposals for 18 new homes in the very near future. This includes 6 affordable homes. The developer and Rural Stirling Housing Association have been invited to our March meeting to tell us more. Although this is in advance of the new draft Local Development Plan coming to us for further consultation, if proposals are being discussed, we

wish to ensure that we can achieve the best possible outcome for our community and be involved in the same way we were with the Cala development. No decisions will be taken at our March meeting and there will be full consultation with the whole community.

Revised Priority Based Budget Proposals

Further SG cuts mean Stirling Council are having to make extra savings of around £6.3m for 2016/17.

Four SCC members went to the Conversation at Balfron Campus on Feb 3rd to hear the SC additional proposals for meeting this target. For the most part the extra savings will be achieved by moving forward cuts (or, in councilse, 'modernisations' and 'transformations') which had already been proposed for later years.

Amidst the bad news one more positive change involves a further rationalisation of the refuse collection service involving adding food waste to brown garden waste bin, removing need for separate collection routes and vehicles

As Stirling Observer readers will be aware much less acceptable is the proposal to double instrumental tuition fees for school pupils, which could rise to £492 per year—which, SC argues, remains less than private charges.

Full details of the additional proposals on which the Council must decide later this month are available At <http://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/council-and-government/shapingstirling> where comments can still be made.

The next Community Council meeting will be on **Monday March 7th at 7.30pm** in the Primary School. Items on the Agenda will include the Westpoint housing proposals for the sloping field by the A81. Please come along and give us your views—or contact your Community Councillors.

Ella Hyam tells us that the Fellowship Group at Strathblane Church has put together a

Pamphlet of Local Telephone Numbers.

It will be delivered round the parish in the next few weeks. Please look out for it, the group hopes people will find it useful.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Ambulance — 999 Fire — 999 NHS 24 — 111 Police — 999 [for non-emergency calls - 101]

MAKING CONTACT with the SCC Email us at cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

Get in touch with your Community Councillors

Blanefield Ward

Margaret Vass 770131

Avril Keen 07799261297

Willie Oswald 770497

Julie Hutchison 770791

Strathblane Ward

Alan Hutton 770537

Marian Lever 770536

Elsbeth Neill 771653

Sue Rand 770630

Mugdock Ward

Richard Arnold 770006

John Gray 771031

Grace Edmonds 770800

Rob Davies 771921

INFORMATION SOURCES: Strathblanefield website at www.strathblanefield.org.uk

Library; Noticeboards; Shops; Local weekly press; and the **Facebook** Strathblanefield Group

STIRLING COUNCIL Councillors' Surgeries

are usually at 7pm on SCC meeting nights in the Primary School

Report faults at info@stirling.gov.uk or ring 0845 2777000

Join My Stirling at www.stirling.gov.uk for updates

MARCH
8

ROYAL
AIR FORCE **RED**
ARROWS 



RED ARROWS TALK

By Red 8, Stew Campbell

**Strathendrick Suite
Balfour High School
7 - 8.30pm, 8th March**

Open to all, free to attend. Donations to Camps
International trip to Ecuador welcomed.

BOOK AND DVD SALE WITH AN ADDED EXTRA!

Saturday February 20th 11.30-2.00 pm

Ex-Library Stock at Bargain Prices

Two local boys who are raising money for their Ecuador expedition in 2017 will also be in the library providing **refreshments!** Come along and help them with their fundraising AND leave with a whole pile of books and DVDS!

Art and creative fun for little people

Mini Makers

aged 18 months to 5 years

Tuesdays 9.30 - 10.30am

until March 15th

in Strathbalne Kirk Rooms

Call 07763729648 or email

gill@jtd-arts.co.uk

Find out more at jtd-arts.co.uk

The Village Club enquiries and bookings:

www.villageclub1911.org

email strathblanecv@gmail.com or

Contact Fiona Murray 01360 771497

(Office hours only please)

DISCO - Sat February 27th Strathblane Scout & Guide Hall 8 Till Late — BYOB—Raffle Prizes

Everyone (over 18) welcome
Proceeds in aid of a desperately needed
new boiler.

Tickets £10 — Contact Eleanor Forrest

ecforrest@btinternet.com

Rotary Club of Strathendrick Presents

A Musical Extravaganza with something for everyone

in aid of Strathcarron Hospice
on Tuesday March 8th in Killearn Village Hall

7 for 7.30pm

Raffle & Refreshments

Tickets £10 form Pamela Maxwell 551122

or Ian Dickie 550639

Strathblane Church Events & Activities

not included in the Calendar on Page 4

Youth Sports has resumed on Wednesdays at 7pm at the Edmonstone Hall, cost £1.00

Youth Fellowship, Fortnightly on Sundays - 7.45pm in the Manse

Sun 6th March: **Messy Church** (games, crafts and home-cooked meal) 3 -5pm in the Kirk Rooms (suggested donation of £6 per family)

Easter Events

*Friday 25th March: **Messy Easter** 12 noon until 2pm in the Kirk Rooms. All welcome.

*Sunday 27th March: **Early Morning Service** 7.15am at the top of Dumgoyne. Gather in the Church car park at 5.30am to start up the hill by 5.45am.

Breakfast at the Church from 9.45am.

Easter Morning Worship at 11am in the Church.

Further information:

Contact Jemma Sharp, Admin Assistant

At strathblanekirk@gmail.com or 01360 770418

Edenkiln Surgery

The surgery will be closed on March 15th for staff training and on March 25th & 28th for the Easter holidays.

We can be contacted at 01360 770340 For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website at

www.edenkilnsurgery.com

For out of hours help contact NHS24 at 111

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

SAT 20th	9.30am	Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) Prayer Breakfast - in the Kirk Rooms
SAT 20th	11.30-2	Book & DVD Sale {with refreshments} at Strathblane Library
MON 22nd	7.30pm	Strathblane Church Guild — ‘Chair Aerobics’ with Tricia Chillies
TUES 23rd	9.15-12 noon	Community Cafe in the Kirk Rooms. Today and every Tuesday in term time. Tea, coffee and home baking. All welcome (toys available for kids)
WED 24th	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club. Today & every Wednesday. All welcome
THURS 25th	2 - 4pm	Cuppa Time in the Kirk Rooms. Today and every Thursday. Games, painting, fun & friendship, come along whatever your age.
FRI 26th	7-9.30pm	Race Night in Balfron HS Fundraising event by BHS Parent Council. Tickets £5 incl. Raffle Ticket. Horses £10 from balfronhs@stirling.gov.uk or 01360 440469.
SAT 27th	6.30pm	Film Night in the Kirk Rooms. (Contact Church for film details)
SAT 27th	8 til late	Fundraising Disco in Strathblane Scout & Guide Hall (See Page 3 for more details)
SUN 28th	1 - 5pm	Electric Music Session (Jam) in the Village Club. All welcome. Contact George Thom gethom@tiscali.co.uk

MARCH

FRI 4th	1.30pm	Storytime for Pre-schoolers @ the Library
MON 7th	10.30am	Book bug @ Fun Hut - All the usual songs & rhymes with Library Bookbug!
MON 7th	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Primary School. All welcome.
MON 7th	7.30pm	Strathblane Church Guild - A Musical Evening with Gargunnock Singers in the Church. All welcome. Entry by Donation
TUES 8th	7 for 7.30	Musical Extravaganza in Killearn Village Hall in aid of Strathcarron Hospice (See Page 3)
TUES 8th	7 - 8.30	Red Arrows Talk by Red 8, Stew Campbell Free entry. Donations to Camps International Trip to Ecuador. (see p3 for more details)
SUN 13th	2 - 4 pm	Traditional (acoustic) Music Session in the Village Club .All welcome. Contact George Thom gethom@tiscali.co.uk
MON 14th		Church Guild — Afternoon Tea at The Roman Camp, Callander. Cost & Travel TBC.
WED 16h	7.30pm	Heritage Society — Tom Craig on the Kirklands Dig All welcome
WED 16th	7.30pm	Campsie Crooners in the KIRK ROOMS — All other Wednesdays in the Village Club
FRI 18th	1.15pm	Story & Crafts for 3 -5yr olds Please nook in advance Strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk
SAT 19th	6.30pm	Film Night in the Kirk Rooms. (Contact Church for film details)
MON 21st	7.30pm	Strathblane Church Guild AGM
TUES 22nd	7.30pm	Book Group @ the Library -‘The Miniaturist’.

The Blane Valley Bulletin is published monthly (with the exceptions of July and December) by Strathblane Community Council and distributed to all households in our community council area. It is produced and distributed by a group of volunteers led by Alan Hutton and accountable to the Community Council. Contact us at cc@strathblanefield.org.uk