

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

January 2015 No 28

Reviewing the Community Action Plan

Community Summit — 21st February

SCC Chair Margaret Vass writes

Remember our Community Action Plan of 2011? It is now time for a review to check if the priorities that we identified after very extensive community consultation are still correct and to ask if anything new should be included.

We are beginning this process with a celebration of all the volunteering that goes on in our community in a special colour supplement to the BVB in February.

Representatives of all groups in the village will then convene at our Community Summit to review progress on the action plan, discuss issues affecting their group and consider how we can all work together to achieve more.

Then, again using the Bulletin, we will seek the views of the whole community in March.

Your views are vital.

*Do you value the facilities and activities in the villages?
Do you support those who have volunteered to run them?*

Both the 2011 **Community Action Plan** document and a **presentation** beginning the review of progress made since 2011 **can be downloaded from:**
<https://blanevalleybulletin.wordpress.com/community-action-plan/>

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This issue is sponsored by the
**Strathblanefield Community
Development Trust**



Calling All Residents on Glasgow Road!

We Need Your Help!

Are you able to identify (in confidence) the dog owner who has been regularly leaving their dog's excrement on the pavement. A photo would be good please. Community members use this pavement frequently, many going to and from school and it is awful to have to scrape this filth off shoes and buggy wheels.

Our campaign last year and the fining of one resident reduced the problem of dog fouling but owners are falling into bad habits again — even in the school playground.

Dog owners or dog walkers — remember you can be fined if you are not carrying a poo bag when out with your dog.

Happy New Year Would-be Campsie Crooners *from Barbara Fleming*

Please put in your diaries the evening of Wed 28 Jan 2015 for a very first get together of those who would like to sing with others...the word 'choir' seems a tad formal at this stage. This will be an informal meeting where we can sing away the wintry cobwebs and exchange ideas about the kinds of music we'd all like to sing with the main aim of setting up our very own community singing group which is relaxed and fun. Everybody is welcome from those who already have experience of choirs to complete novices like myself. Please be assured there will be no auditioning and no one will be expected to sing on their own. Your only requirement is a desire to sing!

Join us at Strathblane Church Kirk Rooms (thanks to Richard Begg for the kind offer of their use)
on Wed 28 Jan @ 7:45pm.

Why not join the growing number of local businesses and individuals who SPONSOR issues of the Bulletin?

Businesses can include an advertising insert which goes to every household, Contact cc@strathblainfield.org.uk for more details.

The Community Council January Update

Main discussion topics at January's meeting:

Scottish Water progress continues slowly, most heavy vehicles will cease from the end of January. The connection to the grid will mean traffic lights on the main road for 2 weeks from 26th January

Strathblane Primary School is now the school with the largest cost of outstanding repairs £701,727 without a place on the council's capital programme for replacement or refurbishment. The Education department is reviewing the full school estate and reporting in May. It was agreed to write to our elected members to ask them to request that a discussion begins to consider if this community could work in partnership with the council to jointly deliver a community school. If this progresses there will be full consultation.

We are still searching for a council owned site for **housing for older people**. There are a few sites some which are dependent on what happens to the school. The main site so far is Park Place. Local residents will be fully consulted on how this could be made to work IF this site progresses. A key issue will be how any new properties are allocated to ensure that local people benefit and larger homes are released in the village. If a solution is not found to this we may not proceed.

Planning Applications at 18 Campsie Dene Road, Easterton of Mugdock and Carbeth house were the subject of discussion. The application for a cafe in a static caravan at Arlehaven was opposed due to the lack of toilet facilities for walkers and the poor quality look of a caravan in this scenic area.

Parking continues to be a problem at the Co-op, Mugdock country Park and Cuilt Road at the West Highland Way.

As usual our **full minutes** are available on the village noticeboards and on the village website:
strathblanefield.org.uk

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who gave up time to help with the Christmas Festivities and for the donations received from local businesses:

Duntreath Estates for the Christmas tree

Pestle and Mortar for mulling syrup

Shopsmart, Blane Valley Inn, Kirkhouse Inn for wine

The Coop for mince pies

And an anonymous donor for new rope lights for the Village Club entrance.

Your community needs you!

Local democracy is important.

Community Council elections are to be held to fill our TWO VACANCIES.

Please consider putting your name forward. There is much to campaign for—the most important being the school. This time anyone who lives in our area can stand for election we are not restricted to particular wards, so if you are interested you can get a nomination form from the library or from any community council member who can also explain what is involved.

Publication of Notice of Election

Monday 26 January 2015

Nominations to be submitted by

Friday 13 February 2015 (4pm)

Nominations can be withdrawn by

Friday 13 February 2015 (5pm)

Publication of Notice of Poll

Monday 23 February 2015

Issue of Ballot Papers Week

commencing Monday 2 March 2015

Ballot Papers to be returned by

Friday 20 March 2015 (5pm)

February Community Council Meeting

The SCC meets on Monday February 2nd at 7.30pm in the Primary School. Issues will include updates on the Scottish Water project, housing for older people and the development of the school estate. We will also have a pre-application consultation of proposed developments at Edenkilm Farm.

Please come along, give us your views and raise issues that are concerning you.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Ambulance — 999 Fire — 999 NHS 24 — 202

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

Philip Graves 0141 9561954

and

TWO VACANCIES

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

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

Current & past issues of the Bulletin can be downloaded from the village website.

**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

Strathblanefield Community Development Trust
SCDT 2015 — New Year — New Challenges — New Volunteers (Please)

SCDT Chair Robert Davy writes

2014 — a Successful year

Last year proved a particularly successful one for the community trust. Membership has risen to an all time high of 243 and the Trust's successful appeal to the community to help ensure the retention of the Kirkhouse Inn received support from 208 families.

On the project front further successes have been achieved including the "Village remembers " book with over 300 attending the launch event and subsequent exhibition. Major publicity was achieved in both newspapers and television. A substantial donation will shortly be forwarded to Erskine. The pump track (which was funded by an application to Awards for All) has proved a great success and the Scary path has been upgraded (with funding from Paths for All) These groups were able to mobilise over 25 volunteers.

The most successful aspect of 2014 has been the growth in younger members of the community coming forward to assist in these projects. Our current Board members feel that new younger blood is needed with fresh ideas and vitality. We must hand over our skills base to these younger people. Also we can only continue our success with their support and involvement.

In Our Programme for 2015

1. We will be putting forward a major application to **further improve the paths network**.
2. We will be finalising plans for the **redevelopment of Craigend Castle** which could bring major benefit to the village businesses.
3. We are confident that our application to **take the Church Bothy into community ownership** under the Community Right to Buy legislation will be successful in the near future with further local sites possibly following thereafter.
4. **Sports Field Hub** – discussions and research are ongoing with Stirling Council and facilitators re the possible upgrade of the King George V football pitch/space and the provision of an all weather surface for the playpark for multiple use.
5. To participate in **updating the Community Action Plan** to help ensure our school, halls and other community facilities are 'fit for purpose' and that local businesses can thrive.

Why not Join Us? — In helping set and realise community priorities the Trust works closely with the Community Council. The SCDT's role is vital because grants for most community projects can only be achieved through of a Trust or registered Charity. SCDT therefore acts as an umbrella organisation through which local groups can raise and administer funding for community projects. We employ no staff and our continued success depends on volunteers in three categories in particular: people with relevant professional experience and contacts; younger people (anyone under 60!) with administrative experience who can learn the skills of grant application; and anyone in existing community groups or who wish to set up a group to pursue a good project idea. You can share your expertise by joining our Board or participate as a member of a group within the SCDT umbrella. Your efforts could even prove useful in your career development, but most importantly you can help make our Blane valley community a better place to live in.

So if you would like to help, if you have if you have expertise or contacts, or if you have a project in mind please contact us on cdt@strathblanefield.org.uk..

Fancy something new?

The guide leaders are standing down from Strathblane Guides at the end of June 2015 so the unit is looking for a new team to take over.

It is a hugely rewarding experience – you will learn loads and have many fun times along the way. You don't have to have any particular skills – just lots of enthusiasm!

If you are interested in finding out more please get in touch with Eleanor Forrest (07713638287

Strathblane Library News

Interested in learning about computers?

Have been given an ipad for Christmas and still haven't worked out exactly what it does? Please let us know at the library and we will try to arrange some new help sessions.

Owl Box Project—Action Day February 8th

Sites Needed for Owl Nesting Boxes

Strathblane Community Council (with the help of Mugdock Country Park) has gained an SCV Grant for a project to make and install owl nesting boxes around the village. Wood will be cut to size in preparation for the Action Day from 1 to 4pm on Sunday Feb. 8th in the Primary School when the aim is to attract youngsters to construct the boxes with the supervision of MCP Ranger Maggie Ferguson.

We then need landowners — esp. those whose ground borders on open country — to volunteer sites for the boxes.

The aim is to increase the number of nesting owls — especially barn owls, whose habitat is under most pres-

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

MON 26th	7.30pm	Guild - Visibility Scotland in the Kirk Rooms
WED 28th	7.45pm	Community 'Choir' - First Meeting in Kirk Rooms. All welcome (For Details see Page 1)
WED 28th	7.30pm	Heritage Society - Robert Davy On 'Barr & Stroud, the HMS Hood connection in the Village Club. All welcome
WED 28th	7-8.30pm	Youth Sports in the Edmonstone Hall (every Wed night in term time)
THUR 29th	2 pm	Cuppa Time in the Kirk Rooms (and every Thursday afternoon)
FRI 30th	1.15pm	Craft & Story-time for 3-5 yr olds - Please book at the library in advance or email strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk
SAT 31st	6.45pm	Blane Valley Burns Supper Tickets: George Eastcroft (770390) or the Library

FEBRUARY

MON 2nd	10.30am	Bookbug visits Fun Hut - Come and join us to share half an hour of rhymes and stories.
MON 2nd	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council Meeting in the Primary School. All welcome
TUES 3rd	7.30pm	Senior Citizens - Ross Deuchar on Police Work with Gangs in the Edmonstone Hall
SUN 8th	1 - 4pm	Owl Box Action Day at Primary School. All welcome (especially school-age youngsters)
MON 9th	7.30pm	Guild - Carbeth Hutters Community in the Kirk Rooms
SUN 15th	1 - 5pm	Village Jam Session in the Village Club. All welcome. Contact George: Gethom@Tiscali.com
TUES 17th	11.30am	Strathblane Parish Church Lent Study Group in the Kirk Rooms
TUES 17th	7.30pm	Book Group meet at Strathblane Library
TUES 17th	7.30pm	Senior Citizens - AGM and Talk by Carol Craig in the Edmonstone Hall
FRI 20th	1.30pm	Storytime for 3-5year olds in Strathblane Library
FRI 20th	7 pm	Film Night in the Kirk Rooms. All welcome
SAT 21st	11.30 - 3	Community Summit - with representatives from all village groups in the Village Club
SAT 21st	7.30pm	Fun Hut Ceilidh Fundraiser in the Edmonstone Hall. Featuring Caledonia Sound Ceilidh Band, Raffle & Mini Auction, Licensed Bar. Tickets £10 available from Strathblane Library or contact Emma: funhutstrathblane@gmail.com .
SUN 22nd	3.30pm	Messy Church in the Kirk Rooms
MON 23rd	7.30pm	Guild - National Guild Convenor in the Kirk Rooms

Copy Date for the February BVB is Monday 9th. Send Calendar items & other news to cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

EDENKILN SURGERY would like to wish all our patients a Happy New Year and thank you very much to all the patients who handed in gifts for the doctors and the staff. We appreciate it very much.
The surgery will be closed on Feb 19th from 12.30 for staff training
We can be contacted at 01360 770340
For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website
www.edenkilnsurgery.com

THE VILLAGE CLUB — available for public and private functions. To check availability, book or get further information please ask Keith Vass or Elspeth Neill.

Keith Vass – keithvass13@gmail.com 770131
Elspeth Neill - elspethneill@gmail.com 771653

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