

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet October 2015 No 36

Consultation on Supported Local Bus Services

The contracts through which Stirling Council subsidises local bus services in SW Stirlingshire expire in March 2016. The Council will ensure that these services operate as at present until July 31st. To continue the services from August 1st the council must go through a 'procurement process' inviting tenders from potential providers. In the context of a need to reduce public expenditure—and Priority-based Budgeting— SC has begun a review of the network to 'match, as far as they are able, services that they support to community needs'. The review includes:

Service C10: Balfron – Strathblane – Milngavie – Glasgow (Monday to Saturday evening journeys);

BROADBAND OPEN DAY

Saturday 24th Oct in Killearn Village Hall
10.30-3.30 —free tea & Coffee
Information, demonstrations, questions answered for individuals and businesses.

CULT BRAE ROAD CLOSURE

The B821 Cult Brae Road will be closed for resurfacing work November 12th to 19th between 9am and 4pm

Journeys Currently Supported between Strathblane & Glasgow & Average Passenger Numbers

Strathblane (Kirkhouse Inn) to Glasgow	Mon —Fri	18:00	19:40	20:40	21:40
Average passenger numbers		15.4	10	12	9.5
Strathblane (Kirkhouse Inn) to Glasgow	Saturdays	18:02	20:39	21:40	
Average passenger numbers		24.3	13.5	11.6	
Glasgow to Strathblane	Mon —Fri	18:57	20:37	21:37	22:37
Average passenger numbers		16.4	14.5	14.7	11.4
Glasgow to Strathblane	Saturdays	19:00	21:35	22:35	
Average passenger numbers		22.8	14.7	15.5	

The Council indicates that: "(t)o an extent, we can quantify this through the numbers of passengers carried. There are limitations, however. An early morning journey may carry relatively few passengers, but these passengers may depend upon it in order to remain in employment. Another journey later in the day may carry many more passengers, but be used mainly for non-essential journeys, with an alternative journey available within, say, an hour. Withdrawal of support in the first case will result in hardship, whereas in the second case it may simply result in inconvenience."

SC suggest four kinds of cost-saving possibility that could affect our services:

- **combining journeys** - eg a one hourly service reduced to one every 90 minutes
- **replacing low-use bus journeys with community transport or DRT** (demand responsive transport)
- **withdrawing journeys with low levels of average use**
- **withdrawing evening journeys**

The full consultation documents are on the Stirling Council website at http://www.stirling.gov.uk/_documents/transport/public-transport/community-planning/bus-and-drt-service-consultation-2015-1.pdf **The Council is inviting comments by 18 December.**

An online *Survey Monkey* survey will soon be available.

The Community Council will be discussing the issue at its November meeting and we would like to have as much feedback as possible from community members. Please send your views to cc@strathblanefield.org.uk, contact your local community councillor or come along to our meeting on November 2nd.

Copy Date for the November BVB is Monday 16th. Please send Calendar items up to late January and other news to cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

Why not join the growing number of local businesses, voluntary organisations and individuals who SPONSOR issues of the Bulletin?
Contact cc@stathblanefield.org.uk for more details.

Community Council October Update — from SCC Chair Margaret Vass

LDP Main Issues Report — The main item for decision at our last meeting was to agree our comments on Stirling Council's Main Issues Report and in particular the proposed site for 30 houses below the 'devil's elbow'. A special meeting on the September 21 was attended by around 34 residents; and 50 attended the Stirling Council had held a drop in session on September 17. A lively debate on the strathblanefield facebook page highlighted the importance of more affordable housing for local people. Our full response may be viewed on the Strathblanefield website. There is agreement that something must be done with the site, but it is not suitable for 30 houses and there is strong opposition to creating more traffic on Old Mugdock Road

Police Matters — We are delighted to welcome back Sgt David McNally to our area. He is based at Balfron. PC Trueman attended our meeting. He highlighted the problem of livestock on the roads which is an offence and asked residents to report this. He also asked everyone to watch out for deer on the road (they can't be prosecuted!). There have already been four collisions this autumn. He also reminded us about Clare's Law. Residents can now approach the police for information on potential partners to find out if they have a past record of domestic abuse. He expressed frustration that residents are still not reporting matters through 101 but take the time to post on them on facebook instead. One resident did report a van parked in Park Place. It had false number plates and was stolen from Ayrshire. The police were asked again to pay attention to dangerous parking in and around the school.

Health & Social Care — We are still keeping in touch with the health and social care integration agenda. Grace attended a seminar in Killearn. Access to Larbert and the boundary issues with Glasgow were stressed by everyone. We are also working with Richard Begg who has pulled together a group to address the issue of dementia. Our villages have the highest proportion aged over 65, although most are in reasonable health. They are looking at ways to make this a dementia-friendly village. There are already a number of residents afflicted with the condition and it may be that given our rural location, we will have to become more self-supporting, with training and support being given to

those who are able and willing to help.

Roads issues are always discussed. The bollards at the shops are to be replaced with marking in red on the pavement to show where to park. There will be one STRONG bollard placed close to the bus stop to ensure pedestrian, pram and wheel chair access. This work will take place after the 26th October when the road markings will be restored on the A81. These will be traffic calming markings. Apparently 30mph roads no longer have white lines up the middle as it is safer without.

Priority Based Budgeting in Stirling is to be a continuous process. Three Community councillors attended the latest community conversation. Differing ways of council service provision were discussed to find economies by "**service transformation**". Some of the ideas proposed were to do with employment and flexible use of seasonal labour - grounds maintenance teams transferring to roads maintenance and gritting in winter; seven day bin collections instead of five; consolidation of council properties; and profitable disposal/utilization of those properties not required; money generation projects such as solar energy to fund fuel poverty projects.

Hospital discharge and care in the community were discussed. This issue is being addressed by the Change Fund for health and social care. The slow response to the Metz alarm service for vulnerable people was raised.

Finally the **replacement community school** was discussed and it is clear that this is some time away and is totally dependent on Stirling Council being convinced that there is demonstrable strong support from the community to engage with this project. It is also apparent that teacher recruitment is currently a problem, especially in the area of special needs. Restructuring of **nursery provision** is also being looked at, but no details have emerged as yet.

These consultations run by Stirling are a genuine attempt to obtain our views so they really worthwhile and residents are really encouraged to attend future events.

The next Community Council meeting will be on **Monday November 2nd at 7.30pm** in the Primary School. Come along and give us your views.

The Village Club — To make a booking contact either Fiona Murray (murray-fiona@sky.com, 771497) or Keith Vass (keith-vass13@gmail.com, 07778 181 175).

The Reading Room (£8/hour) is ideal for small meetings. Wifi now available.

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

<i>Blanefield Ward</i>		<i>Strathblane Ward</i>		<i>Mugdock Ward</i>	
Margaret Vass	770131	Alan Hutton	770537	Richard Arnold	770006
Avril Keen	07799261297	Marian Lever	770536	John Gray	771031
Willie Oswald	770497	Elsbeth Neill	771653	Grace Edmonds	770800
Julie Hutchison	770791	Sue Rand	770630	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



Strathblane Bowling Club
Presents
Murder Mystery Night
Friday 13th November
7pm for 7.30pm

Scene of the Crime — the Village Club
Theme: The 30s - Appropriate Dress Optional
Come and enjoy a great night's entertainment and a 3-course meal
(by Table 13) At a cost of £20 per person.
For tickets contact Don Jackson Mb: 07738449787

"Alive" - Woodland Light Experience

Thursday 12th November - Wednesday 25th November
at North Ballochruin Farm, Balfron Station, G63 0LE
Visitors are invited to experience the 14 acres of natural woodland as never before. The trees and dark autumn skies are the natural backdrop to a magical theatre of light and colour professionally produced by NL Productions
Go to www.woodlandexperiences.co.uk

Fintry Amateur Dramatic Society Presents
DICK McWHITTINGTON

A pantomime for all the family
the old familiar story with an extra Glasgow twist
in the Menzies Hall Fintry
Thurs, Fri, Sat 26 -28 November and 4th -6th December
at 7.30pm + Saturday Matinees at 2pm
Tickets: Balfron Library; Fintry Sporys Club; Liz Brown (01360 860078; tickets@fintry.org.uk)
Visit FADS on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/FintryADS
or on their website www.fintrydrama.org.uk

Strathblane Library News *from Lynne James*

Afternoon Tea @ Strathblane Library - Thursday November 12th 2pm - 3.15pm. A special 'me time' for mums - with or without wee ones. A chance to bletcher, a cup of tea and a cake before you pick up the kids from school. Enjoy time to choose a book to take home. And why not contribute to a good cause at the same time by bringing along a small food donation for Glasgow City Mission/Stirling Food Bank.

Karen Campbell— As part of Stirling Book Festival Week please pencil in Tuesday November 24th when the successful and fascinating author of "This Is Where I Am " and "Rise" as well as several police thrillers, will be appearing at Drymen Church Hall in conversation with Lynne James!

Strathblane Tennis Club Annual Quiz

Saturday November 21st 7.30 for 8 in Village Club (BYOB)
Tickets: table of 6 - £36 available from John & Sally Gray 771031

Edenkiln Surgery

The surgery will be closed from 12.30 on November 25 for staff training.
For out of hours help contact NHS24 at 111
The surgery can be contacted at 01360 770340 For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website at www.edenkilnsurgery.com

Strathblanefield Community Development Trust

At its October Board meeting the SCDT reviewed progress on three on-going projects. Most advanced is the **Railway Path Upgrade Project** which will create a good multi-user link along the disused railway line as far as Station Road, Blanefield.

Funding is now almost in place for work to be done by April next year. The first stage will involve a community contribution to site clearance - removal of some trees and bushes. We hope that work will begin at weekends in November and we seeking volunteers with equipment, experience - or just plenty of energy - to take part. Free wood should be a useful bi-product.

If you are interested please contact Alan Hutton at alanhutton@gmail.com (or 770537)

Interested in Traditional Acoustic Jam Sessions?

The current Village Jam Sessions tend to feature electric & Contemporary (pop, blues & county) music. There has been interest in having some traditional acoustic sessions and the group wonders if it might be sufficient to organise addition sessions on different Sunday afternoons, (2 - 5pm) If you might be interested please contact George Thom gethom@tiscali.co.uk 07711537397

Dr Perry Harrison Art Exhibition
and Charity Sketch Sale

Thursday & Friday 26th & 27th November
10am -1pm and 6pm -9pm in the Kirk Rooms
A selection of paintings in various media and a number of sketches for sale - proceeds to charity.

Strathblane Church

Available space limits Calendar entries on Page 4. See below for further activities:

Youth Cafe — For secondary school age students Friday nights, Oct 23 to Dec 11th, 7.30 - 9pm in the Kirk Rooms. We would be grateful for help from parents to run a tuck shop on a rota basis Contact the minister

Ukelele Praise Band — practice resumes Oct 28 at 7.30pm running until Dec 9.

Messy Church — on 1st Sunday of month 3-5pm in the Kirk Rooms (Nov 1 7 Dec 6) Crafts, games, informal bible stories and a home cooked meal (Suggested donation £6 per family)

Youth Fellowship — (S2 - S6) every Oct 25th & 2nd Sunday up to Dec 6th. In the Manse 7.45 - 9pm.

Childrens' Sunday Club - Kirk Rooms 11am every Sunday & joining service towards the end of worship.

There are still some **Logs in the Graveyard** which can be taken in exchange for a donation to **Strathcarron Hospice Snowdrop Garden**. Donations should be posted through the Manse letterbox and not sent to the Hospice. Please leave the bark chipping.

Contact: Jemma Sharp, Admin Assistant at 770418; or strathblanekirk@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER

SUN 25th	1 - 5pm	Village Jam Session. Everyone welcome. Contact George at. gethom@tiscali.co.uk
TUES 27th	9.15-12	Community Cafe at Strathblane Kirk . Everyone welcome for tea/coffee & home baking; toys available for pre-school children. Open every Tuesday morning in term time.
TUES 27th	7.30pm	Knit & Natter in the Manse.All welcome. Runs fortnightly until December 15th
WED 28th	7.30pm	Campsie Crooners in the KIRK ROOMS. 7,30 for 7.45 start.
WED 28th	7.30pm	Heritage Society - David Lawson 'When a City Died'. In the Village Club. All welcome.
WED 28th	7-8.30pm	Youth Sports in the Edmonstone Hall (for P5 - S2 pupils). Cost: £1. Runs until Dec 6th.
THURS 29th	2-4pm	Cuppa Time in the Kirk Rooms. Everyone welcome for tea/coffee & home baking - with optional activities such as crafts, games and painting. Every Thursday afternoon.
SAT 31st	6.30-9.30	Film Night in the Kirk Rooms.Three films suitable for different ages + a Fish & chip Supper. Film nights continue on the last Saturday of the month. - next Nov 28th

NOVEMBER

MON 2nd	7.30pm	Guild - Guild Project, Food Banks Ann Carson, E. Dunbarton. Food Bank, Kirk Rooms
MON 2nd	10.30am	Bookbug @ Fun Hut - Rhymes & stories for babies and toddlers
MON 2nd	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Primary School. All welcome
WED 4th	7.30pm	Campsie Crooners in the KIRK ROOMS 7,30 for 7.45pm All welcome
WED 4th	7.30pm	Heritage Society - Sylvia Armstrong 'Scottish Writers & their Stories' in the Village Club. All welcome.
SAT 7th	9.30 -1pm	Carity Christmas Card Sale run by the Guild in the Kirk Rooms
SUN 8th	10.50am	War Memorial Service
WED 11th	7.30pm	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club. 7,30 for 7.45 start. —and succeeding Wednesdays
FRI 13th	7 for 7.30	Strathblane Bowling Club - Murder Mystery Night in the Village Club (see Page3)
THUR 12th	2-3.15pm	Afternoon Tea @ Strathbane Library - see Page 3 for details
MON 16th		Guild - 80th Birthday Celebration Lunch Buchanan Castle Golf Club
SAT 21st	7.30 for 8	Strathblane Tennis Club Annual Quiz in the Village Club (see Page 3 for details)
SUN 22nd	1 - 5pm	Village Jam Session. Everyone welcome. Contact George at. gethom@tiscali.co.uk
TUES 24th	7.30pm	Karen Campbell, celebrated Scottish Writer in conversation with Lynne James at Drymen Church Hall (National Book Week event) Tickets from Strathblane Library
WED 25th	2.30-3.15	Bookbug celebrates Book Week with Rhymes & stories in the Library.
THURS 26th	7.30pm	Dick McWhittington - Opening Night of Fintry Pantomime. (see Page 3 for details)
FRI 27th	1.30pm	Story-time for Pre-schoolers in the Library. All 3 - 5 year olds welcome.
SAT 28th	2 -5pm	Afternoon Tea in the kirk Rooms to celebrate Dr Harrison's 100th birthday
MON 30th	7.30pm	Guild - Scottish Evening with Rev Bill Ferguson in the Kirk Rooms

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