

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

June 2017 No 53

Gladman Returns!

**Planning Application for 70 houses on Campsie Rd
(Ref. 17/00434/PPP)**

The Initial Proposal

In Autumn 2016 Strathblane Community Council (SCC) and Stirling Council received a “pre-application notice” (PAN) from Gladman Developments, proposing a development of houses on Green Belt land next to the new Cala houses in Campsie Road. This site is designated in Stirling Council’s Local Development Plan (LDP) for the urgently required cemetery extension, which would then form a hard boundary of the village envelope. In the LDP process a number of proposed housing sites on the Green belt around our village had been promoted by landowners and rejected — including the Campsie Road site!

Rejected by the Community

In an extensive local consultation up to last December (see January BVB) hundreds of community members responded by attending SCC meetings, signing a petition, completing a questionnaire or writing directly to Stirling Planning. SCC was able to represent a very clear-cut community view opposing the proposed development. In summary: ‘too many of the wrong kind of houses in the wrong place’. SCC also warned that any proposal to contravene an LDP so recently completed following extensive local consultation (and since agreed by Stirling Council) undermines the principle of a democratically accountable local planning process. If the Green Belt is waived for one site, other sites would surely follow.

Community’s Views Ignored

Community views were recorded by Gladman in their report on the pre-application process, and yet they have now returned with an outline planning application for up to 70 houses which is, in essence, little different from the initial proposal. And nothing Gladman show in the outline application would be binding on a future developer.

**So we are now in a new process and have until
August 7th to register our views once more !
AGAIN, EVERYONE’S VOICE IS IMPORTANT**

Learn More & Give Your Views

You can find out more and **register your own views** (with SCC or directly to the Planning Department) **in any of the following ways:**

Read the Supplementary Sheet enclosed in this issue of the Bulletin

Complete the Survey by July 26th

either on paper, (place in box in the Strathblane Library) *or on-line* at:
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CampsieRoad

Come along to either of two

Drop-in Sessions

in the Village Club: 2.30 -8.30pm on
Wed June 28th & Mon July 24th

Attend the **Special Community Council Meeting** in the Village Club on **Monday July 31st at 7.30pm**

Submit your comments to Stirling Council via their website or by email to planning officer Mark Laird at info@stirling.gov.uk quoting reference 17/00434/PPP by Monday August 7th

Please **copy your submissions** to us at contact@strathblanec.org.uk

Contact the Community Council with your views by July 29th at www.strathblanec.org.uk/contact-us or by email to contact@strathblanec.org.uk

June Community Council Update *from Chair, Margaret Vass*

SCC Evolves

This month's meeting began with AGM. We are now in full succession planning mode in preparation for elections next year when five of us will step down. This month we said farewell and thank you to Elspeth Neill who resigned after 14 years, and welcomed back Mike McNulty as a co-optee in response to last month's advertisement. Marian Lever has taken over as Vice chair and Evelyn MacDougall has the environment brief. Stirling Council has agreed to help fund future SCC meetings at the Village Club. This offers better acoustics, better seats—and wi-fi.

Rural Development

Steven MacDonald, Stirling's Rural Economic Development officer outlined how the Council will be working closely with communities to promote and help local business. We will be represented at a Rural Development Workshop in Callander this week. I think Strathblane might be on the map at long last but it is early days. More on this in coming months.

Roads

We expect the **double yellow lines** at Old Mugdock Rd to be done soon. The aim is to ensure that blue light vehicles are not delayed by inconsiderate parking. There is a similar problem at the bottom of Campsie Dene Rd that we are also pursuing.

Resurfacing work involving a 9-5 road closure on Station Road is taking place over the next couple of weeks.

SCC also agreed to support Mike Ruskell MSP's bill to make **20mph the default speed limit**.

Street Lighting

Street Lighting upgrade work will be taking place from 3/7 to 11/8 at Southview Drive and surrounding areas, from 3/7 to 22/9 at Kirkhouse Road and surrounding areas and from 3/7 to 11/8 Dungallass View and surrounding areas. Remember that LED lights can be dimmed or the angle changed if the new lighting disturbs your sleep.

Police Report

The Police report covered two recent break-ins where the culprit has been apprehended. Worryingly there are still problems in the school playground with the janitor having to clear up vomit and human excrement. Please report activity in the evening/night at the playground to the police. We are also being warned about bogus callers and rogue workmen.

Amongst Other Items

The **grass cutting service** seems to be poor just now and we are taking this up with the Council.

Working with Trossachs Search and Rescue we hope to adopt both telephone kiosks and both will have **defibrillators** installed.

Special Meeting

There will be a **special SSC meeting** to our response to the **Gladman Planning Application on July 31st at 7.30pm** in the Village Club.

Our next monthly meeting will be on
Monday September 4th at 7.30pm
in the **Village Club**

Copy Date for the **August BVB** is **Monday 14th**. Please send Calendar items and news for the period up to late-September to contact@strathblanec.org.uk

Edenkiln Surgery 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

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 contact@strathblanec.org.uk

Get in touch with your Community Councillors

Blanefield Ward

Strathblane Ward

Mugdock Ward

Margaret Vass	770131	Alan Hutton	770537	Richard Arnold	770006
Avril Keen	07799261297	Marian Lever	770536	John Gray	771031
Willie Oswald	770497	Sue Rand	770630	Grace Edmonds	770800
Julie Hutchison	770791	(Mike McNulty	770076)	Evelyn MacDougall	770757

Or via our website at www.strathblanec.org.uk. **Other Information Sources** — Library; Noticeboards; Shops; Local weekly press; & the **Facebook** Strathblanefield Page

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

Public Transport in West Stirlingshire — Use it or Lose it

from local campaigner Valerie Brand

After a long campaign to restore vital buses to the **B12 Balfron to Stirling route**. We now need to encourage more people to use the service to ensure that we don't end up losing buses in the future. Concession holders are crucial in achieving this. If everyone with a bus pass travelled once or twice a week there would be no issue re losing buses in rural communities.

Many people are put off travelling by bus because of the condition of the vehicles. We have been far too complacent in accepting poor quality buses and we now need to bring this to the attention of the operator. Therefore we urge passengers to help by reporting vehicle issues, such as no heating, poor suspension, water coming in, anything that spoils your journey so that Balfron Depot can get better buses.

Please report directly to **First Scotland East**. Keep your ticket which will give the bus number and driver number at the bottom. This can then be reported online at First Scotland East using the mail icon.....or by ringing Larbert directly on 01324 602200. If after contacting **First Bus** you are unhappy with their response or failure to address your complaint then please don't hesitate to contact **Bus Users Scotland** on 0300 111 0001 who will further pursue the issue.

Hopefully in time these measures will gain us a decent rural public transport system.

Please share this information with anyone you know who isn't online and would use public transport.

Don't forget Food Banks over the Summer

Local Food Banks have been running out of stock in the last month. Please remember there is a donation box for Start-up Stirling in the library and boxes for Glasgow City Mission (which runs four food banks) at Strathblane Church and the Kirk Rooms.

Always needed are tinned items, rice, pasta & sauces, cereal bars and UHT milk.

THANKS — Many thanks to the energetic volunteers who have been yanking out and strimming the Himalayan Balsam in the woodland. Eradicating it will be a long term project but this year's work has made a very significant difference.

Special thanks to Strathblane Cubs who braved midges and nettles to do their bit of environmental community service! *Joan Hoggan*

SOME ACTIVITIES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

MUGDOCK COUNTRY PARK — We are fortunate to have one of Scotland's most popular outdoor attractions within our own Community Council area. The Park provides activities for kids of all ages, outside and inside, with special programmes in the school holidays.

Go to www.mugdock-country-park.org.uk/ for details

Summer Reading Challenge

Join us in Strathblane Library over the Summer Holidays for this year's Summer Reading Challenge!

Sign up to **solve the mystery** and **collect the clues** as you visit the library and read through the summer. Keep your eyes peeled for events for you during the holidays.

Manage six visits and there will be a medal and certificate with your name on it waiting for you at the end of the challenge!

Beat the blues of the last week of the holidays! Become a Polar Explorer!

The Holiday Club Team invite you to join them in the Kirk Rooms for five mornings of fun... Games, Drama. Crafts and Bible Stories running from:

Monday to Friday

14th-18th August

10.00 am to 1.30 pm including lunch.

All children aged 5-11 (or 4 if starting school in August) are welcome. Registration forms are available by email strathblanekirk@gmail.com or pick one up from the library. £10 for the five mornings.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

SAT 24th	7.pm	Blanefield Thistle away to Drymen
MON 26th	3.15-4.15	Chatterbooks - the Library's Book Club for P5-P7s. See Library for details
TUES 27th	7.30pm	Blanefield Thistle home to Killlearn
WED 28th	2.30 - 8.30pm	Drop-In Session on Gladman Application in the Village Club - a chance to find out more about the planning application and give the Community Council your views.

JULY

SUN 23rd	2 - 5pm	Electric Jam Session in the Village Club As it is holiday time check with George Thom (gethom@tiscali.co.uk) before coming.
MON 24th	2.30 - 8.30pm	Drop-In Session on Gladman Application in the Village Club -a chance to find out more about the planning application and give the Community Council your views.
TUES 25th	11am -12	Badge Making: Come & Make Animal Agent Badges! in the Library Drop in, Free
WED 26th		Deadline for Completion of Gladman Planning Application Survey See insert & Page 1 box for more details.
SAT 29th		Deadline to email your views on the Gladman Application (or copy comments you send to Stirling Council) to the Community Council See insert and Page 1 for more details.

AUGUST

MON 7th		Deadline for Comments to Stirling Council on Gladman Planning Application (Please copy to the Community Council) See insert and Page 1 for more details
MON 14th	10am	Holiday Club begins in the Kirk Rooms See page 3 for more details.
TUES 22nd	3 - 5pm	Lynda Turner School of Dance—Enrolment for Childrens Dance Classes in the Edmontone Hall
TUES 29th	6.30 — 7.30pm	REGISTRATION NIGHT at the Scout Hut. Parents and carers please come and sign children up for the local Beavers, Cub, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies & Guides for 2017-18

Summer Exhibitions at *The Smithy Gallery*

Now until July 14th — **The Affordable Art Show**

From August 6th — **New Watercolour exhibition**

with **Jenny Matthews and Angus McEwan**

for more information got to:

<http://www.smithygallery.com>

The Edmonstone Hall

for enquiries or bookings contact Anne McKellar on 0136077055 or anne.mckellar@outlook.com

The Village Club

enquiries & bookings: - check schedule at www.villageclub1911.org
email strathblanec@outlook.com
or Contact **Fiona Murray** at 771497 Office hours only)

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

Businesses can include an advertising flyer which will go to every household. Contact contact@strathblanec.org.uk for more details.

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