

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet January 2017 No 48

Cemetery Extension — Stirling Council to Proceed as agreed in the Local Development Plan

The three month Community Consultation, that Gladman Developments were required by law to undertake before submitting a planning application on the scale of the 70+ houses proposed for Campsie Road, ended on December 12th. It has generated a very high level of response from community members, and significant reactions from elected representatives and Stirling Council.

The nature of that reaction should have left Gladman in no doubt that the overwhelming local view is that, first, their proposed residential development has too many houses of the wrong kind for local needs, in the wrong location; and, second, that the vital Cemetery extension should go ahead on the site reaffirmed in the latest Local Development Plan as soon as possible.

Evidence of that view is clear cut:

- Over 100 attended the December Community Council meeting at which Gladden sent two representatives to hear opinion. They heard virtually no support for their proposals;
- The petition drawn up with support from the Community Council in objection already has close to 200 signatures
- The online questionnaire had (by last week) 212 responses of which 206 oppose the development five support it with one 'don't know';
- The Community Council has been provided with copies of almost 50 written comments that individuals have sent to Gladman and to the Stirling Council Planning Department and we know that many more have been sent, again the vast majority opposing the development and supporting the SC cemetery plan.

It is worth noting that objections come from all parts of Blane and Strathblane and that a number of objectors would support more housing of the right number, type and location to meet the community's needs.

David Crighton, SC Roads & Land Manager, has confirmed to MSP Bruce Crawford that the Council intend to go ahead with the Cemetery extension on the ground next to the new Braidgate development in Campsie Road earmarked for the

How Do Gladman Operate?

An insight into the operations of Gladman Developments — which span mainland Britain — is provided in a Times article this week on a 'bitter war between developers and a countryside campaigner in Sussex :

'David Gladman, co-founder of Gladman Developments, which claims to be the largest promoter of land for development in the UK, has publicly declared that his business model depends on exploiting failings by local authorities. He told a court last year: "We normally only target local authorities whose planning is in relative disarray and . . . either have no up-to-date local plan or, temporarily, they do not have a five-year supply of consented building plots."'

Times January 15th <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/rural-army-masses-behind-hero-farmer-in-homes-battle-jt2t-pzbr9>

purpose in the last two Development Plans. A Council spokesperson confirmed to the Stirling Observer last week that there is no allocation in either of these LDPs for housing development on any part of this land — which is, of course, part of the Green Belt.

It is to be hoped that Gladman developments and the land-owners, Charles Connell & Co (Holdings) for whom they are acting get what is a very clear message and take their proposal no further.

We can only wait and see.

This issue is sponsored by an individual community member

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 cc@strathblanefield.org.uk for more details.

January Community Council Update *from Chair, Margaret Vass*

Mugstock Festival — We opened our first meeting of 2017 with the fun item of Mugstock. We were shown a recording of last year's successful event. Sadly they have no footage of our Sunday morning show so if anyone has any please send it to nelson@mugstock.org. This year's festival is from 28-30th July. We have asked for better promotion of the event from a Stirling perspective and for a hard push to get local businesses involved.

Gladman Consultation — An update on the consultation was discussed (see front page). We are really keen to keep hearing from the community on housing issues. We will take the lead on this later this year.

Refuse collection just had to be discussed! The view was that there are signs of improvement. The main problem is with existing lorries breaking down. The new lorries are taking longer to deliver due to the adaptation now required following the Glasgow bin lorry fatalities. Some bins are not collected as they are "contaminated" often by a passerby/walkers adding their litter e.g. Plastic bottles or poo bags in the paper and cardboard green bin.

Planning — On the planning front two Developments of four residential homes each at the former Country House Hotel and Aros House are proposed. We agreed to ask that the council policy of requiring an affordable housing contribution be applied and the footway be reinstated

up to Ardunan Lodge and that a contribution to improving Old Mugdock Rd is made.

Roads & Transport — We are currently working with the Council to improve the traffic management in Campsie Rd, parking in Old Mugdock Rd. and narrowing the Station Rd bridge to make it safer to access the new Railway Path.

The **Boundary Commission** has proposed radical changes to the Stirling Westminster Constituency and SCC will object to the break up of the Stirling area using the Forth as the boundary and lumping us in with Falkirk.

Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On Thanks

SCC would like to record our thanks to the **Coop** for donating the mince pies and **Edenmill Nursery** for providing the Christmas Tree.

The next SCC meeting is at 7.30pm on **Monday February 6th** in the Primary School. Please come along and give us your views.

Copy Date for the February BVB is **Monday February 13th**. Please send Calendar items and news for the period up to mid-March to cc@strathblanefield.org.uk

Edenkiln Surgery

We can be contacted at 01360 770340. For a range of health-care information go to the practice website at

www.edenkilnsurgery.com

For out of hours help contact NHS24 at 202

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

John Gray 771031

Grace Edmonds 770800

Rob Davies 771921

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

The Blane Valley Burns Club *John Donohoe*

So what's this Burns Supper thing all about then? An evening of drink-sodden misogynistic ranting, a maudlin nostalgia for an illusory past? Well, that's not the way the Blane Valley Burns Club does things.

The Club was formed in 1980 by a group of individuals dedicated to learning about and promoting the works of Robert Burns. Every year since then the Club has organised a Supper dedicated to celebrating the life and work of our greatest poet. All the traditional elements are there, An Immortal Memory illustrating some aspect of Burns work, music, songs and poems of the Bard, a Toast to and Reply from the Lasses, who always have the last word; and of course haggis, neaps, and tatties. Most of the participants are local, and it is a much appreciated event in village life.

The Club has always been keen to support local activities. Our heritage and culture is only truly safe when it is in the

37th Annual Burns Supper

Saturday January 28th in the Edmonstone Hall

Tickets £17 from the Library or George Eastcroft (770390)

3 course meal. piper, Entertainment, Raffle and more.....BYOB and glasses

hands of our children. We work closely with Strathblane Primary School to sponsor and support poetry workshops and recitations, and visits to Burns Cottage and Museum in Alloway. We also support the local library by providing books for adults on aspects of Burns work, and by providing books for children, especially those written in our rich Scots language. The Club is keen to welcome new members. To learn more contact George Eastcroft at ge-olyn2000@hotmail.com or John Donohoe at john.donohoe1@btinternet.com.



Do you need an affordable home?

Rural Stirling Housing Association aims to support local communities by providing quality homes at affordable rents for families, couples and single people in housing need.

We currently have over 550 rented houses and flats. Around 50 of these become available for rent each year. We hope to have new properties in Balmaha soon and currently have properties in the following communities:

Aberfoyle Deanston Gartmore Lochearnhead
Balfron Doune Killin Strathblane Buchlyvie
Drymen Kinlochard Strathyre Callander
Gargunnoch Kippen Stronachlachar Tyndrum

We may be able to build in other communities in the future – please let us know to if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us plan for the future.

If you are interested in renting one of our properties when they become available please contact us:

Rural Stirling Housing Association
Stirling Road, Doune FK16 6AA
Telephone: 01786 841101

The Village Club — enquiries and bookings:

www.villageclub1911.org
email — strathblanevc@gmail.com or
Contact — Fiona Murray 01360 771497

Library News — *Lynne James*

Recollections

Have you got memories and photos of Strathblane and Blanefield that you would like to share? For a week in March the library is hosting a special local history week. We need your help to make it go well!

Photos and memories from the fifties, sixties, seventies and eighties..we would love to see them and hear the stories that go with them.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of Charlie Kerr, our current local history is now indexed and filed. We have lots of fascinating information on the area and you are welcome to come and browse through it.

Start-Up Stirling Donation Station

Every week in the Stirling area, 250 people, including 90 children, receive food through START UP Stirling Food Banks and libraries throughout the Stirling area have agreed to act as Donation Stations.

Please think about supporting the work START UP Stirling does by donating food or household items IN THE BOX IN THE PORCH in Strathblane Library. Particularly needed are bags of rice and sugar, tins of tomatoes and UHT milk but you can give any extra items you have.

Why not become a

Friend of Mugdock Country Park?

Help sustain and develop this great facility on our doorsteps. Membership will provide you with many benefits within the Park, including :

10% discount on Visitor Centre Shop

Priority Booking for Theatre tickets

Exclusive offers from all other Park businesses

A membership card valid for one year costs £15 per person or £25 per family. For more information go to www.mugdock-country-park.org.uk or pick up a leaflet at the Visitor Centre

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY

MON 23rd	7.30pm	Guild — Burns Poems & Songs with Murray O'Donnell, Sheila Hall & John Jeffries in the Kirk Rooms
WED 25th	7.45pm *	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club. All welcome.— * 7.30 for 7.45pm
FRI 27th	7pm	Film Night in Strathblane Kirk Rooms - with popcorn! All welcome
THURS 26th	10.30am	Bookbug @ the Library - a chance to share rhymes, songs and stories.
FRI 27th	1.15pm	Story and Craft Session in Strathblane Library
SAT 28th	6.45pm	37th Annual Burns Supper in the Edmonstone Hall. (For details see page 3)

FEBRUARY

WED 1st	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club. All welcome.
MON 6th	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Primary School
MON 6th	7,30pm	Guild — Sichuan & Tibet : illustrated talk by David Scott in the Kirk Rooms
TUES 7th	7,30pm	Film Group meets to discuss 'Sing Street' in Strathblane Library
WED 8th	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club. All welcome. — * 7.30 for 7.45pm
SUN 12th	2 - 4pm	Acoustic Traditional Music Session in the Village Club. All welcome.
WED 15th	7.30pm	Heritage Society - Jim Walker - Unearthing Scotland's Past in the Village Club
WED 15th	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners in the Kirk Rooms — * 7.30 for 7.45pm. All welcome
SAT 18th	6.30 for 7	Strathblane Bowling Club Burns Supper - see below for more details
SUN 19th	6.30pm	'Song of Praise' style service in Kirk Rooms - more songs than usual. Get in touch to request your favourite songs.
MON 20th	7.15pm	Guild — Glasgow Street Songs in the Kirk Rooms
TUES 21st	7.30pm	Book Group - this month's book 'The Gravity of the Birds' - in Strathblane Library
WED 22nd	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners in the Village Club — * 7.30 for 7.45pm. All welcome
THUR 23th	10.30am	Book bug @ the Library - a chance to share rhymes, songs and stories.
FRI 24th	1.15pm	Story and Craft Session in Strathblane Library
SUN 26th	2 -5pm	Electric Music Session in the Village Club. All welcome.



Strathblane Bowling Club Burns Supper

Saturday 18th February 6.30 for 7pm
in the Clubhouse

Tickets £15 from Don Jackson at
jacksondonald@sky.com; mob. 07738449787



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