

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet September 2017 No 55

The Community Emergency Plan: What You Can Do?

Willie Oswald

The Community Council is currently updating the Village Emergency Plan. Yes, we are thinking the unthinkable, an emergency plan to deal with events such as heavy snow, catastrophic floods, and power cuts. The extreme circumstances we are planning for may well feature long lasting power failure. A consequence of this would be that mains powered roving land line phones would be inoperable and there would be no means to re-charge mobile phones.

Following discussions with a village volunteer, who is also a military reservist, the CC is in the process of arranging for a central Emergency Centre. It is envisaged that this centre will accommodate a limited range of equipment that would be invaluable should such an emergency arise. The Master Plan will also be held there.

What You Can Do ?

It is envisaged that in an emergency the medical personnel, carers, fire fighters, police officers, and other specialists, who normally look after the community, may not be available to provide assistance or equipment. We therefore need to build up a database of contact details of village residents who would, in the event of an emergency, be able to offer equipment and skills as outlined below.

We need to know of village residents who could offer important skill sets in an emergency:

- **Medical professionals and care workers.**
- **Fire and rescue workers and police officers**
- **Registered first aiders and mountain rescue personnel.**
- **Military Reservists**

We also need to know of village residents who would offer the following equipment for use in an emergency:-

**4 x 4 vehicles, generators; Power chain saws
emergency cooking equipment.**

This is not an exhaustive list. SCC would welcome further suggestions of skills and equipment you can offer.

Let me re-assure volunteers that your details will be held separately from the published Emergency Plan and will never be in the public domain. You will only ever be contacted by a member of Strathblane Community Council in the case of a severe emergency situation

With autumn upon us and winter just around the corner we would like to make good progress with our emergency plan. If you are able to offer your emergency equipment and/or skills please contact as soon as possible.

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU !!

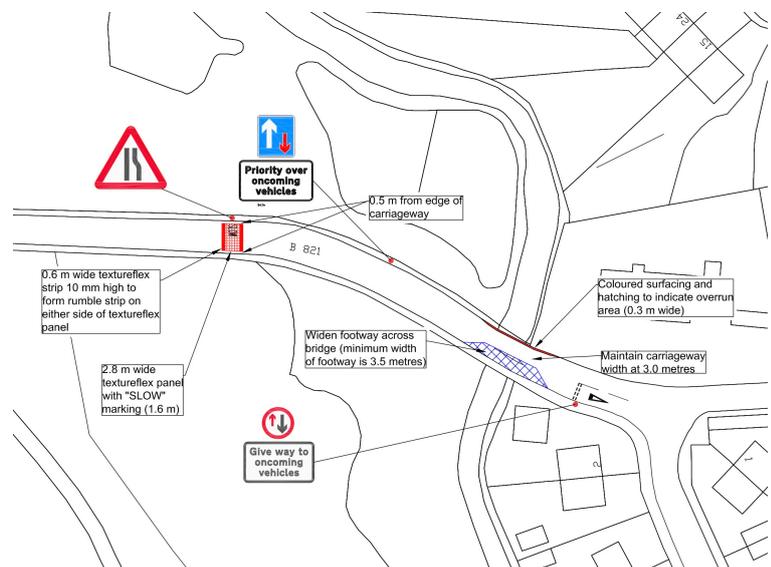
A One-Way Bridge for Station Road?

After discussions with Community Council and SCDT Path Development Group representatives Stirling Council (have come up with a design to narrow the Station Road bridge over the Blane to a one-way priority route. This will have two great benefits:.

1. it offers a significant degree of traffic calming, especially for traffic coming down the Cuilt Brae; and
2. it allows us to go ahead to develop a walking and cycling route from the bridge through the rough woodland to the new railway line track, completing the off-road route from Blanefield to Strathblane.

SCDT will now be in a position to apply (in partnership with SC) for funding for that path which we would aim to complete in the first half of 2018.

The CC would welcome views and comments on this proposal to: contact@strathblanec.org.uk



Many thanks to an individual community member for sponsoring this issue of the Bulletin

September Community Council Update from Margaret Vass

Our September meeting began with two **presentations** one from Barrie Monteith of **Scottish Power** about their infrastructure improvement project which mainly affects our more rural area, and the other from Stuart Fraser about the **plans for the Carbeth Inn** (see article on Page 3).

Council Service Issues Grass cutting has been particularly poor this year in part because of the wet weather and staff shortages. Upgrades to our **street lights** has been taking place. Anyone with concerns about lights shining into their homes or with pavements not being filled in properly should contact Stirling Council. We continue to chase the Council to make **the riverbank and the play park** safe. We should all be receiving **new bin schedules** soon.

Planning Applications Amongst new applications we focused on a proposal to build two houses in the garden of Corrieknowe in Campsie Dene Rd. In this instance the CC decided to oppose the application on three main grounds: it changes the character of the village as it appears from the North; the site access was not considered to be safe; and the site plan wasn't accurate.

We are still waiting to hear of progress with the Gladman application for 70 houses (It may be considered at the Planning Committee on November 7th). There is an interesting position statement on planning policy issues available on the planning portal which is still to be fully updated.

Bothy Heritage information Centre Project The CC agreed to support Strathblane Community Development Trust to implement the Heritage information project at the old Bothy in the corner of the churchyard. In the latest of a series of delays to the process Stirling Council Building Standards are insisting that a toilet is retained within the building as their regula-

tions state that toilet provision should not be made worse by any development. This is an inexplicable request as the proposal is for an information point not a tourist facility; there has never been public toilet provision here – and, of course SC have already closed our Public Toilets! Unfortunately this may jeopardise the whole project as there are no funds to provide or maintain a toilet and SCDT may have to consider handing back the Bothy to the Council.

Defibrillators The Community now owns both telephone kiosks and we are working with Trossachs Search and Rescue to install defibrillators in both locations.

Community Resilience Plan Willie Oswald has been working hard to update our Community Resilience Plan. (See piece on Page 1) We hope to establish the Village Club as our emergency base if needed. Willie was also thanked for painting the Welcome Boards at the entrances to the Villages on the A81.

October Community Council Meeting
Monday October 2nd 7.30pm in the Village Club.
Come along and give us your views

Copy Date for the October BVB is Monday 16th.
Please send Calendar items and news for the period up to late-November to contact@strathblanecc.org.uk

Edenkiln Surgery
Our 'Flu Day is Wednesday October 25th 07.30 - 16.00
(closed for lunch 1-2pm)
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@strathblanecc.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	07580539492	John Gray	771031
Willie Oswald	770497	Sue Rand	770630	Grace Edmonds	770800
Julie Hutchison	770791	(Mike McNulty	770076)	Evelyn MacDougal	770757

Or via our website at www.strathblanecc.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

No Half Measures for the Halfway House

Evelyn MacDougal

It's official! The Carbeth Inn will revert to its former name, 'The Halfway House', when it reopens after a major refurbishment. This was revealed by its new owner Stuart Fraser, a member of the family who own the Oaktree Inn at Balmaha, when he addressed the September SCC Meeting. Accompanied by his brother and co-owner David, and his architect, Stuart enthusiastically described their plans for this iconic watering hole.

We could look forward to a bistro style restaurant with bar and open plan kitchen and a purpose built drive through coffee shop and hot food take-away.

However Stuart stressed that these proposals would be subject to planning approval and would be phased in over several years. Phase one could possibly be a small coffee shop and shop catering particularly for early morning passing trade. The brothers want to retain as many original features as possible and are committed to ensuring that all changes will be sympathetic to the surrounding area.

Finally, the plans recognise that public safety is paramount on this dangerous road and so the entrance to the existing car park will be moved to the brow of the hill so that there are clear site lines in both directions and greater restrictions in speed will hopefully be introduced on that stretch of road.

Strathblane Kirk are collecting for the

Glasgow City Mission

who are particularly looking for:

Tins of Meat, Veg. or Fruit (preferably ring-pull)

Sugar Tea Coffee and diluting Juice

Shower gel, Deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrushes

These can be brought to the church on Sunday or to the Kirk Rooms on a Saturday morning

Thank You

Alpha Film Series

This new Alpha Film series explores life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and relaxed environment. Launched in April it offers an up to date, relevant resource which explores the basics of the Christian faith.

Each session will cover a different topic, such as: 'Is there more to life than this?', 'Who is Jesus?', 'How & why should I pray?'. A 30 minute film will be followed by discussion.

Strathblane Parish Church is running the series on Tuesday evenings in the Kirk Rooms from 17th October 7.30-9pm including a light supper. All are welcome.

For more information see www.alpha.org, speak to Nancy Sharp on 01360 770149 or email nancv.sharp2005@gmail.com

SCC Needs Your Help !

The Community Council gets a very small administrative grant from our local authority and has limited statutory powers to raise funding from other sources.

This means that we struggle to meet any additional costs such as our recent work in producing information and organising a range of forms of consultation to help community members form a view on the the Gladman housing application.

We also fund the planting of the village tubs for which the initial grant from Stirling is long gone.

Donations are therefore most welcome.

They can be handed in at the Library or directly to Sue Rand (SCC Treasurer) at 770630 or susanrand@gmail.com

Unique Village Club Events

Cabaret style concert — Friday 13th October

Acoustic music night with three amazing traditional musicians

Siobhan Miller – (twice winner Scots Singer of the Year Award) **Aaron Jones** of Old Blind dogs (guitar and bouzouki) **Euan Burton** (double bass)

Tickets £15 available from library – BYOB

LIBRARY NEWS from Lynne James

PC Basics Drop-In

Looking to learn the basics for your PC, laptop or table. Why not come to one of our informal drop in sessions in Strathblane Library.

The first three sessions are on Thursdays

28th September/ 5th October/ 12th October

11.30 a.m.-12.30p.m.

Let us know if you are interested in coming along strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk

If there is enough interest we can arrange more sessions over the coming weeks.

Calling All Knitters & Needlewomen

'Needle and Natter Group'

Is there interest in a knitting, crochet & embroidery group in the library? We would like to host one on a Monday or Tuesday morning (monthly or fortnightly) but need some help to get it off the ground.

Please come along if you have any talents in this area that you could share or if you would just be interested in coming along.

Free, with a small donation for tea /coffee.

Thanks, Beth & Lynne

strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk. T: 770737

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

SUN 24th	2 - 5pm	Electric Jam Session in the Village Club Contact: George Thom (gethom@tiscali.co.uk).
THURS 28th	10.30am	Bookbug at the Library — Special rhymes & stories for babies & toddlers

OCTOBER

SUN 1st	11am	Harvest Service at Strathblane Kirk. Everyone welcome See Box below.
MON 2nd	7.30pm	Strathblane Guild — Jo Hall on Writing for TV, Radio & Books. In the Kirk Rooms
MON 2nd	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Village Club. All welcome
TUES 3rd	7.15pm	Strathblane Library Film Group to discuss 'Arrival'. DVD copies available for hire beforehand. New members welcome. strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk for details.
THURS 5th	11.30am	PC Drop-in Session at Strathblane Library (See Page 3 for details)
FRI 6th	1.30pm	Storytime at the Library for 3 - 5 yr olds - must be accompanied by an adult.
SUN 8th	2 - 4pm	Traditional Music Jam in the Village Club All welcome
WED 11th	7.45pm	Campsie Crooners will meet in the Kirk Rooms this week
WED 11th	7.30pm	Heritage Society — Alan McBride Illustrated talk on the History of the Village" in the Village Club. All welcome.
THURS 12th	11.30am	PC Drop-in Session at Strathblane Library (See Page 3 for details)
FRI 13th	7.30pm	Unique Village Club Events — Acoustic Music Night (See Page 3 for details)
SUN 15th	1 - 5pm	Undressed — New Paintings by Felix Daly until Nov 12th at the Smithy Gallery
MON 16th	7.30 pm	Strathblane Guild — The Guild Project: Christian Aid, Bolivia. Caring for Mother Earth. In the Kirk Rooms
FR 20th - SAT 21st		Carbeth Guthrie Estate Forest School. Weekly forest school sessions for children of all ages. Go to www.carbethguthrie.estate/forestschool.html for details.
TUES 24th	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Book Club — Why not make this year the year you join us?
THURS 26th	10.30am	SPOOKBUG at the Library — Spider and Pumpkin songs and rhymes galore!
FRI 27th	1.15pm	Halloween Story and Craft Session for pre-schoolers at Strathblane Library. Please book in advance at strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk
SUN 29th	2 - 5pm	Electric Jam Session in the Village Club Contact: George Thom (gethom@tiscali.co.uk).
MON 30th	7.30pm	Strathblane Guild — Alastair Smith on The Children's Hearing System in Scotland

NOVEMBER

SAT 6th	10am-12	Guild Christmas Card Sale in the Kirk Rooms
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The Village Club —for enquiries & bookings:
 check schedule at www.villageclub1911.org
 email strathblanevc@gmail.com or Contact Fiona Murray
 at 01360 771497 Office hours only)

The Edmonstone Hall
 for enquiries or bookings contact
 Anne McKellar on 01360770555 or
anne.mckellar@outlook.com

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