

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

May 2018 No 62

Muirhouse Quarry will Cost Thousands to Clean Up — Company Fined

The Stirling Observer (18.05.18) reports that at Stirling Sheriff Court waste disposal company Muirhouse Landfill Ltd was found to have breached its licence to accept only inert waste, such as stone and concrete, at the site it leased at Muirhouse Quarry on the Milngavie road south of Strathblane.

The company was fined £37,000—but, since it has ceased trading and is in liquidation, the fine will probably not be paid. Sheriff Gilchrist said that the penalty should reflect the court's view of the gravity of an offence which caused significant adverse environmental effects and incurred major clean-up and restoration costs, and which, in his view, was "not one of negligence but of actual foresight".

Investigators found non-inert waste including wood, plastics, polystyrene, carpet, metal, cardboard, toys, shoes, clothing, black bin bags, barbed wire, hessian sacks, catalogues and magazines. Methane and hydrogen sulphide could be heard bubbling up from puddles and there was 'a black, putrid and offensive-smelling liquid trickling from the waste mass'.

Problems Reported—Sadly none of this will come as a surprise to SCC members and many local residents who have reported problems over many years. In 2010 SEPA labelled Muirhouse Quarry as 'Poor' in a list the 99 most polluted places in Scotland.

In 2013 the Community Council commented on application 09/00824/DET to allow a further 8 years to infill and restore site. We said then that there had been 'poor housekeeping by the contractor Dow and incorrect materials have been dumped. Lack of wheel washing has damaged the A81 and Dow should be pursued to reimburse SC for remedial works. The requested time extension is acceptable but it must be a condition that proper supervision of future works as required by the planning authority should be provided.'" Now five years on...

Important questions remain — SEPA is exploring what should be done with the site—the cost of exploratory ground works was put at £80,000.

**Should the cost be met out of public resources?
Should the owners be personally prosecuted?**

Some Items from the May SCC Meeting (Main Update on Page 2)

Libraries Survey— Stirling Council is asking communities to take part in their survey on libraries using survey monkey. There are also hard copies in the library.

This is very important as our library will soon need to be replaced.

Road Improvements—Improvements are planned for Campsie Road, Glasgow Road and the Stockiemuir Road. No details yet. We are also campaigning about the Loch Ardingning potholes using the European cycling championships as a lever.

Remember to plan for Wednesday 8th August when roads will be closed from 9 am.

Support for Carers—The Carers' Act came into force on April 1st. There are 660,000 carers in Scotland, saving the economy at least £3bn. If you are a carer you should be receiving support and you should be involved in decisions about the most appropriate respite for you.

Make sure you are registered with Stirling Council if you are a carer.

Copy Date for our June issue is Monday 18th.

Please send Calendar items and news

for the period up to mid-August (no July issue)

contact@strathblanec.org.uk

Have you considered SPONSORING an issue of the Blane Valley Bulletin?

Businesses & Community Groups can include an advertising flyer which goes to every household (free of charge when you sponsor an issue). For more details email: contact@strathblanec.org.uk

May Community Council Update *From: Chair Margaret Vass*

Our May meeting began with **Colin O'Brien**—our former local councillor and Provost and now **Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Stirlingshire** — introducing his duties in that role. He explained that the Lord Lieutenant and his deputies as representatives of the Crown preside over citizenship ceremonies, present awards, and assist people to obtain 100th birthday cards from the Queen. He also nominates people to attend the Royal Garden party at Holyrood.

Police Report — The police report highlighted that there has been further instances of house breaking, several garages have been broken into, there was an attempted break in at Craigenlay Avenue suspicious activity in Milndavie Crescent and a break in and car stolen in Campsie Dene Road.

Developing Community Assets — It was reported that the *Hubco group*, made up of representatives of all groups with community facilities/assets, had met for the first time for months. The focus has been looking at the condition of all community assets and the school in particular. The school campus needed to accommodate increased nursery provision, activity space, a large multifunctional Hall, the library and business space. The increased nursery provision is now likely to be provided in a different way but the library provision remains urgent, the present building having a three year life span remaining. As anticipated it was reported that here is a significant funding shortfall to create a community campus.

It was further reported that **Strathblane Community Development Trust (SCDT)** is currently bidding for funding for a further feasibility study to examine how funding could be raised to deliver improved facilities. The CC agreed to support SCDT in their endeavours and made it clear that community consultation was vital and should be externally facilitated.

Members reported back from several meetings :

— **Community Council Governance documents** are being simplified and strengthened in preparation for this year's elections in the Autumn.

— We heard about the Scottish Government's **Local Governance Review** where Communities are being asked about how much control communities want.

—We reviewed the **snow emergency** with senior officers of the Council to learn lessons. Further discussions have been held about resilience planning and the CC have agreed to apply for funding for a land-line for the Village Club for use as our emergency centre if needed.

— **Neighbourhoods of care pilot** is still meeting at Balfron. This is a collaboration between the enablement team, district nurses and social care and is still in its early stages of providing an integrated service.

See Page 1 for further items from the meeting.

The June Community Council Meeting is on Monday 11 th 7.30pm in the Village Club

Come along and give us your views.

Or come and talk to us at our stall at the

Primary School Summer Fayre on Sat June 2nd

Allotment Opportunity — Allotments can still be made available in a suitable size for everyone from beginners to experienced growers. Please contact mmeager@btinternet.com or linmackinnon@btinternet.com

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@strathblanecc.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 07580539492 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.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 Village Club

Report faults at info@stirling.gov.uk or ring 0845 2777000

Join My Stirling at www.stirling.gov.uk for updates

Strathblane Primary School Summer Fayre

Saturday June 2nd 12-2pm

Refreshments—Home Baking—BBQ
Raffle—Tombola—Plant Stall
Campsie Crooners at 12 Storytime 1.15pm
& loads of things for kids

Looking for a New Job ?

Come along to our free Work IT Sessions

Help with job searching, creating CVs etc.
plus Information on Universal Credit
A Citizen's Advice Bureau advisor will be on hand Sessions will be held fortnightly in Strathblane Library between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m

The next session is on Thursday June 7th

Fair Trade Stall — Strathblane Library

Saturday 23rd June 10.30 -12.00 p.m

Gorgeous chocolate, good strong coffee and "Leaf Locked" tea (apparently much better flavour!) Brilliant biscuits, & even picnic bars for the Summer ahead.

Come along on the day.

Or pop into the library to browse the catalogue to see if there is anything you would like to order in advance.

Generous Residents do it again for CRUK

With a final total in excess of £10,800 for last month's House to House collection in aid of Cancer Research UK, Strathendrick residents have once more made a significant contribution to the vital work of the organisation. Strathendrick Local Committee members are delighted with the result and would like to thank everyone who donated. They also extend their thanks to the many volunteer collectors for their time and effort without whom this tremendous fundraiser would not be possible.

If you would like to hear more about the work of CRUK, including the impact that gifts in wills have on their pioneering research, you can attend their event at the Glasgow Science Centre on Wednesday 6th June. More details from Katy Williamson, Regional Legacy Manager – Scotland at 0131 339 7903/07918 072369 katy.williamson@cancer.org.uk.

Guild Annual Spring Fayre & Plant Sale

The Guild committee would like to say a HUGE thank you to all who helped make last Saturday's Spring Fayre such a success. Our thanks, as always, go to those who, when they 'get the call!', never fail to produce the cakes, sell tickets, buy tickets, provide plants and sell plants. They give so willingly of their time.

Special thanks go to Jo Hall (creator of JoJoGnome) for once again doing our childrens' activity and of course, the Pipe Band who have been a regular and much enjoyed part of the Fayre for some years.

We made an amazing £2107 — £1083 from the sale of plants. This money Water Aid and our own Guild. Organised by the Church Guild this is truly a community event.

We will be selling plants at the Summer Fayre and hopefully we will see you there. *The Guild committee*

Strathblane CDT Update

From: *Alan Hutton (Acting Chair)*

With the AGM in August the Community Development Trust reaches its tenth birthday. At present as well as preparing for the AGM and planning for the start of our second decade the Groups within the Trust are engaged in what was a central purpose for its establishment. That is to provide a vehicle through which funds can be raised for all kinds of improvements in our community.

In particular the **Bothy Group**, the **Path Development Group** and the newly constituted **Community Property Assets Group** are making funding applications for projects which we hope will bear fruit before the end of this year. In all our activities we continue to have good cooperative relations with the Community Council

At the same time the Trust Board is keen to get more—especially younger—community members involved in our activities—as Directors, Group members or simply as SCDT members. The more people are involved the more we can draw on the wealth of talent and experience in this community and the more effectively we can work the wider interests of the community as a whole.

If you are interested, or have any questions, **please come and speak to us at our stall at the School Summer**

Fayre on June 2nd or email

contact@strathblanecd.org.uk

Strathblane Bowling Club

Annual Curry Night Saturday June 2nd 7pm

Open to all. Tickets £10 - Contact Don Jackson
07738449787 Email: jacksondonald@sky.com

Annual Open Meeting of the Village Club May 30th at 7.30pm

Please come along to this short meeting and support the volunteers who keep this fantastic building alive. We are always looking for new ideas and suggestions.

If you are new to the village or have never been in the hall it is well worth a visit!

All welcome. www.villageclub1911.org

Local Health Walks

Would you like to get out & meet other folk who are interested in a short 30-45 minute local walk on a weekly basis?

Active Stirling runs a weekly walk on a

Thursday at 2pm from nearby locations

It is a fun, friendly, easy walk with no hills and always ends with tea and coffee - very sociable! (and dementia friendly)

See the link for the details & Meeting places below

<http://www.activestirling.org.uk/walking/>

June 7th -car park beside tourist Info in Balloch

June 14th -at top of Branziert Road, Killlearn

June 21st on road opposite Cobleland Campsite, Aberfoyle

June 28th -Visitor Centre, Mugdock Country Park

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY

SAT 26th	10.15 - 11.45	Fun with Textiles @ Strathblane Library with the Strathendrick Embroiderers Guild. For ages 9 -11. Places limited, contact the library to book — £1 per session.
SUN 27th	2pm	Electric Jam Session in the Village Club. Everyone welcome (1.30pm for set-up) Sessions every 4th Sunday of the month.
TUE 29th	11-12.30	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle. All needleworkers welcome.
WED 30th	7.30pm	Annual Open Meeting of the Village Club. All welcome. (See p. 3 for more details)
ThUR 31st	10.30-11	Bookbug - Rhymes & songs for little ones & their carers at the library.
ThUR 31st	7.30pm	Unique Village Club Concert - John McCusker & Heidi Talbot (See p.3 for details)

JUNE

SAT 2nd	12 -2pm	Strathblane Primary School Summer Fayre See Page 3 for more details
SAT 2nd	7pm	Strathblane Bowling Club Annual Curry Night (See Page 3 for details)
MON 11th	7.30pm	Strathblane Community Council in the Village Club. All welcome
TUES 5th	10.30 - 12	Strathblane Library Drop-in Session for help to access free e-audio, e-books, e-magazines & e-newspapers. Bring your own device or learn on the library ipad.
THURS 7th	10 -12	Job Club @ Strathblane Library with Citizens' Advice Bureau (See P.3 for details)
SAT 9th	1 - 3 pm	Code Club for ages 8 upwards. Places limited. Please contact the Library on 770737 or strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk
SUN 10th	2-4pm	Acoustic Jam Session in the Village Club. Traditional tunes. Everyone welcome. Sessions every 2nd Sunday of the month.
TUES 12th	11-12.30	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle. All needleworkers welcome. (Also Tues 26th)
TUES 19th	10.30 - 12	Strathblane Library Drop-in Session - See TUES 5th above for more details.
TUES 19th	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Book Group
THURS 21st	10.15 — 11.45	Fun with Textiles @ Strathblane Library with the Strathendrick Embroiderers Guild. For ages 9 -11. Places limited, contact the library to book — £1 per session.
THURS 21st	10 -12	Job Club @ Strathblane Library with Citizens' Advice Bureau (See P.3 for details)
FRI 22nd	1.30 -2pm	Storytime @ the Library for pre-schoolers.
SAT 23rd	10.15 - 11.45am	Fun with Textiles@ Strathblane Library. with the Strathendrick Embroiderers Guild. For ages 9 -11. Places limited, contact the library to book — £1 per session.
SAT 23rd	1 - 3pm	Code Club for ages 8 upwards. See above for more details.
SUN 24th	2pm	Electric Jam Session in the Village Club. Everyone welcome

The Edmonstone Hall — for enquiries or bookings
contact David McLean on 01360770919 or
mclean728@btinternet.com

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 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 contact@strathblanec.org.uk