

# BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

April 2019 No. 72

## Your Stirling. You Decide

In the last edition of the Blane Valley Bulletin we described Stirling Council's version of Participatory Budgeting. Briefly, £100K per ward is available to be spent on infrastructure and the environment and any group or individual could submit an idea to Stirling. The closing date for these ideas was April 14th. The Community Council submitted four ideas which we believe would benefit all sectors of the community.

The first idea is to provide parking provision opposite the Co-op in Strathblane. This shop/post office is a fantastic amenity and source of employment in the village. However it brings congestion with delivery lorries and shoppers' and residents' parking, as well as noise for the neighbours. Emergency vehicles have been obstructed and children feel unsafe. A grass area across the road, which we now know belongs to Stirling Council, could be converted to provide parking spaces.

The second idea is to provide drainage for the sports field in Strathblane, which is often waterlogged and ankle-deep in places. There are natural watercourses in close proximity to the field, which should make a drainage solution relatively straightforward to implement. This would allow the pitch to be utilised all year, thereby improving the health and wellbeing of the community.



The third idea is to provide a Puffin Crossing on the A891, Campsie Road, to protect pedestrians crossing the road at the current crossing point close to the Kirkhouse Inn.

At present there are two small protrusions of the pavement on either side of the road. The danger at this point is the traffic coming off the roundabout on the A81, which tends to accelerate up the hill towards the church. To reach all the village amenities, i.e. shops, school, library, clubs, play park and football pitch, all pedestrian traffic from the housing at Braidgate and Station Lofts as well as the Kirk Rooms, a

busy facility for all ages, has to cross at this point. The crossing is also part of the John Muir Way, where tourists from all parts of the world have to cross.

Finally, we have been working hard to make this village a safer place after receiving a plea from some of our primary school children. We need to slow traffic on both the A81 and Campsie Road past the church.

Therefore a fourth idea is to get two solar powered speed activated signs.

One on these would be sited on the A81 near the war memorial which is where the traffic gathers speed uphill. This would also help to make the bolt down island at the village club, which we have as a result

of a participation request under the recent government initiative to engage communities in decision making, more effective. The other, on Campsie Road, would be placed on the approach to the village from Lennoxton.

All ideas submitted to the Council will be considered during the period April 14th to May 26th.

The final proposals will be announced at this point and voting will take place in June.



## Invasive Species



The Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust are applying for funding to support their "Endrick Catchment INNS Project".

This project aims to deal with infestations of invasive non-native plant species, namely Giant hogweed, Japanese knotweed and American skunk cabbage along the Endrick Water and many of its tributaries, including the Blane Water.



Giant Hogweed

The Community Council is aware that these plants have been a cause for concern for many residents and has written a letter in support of the funding application.

A representative from the Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust will deliver a presentation on the project at the May meeting of the Community Council.

**Have you thought about Sponsoring an issue of the Bulletin?**  
**Businesses & Community Groups** can include an advertising flyer **free of charge** when sponsoring an issue, which goes to every household.

For more details email: [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk)

This issue of the Bulletin is sponsored by The Village Club

# Strathblane Community Council February Update

*from Chair Marian Lever*

The April meeting of the Community Council was well attended and we had an interesting evening.

## Police Report

The police again reported little local crime or traffic accidents. They continue to follow up reports of suspicious activity though and ask us to continue to report incidents. They are continuing with speed checks and would like to use the camera van on the road to Lennoxtown, but have been unable to find a suitable parking spot. If you have any suggestions please get in touch with any member of the Community Council.

## New Member News

After adopting the minutes of our March meeting we were pleased to move on to the co-option of a new member, Kate Ramsden. Pam Campbell was there to make sure we followed the new procedures and she was invited to join us for the rest of the meeting.

## Participatory Budgeting

We then moved on to participatory budgeting and formed a subgroup to discuss ideas around the theme of health, wellbeing and safety. The ideas are reported elsewhere in the Bulletin but it is important that we have a local budget delegate who will join a team of local residents to scrutinise the bids and make sure that they meet the criteria. If you have some time to spare and would like to be involved please apply. The forms are in the Library if you want more information.

## Local Health Initiative

The local health initiative took place as reported and was well attended. A progress report is given elsewhere in the Bulletin.

## Rural South West Meeting

We had a report on the recent Rural South West meeting. This meeting brings together representatives from the local villages. This month the main topic was the Roads programme. We are not scheduled to see much activity in our local area as we had a lot of activity last year but there will be work this month to deal with the wall in Station Road. We are encouraged to keep reporting potholes via [info@stirling](mailto:info@stirling). The other topic was more discussion about Participatory Budgeting, again discussed elsewhere in the Bulletin.

## Bird Box Survey

A number of local people have asked for bird boxes as part of the biodiversity project. The project leader has asked me to hold a supply for people to collect and they will be in the porch for collection.

## Elected Members Report

As there had been no Council meeting since our last meeting there was little for Councillor Davies to report but we were told that Balfron had come 14th in the schools tables which is excellent news for our local young people. He also reported on a visit made by two of our councillors to Mugdock.

## Planning Issues

It was the planning issues which raised the most discussion at the meeting. A change of use for Dumbrock House into a residential facility for some young people was the main subject under discussion. As there were strong views on both sides the Community Council decided on a neutral stance.

## Mugdock Developments

Finally we heard about a new barbecue site in Mugdock and that the extension to the carpark will open in May.

Our next meeting will be on 13 May in the Village Club at 7.30pm, with the next copy date for the BVB being Tuesday 21st May.

## Bird Boxes in Strathblane



David the project leader has received several requests for bird boxes and will deliver them to me as this is a very busy time for the project now that nesting is in full swing.

I will leave them in my porch at 34 Kirkhouse Road, so you can collect them from there if I am out!

## Get in Touch

Email the SCC at [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk) or via the website [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk)

## Your Community Councillors

Julie Hutchison 770791 Marian Lever 07580 539 492 Philip Graves 07826 424 442

Grace Edmonds 770800 Mandy Watson 07758 100 152 John Gray 771031

Evelyn Macdougall 770757

**Additional Sources** - Community Website: [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk)  
Library, Notice boards, local press, Strathblane Facebook Page

## STIRLING COUNCIL

### Councillors'

### Surgeries are

usually at 7pm  
on SCC meeting  
nights in the  
Village Club.

### Report Faults at

[info@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:info@stirling.gov.uk)  
or 0845 277 7000

### Updates at

[www.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.stirling.gov.uk)

## Emergency Numbers

Ambulance - 999

Fire - 999

NHS 24 - 111

Police - 999

(police non emergency - 101)

## Strathblane Community Development Trust

Keeping you up to date

Email: [scdt@strathblane.online](mailto:scdt@strathblane.online)

Website: [www.strathblane.online](http://www.strathblane.online)

We deliver projects with grant funding to enhance the village. We can't exist without your funding. Please consider joining if you aren't already a member!

### LOCH ARD SAILING CLUB by Aberfoyle, Stirling, Scotland



The 2019 sailing season will open on Sunday 21st April for dinghy sailing and racing on Sundays throughout the season. You are invited to join us.

Contact [www.lochardsc.org.uk](http://www.lochardsc.org.uk) for details or visit us any Sunday afternoon at the club, situated just through Kinlochard Village.

On Sunday 19th May we will be hosting an open day as part of the Royal Yachting Association's 2019 Push the Boat out week. Come to the club from 1.30 to try dinghy sailing.

## DUST OFF YOUR DANCING SHOES!

### FUN HUT'S 50's ROCK n' ROLL DANCE PARTY!!!



*Dancers, snacks  
cocktails, cash bar & raffle*

**SATURDAY 11TH MAY, 8.00 PM**

Tickets from the Library or Fun Hut

### May SCC Meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 13th May at 7.30pm** in the Village Club. All Welcome. Please come along and give us your views.

#### Edenkiln Surgery

We can be contacted on 01360 770340  
For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website at: [edenkilnsurgery.com](http://edenkilnsurgery.com)  
For out of hours call NHS24 on 111

#### Edenkiln Surgery

##### Easter Opening Hours 2019

The surgery will be closed on Good Friday, 19th April and Easter Monday, 22nd April.

The surgery will also be closed on the May weekend, Monday 6th May.

Please plan ahead for appointments and repeat prescriptions during these times.



#### Strathblane Tennis Club

Spring has sprung so why not try tennis!

##### Tennis lessons Spring 2019

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> May to Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> June

11am-12pm (age 5-7), 12-1pm (8-12), 1-2pm (Teens/adults)

**Beginners welcome** - racquets can be borrowed so all you need is shoes.. and enthusiasm!

More info and bookings online  
[clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/Coaching](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/Coaching)  
or phone Sally on 07789 207356/ [sally@kirkburndrive.net](mailto:sally@kirkburndrive.net)

##### Tennis Club Membership open for 2019-2020

Great value social tennis in the heart of the village.

50% discount for new members!!

More info and join online [clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC)

Open Day

Saturday  
11th May,  
2019

2 - 5pm

## Enquiries and Bookings

Edmonstone Hall

Contact David McLean on 01360 770 919  
OR [mclean728@btinternet.com](mailto:mclean728@btinternet.com)

The Village Club

Check schedule at [www.villageclub1911.org](http://www.villageclub1911.org)  
email [strathblanevc@gmail.com](mailto:strathblanevc@gmail.com)



## Local Health Initiative

A very well attended meeting was held in the Village Club on 11th April at which your Community Council representative raised some of the issues sent in by local residents. The meeting was chaired by Bruce Crawford and attended by senior representatives of the two Health Boards and the local Nursing staff and representatives of the local GP practices in Strathblane and Killearn, including a GP and the Ambulance Service. After a good discussion, including some issues raised by the local GP practices, the representatives were tasked by Bruce to devise a protocol for how they will meet the needs of this area and to report back to him as soon as possible. In addition the Ambulance Service offered to attend a Community Council meeting to explain the changing role of the service. All members reaffirmed that the choice of where the patient is treated is of prime importance.

We will keep an eye on this and report back. We thanked Bruce and all the others for their attendance and their willingness to work towards a solution.

### VILLAGE CLUB

Originally established in 1911 for "members only" this lovely building is now a facility that is open and welcoming to everyone in the village - no membership required!

With recent improvements including wi-fi, new sound system and curtains, this is the perfect venue for meetings, parties, classes, music making etc etc.

For more information please visit our smart website

**[www.villageclub1911.org](http://www.villageclub1911.org)**

Email us - **[strathblanevc@gmail.com](mailto:strathblanevc@gmail.com)** - or join us at our annual open meeting on Wed 29th May 7pm to hear about our plans for 2019/20.

Please come and join us for a short meeting and support this fantastic village hall. Hear about our recent improvements and plans for the coming year.

All welcome.

### BLANE VALLEY ALLOTMENTS

You can try growing your own Veg,  
Fruit and Flowers with an allotment.  
We welcome new members!

Contact:

**[blanevalleyallotments@btinternet.com](mailto:blanevalleyallotments@btinternet.com)**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### April 2019

Thursday 25th	10.30 - 11am	'Bookbug' Stories and rhymes for wee ones in the Library - just drop in
Thursday 25th	3.15 - 4.45pm	'Fun with Fabrics @ Strathblane Library'. Ages 9-11. Contact to book. £1
Thursday 25th	10am - 12 noon	Citizen's Advice Bureau Drop In: Help and advice from CAB - just drop in
Friday 26th	3.15 - 4.45pm	'Fun with Fabrics @ Strathblane Library'. Ages 9-11. Contact to book. £1
Tuesday 30th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 30th	7-9pm	Traditional music session in the Library. Contact Sheila on 770 824

### May 2019

Sunday 5th	See advert	Tennis Lessons Start
Tuesday 7th	7.20pm	Strathblane Library Film Club discuss 'Escape'. New members welcome.
Saturday 11th	2-5pm	Tennis Club Open day. All welcome - refreshments & BBQ
Tuesday 14th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Thursday 16th	10 - 10.30am	'Bookbug' week! Celebrate Bookbug's Birthday with rhymes and stories.
Tuesday 21st	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Book Group. New members welcome. Contact the library.
Thursday 23rd	10am - 12 noon	Citizen's Advice Bureau Drop In: Help and advice from CAB - just drop in
Thursday 23rd	3.15 - 4.45pm	'Fun with Fabrics @ Strathblane Library'. Ages 9-11. Contact to book. £1
Saturday 25th	10.15 - 11.45am	'Fun with Fabrics @ Strathblane Library'. Ages 9-11. Contact to book. £1
Tuesday 28th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 28th	7-9pm	Traditional music session in the Library. Contact Sheila on 770 824
Wednesday 29th	7pm	Village Club Annual Open Meeting (AGM)

Library Contact - 01360 770 737