

# BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

May 2019 No. 73

## Neighbourhoods of Care

Stirling Council has allocated its budget to include spending on Strathendrick House and discussions are ongoing about how it will be used. There is now only one remaining resident and so eleven respite beds available. At present the Board is considering how to allocate respite care. ML tried to push them to tell us if they propose to retain the facility at Strathendrick House, but they would not commit to this. The Cherry Trees building will be demolished, as it is unsafe. The care Team has moved to the Health Centre in Buchlyvie. We are promised that there will be a single phone number to access the Care team. We will publish this in the BVB when we have it. There is now a team coach who helps to coordinate the various services available.

The main focus of the meeting was on Care at Home. There are three ways this personal care can be delivered, self directed care, employing a private agency or by the local council. We then looked at Self Directed care. It is now possible for service users to apply for a budget to provide their own personal care. This is often successful but is not straightforward to organise initially. A representative from Personal Assistants Network Scotland gave a presentation on some of the issues involved and how they can help personal assistants with any issues they may have. There is a sister organisation which helps the service users with employment issues. We will put information on both these organisations in the library.

There was a presentation from Strathcarron Hospice. They have plans to introduce a Snowdrop café in Strathendrick House to allow local residents to benefit from the company this provides without the arduous journey to Strathcarron. Strathcarron is holding a drop in open day in the McLintock Hall in Balfour on June 4th at 10.00 to 11.30am. We have asked the Strathcarron Community Contact if she could organise a drop-in session at Strathblane library to advise people on completing their end of life plans as this is recommended for us all whilst we are able!

The representative from Croftamie CC reported that there are plans to move the Nursery to Drymen. While this is not necessarily a bad move, the Nursery building is the only public building in Croftamie and if it is closed the community will lose all its public space. She asked for support to retain the building. Strathblane CC has offered to support Croftamie as they would be the only community in Stirling without a community meeting place if the school is demolished.

## A Message from Lydia & Anne

Thank you for allowing The Milndavie Pottery to sponsor this edition of the Bulletin. When we first moved into Milndavie Road a copy of the Bulletin came through our door during our first week and we were delighted to see that we had moved into a place with such a vibrant community. We didn't know Strathblane and Blanefield at all but fell in love with the area when we were house hunting. Anne's mum lives in Milngavie and she was brought up in Bearsden but we have both been living in London for all of our adult lives. It felt like a risk to come to somewhere unknown, but we have been made so welcome, found we have lovely neighbours, and, in such contrast to London, have loved getting to know our postman! Since those early days we have found out a lot more about village life, we've been to a plant sale at the church, we've been to an art exhibition and a Burn's supper at the Edmonstone Hall, we've been to a craft fair and folk nights at the Village Hall, celebrated New Year at the Kirk House. Anne has joined the bowling club and Lydia has joined the library. We've been to the summer fair at the school and we've been impressed by the work of the Community Council and the Development Trust. With all this in mind we hope we have created a pottery that becomes a welcome addition to all that Strathblane and Blanefield have to offer. Please send us an email if you'd like to go on our mailing list: [milndaviepottery@gmail.com](mailto:milndaviepottery@gmail.com)

### CHARITY FUN CYCLE

in aid of the Beatson Institute

### Sunday 7th July

Start at 11am for the 12noon sailing from  
Balmaha to Luss

**Drymen - Balmaha - Ferry to Luss -  
Balloch - Drymen**  
(approx 26 miles)

Enjoy a beautiful route round Loch Lomond whilst  
raising funds for Leukemia Research.

Contact Jennifer Thomas for Details on:  
01360 770 857 OR [jenniferthomas1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jenniferthomas1@hotmail.co.uk)

*Minimum sponsorship £20, includes ferry*

## Your Stirling. You Decide

In all 107 schemes were submitted by the various communities in Forth and Endrick Ward and voting on these will be held between 27th May and 23rd June. Each resident of Secondary School age and above will have 5 votes to use in an online ballot. Those who do not have internet access can use the library and for those who need it there will be a home voting service. More information will be provided by the Council in the form of leaflets, posters and travelling road shows. Please remember to vote when the chance is there.

This issue of the Bulletin is sponsored by Milndavie Pottery

# Strathblane Community Council February Update

*from Chair Marian Lever*

The meeting date was later in the month because of the Bank Holiday but it was a well-attended and lively one nevertheless.

Our agenda was less busy than the agenda proposed as we had several call offs.

**Police report:** For the first time in many months we had neither of our Community policemen in attendance but we had their usual clear report. As well as the usual reports of antisocial behaviour which resulted in an arrest in one case, they also reported a theft of temporary traffic lights on Campsie Road. There was a theft from an insecure garage on Milngavie Road, but the items were returned when the homeowner challenged the male. The police arrested two males on suspicion of theft and enquiries are ongoing. There was a report of poachers on Craigallian Loch and police attended. However, the males escaped on the other side of the loch. The police warned again about doorstep scammers and reminded residents not to hand over any payment at the door if they are suspicious and to call the police immediately. Please watch out for your neighbours too, as Graham Lambie also reported in his report later in the meeting.

There are still parking issues at the Devil's Pulpit and on the A81 at the distillery. The police are continuing to monitor these areas.

Finally there was the offer a piece of land on Campsie road for the camera van which will be passed on to the police at the Rural Stirling meeting. as one of the main item of business is the Road safety Partnership.

Catch up on issues from the last meeting was the usual potpourri. We apologised to Kate Ramsden whose details had been omitted from the BVB, and recorded the many comments we had received on the Participatory Budgeting proposals, most quite critical. We will come back to this one we know if any of them are going forward.

**Health Initiative:** Bruce Crawford sent the representatives of the two Health Boards away to develop a protocol for seamless working, which we hope will result in a card for every household to present if their

wishes are not respected. It was very interesting to hear from the representative of the Ambulance Service that patient preference was the rule. He has offered to attend a future meeting to discuss how the service is developing and we take up this offer.

We heard that the proposed development at the Punchbowl, subject of discussion at the last meeting, had been withdrawn. And finally, we have heard from Councillor Davies that a seat for the old railway path had been identified and would be in place later in the year.

**Invasive species:** We did not get the presentation we expected but we have agreed to support their bid for funds and we will keep in contact, Rural Housing Stirling gave an update on their local allocation policy which has been updated. The presentation will be placed on the Website.

**Elected Members Report:** Usual informative report, highlighting many roads issues including Finnart Glen, full details of which are available in the minutes. He was asked to find out about the state of our participation request, to report the incomplete work on the hairpin on the A 81. There was also a request to move the 40 mile hour sign out to beyond Queen's View as this road is very dangerous.

By far the most active part of the evening concerned the proposed development at Blue Risk. A very interesting debate ensued with views expressed on both sides. In the end we decided to oppose the application. Whilst we do not object to the building of flats in the village and these are particularly well designed and to a high spec, it is just in the wrong site and would damage the approach to the village. I am sure we will return to this again. After a quiet time for planning issues it has suddenly been creating debate again.

See you all at our AGM in June.

## 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

Kate Ramsden 07801 372 588 Evelyn Macdougall 770757

**Additional Sources** - Community Website: [www.strathblane.online](http://www.strathblane.online)  
Library, Notice boards, local press, Strathblanefield 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)**

**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

**A MESSAGE FROM THE FUN HUT**

The Fun Hut 50s night on May 11th raised £1000. The fundraising committee would like to thank local businesses and individuals who contributed raffle prizes and everybody who gave up their free time to make the evening a success.

Thank are also due to those members of the community who came along to dance and enjoy the music and who generously supported the raffle.

**Rural South West Area Community Planning Forum – 20th May 2019**

The main item of discussion for the evening was the A811 Road Safety Partnership. The meeting was attended by Constable Gary Martin, Andy Jones (East Area Safety Camera Management), Andrew Thomson (Inspector for Police Scotland) and Carlyn Fraser (Roads & Land Services Team Leader for Network).

Andy Jones advised that in previous years the emphasis on monitoring speeding had been on motorways and trunk roads, however they are now recognising the need to shift their emphasis to rural roads. Following their annual assessment, the A811 and A809 have been recognised as needing resources, some of which will be pulled from out-with the area. There was discussion around how the lay-out of the villages along the A811 each present their own difficulties in both monitoring and finding a solution for the speeding issue.

Carlyn Fraser spoke of using engineering to reduce the ability or tendency to speed. Her department's approach is to put up islands and crossings to break up the straight sections. Of course, these solutions all come at a cost. Rumble strips and flashings as recognised methods of flagging speed restrictions to drivers, only impact the 'accidental speeders' therefore were unlikely to have significant impact on deliberate speeders. The use of fixed cameras versus mobile vans was discussed; the police feel that the mobile vans offer greater coverage not just on the individual sections being monitored but across the area where they can be moved as required in accordance with trends and hotspots. If residents are aware of problem areas they are invited to let Gary know and he will pass the information on.

A 20mph restriction used in Fintry and Kippen has proved effective, however these are not through roads in the same sense as the A811. It did raise the question, however, of whether making some of the side roads in the villages along the A811 a 20mph restriction it might have some effect.

Andrew Thomson commented on how often he stops a speeding driver in one of the villages along the A811 who turns out to live in another local village i.e. should know better. Some other less costly suggestions were offered for example the parking of cars at the roadside (where safe/legal!) or the of 30mph stickers to put on the side of wheelie bins that might offer a reminder, plus the opportunity for local schools to get involved in speed awareness campaigns.

The parking issues at Balmaha and Finnich Glen were raised. For Finnich Glen it is understood that the intended projects are slated for going ahead in 2020, although the police are keen for parking at least to be sorted this year. They are actively working with the landowner. A park and ride system was suggested for Balmaha, or better signage that warns when the car-parks are full. The police continue to monitor the situations at both sites.

Engaging Young People was presented by Mrs Patrick from Balfron High School. If anyone has any vacancies for volunteering opportunities, they are invited to make the school aware through their website. The online form allows you to detail any requirements, timescales etc so the school can match the volunteers to the opportunities.

**ABBNEYFIELD SCOTLAND**

Abbeyfield Scotland is a small charity housing association running a sheltered house in Beech Drive, Killlearn that has capacity for 9 tenants.

At the time of writing there are 3 void apartments suitable for people over 55 who need a bit of support with meals and companionship with staff on duty every day. If any reader wants to find out more about this wonderful resource please get in touch with Jane Ritchie on 07880387358 or email [jritchie@abbeyfield-scotland.com](mailto:jritchie@abbeyfield-scotland.com)

**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)



# Congratulations to the Strathblane Primary School Lacrosse Team

Strathblane Primary School are Scottish Pop Lacrosse champions for the 4th consecutive year, having won the Scottish Pop Lacrosse Tournament at Balfron High School on May 10th. 2019. The top three teams from the Central Scotland region ( Strathblane, Killearn and Drymen) and the top three from the Dumfries and Galloway region ( Newington, Kirkpatrick Fleming and Lochrutton) competed in the national event. Strathblane and Killearn competed in the final, which Strathblane won 5 – 4. Strathblane Primary will now represent Scotland at the British Pop Lacrosse Championships at the English Institute for Sport in Sheffield on June 23rd 2019. Mrs Danii Bairner, Strathblane Primary’s lacrosse coach and P7 teacher said, “We are very proud of our school lacrosse team. They commit to several hours of training every week and their hard work and determination has paid off. The team is very excited to go on to represent Scotland at the British Lacrosse Championships in June for the 4th consecutive year.” We wish them success in Sheffield in June.



## Bowling in 2019

The new bowling season opened on Saturday 13th April and a “Come and Try day” was held on Sunday 28th April when we were able to welcome new members to the club and introduce them to this skilful game in a friendly and welcoming environment. All age groups are welcome at our club and bowling, despite its apparent simplicity, is an absorbing , challenging, but enjoyable sport imparting all the benefits of being outdoors in company to improve fitness and mental wellbeing.

Monday evening club nights have now started for mixed bowls play and throughout the season other club competitions, friendly matches, for both men and ladies and inter club competition in various leagues can be participated in. Add to this the social events arranged during the season and the winter months you will find that membership is an enjoyable, fulfilling way to make and meet friends.

Do come along any Monday at 6.30 or you can contact the club on 07765 315094 (Eileen) or e-mail: [strathblanebowlingclub@gmail.com](mailto:strathblanebowlingclub@gmail.com) We look forward to meeting you.

## Tesco Bank Summer Reading Challenge 2019

@ Strathblane Library

The 2019 reading challenge is out of this world! Inspired by the 50th anniversary of the moon landing, Space Chase will take young readers on fabulous adventure with our super space family, The Rockets. The Challenge touches down in Stirling Libraries late June. Drop in then to find out how to sign up, what you have to do and what free activities are on offer.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### May 2019

Thursday 23rd	10.30 - 12 noon	Citizen’s Advice Bureau Drop In: Help and advice from CAB - just drop in
Sunday 26th	1.30pm - 5pm	Electric Music Session @ Village Club.Contact George Thom - <a href="mailto:Gethom@me.com">Gethom@me.com</a>
Tuesday 28th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 28th	7pm - 9pm	Traditional music session in the Library. Contact Sheila on 770 824

### June 2019

Saturday 1st	12noon - 3pm	Strathblane Primary Summer Fayre
Thursday 6th	10am - 12noon	Citizen’s Advice Bureau Drop In: Help and advice from CAB - just drop in
Sunday 9th	2pm - 4pm	Acoustic Session @ Village Club.Contact George Thom - <a href="mailto:Gethom@me.com">Gethom@me.com</a>
Monday 10th	7.30pm	Community Concil Meeting, following AGM in the Village Club
Tuesday 11th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 11th	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Film Club
Tuesday 18th	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Book Group. New members welcome. Contact the library.
Thursday 20th	10.30am - 11am	BookBug - Songs & Rhymes for wee ones at Strathblane Library
Thursday 20th	10am - 12noon	Citizen’s Advice Bureau Drop In: Help and advice from CAB - just drop in
Thursday 20th	3.15 - 4.30pm	‘Fun with Fabrics @ Strathblane Library’. Ages 9-11. Contact to book. £1
Saturday 22nd	10.15 - 11.45am	Drop In - ‘Fun with Fabrics@Strathblane Library’ to help make summer ‘Home Reading’ bunting for the library! All ages VERY welcome.
Tuesday 25th	11 - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome

Library Contact - 01360 770 737