

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet

February 2020 No. 79

Thomas Graham Community Hub Library

What better way to celebrate our library's 40th anniversary than by consulting our community about our new and improved library? Stirling Council's strategic plan for libraries is that they act as community hubs: libraries are so much more than books these days. They are places to learn, read, play, work, research, socialise, code, make, watch, obtain advice and improve wellbeing.

Since coming back down to earth following Angus Graham's generous gift of £500,000 towards the building of our new library, your Development Trust Board has been exceptionally busy:

- meeting with the Council three times, firstly to establish how we will work together in partnership and then with Council team appointed to work with us;
- visiting and researching modern libraries;
- exploring different funding mechanisms, including community shares and donations;
- attending seminars on social enterprise to fully understand what is involved;
- successfully applying for grants to fund architects and community engagement; and
- appointing Austin Smith Lord architects.

We have also reviewed our governance arrangements and the skill mix on our Board and are delighted to welcome Andy Thompson (citizenship skills) and Iain Stewart (financial and business planning skills).

We hope to have a special general meeting of our members in the Spring, to approve updated Articles of Association to ensure we are ready to make an asset transfer application to Stirling Council to bring the land into community ownership. We are also keen to ensure that our members are kept up to date with this development.

The real work begins now, starting with you...

Our Community Engagement Plan has 3 key stages:

- 1. Mandate** - establishing buy-in from the community and giving us a mandate to negotiate with Stirling Council.
- 2. Site, scope and design** - consulting the community about the location and design of the development and the services and facilities to be offered. Further details of focus groups will follow in due course.
- 3. Finalised proposals** – arranging an exhibition roadshow around the villages to confirm support. We are aiming to do this in June. As we fully expect that the finalised proposals will NOT be fully funded, additional funding options will then have to be explored in order to deliver our development.

Stage one is already underway, and **we need your help**. In order to show your support, organisations and groups are being asked to provide a photo with a "thumbs up", and community members of all ages are being asked to place "smiley face" stickers on boards to be found throughout the villages, in particular in the library. These will then be used to show Stirling Council that the community is supportive of the development.

We need as much involvement from the community as possible, so if you are not already a member of the SCDT then please join us – see our website for further details.

This is such an exciting time for the villages - please support our Library!

Look out for regular updates in every BVB, on Facebook and on our website www.strathblane.online

Your Voice
Our Hub
Your View
Our Library

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@strathblanec.org.uk

This issue of the Bulletin is sponsored by the Community Council

Strathblane Community Council January Update

From Acting Chair Julie Hutchison

Co-option of new member

Andy Thompson has agreed to join the CC. Julie welcomed him and he joined the other members for the rest of the meeting. Julie then nominated Andy as the second CC representative to the SCDT. This was agreed by all.

Police Report

PC Graham reported that there had been very few issues in the village since the last meeting. There had been the report of a quad bike on the pavement at Dumbrock Crescent. Investigations into this are still ongoing. There were several minor road accidents and a major accident on the A81 near Duntreath in which the drivers sustained serious injuries. One driver has been reported for careless driving. No thefts had taken place in our area this month. There were reports of people going round doors selling household items. These were checked and found to be genuine. Four males were seen trying doors in Kirkland Avenue in the early hours of Monday morning. This investigation is ongoing.

Flooding Update

Maria Lucey from SC attended the meeting and gave us an update about the Flooding Survey currently taking place in the village. Kate Ramsden reported that the Flooding Forum Roadshow in the Village Club on February 1st was well attended.

Participation request meeting

There was a meeting of the Participation group on January 9th. Traffic calming materials have been ordered and we are assured that work will start on the A81 at the Village Club in March.

Neighbourhoods of Care

There was a meeting of the Neighbourhood reference Group on January 20th. There was a lot of interesting discussion but much of this had no direct relevance for us. The main item of interest was an update on the situation with Strathendrick Care Home. This is currently under review but no decisions have been taken. The group were assured that they would be consulted before any decisions are made. Abbeyfield in Killearn currently has vacancies for residents. They are considering whether it would be feasible to offer respite care also. The post of Resource Worker to the team is due to end in March. There was a great deal of discussion about this and

those present agreed to write in support of the post being retained and of Ian Denvir continuing in the role. Grace Edmonds has done this on behalf of the CC.

Elected members report

The Children and Young People committee voted to close Croftamie nursery and to build a new nursery beside Drymen Primary School. This will leave Croftamie with no public building and the Croftamie CC plan to challenge the decision to close the facility.

The Bank of Scotland in Balfron is scheduled for closure, which will mean that there will be no banks in the area. Complaints about this can be sent to the Financial Ombudsman.

Graham Lambie has been contacted by a resident concerned about safety on the A81 at Ballewan Crescent. He has passed this on to Carolyn Fraser. Stirling Council is proposing to introduce charges at the Balmaha car park. There is a possible community request for ownership of the car park. Graham Lambie has suggested introducing charges at Mugdock car park.

Planning and Licensing

The CC expected planning permission for the Tourism pods at the Blane Valley Inn to be granted with some conditions. John Gray contacted the owner regarding this. The pub has subsequently closed, but the owner emailed John Gray to say that he does not blame residents or the CC and that the planning application will be pursued, although there are no plans to reopen the pub. John Gray suggested that we should contact the planning officer and note that the CC is not against the application.

There is a proposal from Stirling Council to re-route part of the West highland Way as there are concerns about the safety of walkers on the road.

There is some information available online about the Gladman appeal. John Gray is monitoring this

We look forward to welcoming you all again in March.

The Community Council is still 3 members short. If you feel that you can give up some time to join us we would be pleased to welcome you.

The village has two defibrillators, one at the Edmonstone Hall, and one at the Co-op which are maintained by Trossachs Search and Rescue

Get in Touch

Email the SCC at contact@strathblanecc.org.uk or via the website www.strathblanecc.org.uk

Your Community Councillors

Julie Hutchison 770791 Andrew Thompson 770838 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
Librabry, 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 or 01786 4040
Updates at www.stirling.gov.uk

Blane Valley Allotments

Think you might want to grow your own fruit, veg and flowers?
Contact blanevalleyallotments@btinternet.com

Stirling District Citizens Advice Bureau @ Strathblane Library

Stirling District Citizens Advice Bureau is currently available at Strathblane library on alternate Thursdays from 10 until 12noon. (See diary for dates)
Two fully trained advisers are available to help and advise on a variety of issues including benefit entitlement, housing issues, debt, employment and a whole lot more.

The advisers have direct access to the main bureau and many specialist advisers including legal advice, veteran support and food banks. They are able to help with form filling; letter writing and can access a variety of services and partners to support local people.

If you would like their help or just want to come and meet the team, please come along to the Library.

No appointment is necessary just drop in – the library holds details of the dates the service is available.

The next CAB is in the library on February 27th

Edenkiln Surgery

We can be contacted on **01360 770340**

For a range of healthcare information go to the practice website at:

edenkilnsurgery.com

For out of hours call NHS24 on 111

BTFC – AGM 22/02/20 @ 2pm

The BTFC football club AGM will be held on **Sunday 22nd March at 2pm** at the Lesser Edmonstone Hall.

If you feel you have anything to offer, or would like to join the committee, then please come along.

Anyone is welcome to attend whether already connected to the club or not.

It would great to see some new faces!

FIZZ FUN FASHION & FUNDS!

A sale to fight cancer and climate change

Ladies... How many of us have good quality outfits in our wardrobes and attics that are rarely or barely worn? Why not get out those glad rags and put them aside for The Sale of the Century? OK, maybe that's overstating it a bit.

The Sale of the Year, perhaps. The date for the diary is the evening of Saturday 28 March at the Village Club.

From early March, volunteers throughout the community will be gathering clean, little or unworn, high quality women's wear and accessories, including coats, jackets, dresses, skirts, trousers, formal and wedding wear, shoes, hats, scarves, handbags and costume jewellery. (No underwear please.)

The objective is three-fold:

1. To raise funds for the Beatson Cancer Charity and Strathcarron Hospice. The idea is the brainchild of two Beatson patients, Jo Waterfield and Anne Balfour, who have gathered a great group of volunteers to help organise the event.
2. To make a small contribution to stemming the tsunami of "disposable fashion". That's the millions of items of clothing bought each year but little or never worn. Many of them end up in landfill. The fashion industry is one of the world's biggest polluters and a significant contributor to manmade climate change. So give us your unloved threads and go away with some clothes you will cherish and wear for years.
3. To have a fun evening in a relaxed café-style atmosphere. That's why each £5 ticket will include snacks and a glass of prosecco, with top-ups for a small donation. There will be a raffle with great prizes and an auction. All in all, a great girls' night out.

For more info contact Jo Waterfield (07753 368182 or jmlynch@talk21.com) or

Anne Balfour (01360 770750 or anne@annebalfour.com)

New Library Fundraiser

Plaidson in Concert – Songs of Scotland's history and heritage

Friday 27th March 2020 in the Edmonstone Hall

Tickets £12 each. To reserve tables for eight people there is an additional cost of £20 per table

7.30 pm for 8.00pm. BYOB. No bar.

Light supper and raffle at interval.
Raffle prizes welcome.

Tickets on sale at Strathblane Library from mid-February.

Music at the Village Club

Music usually takes place at the Village Club on the 2nd Sunday (traditional) and 4th Sunday (electric, blues and covers) of the month, please check with me for info and tunes

Electric Session - Sunday 8th March 2pm till 5pm

Traditional acoustic session - Sunday 9th February 2pm till 4 pm

All welcome!

Contact George Thom via email Gethom@me.com

Enquiries and Bookings

Edmonstone Hall

Contact David McLean on **01360 770 919** OR mclean728@btinternet.com

The Village Club

See schedule at www.villageclub1911.org

Email strathblanevc@gmail.com

Ambulance - 999 Fire - 999 NHS 24 - 111 Police - 999

STRATHBLANE WIZARDING SCHOOL

Do you like Harry Potter? How about science? On Saturday 7th March we will have lots of science and craft activities for you to explore. Researchers from the EPSRC/MRC OPTIMA PhD programme at Edinburgh University will be bringing wizarding activities related to medical imaging and nanotechnology.



This event will run from **1.15pm till 2.00pm.**
And again at 2.30pm till 3.15pm.



Drop in. FREE.

For more information, contact the library on **01360 770737.**

‘Drop in sessions for 7-10 years, under 8 years must be accompanied. Held as part of Stirling Libraries ‘Smallprint’ children’s book festival: stirling.gov.uk/libraries

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 2020

Tuesday 25th	7pm - 9pm	Traditional music session in the Library. Contact Sheila - 770824
Thursday 27th	10.00am - 12pm	Citizen’s Advice Bureau drop in at Strathblane Library
Thursday 27th	10.30am - 11am	Bookbug - songs & rhymes for wee ones at Strathblane Library, just drop in.
Thursday 27th	3.15 - 4.45pm	‘Fun with Fabrics@Strathblane Library’ for ages 9-11. Contact to book. 50p
Saturday 29th	10.15 - 11.45am	‘Fun with Fabrics@Strathblane Library’ for ages 9-11. Contact to book. 50p
Saturday 29th	1pm - 3pm	Code Club. Ages 8+. Places must be booked via Strathblane Library

March 2020

Monday 2nd	7.30pm	Community Council meeting Village Club
Monday 2nd	7.30pm	Guild – Lynsey Haggarty , Banking fraud Kirk rooms
Tuesday 3rd	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 3rd	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Film Club. March film is ‘I Tonya’. All welcome
Thursday 5th	10am - 12pm	Community Health & Social Care Partnership drop in at Strathblane Library
Saturday 7th	See Times Above	Strathblane Wizarding School - See advert above for details
Monday 9th	7.30pm	Guild - Spring Outing. Details to be announced
Thursday 12th	10am - 12pm	Citizen’s Advice Bureau drop in at Strathblane Library
Saturday 14th	10.30 - 11.45am	Strathblane Library Lego Club. Drop in for lego fun for aged 7-10
Saturday 14th	1pm - 3pm	Code Club. Ages 8+. Places must be booked via Strathblane Library
Monday 16th	7.30pm	Guild AGM, Kirk Rooms
Tuesday 17th	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 17th	7.30pm	Strathblane Library Book Group meeting. Contact the library for further info
Thursday 19th	10am - 12pm	Community Health & Social Care Partnership drop in at Strathblane Library
Thursday 26th	10am - 12pm	Citizen’s Advice Bureau drop in at Strathblane Library
Thursday 26th	3.15 - 4.45pm	‘Fun with Fabrics@Strathblane Library’ for ages 9-11.contact the library to book.
Friday 27th	10am - 11.30am	Fabulous Felting for Adults. (Strathendrick Embroiderers Guild) Coffee and Drop in.
Saturday 28th	10.15 - 11.45am	‘Fun with Fabrics@Strathblane Library’ for ages 9-11. Contact to book. 50p
Saturday 28th	1 - 3pm	Strathblane Library Code Club. For ages 8+. Places must be booked
Tuesday 31st	11am - 12.30pm	Strathblane Library Natter & Needle, all needleworkers welcome
Tuesday 31st	7 - 9pm	Traditional music session in the Library. Contact Sheila - 770824

Library Contact - 01360 770 737, strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk