



**MINUTES**  
**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 in the Village Club**  
**Draft**

**Members Present:** - Grace Edmonds; Julie Hutchison; John Gray; Kate Ramsden; Mandy Watson

**Apologies:** Philip Graves; Evelyn Macdougall

**In attendance:** Cllr Alistair Berrill; M Vass, SCDT; Pam Campbell, SC; PC Martin and PC Graham, Police Scotland; Albert Robertson, Neil Laird and Neil Mitchell, Scottish Ambulance Service +14 residents.

*(SC = Stirling Council. CC = Community Council. CDT= Community Development Trust \* Denotes an action)*

### **1. Welcome from the Chair and declarations of Interest**

JH welcomed everybody to the meeting. She apologised to the meeting for Marian Lever's name being included in the recent BVB and also for the lack of notice of the cancellation of the November meeting. There were no Declarations of Interest

### **2. Police report.**

PC Graham expressed their sympathy for the loss of Marian. There have been no incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area. There were two accidents on the A81 but no injuries were reported. There was an accident on Cuilt Brae and a driver was taken to hospital with minor injuries. There will be the usual drink driving campaign over the Festive period and PC Graham reminded the meeting that a person can still be over the legal limit to drive the following day. There have been no thefts in the area but PC Graham advised residents to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police. MV asked for any update on the spate of break-ins a few months ago. Someone has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal regarding these.

### **3. Minutes of October meeting and matters arising**

The minutes were approved, proposed by JG and seconded by KR.

Matters arising: MV reported that the Housing Survey has now closed and they have received between 150 and 200 responses. Interesting information is starting to come out of these, including the concerning fact that there are several people in the villages in urgent need now.

### **4. Scottish Ambulance Service**

Three Area Service Managers from Glasgow and Forth Valley were present to explain their policy on residents being taken to hospital by ambulance. JH pointed out that it was agreed three years ago that we could choose where we wanted to be taken. JG said that he attended a meeting with Bruce Crawford where it was made clear that there is a reciprocal agreement between health boards, which allows residents in this area to choose. MV said that we had a letter three years ago from the Health Minister saying that we have choice. A resident said that he has a letter from Forth Valley and Glasgow

NHS Trusts saying that we have choice and that the acute service for this area is in fact Glasgow Royal.

Bruce Crawford has written again to the Ambulance Service to remind that patients in this area can go to Glasgow. PC said that it is her understanding that patients in the G63 area can go to Glasgow.

A resident said that there is an issue with continuing care where a patient is already under the care of a Glasgow hospital but is taken to Larbert, where medical staff do not have access to their notes. A representative from the Ambulance service said that in these cases the patient could request to be taken to Glasgow.

JH said that this needs to be clarified and the Ambulance service agreed. The representatives will take this information back to their superiors in Glasgow and Forth Valley.

A resident asked how many ambulances are available for this area. Our local station is Balfour where there is one ambulance. He also asked what the response time would be. The Ambulance service did not know the answer to this. They work with a Clinical Response model, which colour codes calls depending on perceived urgency. The Government is currently looking at the capacity of the service. Currently the service is operating at 95 – 98% capacity

A member of the public assured the representatives that we are all aware that the NHS as a whole has long been underfunded and that staff work long hours. AB asked who in the ambulance service is responsible for cascading the information about our agreement to the ambulance personnel. The representatives assured the meeting that the information would be passed on to the Central Managers of both Health Boards. They asked if they could have copies of the letter we received and this will be sent to them. JH thanked the representatives for their attendance.

## **5. Update on flooding issues**

JH said that we have had correspondence from Ruaridh MacGregor from Scottish Water who we hope will be able to attend the January meeting. Two landowners attended a meeting with residents affected by the floods and have confirmed that no debris is coming down Jenny's burn from the top of the hill. SC had notified all landowners concerned that they have a responsibility to keep the burn clear. There is a system for updating information regarding blockages and SC has notified the factors at Netherblane that it will remove any debris reported and bill them. Currently Netherblane is having dead trees removed to prevent debris. Scottish Water has admitted that they are working on pipes and releasing water into the burn. Residents were not informed about this work, but a resident had a letter from SW saying that they regarded the flooding as a severe weather incident.

KR said that Scotland Flood Forum helps people to protect themselves from flooding. They will do a road show in the village to provide information for residents. They will help with future insurance for properties affected. KR will inform the village when she has a date for the visit, meanwhile the Scotland Flood forum website has details on how to get help. A resident asked if Maria Lucey from SC could be invited to attend the next meeting also. GE will email an invitation to her

## **6. Elected Member's Report – Cllr Alistair Berrill**

AB expressed concern about the possible closure of Strathendrick Care Home. He said that it appears to be the responsibility of the Integrated Joint Board. PC said that the building is owned by SC and the services are delivered by the IJB. AB has asked SC for

clarification of the situation. MV said that she is astonished that the running cost budget transfer has gone ahead despite the local community being assured that Strathendrick would be retained. She believes that something very underhand is going on and we need to be back in campaign mode to ensure that respite care can be provided locally. AB said that it is dishonest to focus on the fact that there is only one resident without mentioning respite care. It is also a concern that SC has no control over the IJB. PC said that the Health and Social Care Partnership is accountable to the recipients of its services

AB said that there is to be new Divisional Police Commander and he hopes that he/she will value police attendance at CC meetings, as the previous commander believed this was a waste of resources.

SC budgeting seems to be moving away from Priority Based Budgeting, which allowed local people to give their views on budget proposals. He has asked that budget proposals can be made public before the SC budget meeting.

## 7. Planning and Licensing

[19/00725/FUL](#) - change of use of land for three tourism pods at the Blane Valley Inn has been withdrawn.

[19/00682/FUL](#) - change of use of land for two pods at Milndavie stables has also been withdrawn. The have re-applied for one pod, [and now include parking spaces for the riding school and livery business](#). The CC will not comment either way on this new application.

[19/000316/FUL](#) - a house at Troughstone Cottage, which the CC opposed. This has been passed by planning.

[19/00845/PPP](#) - erection of dwelling house/ land adjacent to Auchenberg House. The previous application was turned down for 6 reasons. The Housing in the countryside Policy has been revised and the applicant now claims it is a cluster and has re-applied. The 100 meter reason for objection has now gone but the other 5 reasons remain. JG recommended that we oppose the new application and the CC agreed.

[19/00909/FUL](#) – change of use of land from open space to garden ground, 32 Dumbrock Road, Strathblane. The CC will not comment on this.

MW said that there are no plans to close Croftamie Nursery for at least 2 years and that SC is going to look at ways of improving the existing building. AB said that the Education Department is still committed to closing it. No decision has been made.

## 8. Finance

Current Account - £2012.04

Instant Saver - £1341.67

## 9. Community Comments

PC said that Lynne McKinley would be in touch with the CC to discuss the Road Safety Participation Request. PC will contact Caroline Fraser to ask for confirmation of a time scale for the proposed work on the A81.

MV commented that the hedge along the A81 through the village has not been cut this year. A resident said that they had sent a formal complaint to SC about this several weeks ago and had been told that somebody would come out to look at it.



MV was disappointed to see that there was no recognition for the work of local residents regarding the land cleaning in Blane Crescent. The report only mentioned politicians and the council with no recognition of the support given by local residents and the CC.

A resident mentioned a smell of kerosene in the village on Sunday. The general agreement was that it was muck spreading by a local farmer.

A resident queried why the CC meetings are not in the diary in the BVB. They will be included in future editions.

## **10. Correspondence**

GE read out an email from the Church expressing their condolences for Marian's death.

## **11. AOB**

A resident mentioned inconsiderate parking at the junction of Kirkburn Road and Dumbrook Road

JH reminded the meeting that the Christmas lights will be switched on on Tuesday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7.15pm. There will be mulled wine and mince pies and the Dumbarton Wind Ensemble will play as usual. It was agreed to make a donation to the band who give up their time every year.

## **12. Date of next meeting January 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 in the Village Club**

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Contact us at [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk) Also on our website [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk). Telephone numbers for Community Councillors are on the notice boards, in the library and in the Blane Valley Bulletin