

BLANE VALLEY BULLETIN

The Strathblane Community Council News Sheet June 2025 No 102

ACTION ON SPEEDING

On June 10th the local police were in the village, running a road safety initiative with the local primary school, focusing on speeding within the village with the assistance of other community officers and Roads Policing officers. .

Essentially, they divided up P5 with a group undertaking handheld radar with officers. Any vehicle breaking the speed limits was stopped and directed into the carpark of the Kirkhouse Inn where Roads Police checked the drivers documents and the road worthiness of the vehicle. The driver was then given the option of receiving a fixed penalty ticket or speaking with the children who asked them some hard hitting questions about why they were speeding etc.

Overall, the event seemed well received and hopefully reminds drivers of the speed limit coming into the village and is something the police would like to replicate in the future. Some of the children in P5 wrote about their experience working with the police and their views on speeding traffic in the village.



"On Wednesday 10th June 2025, Primary 5 and our teacher, Miss Allen, went up to the main road in Strathblane to help the police with a speed awareness event. We got to use a speed gun to see how many miles per hour drivers were going. If they were driving over 25 then we stopped them and if they were between 20-25mph then we gave them a sign to slow down. Once drivers were stopped, the police officer spoke to them and sent them over to the Kirkhouse car park. There the transport police checked over their vehicle and educated them about anything that needed fixed.

Then they were moved on to another group of P5 children in the car park. We asked them questions like 'do you know what speed you were going today?', 'were you heading to an emergency?' and 'what would you tell our parents if you hit us?' Some drivers thought the speed limit was still 30 so we taught them that the speed limit was actually 20mph. Most people felt quite bad, some cried and some were angry but we think they all learned a lesson. I think some were embarrassed. In the future some of them said they would stop speeding but some said it probably wouldn't affect them.

Max Pickard said 'I think it was important to see what drivers thought about speeding and how they would feel about hitting someone. I really enjoyed using the speed camera and was disappointed to see people speeding in the village.'

Matteo Jones said 'I thought the interrogation was extremely important because then you could get the information if they had already got a warning or a fine, it was also really really fun. The speed camera was really hard to use but important because one of us (P5) could have got badly injured because some people were messing around with their speed.'

It is obvious that speeding is a big problem in the village because almost every car that we saw was going too fast. Some people were going bolting past and then slammed on their brakes when they noticed the police. We had a lot of fun and we hope that we have the opportunity to do it again. We also hope that other children have the opportunity too. We think a lot of people don't realise that they could kill a child by going over 20mph. Sometimes we feel unsafe by the road because of people going through the red lights at the crossing or going too fast. We are really grateful for this opportunity. "

By Esme Greenan, Aria Boyce and Marcie Muir (P5)

To keep up pressure on Stirling Council to address the speeding issue Police Scotland and a representative from the Roads department at Stirling Council will attend our next Community Council meeting on September 8th.

Please come along and let Stirling know the strength of feeling on this issue!

Strathblane Community Council May/June 25 Update

From Chair Julie Hutchison

AGM – June 9th 2025

The following office bearers were elected

Chair – Julie Hutchison

Vice-chair – Kate Ramsden

Secretary – Grace Edmonds

Treasurer – Pamela Lee

Planning Correspondent - John Grey

May meeting

Matters arising: We sent a letter to Police Scotland and SC regarding speeding in the village. Our community police officers will attend our September meeting and we hope to have an official from Roads in attendance also.

An architect representing a local landowner gave us a presentation on proposals for the development of his land. JG said that all local landowners will be providing plans for their land by the end of the year when there will be a consultation on the Green Belt.

Correspondence

A resident contacted us about speeding in the village and a petition was suggested which would be led by the CC

June meeting

Water Supply issue at Mugdock

There has been considerable disruption to the water supply in Mugdock and we requested that an operative from Scottish Water attend this meeting. Unfortunately nobody was available but we intend to pursue this for the next meeting in September. IB has spoken to the leaders of Stirling Council and East Dumbarton Council about this. He will now increase his pursuit of Scottish water and will copy in Councillor Fraser.

It was also suggested that residents should write to their MSP to put pressure on Scottish Water to deal with the

problem. IB said that he would pass this on to the residents.

LPP update

JG thanked everybody who is working on this. We are observing the timetable from Stirling, which now requires submission of our plan by the end of October. The plan needs to be shared with neighbouring CCs four weeks before this. The intention is to share the draft with members of the CC and SCDT by the end of July and validate it at the September meeting.

We have some good information about land use and housing needs. We have had presentations from two local landowners about their ideas for their land. Another landowner will talk to us about their plans at our next sub-group meeting on June 25th

Elected members report - Councillor Rosemary Fraser

There was a meeting to discuss the disposal of council assets which was quite positive. 80% of the MOD land at Forthside has been purchased and several buildings have been preserved for use by the film industry. One building will be used for training purposes within the film industry.

Correspondence

We have had an email from Val Brand about the most recent transport meeting. This will be put on our Facebook page.

A resident contacted us about fencing that has been dumped on the verge at the bottom of Kirkhouse Road. It has been there for several months.

JH mentioned that there have been reports of problems with postal deliveries in the village. People have been receiving their mail very late and important dates like hospital appointments have been missed. JH will ask the local sorting office about this.

Date of the next meeting - Sept 8th 2025.



The Community Council is looking for volunteers to join our dedicated team who deliver the Blane Valley Bulletin. This is not an arduous task as each volunteer is responsible for delivering the Bulletin to a few streets over a weekend five times a year. Some of the team are ready to retire so we are looking for new volunteers to help.

The Community Council currently has two vacancies. We are a friendly group who meet 10 times a year on the first Monday of every month so if you are looking for an opportunity to help the community please come and join us.

The Blane Valley Bulletin is published by Strathblane Community Council and distributed to all households in our community council area by a group of volunteers accountable to the Community Council. Contact us at contact@strathblanec.org.uk This issue is published with the anonymous but much-appreciated support of a local resident.

GET IN TOUCH

SCC Email at contact@strathblanec.org.uk or via our website www.strathblanec.org.uk

Your Community Councillors

Julie Hutchison 770791 Andrew Thompson 770838 Rob Davies 771921 Pam Lee 07801 417655 Eleanor Balfour

Grace Edmonds 770800 John Gray 771031 Kate Ramsden 07801372588 and Ian Boardley

Additional Sources Community Website www.strathblane.org.uk

Library; Notice boards; Shops; Local weekly press & the Facebook Strathblanefield page

Strathblane Community Development Trust

Email: scdt@strathblane.org.uk

Website: www.strathblane.org.uk

We deliver projects with grant funding to enhance the village. Please consider joining if you are not already a member.

Enquiries and Booking Contacts

Edmonstone Hall

Kim Jones via info@edmonstonehall.co.uk

The Village Club

Check schedule @ www.villageclub1911.org.uk

Email: stathblanec@gmail.com

Library Community Rooms

Email: info@thomasgrahamlibrary.com



Stirling Sustainable Mobility Strategy

A series of drop-in sessions have been arranged as part of the consultation on Stirling's Sustainable Mobility Strategy.

- Callander Library - Thursday 19 June (4.30pm – 7pm)
- Balfour Library - Thursday 26 June (4.30pm – 7pm)
- Stirling Central Library - Monday 30 June (2pm – 5pm).

If you can't come along to the sessions, you can still share feedback in the online surveys:

<https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/folders/sustainable-mobility-strategy-and-travel-demand-survey>

Survey launched on Stirling's new Local Housing Strategy

People across Stirling are being asked for their views on how housing should be delivered in the area over the next five years in a new survey.

Residents will be able to have their say in an online survey on the [Engage Stirling website](#) and at a series of drop-in sessions that have been arranged in locations across Stirling. This [online survey](#) will run until Monday 28 July, with the results informing the next stage of the consultation which is scheduled for later this year. There will be a further consultation phase in 2026 before the final version of the strategy is developed and presented to councillors for approval. List of drop-in sessions:

- St Ninians Library - Tuesday 8 July - 9.30am – 12 noon
- Strathblane Library - Tuesday 8 July – 2pm – 4pm

South West Stirling Climate Action Network (SWScan)

The community survey on the Local Place Plan (LPP) by Strathblane Community Council (SCC) and Strathblane Community Development Trust (SCDT) in 2024 showed a majority (over 75%) thought we should be doing more on sustainability and climate change.

SWScan has been set up as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO: SC053948) to support community-based initiatives across this part of rural Stirling that seek to mitigate or adapt to climate change and to raise and increase awareness of environmental sustainability. Membership is open to individuals and constituted organisations in the area, such as Community Councils and Community Development Trusts (or their equivalent). Contact info@swscan.org

The benefits of collaboration are many:

Mutual support; Sharing knowledge, skills and ideas; Promoting each others' initiatives; raising awareness

Applying for resources at a regional level

Advocating effectively to pressurise local authorities, government bodies and others to make the changes needed for sustainability

SWScan are able to submit a region-wide LPP on issues such as active travel and nature corridors that cross community boundaries, to support and amplify local plans. So far members include the Community Councils of Strathblane, Balfour, Buchlyvie, Drymen, Killearn and Kippen, as well as the Community Development Trusts (or equivalent) of Strathblane, Drymen, Fintry, Killearn, Sustainability Kippen and G63 Food Growers, with Balfour High School Eco-club keen to take part.

There are a number of planned activities at area, local and individual levels around the following themes:

Energy; e.g. retrofit; local power generation (wind, hydro); insulation

Resource – reduce, reuse, repair and recycle; e.g. repair café; book/clothes swaps

Food; e.g. food markets/hubs; allotments; shared gardens; household growing

Ecology; e.g. protection for nature conservation sites; plant trees/wild flowers

Travel; e.g. reliable bus services; connecting and funding paths and cycle routes

Education to multiply the impact of climate change action; e.g. plastic/food waste reduction.



Charity Book Sale in Aid of Strathcarron Hospice

A Book Sale for Strathcarron Hospice - Edmonstone Hall Saturday 23rd August, 1pm-4pm

All welcome. Cash sales only please!

Library Events

Summer Reading Challenge 2025



The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge is: **Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors.**

The challenge, aimed at children aged 4-12, starts here on Saturday 28th June and runs through the summer. Pop into the Library to sign up and find out about the fun rewards for completing this year's challenge 🏆. Remember every book counts! Record and rate your reads in your Challenge Passport. We have some events in the Library linked to the Challenge too - see below for details. Good luck Outdoor Adventurers!

Thomas Graham Library, Strathblane. 01360 770737, strathblanelibrary@stirling.gov.uk			
Games Club For Grown Ups		10.30am-12.30pm Chess, Scrabble, Jigsaws etc Tea/coffee and chat.	Tuesday Fortnightly Continues fortnightly July 1 st , 15 th etc
Needles and Natter		10.30am-12.30pm Knitting, embroidery, sewing, stitching, Tea/coffee & chat	Tuesday Fortnightly Continues fortnightly July 8 th , 22 nd etc
Lego Morning		10.30am-12.00noon Build a Bug with Lego Drop in, free	Saturday 12 th July
Family Fabric Fun		2-4pm Family Fabric Fun: Story Garden Mural Drop in, free	Thursday 24 th July
BookBug		2.30 p.m. – 3pm Babies and toddlers Story garden Rhymes and stories with wee ones. Drop in, free	Friday 25 th July
		Fortnightly Thursdays 1-3pm (dependant on staff availability) Appointments only – contact CAB direct to book: 07498925159 peter.higgins@StirlingCAB.casonline.org.uk	Fortnightly by appointment only.

SCDT - Well Done Arlo!

We were delighted to see so many entrants of our 'Creative build' contest. The children were asked to build an imaginary creature to fit matching names. The creations were judged on creativity and the best match with the name.

We were impressed with all the creatures built. Our congratulations go out to the winner of the contest: Arlo, aged 9, who created his version of 'Hooplooper' and 'Quipple'. He showed great enthusiasm and creativity and helped his little brother build a creature too.

Arlo has won a Lego set and will feature on the SCDT website: strathblanecd.org



Strathblane Bowling Club

We are now well into the season and last weekend hosted a "Try Bowls day" at the club. We are looking forward to welcoming new members to the club. A reminder that we hold a club bowls night every **Monday** evening starting at 6.30, where potential members are also welcome to come along and try their hand alongside the regulars. You will be made very welcome. (Please bring flat shoes/trainers to wear on the green)

If you would like more information, please phone: 07472755155 and speak to Ian.

Strathblane Tennis Club Summer Camp 2025 now open for booking!

Summer Camp 2025 will run for 5 days, from Monday 4th August to Friday 8th August incl. Full- or half-day sessions may be booked. NB. Camps will only run if we have enough people booked in in advance. For more info, and to book, go to: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StrathblaneLTC/Coaching/Camp?courseID=cbf0f63e-982b-4bb4-a371-dd39efc46627>

Blane Valley Allotments

Our Open Day this year is Sunday August 17th 2-4pm. Everybody is welcome to join us for a walk around, growing advice, tea and cake.

