

St Fillans Community Council

Minutes of the St Fillans Community Council Meeting

Wednesday 9th May 2018

Sandison Hall, St Fillans

Welcome

Chairman Richard Graham welcomed 22 villagers, Cllr Rhona Brock, Cllr Stuart Donaldson, CC members Don Forrester (Treasurer), Jacquie Harris (Secretary), Dave Pryde and Brad Sol to the meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Roz McColl, Lynda Pryde, Russell & Liz Cunningham, Frances & Johnston Brown and Michael Aldridge.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting in February were Proposed as a true record by John Forte and Seconded by Steve Howell.

Police Report

There has been a recent spate of oil thefts from properties around the village.

Planning

The only planning application causing concern is regarding the Drummond Hotel. The owner Gerald Michaluk has applied for permission for partial change of use to form a microbrewery and visitor centre. Some objections have been lodged, which can be viewed on the National Park website.

Presentation by Charlie Leckie, Loch Earn Watersports

Charlie Leckie outlined Loch Earn Watersports development plans for the area, which includes a planned inflatable floating assault course at the existing site. Charlie stressed his desire to have a good working relationship with the village and listened to concerns over noise and the irresponsible use of jet skis.

Presentation by Ian Thomas, Drummond Woodlands

Ian Thomas outlined plans for logging in an area of the Drummond Estate, above the caravan park on the south loch. It's a significant project which will involve building a road in order to manage the logistics, and Ian stressed that he wanted to work with the village to minimise disruption, and was happy to schedule the logging trucks accordingly.

Matters Arising

- **Railway Path Blockage** - There was an Access Forum meeting on the 8th March to address the access issue at Fortrenn. It was unanimously agreed there should be access, and the matter is now resolved with gates having being installed to allow access.
- **Speed Sign** - RG asked the meeting attendees if they had an appetite to explore the possibility of acquiring digital speed signs for the village. It was agreed to explore further, including the funding aspect.
- **Data Protection** - with the new data protection regulations coming into force, the village website has been amended. An email will shortly be sent to everyone on the village email list asking for permission to keep their personal data on file (name, address and email address). Those on this list will only continue to receive emails if they reply to the email.

- **RBS Closure** - RG attended an open meeting on the 23rd of February to discuss the possible closure of the RBS branch in Comrie. It has been given a temporary reprieve from closure, but its future remains uncertain, although it was confirmed that an ATM machine will remain in the village.

Village Working Groups

- **Garden Group** - Eric Kennelly reported. The group has been busy with litter pick ups throughout the village. The grass mowing along the village verge is continuing and any new volunteers would be welcome!
- **Path Group** - Geoff Hardman Carter reported. Pathway signs have been installed on the railway line behind the village. Phase 4 of the railway path at Glenbeich will begin in June, and it is hoped that the work will be completed this year. Stages 5 & 6 will begin in 2019 /20.
- **Festive Committee** - Bruce Montgomery reported. The village festive weekend will take place on the 18th & 19th August. The format will be similar to previous years, with a BBQ on the Saturday, alongside kids activities etc. Additionally, a screening of the St Fillans film, The Village On The Loch, by Mousehole films, will take place on Friday 17th, and it is hoped to make this a black tie event.
- **Play Park Group** - funding is complete, and the group is waiting to go ahead to commence work once an insurance issue with P&K is resolved.

A.O.B

- There is an impending consultation on a possible Sports Hub in Comrie.
- There is an impending Deer Management Forum for the area. Michael Aldridge from the Drummond Estate would welcome any feedback on deer in the area / problems etc.
- Harry Burnett mentioned the positioning of the bus stops in the village, and questioned if stops on the lochside (at the centre of the village) are necessary when there are stops on the road opposite.
- The current state of the Drummond Hotel was discussed again, with many villagers expressing concern at its current state of disrepair. It was agreed the CC would submit a letter to the National Park to ask them to instruct the owner to rectify the state of the building. The recent presentation by Steve Marlow was discussed, and Geoff Hardman Carter suggested the village could form a group to work together and communicate with Steve (or other parties) on the future of the hotel, to work for the best interests of the immediate neighbours and the wider village.
- Boat Race - Brad Sol will be helping to arrange the Loch Earn Boat Race next year. He already has 8 boats reserved, and hopes to significantly raise the profile of this event.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for July 25th 2018.

Jacquie Harris
Secretary St Fillans Community Council