

# St Fillans Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 19th October 2022  
Sandison Hall, St Fillans

**Welcome:** Chair Donna Littler welcomed 20 villagers and Cllr Stewart Donaldson, Cllr Noah Khogali, Baillie Rhona Brock

### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from John Wilkie, Sheila Cramond, Blair Cramond, Rico Hollas, Paula Linton, Malcom Linton, Barry Fisher, John Littler, Kathy Moncrieff, Ian Moncrieff, Carol Graham, Dave Pryde, Lynda Pryde, Steve Howell

### 2. Minutes of last meeting

Minutes of the last Meeting on 10th August 2022 were proposed as a true record by Stewart Gavigan and seconded by Gordon McDowell.

### 3. Matters Arising

- a. Inspection hole in the grass by the Village Shop car park has been permanently covered.
- b. Cllr Khogali confirmed there was nothing further on the caravans that have been parked all summer in the lay-by outside the village.

### 4. Police Report

Between 9pm Thursday 11th August and 10am 12th August a black Carrera Mountain Bike was stolen from the garden of a property at the rear of Four Seasons.

It was noted that there has not been a Police presence at Community Council meetings for some time and that the CC do not receive local reports for St Fillans, all reported incidents that occur here are not reported in the Commanders Bulletin. Donna Littler will chase up.

### 5. Planning applications received

#### Loch Lomond & Trossachs Planning

2022/0230/DET – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Proposal: Upgrading of existing track to create a 2.5m wide shared-use active travel path and installation of associated infrastructure  
Location: Dismantled Lochearnhead, St Fillans and Comrie Railway between Glen Tarken Bridge and Derry Wood  
Applicant: Mr Alexander Johnston Brown – St Fillans Community Trust

## **P & K Planning**

22/01082/FLL – 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Proposal: Erection of a meteorological mast (for a temporary period)

Location: Land 5000metres north of Woodhouse St Fillans

Applicant: SSE Renewables

### **6. Village working groups**

#### **a. Garden Group (Including Still)**

Lorna Kennelly thanked everyone that turned up for the Loch Lomond and Trossachs Day of Action.

Village has been sprayed for Knotweed. Ranger Gareth Kett has volunteered to come and give a talk on invasive species at the February CC Meeting.

In September the garden group painted the iron railings at the War Memorial.

P & K Council are to recommence strimming of Station Road twice a year in 2023.

The Garden group has not been involved in the strimming of Station Road in 2022.

Still Project – Fundraising is continuing, we have been awarded £10412.12 from P & K Community Environment Challenge Fund bringing our current total to £14412.12 to date. We are waiting for decisions from Creative Scotland (£10,000) and Rural & Island Communities (£5000).

#### **b. Paths Group**

Geoff Hardman-Carter thanked everyone who turns up to help with the path maintenance, Anne Patrick is sending out messages via the Village Whatsapp group, all are welcome. Please inform Geoff of Issues with any of the paths.

Work has been done on the goat's path and villagers are encouraged to use it.

The paths group are awarded a £500 grant from P & K, usually used for benches, if anyone has any other suggestions contact Geoff.

Sustrans have increased their interest in the railway path. There are four remaining phases to complete, all at different stages. Planning has been granted for the next phase. Lochearnhead Place Plan is hoping to get involved with the railway path at their end.

#### **c. Festive Committee**

Festive Weekend went well, with a quiz night on Friday, junior games on Saturday afternoon and in the evening local band Erratics provided the music. A total of £1500 was raised, donations were made to the Community Trust £1000, and Air Ambulance £500. A big thank you to all volunteers who helped.

There will be a fireworks display on the 5th November with mulled wine and soup. Wood collection for the bonfire will be collected week commencing 31st October. Any volunteers to help set up would be very welcome.

**d. Play Park Group**

Report from Barry Fisher

Another busy summer has come and gone - what the park continuing to be popular with everyone. We know that it is an important asset for villagers and visitors. Geoff and Murray have brought together a list of jobs that we want to look at over the winter to ensure that the park continues to look its best. I'll be sending out a message by email to the village looking for a number of volunteers with the right skills to match up to some of the key jobs that need undertaking - we are looking for painters, those who are happy to work with wood - and if you have a strimmer or bush cutter to hand you would be very welcome!

Barry is also hoping to organise three half days throughout the year to ensure that we can provide more regular maintenance to the park before and during the summer months.

Please look out for the email and volunteer if you can.

Finally, we are also looking at how we can support some of the costs that will be required to maintain the park. There may be grants that we can apply for some of the bigger pieces of work, but the regular maintenance costs also need to be covered. Donations are welcome - however big or small.

**e. Community Centre Feasibility Study Group**

The group are reflecting on reports that have been supplied and there will be a further report in February.

**f. Cultural Heritage Group**

Jim Brierley is hoping to have a meeting in November

**7. AOB**

- a. Local Place Plan, to be added to Village working groups for the next CC meeting. Currently applying for funding to employ Kelly Bates to help with the Place Plan. Questionnaire to be prepared and sent out to the village in November. The group will work with focus groups in December and January. Responses to the questionnaire to be analysed in February. In April the group will work on the Plan and have dialogue with P & K Council and Loch Lomond & Trossachs Parks.
- b. Craig Dobney reported that there are a lot of churches closing across Scotland. A report that began in April into closures is expected in November this year. Over the next five years, it is proposed that this area will merge with Comrie then eventually Crieff. There is a plan to reduce ministers from 2.5 to 1.7.

The church in St Fillans needs support and finances. If there is not the support and numbers keep dropping the church will end up closing.

Craig is doing all he can to prevent closure and will report to the CC at future meetings.

- c. Richard Graham expressed his thanks to Stewart Gavigan for his tenure as Chair over the last three years.

There will be a Hogmanay Party in the Sandison Hall on the 31st December, more details to follow.

- d. Jim Brierley asked if our recently elected local National Parks representative had been invited to any meetings. David attended the CC meeting in August and was sent the agenda for October's meeting.
- e. Stewart Donaldson advised that the Community Investment Fund was currently open with applications to be in during November. Average award is between £3000 and £3500.

The panel is not limited to councillors, and they are looking for new members if there should be anyone from the Community Council who would like to join.

#### **8. Date and time of next Community Council meeting**

Wednesday 15th February 2023 at 7:30pm in the Sandison Hall