

St Fillans Community Council

Minutes of the St Fillans Community Council Meeting

Wednesday 4th September 2019
Sandison Hall, St Fillans

Welcome:

Vice Chair and Treasurer Don Forrester welcomed 18 villagers, Cllr Rhonda Brock, CC members Ulrika Hollis and Andrea Hudspeth to the meeting.

Apologies:

Apologies received from Eric & Lorna Kennelly, Frances and Johnston Brown, Richard Graham, Dave & Lynda Pryde, Blair Cramond, Isobel Howell, Brad Sol, PC Steve Mitchell, Councillor Roz McCall, Councillor Stuart Donaldson and CC member Jacquie Harris.

Minutes:

The minutes of the last meeting in July 2019 were proposed as true record by Steve Howell and seconded by Russell Cunningham.

Police Report:

- Police have sent their apologies.
- Quad bikes are being stolen on a daily basis.
- Sky Phone Scam: The police want to make people aware of a telephone scam currently being perpetrated by individuals claiming to be from the telecommunications company Sky. The fraudster will call and claim that there is an outstanding maintenance bill which requires to be paid by debit or credit card, rather than using the direct debit which the customer has already set up.

Matters Arising:

- **Village Drains:** village drains were cleared on 10th July. If flooding persists, then villagers should contact Bear.
- **Buildings at Risk Register:** Geoff spoke about this at our July meeting. It's a register of listed buildings and buildings in Conservation Areas that were vacant and had fallen into a state of disrepair. RG completed their online form on behalf of the CC on 11th July. The form can be found at: <https://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/rcahms-barr-suggest>. Action: RG to send new letter to planning.
- **Noise:** Leckie's complained about a noisy Birthday party across the water. Several villagers called the police. RG spoke to the Leckie's and emailed Loch Earn water sports on 11th July but got no response.
- **Speeding / Pop up policeman:** It was originally proposed to order 4 at a reduced cost of £200 each, including 1 for St Fillans, 2 for Crieff and 1 for Comrie. However, Comrie have decided to defer the purchase of a pop-up policeman until later this year as it is scheduled to have a 20-mph speed restriction widely imposed across it's streets. They have decided to wait to see what impact, if any, that has before they go further with the cut-out cops. Fraser Ballantyne requested that our village bought one for ourselves and there was general approval of this idea by the meeting. Funds would need to be applied for.

Ann Patrick sent us an email re the 2012 Transport Scotland recommendation that a 50-mph speed limit was put in place between Comrie and St Fillans. She has been in touch with Roz McCall, Liz Smith and Luke Graham about this. She also mentioned that the 3 electronic speed signs, powered by solar panels in this section of road, are defunct following the theft of the solar panels. The black cat management was placed

in a part of the village where everyone slows down anyway – going east towards the village store, so no real test of the speed of some vehicles through the village.

- **MP Meeting:** Luke Graham (our Westminster MP) held a surgery at the Loch Earn Brewery Hotel on 12 July and afterwards at Richard Graham's house, where 9 villagers attended in addition to Roz McCall and a member of Luke's staff. Various things were discussed including speeding, snow ploughs, drainage, independence, border changes, banks and education.

Planning: Erection of 2 extensions and removal of trees to rear of Corranour, St Fillans.

Fibre Optic Broadband in the village: Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband (DSSB). Originally all of St Fillans was in scope. The east end of the village has been supplied but the west end has now been removed from the DSSB plan. This phase ends this month. This is to be superseded by a £600 million project known as **R100**, meaning **100%** to the **Rest** of Scotland. Procurement was meant to be at the beginning of this year with the contractor announced in March. However, this has been delayed and an announcement is now pencilled in for the end of the year. Originally, the project was scheduled to be finished by the end of 2021 but will now almost certainly be put back from this date.

Secure Village website: The village now has a secure website (<https://> with a visible padlock. Dave Pryde negotiated a half price deal on the basis that we're a non-profit making organisation. Why secure? First most browsers including Chrome and Apple's Safari state unsecure in the URL box. Second, Google and other search engines have stated that they will push you off page 1 if you are unsecure.

Community Council elections: Community Council elections will take place on 7 November 2019 to elect members to community councils for a three-year term. Persons wishing to stand for election to their community council must be 16 years of age (or above), reside in the local area and be named on the electoral register as of 1 August 2019. Nomination forms are on both the P&K website and on the village website under About/Community Council and also under the Village News tab. Completed forms must be submitted to the Returning Officer by 4pm on Thursday 26 September 2019.

Yew Hedge: Jim O'Donnell has agreed to cut the Yew hedge between the church and his house. The hedge will be cut in October and thinned yearly to make it easier to manage.

"Still ": Geoff Hardman-Carter explained that the village is hoping to buy and reinstate 'Still' for under £15,000 but it's difficult to put an actual value on the sculpture. The plan would be for the Community Trust to own and insure it. Geoff suggested it be placed 20m to the right of the previous location. Geoff has spoken to both Drummond Estate and NP Planning. The funding options are:

- a. Villager contributions
- b. Apply for community funding
- c. Approach local businesses
- d. Donations from a small number of individuals

There is no set time limit on which to raise the funds.

Village Working Groups

- **Garden Group:** No meeting since last CC meeting. It was pointed out that damage under the tree at the Field of Hope is still to be repaired.
- **Path Group:** No updates.

- **Festive Committee:** Bruce gave an update on Festive Weekend. He said positive comments were made regarding the kids' games, the beer bar, the bands and the quality of the food. There were negative comments about the quantity of food on Saturday night (poor portion control), the cost of the weekend and the wine and prosecco. He said the quality of the drinks was higher than previously. He also said one of the main aims of the weekend was to raise funds for charity and that £750 was donated to Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance.
- **Play Park Group:** Russell stated the P&K inspectors were not happy with the natural hemp ropes and would not pass the playpark and hence insure it until these were replaced by a man-made fibre product.

A.O.B

- Road resurfacing at the Dunira bends will be starting on Wednesday 9th October for 2 nights from 7:00pm to 7:00am. The A85 will be closed in both directions each night.
- Shoemaker's Lane has been patched by the Path constructors.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Community Council Elections will be on 7th November, so the next meeting will provisionally be on the 13th November.

Jacquie Harris
Secretary St Fillans Community Council