

St Fillans Community Council

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting

Date of meeting: 10th February 2021

Venue: Zoom Meeting, St Fillans

Welcome

Chair Stewart Gavigan welcomed 24 villagers, Cllr Stewart Donaldson, Cllr Rhona Brock and Cllr Roz McCall

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Russell Cunningham, Sgt Kevin Wilkie, Emma Martin

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes from the meeting held on 21st October 2020 were proposed as a true record by Mr R Graham and seconded by Mr G McDowell.

3. Matters Arising

- a. P & K have re-instated bus service 115 between St Fillans and Comrie, timetable available on the village website. Following the last CC meeting, the CC have not received any comments from villagers regarding the service, so it is continuing to run three days a week. Transport Scotland have been in touch with the CC regarding 5No. hard standings for bus stops, this will be happening in the near future.
- b. Salt bins – P & K only have one in Station Road and that has been refilled. There has been some progress on clearing paths and gritting during snowy weather. Thank you to Lorna Kennelly for her efforts to contact the relevant authorities. Lorna also had a meeting with Bear Scotland today regarding the condition of the roads and the number of potholes. The roads are to be surveyed and a plan for more extensive works to be planned for the Spring.
- c. Village shop survey still to be followed up with Liam. The shop is currently undergoing refurbishment.

4. Police Report

Our new Sgt based in Crieff, Kevin Wilkie, is on holiday, Officers were here on Saturday and did a speed check, no figures as of yet.

Meeting with Inspector Craig Stevens took place in November, he wanted to familiarize himself with the village and put faces to names and understand the issues for the community. He is also attending the Visitor Management Meetings being held by LLTNP.

5. Planning applications received:

2020/0264/TRE - 16th October 2020

Fell 10 No. trees in Conservation Area

Mike Aldridge – Drummond Estates – No objections 19th November 2020

2020/0052/DET - 9th March 2020

Loch Earn Jetty adjacent to layby on South Loch Earn Road

Crieff Hydro – Approved 6th November 2020

2020/0278/TRE - 31st October 2020

Works to trees within conservation area, fell a Sitka Spruce

Dr John Thompson, Rose Cottage – No objections 19th November 2020

2020/0336/DET - 23rd December 2020

Land west of Tarken Lodge, application for a dwelling house

Mr and Mrs Shepherd, Tarbet – Neighbour notification

2020/0287/ADV – 13th January 2021

Installation of two pole mounted signs on the South Loch Earn Road between Ardtrostan and St Fillans

Loch Lomond National Park

2021/0002/HAE – 6th January 2021

Demolition of existing garage and rear porch, erection of replacement garage and porch

Mr and Mrs Howell, Foxknowe

I was asked by village residents if there was planning for change of use for the Caravan Park at the top of station road. NP know nothing of works being done there and are interested in what is happening.

6. Village working groups

a. Garden Group

Field of Hope work is to be completed in 2021 when new funding is available from P & K.

Restrictions permitting there will be a work party at the beginning of April. Contact made with Greenspace P&K; they will provide us with more litter pickers, plastic bags and advice where possible.

b. Path Group

Railway Path - Fortrenn Section - full funding in place, still waiting for final signed Path Agreement from SSE but hoping for completion by 1st April 2021.

Railway Path - Glentarken (west of bridge) - much of the design and planning done. Still needs Path Agreements, Planning Approval and additional funding. Completion hoped for end 2022.

Railway Path - Ardveich and Derry Woods - landowner discussions, design and planning started. Completion aimed for 2022/23

Lochearnhead (Village Path Infrastructure Study which includes the Railway Path) - Sustrans and the National Park already engaged in Community Consultations. Findings and Recommendations to be published shortly. Completion 2022/23?

Started updating Village Walks information on Website.

General Path Maintenance; with the help of the Garden Group. Cutting back encroaching vegetation, clearing fallen trees etc.

A big thanks to everyone that helps with this work - including the recent sterling efforts on the Goat/Scree Path. Please let me know of any path problems and/or if you would like to help - there's always plenty to do that can be done as individuals or family groups.

The counter on the Railway Path (located above Little Port Farm) has now recorded a further 2100 walkers and 1500 more cyclists since my last report. That's nearly up 3600 to 40,000 journeys since that would either have been dangerous using the A85 or not have been made at all.

c. Festive Committee

The Festive Committee currently consists of Ulrika Hollas, Ruth Graham, Richard Graham, Isobel Howell and Alison Smylie. Ulrika gave an overview of the committee and its activities throughout the year, including Lochearnhead to St Fillans boat race, festive weekend and bonfire night. It is hoped that it might be possible to organise an event for 2021 if restrictions allow, possibly a Saturday picnic. The committee recognise we have lots of new people in the village and they have not been able to meet and mix.

The committee is looking for new members, please contact Ulrika or Ruth for more information.

d. Play Park Group

The works are complete apart from the pebble patch, for which a small budget remains. All invoices have been received and paid. The project has been completed on budget if not on time!!

If any villagers would like to help with any aspects of the play park that P & K are not responsible for i.e., trimming of the willow tunnel, cutting back foliage, please would they contact Stewart Gavigan.

7. AOB

a. Due to the planned increase in size of the village and in line with the St Fillans Action Plan, it is proposed to set up a small group to complete a feasibility study for a new Community Centre. Anyone interested in being involved please contact Richard Graham.

b. Setting up of a Cultural Heritage group. Jim Brierley has had a terrific response for this and would like to assist to push this forward. Stewart Gavigan had a constructive meeting with Susan Whyte of P & K Greenspace, it was also brought to their attention that a wall of the chapel has collapsed in the burial grounds. Assistance and guidance can be given by Jim and P & K Greenspace. Please see also attached Jim's notes on the Heritage of St Fillans.

c. Feedback on Visitor Management Meeting on 21st January 2021.

Launching of Jet Skis - Using the law is very convoluted and up to landowners to pursue, unless another byelaw is introduced. Landowners are looking more towards hard landscaping to make it harder for illegal launching.

Code of conduct for Loch users to be highlighted. With potential for leaflets, signage, 3rd party insurance for craft over a certain HP and a registration system for craft using the loch. (One already exists for the caravan park.)

There was a request for St Fillans community to vote on a Byelaw for an alcohol ban on the P & K end of the Loch, (there is already one in place on the Stirling Council end) the result was 39 votes for and 2 against. Cllr Rhona Brock asked about the effect on private owners, we have been assured that they will not be affected by the byelaw. It was also discussed about whether the riverside is included, this will be clarified in the next Visitor Management Meeting to be held on the 18th February 2021.

Cllr Stewart Donaldson noted that it was a conclusive vote and would give the police extra powers, although he wasn't sure how long it would take to put into place.

Traffic Management especially on the South shore road, the idea of temporary car park was suggested, along with possible a park and ride. the issue is finding suitable sites.

- d. There were no objections to the CC buying anti dog fouling signs for strategic parts of the village, and renewal of neighbourhood watch signs.
- e. Speeding in village. Stewart Gavigan has pursued Police Scotland, P&K, Transport Scotland and Bear. There is an avenue with Transport Scotland that is being followed up.

Cllr Stewart Donaldson has a budget meeting in March with Bear and Transport Scotland regarding roads and safety. He will take the concerns of the villagers in St Fillans and add them to those from Comrie. Cllr Donaldson suggested that average speed cameras might be possible for the A85 including St Fillans.

Meanwhile we have the offer of a loan of a pop-up police person from Callander. Thanks to Adele MacMillan. Stewart Gavigan is to contact the Community Trust to see if it is possible to purchase another for village.

- f. Stewart Gavigan received a phone call from Sally Watson, who was congratulated on her 90th birthday, she wanted to thank everyone for their cards, presents and good wishes on her birthday.

8. Date and time of next meeting

Wednesday 12th May 2021 at 19:30