

# Strathfillan Community Council

*working for and representing the people*



St. Fillan's Crozier  
The Quigrich

*Appendices referred to in these minutes are available online at  
[www.scottishdemocracy.com](http://www.scottishdemocracy.com)*

## Minutes of CC Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 Crianlarich Hall at 7.30pm

### **1. Present:**

John Riley (Chair), Alan Smailes, Isla Craig, Andrea Hobson, Iain Wragg, Billy Ronald (LLTNP), Theresa Elliot (SC), Cllr Fergus Wood, Mary Anderson, Jimmy Allardyce (Fire Service), PC Craig Murray, Charlie Urquhart, Sheona Maclellan, Duncan Lemay.  
Members of the Public: Robert Burns, Ian Marett, , Mr & Mrs Tweedy.  
Apologies: Bruce Crawford MSP, Falcon Frost, , Kelly Clapperton-Bates

### **2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

Proposed: Alan Smailes  
Seconded: Isla Craig

### **3. Report from Police Constable Craig Murray**

The breakdown is

Road accidents 16  
Animals 2  
Drink driving 1  
Concern for persons 6  
Mountain rescues 2  
Theft 2 (1 bike and one petrol drive off laterally paid)  
Disturbance 2

The discrepancy in the sum will again relate to duplicate calls about the same incident and also information reports about planned shoots.

We had 2 Mountain rescues in the area with one person being found deceased and another injured and one successful search for a vulnerable missing person from south of the border who was traced safe and well.

Operation Ironworks has also begun with patrols of the loch sides to prevent antisocial behaviour, however with next years proposed by laws coming into force to prevent camping along lochs Earn and Voil it may reasonably be expected that this problem may move towards lochs Dochart and Iubhair.

There has been the usual seasonal increase in traffic on the trunk roads networks and this is being policed by ourselves in the northern section of Trossachs and Tieth and also the Roads Policing unit.  
Alasdair (Craig) Murray, Constable 725, Forth Valley, Division Police Scotland

Alan asked if the police patrol would be going ahead again this year monitoring the gold panners in the area.

PC Murray advised that he will intervene where machinery is being used where damage will be caused to banks and gardens. A Loch Lomond Parks Officer may be patrolling as last year.

## **Matters Arising**

### **Outreach Surgery**

**Email received from Cllr Earl:-** *I have corresponded with Audrey Whitton asking for a meeting. The latest email from me last week was asking for dates ASAP to meet with GPs. I am currently awaiting a reply. I have advised Audrey that I do not want to meet just to discuss their 'review' as outlined in the last letter to the CC ( Dec 15) that was proposed to take place later this year. I also would like to have a straightforward discussion as to what the reservations are within the practice as the concept and benefits appear clear to everyone involved out with the practice.*

### **Public Toilet Cleaning**

The contract for cleaning the public toilets in Tyndrum and Crianlarich is yet to be confirmed with Cameron Driver from Pine Trees Caravan Park.

Mr Allardyce asked if the correct procedures had been followed to award the contract and feels that the job should have been put out to the local community. Charlie Urquhart advised Mr Allardyce to contact Stirling Council with his grievance. S.C.C believe this is where the procedure has fallen down. If a position is being made available, to be paid for by Stirling Council it is not the community council's position to put the job out to tender.

**Email received from Cllr. Earl re toilets:-** I have met with Nicole Paterson and escalated the matter to her. She will make sure this is completed ASAP. Cameron should have been contacted last week or early next week for an update. HR and assets services are sorting out the statutory requirements/redeployment regarding the existing employee that comes from Killin to clean the toilets. SC are committed to putting this in place.

### **Cattle Creep/Underpass to the WHW/Stepping Stones Tyndrum**

Charlie had a meeting with Gordon Forrester to discuss the state of the WHW link path to Crianlarich. Gordon agreed that the path was unsuitable but the NP had already discussed rerouting the path with the Forestry Commission who had agreed an alternative route which will make access easier. Gordon has promised to report back to Charlie with any developments although he doesn't anticipate anything will be done until later in the year/next year. Following the meeting construction workers descended on the village apparently to sort out snagging operations. The link path had the larger retaining stones removed (shifted to the side of the path) and the surface hardcore removed. The path has improved underfoot but still follows the steep incline which is unsatisfactory.

### **Bypass**

The CC has received a survey from Transport Scotland requesting stakeholder feedback regarding the Crianlarich Bypass. They are asking us to respond to a number of questions and points to establish the beneficial or adverse effect of the project within the local community. Charlie felt that we should minimise time spent responding to the survey as there's little to be gained with respect to the local community now that the bypass is in place. A number of attendees opposed this course of action and felt that a fairly robust response should be provided highlighting detrimental effects ie the number of accidents at the roundabouts and beneficial effects ie the reduction in traffic through the village. Charlie agreed to put together a response which will list the bullet points he receives from members of the CC and residents. Bullet points are needed by the **20th April** as the response needs to be sent by the 22nd. Isla requested that Craig

identify the number of accidents which have occurred since the bypass opened although Craig pointed out that a lot of accidents went unreported.

Mr & Mrs Tweedy asked if it would be possible to have speed cameras at the Zebra Crossing in Crianlarich. P.C. Murray replied that Transport Scotland would only do this in an accident black spot and as yet there have not been any fatalities. It felt that this is only a matter of time. Transport Scotland do not log all accidents, only fatalities.

### **Potholes**

Charlie has made a couple of formal reports to Transerv: the subsidence on the Glenfalloch road which poses a threat to passing traffic (Mary Anderson said that some traffic cones have been placed around the affected area). I have also reported the potholes on the Crianlarich to Tyndrum road although I find it difficult to understand as to how Bear respond to specific reports due to the state of the roads in Strathfillan (and the rest of the country). Charlie also enquired as to how many people had reported potholes on this stretch of road and was told by Transerv that there were no outstanding reports which is hard to believe considering the state of the road. Ian Marett has developed a very useful and user friendly computer programme (accessible via the internet) to allow user (residents) to pinpoint specific potholes with photographs to aid identification. Hopefully this tool will go live in the near future.

### **Balquidder Deer Management**

Falcon Frost is to be S.C.C. representative.

### **Community Council Website**

Ongoing.

**Action Ian Marett.**

### **Community Resilience Plan**

Ongoing.

**Sheona**

## **4. Report from Office Bearers Chair**

1. WHW Isla, Kelly and I met Sandy Slater at TVH on 9<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the importance of the WHW. Successive emails are included in the attachment. My conviction is that we should emphasise the need for one body to be designated the role of managing and marketing the WHW, which is of immense economic benefit both locally and nationally.
2. TVH I have an historic interest in the hall, as I was persuaded by Lamond Gosden about 25 years ago to seek 22k funding for its refurbishment, as it had been condemned by Stirling Council. The public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> was attended by about 30 people and concluded that the hall should be closed down. The committee was authorised to wind down its operation and then call another public meeting to decide on appropriate action. I recommend that we locate the deeds, apply for planning permission in principle for a house; to maximise returns, and obtain a valuation prior to advertising its sale. The proceeds would then be held in the Trust accounts, ringed fenced for Tyndrum projects. A very popular idea is that the money should be utilised, with matched funding, to astro-turf the kick-about area.
3. Tyndrum Toilets SC has not yet confirmed a contract with Cameron Dryburgh for cleaning both Tyndrum and Crianlarich toilets

4. Broadband I've received the attached letter from Councillor Neil Benny of Stirling Council on roll-out issues
5. Minute Secretary Andrea Hobson had experienced hearing difficulty in our CC meetings and decided to resign. The attached email lists the necessary actions to enable Andrea to try again. I wish to prevail on all our colleagues to help in this regard.

#### **4.1. Secretary**

##### **Environment/CiA:**

I have written to the headmaster and Head teacher of Crianlarich Primary School regarding the 'adoption' of some of the flower tubs and vegetable planters in and around Crianlarich. Mr. Teall had expressed an interest in the pupils becoming involved with the community on environmental projects. I indicated that I would help with funding. There is a need for the existing compost to be replaced prior to planting. Mr. Teall responded positively.

Volunteers: There is also a need to create planters from the sleepers on Lower Station Yard. I have already purchased bolts and there are two bags of topsoil available. Help is also required for the siting and location of the tree seat, currently in Brian's back garden.

Addendum :Following a meeting of the CiA working group a Community Pride Fund application has been raised, this has subsequently been endorsed via e-mail by the majority of Community Councillors.

##### **Angling Association:**

Season permit applications continue to come in and permits issued, Season ticket applications can also be made at the outlets below, or contact myself.

I have now secured six outlets for 'day ticket' sales at £6:00 per day, three in each community these are located at:

Crianlarich; Ben More Restaurant, Rod & Reel, Crianlarich Store.

Tyndrum; Green Welly Stop petrol station, Tyndrum Inn, Pinetrees Caravan Park.

There is now a facebook page, kindly raised by Colin McGeoch.

I signed and returned the official document for the transfer of control over the Loch na Bi and River Lochy fishings from the GTCC&CA to the SAA, a copy is lodged with the SCDT. There is a meeting of the Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board on the 31<sup>st</sup> March, I will not be attending the meeting but will ask for the minutes to be forwarded to me. The boat shed has also been donated to the SCDT. An annual ground rent is payable, however, this year was paid for by the old club.

##### **West Highland Community Rail Partnership:**

I attended the meeting of the WHCRP on 7<sup>th</sup> March at Spean Bridge. I also attended a meeting of the signage subcommittee at Corroul on 21<sup>st</sup>. Funding applications have been raised for three projects: feasibility study on rail travel between Crianlarich and Mallaig. Application for brochures about the WHCRP and membership details. Application for three notice boards, initial application, we would wish to have notice boards at all the stations along the line. Money for funding has been made available by ScotRail.

A new CRP is likely to be raised for the Helensburgh to Oban line, I have indicated my willingness to act as the Crianlarich member for this. At present there is no desire for the two CRP's to merge. An inaugural meeting at Crianlarich hotel is scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### **Gold Panning**

I have written to SEPA asking for an update on gold panning, this is after hoteliers and other accommodation providers have approached me directly with enquiries from their guests. SEPA responded by e-mail and will attempt to get information from the other bodies involved these are: SNH, Police Scotland, the National Park and the Crown Estate.

### **Trossachs SAR**

Isla and I met with Stuart Ballantyne on 31<sup>st</sup> March to check the state and locations of the Community Defibrillators. An app is now available covering all the defibs within the National Park this can be accessed on <http://www.trossachsdefibrillator.co.uk/>  
We also discussed training and exterior cabinets for the defibs.

### **Community Partnership**

The next Board Meeting has been rescheduled and will now be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> April.  
The main topic of the meeting will be the adoption of the new Memorandum and Articles for the CP this will then go forward to and EGM for approval and ratification. In the event of a positive vote the CP will use this as a 'toolkit' for partnership members.

### **Other:**

I completed the online survey for the Community Grants Scheme as requested by SC.  
The meeting of representatives from SC, FVNHS and members of the CC, regarding the outreach surgery was cancelled due to illness. A meeting date will be rescheduled. Gillian Taylor has been in contact with a possible meeting date of the 27<sup>th</sup> April.  
Up to the time of writing (01/04) I have posted 15 items on the website:  
7 (including this report) under correspondence.  
3 under Planning  
3 under Transport  
2 under Health  
Alan Smailes  
Secretary, SCC

**4.2. Treasurer - Nothing to report. £750 available.**

## **5. Reports from delegated groups (not already covered under Matters Arising)**

### **Environment**

Email received from Falcon Frost prior to the S.C.C. meeting - Glenfalloch Estates are kindly donating trees for the community woodland.

The nursery and school about helping out or adopting flower tubs, they both say that they are interested as long as there is no cost to themselves.

Falcon also had a quick look at the notice board at the Drovers, further investigation is needed to see if it is salvageable. New posts may be needed.

Alan Smailes suggested local businesses may wish to sponsor the flower and vegetable tubs in the village.

The knotweed at the Old Lower Station (by car park) is now eradicated after years of treatment. The grass can now be kept short.

Charlie advised that Gary may not be able to continue grass cutting in the village this year due to other commitments. A replacement may be needed.

### **Dog/Human Fouling**

Mr & Mrs Tweedy are very concerned about fouling in the area alongside their property, close to the car park in the village. It is being used as a public toilet by visitors and also has the problem of dog fouling by irresponsible dog owners. This is a health hazard and a very unpleasant experience for them both and others.

If the undergrowth is kept down (which is now possible due to the eradication of the knotweed) this should help reduce the numbers of toilet stops, people will be more visible.

Alan has contacted Stirling Council who confirmed that if we position a Dog Poo bin they will empty it. The shop can be given stock of dog poo bags for the public.

New signage has been requested for anti dog fouling, showing where the public toilets are located, extra dog poo bins and litter bins to be placed in the village.

**Action: Alan Smailes**

### **Overnight Parking**

Mary Anderson noted that there has been overnight parking of lorries and campervans in the public car park. It was asked that a 'no overnight parking' sign is placed at the car park. With the police station being over the road it is hoped that this will be enough to enforce the signage. P.C. Murray commented that he passed on his concerns about the parking sign being placed initially.

The no overnight parking will also help reduce the fouling in the bushes/trees.

### **Litter**

Alan asked the councillor why litter pickers are seen collecting litter from the verges yet the council will not collect from litter bins in lay-bys'? The councillor will be meeting with Gordon Watson (LLTNP) to discuss the litter problems.

### **CiA**

The interpretation boards are now in place. The opening ceremony will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> May with involvement from both the school and nursery.

### **Health**

Isla is meeting with Gillian Taylor at the end of the month (re outreach surgery).

### **Planning**

Portnellan Highland Lodges– Erection of 16 No. Chalet/Cottages & erection of function building.  
**Approved.**

Glen Falloch – Erection of temporary access tracks & borrow pit in association with overhead line refurbishment. **Approved**

**Application** - The Real Food Café, Tyndrum. Erection of illuminated entrance sign. Ref; 2016/0088/AV  
No comment was given regarding this application.

**Theresa Elliott (SC)**

Nothing to report

**Ian Marrett**

Digital Scotland have advised that Tyndrum should be getting fibre optic broadband in June this year. Crianlarich from January to June the following year. These dates are based on their work schedule so may change. S.C.C are unhappy with the large time difference between Tyndrum and Crianlarich and would like to know why this is.

**Action Ian Marrett**

Robert Burns informed S.C.C. about satellite internet. This seems to be a reliable service with the drawback of a high cost. There is a poster in Crianlarich village stores if any further information is required.

**6. Report from local councillor**

Cllr. Fergus Wood advised that there are possible changes ahead with recycling bins/boxes in September 2016. This has not been finalised yet. There will be additional bins and a change to collections. Further information will be given if this is given the go ahead.

Cllr. Wood described a Police & Safety Committee pilot scheme happening in Aberfeldy. A community fire warden working with the Fire service is also available to work with the community- for example as a lollipop man. This may be a way of getting a community warden back into the village.

In August Jimmy Allardyce will be retiring from the Fire Service in Crianlarich after 33 years of dedication and service. The Fire Service are currently advertising for fire-fighters in the local community.

**Cllr Earl by email:** Are there any established or new community events that groups are organising within your Community Council area this year that could benefit from a contribution from Stirling Council?

In the budget this year we established an ‘**Events Fund**’ to help support events across the Council area. Would you advise any organisers to contact myself and I will put them in touch with the correct officer to obtain a (short) application form.

Regards, Councillor Martin Earl, Trossachs & Teith Ward, Stirling Council, 01786 233114

**7. Report from NPA**

Nothing to report.

Charlie asked about the mess that is being left by fencing contractors within the National Park, for example at the East side of the village, within the last year. Should this be left?

Billy suggested that Charlie should consult with the Forestry Commission. Contractors for the last couple of years have been required to dispose of any old material. (Billy has previously been a fencing contracting with the F.C.) Billy will discuss this with the L.L.N.P. to confirm the parks stand.

**Action Billy**

Alan asked if it would be possible to have lifebelts installed at The Falloch Falls. The falls are a popular gathering point for young people and there is always the possibility of an accident.

**Action Billy**

## **8. Any Other Competent Business**

Ian Wragg asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the play park in Crianlarich. It has been reported to him that it is tired and in need of paint.

Isla explained that the community raises the money for the equipment but Stirling Council is responsible for maintaining it.

Theresa advised that Colin Mackay is responsible for the parks in Killin and perhaps he would advise us. We will locate an email address, John thinks he may have this.

**Action John**

### **Stirling Council – Notice of a public procession**

The Milngavie – Tyndrum Highland Fling Race will be held on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016** between 06.00 and 21.00 with the likelihood of 800 participants taking part.

### **Date, time, place of next meeting**

Tuesday 3rd May 7.30pm Crianlarich Village Hall. John R gave apologies due to holidays