

Callander Community Council

Minutes of the meeting: Monday 9th December 2019

Community Councillors: Chris Corden (CC-Chair), Susan Holden (SH-Vice-Chair), Lucia Bobkova (LB-Secretary), Brian McKay (BM-Treasurer), Brian Luti (BL), Mike Luti (ML), David Moore (DM), Alex Mitchell (AM), David Shearer (DS), John Watson (JW)

Also in Attendance: Cllr Martin Earl (NP), Stirling Observer, 2 members of the public.

Chair of Meeting: Chris Corden

Topic	Detail/ Discussion	Action
1.Introduction Apologies	Introduction CC welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies: Toto McLellan (Minutes Secretary), Sheila Winston (SW-Town Co-ordinator), Police Scotland, Roger Watt, Elaine Watterson, Marilyn Moore, Richard Johnson	
2. Minutes of November Meeting	Amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Correction on page 5 under Flooding – correct the repetition towards the bottom of the page. From “...considers we need to approach SC to perhaps go to SC” delete “to perhaps go to SC”. (ii) Page 9 under Stirling City Region Deal. Add the following wording at the end: [NB: Above figures not accurate. Clarification on the exact figure required for any further discussions]. (iii) Correction on page 13 under National Park, first paragraph – correct a typo. Delete “hat” and substitute “that”. Minutes agreed subject to the above amendments Proposed by Brian McKay, seconded by David Moore	
3. Callander Citizen of the Year 2019 4. Reports from Office Bearers:	Councillors had a chance to consider the nominations distributed prior to the meeting. Anonymous vote taking place. Ronnie Forbes voted to be the 2019 Callander Citizen of the Year. He will be notified and invited to the next meeting to collect his award certificate. a) Chair: Meetings: Plastic Free Callander meeting last Tuesday (EW was going to talk about, but unable to be here today). The meeting included a presentation on how Scottish communities were looking at plastic waste and how we reduce the consumption. Talked about what we consume and how we repurpose it or dispose of it and how Scotland could deal with the huge amount of waste generated every year. Lasted about 2.5 hours and there were many topics, EW will send through the actual presentation. ML noting that a theme seems to be coming through that SG needs to look at local communities, communities coming together with one system for the whole of	EW

Scotland - at the moment all LAs have different schemes, different colours of bins, it would make sense if all LAs had the same system.

ML would like to invite relevant people from SC to explain what happens with waste in our LA; e.g. understands brown bin waste gets transferred now as the composting machine broken, so not very efficient.

Meeting with SC's schools' food provisions people (facilities management) - schools are lobbying for less plastics. Discussion on bottles – about not using plastic ones but reusables, thinking about extending the provision of reusable bottles beyond 1st year students

ML noting it was encouraging to see the four students from McLaren High who are educating their peers about what to do.

JW noting there was also a great article in BLV about what kids have been doing, so certainly encouraging.

Also **meeting at McLaren High about STEM** – what they are hoping to achieve is a trip to California for some students. They will try to apply to the community (not CCC) to try and achieve that goal. They are seeing big influential STEM companies

ME noting supportive of STEM, but not much emphasis on other than STEM now - STEM important, but there needs to be a balance. Should be talking about STEAM (A for Arts). DS agreeing. Is there a reason STEM such a priority, is it in terms of finance?
ME: yes, STEM currently being made a priority

Yorkpark stakeholder forum meeting- some time spent talking about human waste and how to address it. Interesting initiatives. Discussing how effective the legislation has been in relation to the camping zones.

Initiatives brought forward seem to have had an impact on people's behaviour. It is important that visitors come to a clean, attractive area, so needs to be addressed.

Twining:

Carrying on dealing with the twinning inquiry and various bits

Town Coordinator:

CC recording thanks for SW's work throughout years. (SW stepping down from her TC role)

New TC: 7 applications received and application processed closed. CC, SH Frank Park and Anne Docherty are on the interview panel. Interviews will take place in early course. Hoping to appointment someone before Christmas.

Asking councillors to notify him if they have any ideas/views on criteria and what the TC should be doing.

b) Secretary:

- Speakers from NP to discuss the results of the CCC's motorhome survey will now come to our next meeting

- Looking for a new minutes secretary. Unfortunately, Toto unable to continue for personal reasons and unsure when will be able to come back. Asking councillors for any suggestions or to ask around to assist with finding someone.

	<p>c) Treasurer: Written report provided: Airtricity Fund: £70,769.41; Admin Fund: £4,575.45</p> <p>Need to amend the Airtricity figure from the report. BM thought the cheque for the seniors' party would have been written and collected, but it has not been; so £200 is still to come out (correct figure therefore £70,569.41).</p>	
<p>6.Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Airtricity</p>	<p>3 applications received, all three from CCDT (circulated):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase in rent of the VIC from £2,000 to £2,500 (representing one third of the cost). Airtricity committee recommendation to agree to the application – full council agrees 2. Application for the costs of Christmas lights in the square to be split equally - £198.30 – Airtricity committee does not see a problem with that – full council agrees 3. Application relating to the costs of the town coordinator's post, not for the salary. Application now includes the marketing and running of Summerfest. £4,000 <p>The restriction on paying someone's wages in the Airtricity rules questioned by AM- is that the correct interpretation? BL confirming that it was – he had a verbal confirmation from the Airtricity. He asked about it and they confirmed the CCC couldn't use the money to pay wages. BM suggesting that this be clarified again, reviewed and discussed fully. But doesn't impact on this application as not asking for wages.</p> <p>No objections from the council to support this application.</p> <p>All three applications approved.</p>	BL
b)Ancaster Square	Christmas lights switch on and the Christmas tree all went well. Nothing else of note to report.	AM
c) Bridgend	<p>Written report submitted.</p> <p>Achieved new railings, nobody has objected from residents. Tomorrow evening there is the flooding meeting in CYP of interest to Bridgend residents. SH briefly summarising the report.</p> <p>No questions about the report from the council.</p> <p>ME: To add in relation to flooding – He met with Ian and Dick and it was useful. Has questions about flood scheme and he will be coming to the drop-in session. There are fundamental questions about what the scheme is going to achieve for the costs of it. Hopefully we will get some clear answers.</p> <p>Council in agreement that the way to look at flooding is to look at the area and not only a part of it.</p> <p>ML thinks that RJ, who is a nationally known expert on this should continue leading and we should listen to what he has to say. We also need to work with nature.</p>	SH
d) Callander Observatory	No report for this meeting, but there was an article in the BLV, as previously indicated.	RW
e) Camp Place Playpark	<p>Written report submitted</p> <p>Any queries to be emailed to MM, who sent her apologies for today's meeting</p> <p>ML will be passing on details of a resident who would like to speak to MM regarding the playpark.</p>	CC

<p>f) Environment</p>	<p>Climate emergency meeting at the NP. If anybody is interested ML has the presentation printed if interested. Claire Hamilton, climate emergency lead, put greenhouse gas emissions targets forward. By 2030- down by 75%, 2040 90% and net zero by 2045. Public sector should have spending plans for zero emissions and provide annual reports. Personal views: They are hoping to plant out thousands of hectares of forests to help with climate change. ML of the view that monocultures of trees around here means there is no biodiversity underneath and this will continue for another 30 years, we should be looking at more diverse planting and different tree species, we should have bigger percentage of indigenous species. Within the design of the forrests there should be some pasture areas. Recognition of our peat and moorlands came through. We need to look after moorlands and not plant all these trees on them. Eagles would have nowhere to forage, we would lose other birds and other species. Very complex issue. Need to have balance, one is not going to help climate change by just planting thousands of acres of trees. BL speaking to landowners who agree there needs to be a balance</p> <p>BM wondering whether there was an indication the landowners would go for these grants ML 's view is the landowners are likely to go for the grant, there just needs to be diverse planting. The scheme is there for landowners and that is what needs changed – the scheme. They will of course go for these trees as they will get commercial benefits. Compared to indigenous trees – for these it takes long to get anything back. The scheme should be changed to include more indigenous tress.</p> <p>It also became apparent that the NP consider that there is far too much over-grazing, i.e. too many dears. That is a myth, deer management groups are doing a good job and over the years deer numbers have been falling. Under-grazing is worse than over grazing. Would chair agree that there should be more indigenous trees planted and that deer should be treated with respect? CC has no problem agreeing with that</p> <p>Also, following a recent landslide at the side of Loch Katrine, the fence has been damaged and understands it will not be replaced. The new forrest should be fenced as the deer move to the sunny side in the winter.</p> <p>ME noting that the underlying problem is that there is emphasis on not fencing; people not aware in this change in policy, there is a change in policy currently going on.</p>	<p>ML</p>
<p>g) Plastic Free Callander</p>	<p>No report today, EW sent her apologies Update summarised in the Chair's report</p>	<p>EW</p>
<p>h) Planning</p>	<p>Written report submitted. DM going over the new applications. The new club house at the golf club- thinks this application potentially problematic (not in principle), but the way the application has been put together. It is not clear what is happening with the existing clubhouse. No environmental assessments or drainage schemes. Similar to the items recently missing from the Manse Lane</p>	<p>DM</p>

	<p>application. The application seems to have been accepted by NP as valid, as it is in public domain. DS of the view we should at least can say there is not enough information before us to make any judgement.</p> <p>MF noting we may want to highlight the concerns.</p> <p>BM: Is it feasible to sit down with someone at the golf club and try and put them in the right direction?</p> <p>CC noting it seems they may not know exactly what they should be doing.</p> <p>DM noting they also ticked off that there was no consultation with the pre-application services of NP</p> <p>MF: May be would be helpful to sit with them</p> <p>BM: Why is it important in this application to build a new club house to talk about the old clubhouse?</p> <p>CC: Because of proximity to size</p> <p>DM: Basically, work needs to be done on this app, DM is happy to talk to them.</p> <p>MF will send a copy of the Common Good land for Callander to LB</p>	
<p>i)Website Development</p>	<p>BM providing an overview of the proposed website for CCC. Not concentrating on the content right now (still work in progress), but how the site will work and its structure. After this he will be concentrating on the content, so will be coming to individual councilors to complete certain parts of the website.</p> <p>BM going over the structure.</p> <p>For the planning part ME suggesting a link to the planning aid Scotland, it is free to use this advice service (pas.org.uk)</p> <p>CC suggesting perhaps including information on the NP planning process.</p> <p>BM noting again that the content is not set, it is dynamic and can change as we go.</p> <p>Various parts to the website: Home, About us, Meetings, Planning, Grants, Projects, CAP (Callander Action Plan), Facilities (suggestion to list them, e.g. schools, library, toilets, clubs, meeting places etc.), Contact Us</p> <p>Post Office Box suggested for contact instead of the VIC- can look into, however pricy. £270 a year or thereabout. CC wondering if it could be covered by the admin grant.</p> <p>MF noting that the grant is a fixed figure- for every few hundreds of residents there is a top up. BM noting the grant only covers us for the venue hire and cost of the minutes secretary. ME suggesting our address could be the library address, if we chose to approach them.</p> <p>The purpose of the website is to represent what we are doing and also to invite public to contact us with any views or queries so that we can act on them.</p> <p>ME suggesting a focus group of people - users- looking at the banners and how the website will be used.</p> <p>e.g. Grants- what does it mean to the user? CAP? Will the public be able to navigate the website/know where to find things/what they are called?</p> <p>Would also suggest having a page for useful external contacts.</p> <p>CC suggesting we can have an area where people can raise questions and issues- a discussion forum. ML agrees. BM noting this could come under Contact Us</p> <p>ML – for more traditional people, could we include something stating that we are</p>	<p>BM</p>

	<p>happy to speak to people in person and be contacted directly. BM can include a prompt noting people can approach us directly/come speak to us.</p> <p>Councillors generally happy with the feel of the website and how it navigates.</p>	
j) Roads, P&P	<p>Written report submitted.</p> <p>ML was interested in a letter in BLV about motorhomes. CC thinks this will be covered by the NP presentation at the next meeting.</p> <p>MF noting that the car parking management plan will come to Callander early in the new year.</p>	
i) Stirling City Region Deal	<p>No report</p> <p>Still going through</p>	
j) Visitor Info. Centre	<p>No report. Status quo, centre closed, having a thank you gathering for everyone this month.</p> <p>SH: Also having a board meeting on Saturday at the VIC. We will be looking back at what was achieved and also looking ahead at what we can do next year. Some 12 volunteers will be coming to the thank you gathering and a couple of people from Loch Katrine.</p>	CC
7. Updates from other Organisations	<p>a) Police Report:</p> <p>No questions. CC noting that the report highlights Monteith Crescent [NB discussed later in the Minutes]</p> <p>ML understands police station closed for a while apparently as receptionist retired. Should we be writing to someone to enquire about this and express that we want the police station opened? One can see people going down, ringing the bell and nothing happens.</p> <p>ME: Best person to contact is Jules Marshall – Stirling Commander – ME will pass on details to LB</p> <p>Will write to police.</p> <p>b) Callander Community Development Trust:</p> <p>Written report submitted.</p> <p>The Callander Common Good Fund: Comments on the report submitted by RJ in writing as follows: The Callander Common Good Fund, and all other community CGFs, have always been managed by the Provost Panel and should not be taken away from the Provost Panel. The fund has always been held in reserve for something vital or special to the community which cannot find funding from any other source. For example, if the War Memorial was considered to be unsafe and funds could not be found to repair it then this is a special case which could be funded by the Common Good Fund. It is not for general use such as providing expenses for the Town Coordinator. CCC receives reports on the state of the fund every year and has always taken this approach that it is held in reserve for a very special case. The Callander CGF was recently topped up by a number of Trust Funds held by Stirling Council which CCC agreed would be better being part of the CGF, so the fund is provided by generous people who in the past have provided their own money for the benefit of Callander - this is why it is a special fund. Although the Provost Panel administers the fund, the rules state that any funding must be approved by Callander Community Council.</p> <p>BM noting RJ's comments. BM's role at the CCDT meetings is to represent the CCC and to listen to what they have to say and convey any issues and comments from our [CCC] point of view. Will try to clarify what was meant, as he is only a messenger.</p>	<p>LB</p> <p>BM</p>

	<p>Understand that CCDT are simply looking around at other sources of funding and someone suggested looking into this fund to understand what it is for/what it does.</p> <p>The directors understood that the fund was administered by the provost panel and suggested it might be better managed locally e.g. by CCC. BM thankful for additional information from RJ, which he will be able to pass on to CCDT.</p> <p>CC wondering whether Malin was asking about the funds for CCDT or CCC?</p> <p>BM understands that they were just looking at finding out more about it at this stage and agreed CCC should have involvement in it.</p> <p>ML remembers that this grant has always come to CCC and CCC's solely responsible to decide what to do with it. Not keen on for another organisation to suggest that they would like to have an input.</p> <p>MF noting she can look into the fund. CC wondering how often it is applied for. Rarely to ML's knowledge. CC asking why the fund was at £7200?</p> <p>ME explaining that this is a historic fund for each area (e.g. there is also one for Dunblane and Bridge of Allan). The funds largely ceased to have any new income coming into them, but for instance if an asset is sold, it could trace its way back with the funds going to the common good fund. SC are slowly working through these historical old fashioned bequeaths and are trying to reallocate and trace them back – some already traced and that's what is giving the £7k figure. It is administered by the provost panel who will contact CCC on receipt of an application– as the statutory body - to find out if CCC are content with it. Would be interesting t get remit of what can be applied for.</p> <p>MF noting that there may be a list. She will look into it and will check the criteria.</p> <p>St Kessog Asset Transfer: Comments on this part of the report submitted by RJ in writing as follows: What is meant by "there was some uncertainty over whether Dick Johnson was in parallel talks with Stirling Council over St Kessog being 'gifted' to the community"? It was clear at the joint meeting that the CCC working group would continue discussions with SC while CCDT applied for funds from SLF. There has been no mention about St Kessog being gifted to the community. For information, I was included in an email about the interviews of the 2 consultants, which I assume meant that I was invited to take part in the interviews. Most of the CCDT Directors seem to have been invited to take part which seems a bit excessive and it seems a bit premature as the funds have not been approved for the consultants. The interviews are being held on Friday morning when I am working so I will not be able to attend.</p> <p>BM could not remember who brought it up at the meeting, but that was the discussion at the meeting - that RC was talking to SC about alternatives to asset transfer and whether talking to SC about SC somehow gifting it to the community. It was simply raised whether he was looking at gifting as opposed to asset transfer- that uncertainty that was raised.</p> <p>MF was asked to look at burdens at that Callander Partnership meeting and one other</p>	ME
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item. She looked at burdens and sent information to the CCDT subgroup and Susan as the chair of the joint group. Said perhaps should speak to these assets groups myself as when doing asset transfer would come through community engagement.

CC clarifying the discussion from the joint meeting- Malin was supposed to be looking at feasibility and RJ was supposed to be looking at what could go in there and whether there was any scope to include it as part of SCRD.

ML understood that at the joint meeting it was decided that RJ was the first point of contact for this and that he would lead on it.

SH concurring with CC, that's what was discussed at the joint meeting. Wondering whether perhaps discussion at the Callander Partnership (CP) meeting caused some confusion. RJ submitted a report to CP. Steven McDonald was at that meeting and said he would investigate this.

CC noting we have a building here that the community wish to use. There are number of options.

SH confirming that at the moment Malin is only looking at the asset transfer and not the other two options in order to do it step by step. This would best be discussed at the joint meeting with RC present.

CC just concerned that the other two routes are already being discounted.

AM understands that the hopes are that SCRD will be able to assist with refurbishments, irrespective who owns it, so then once it is in a fit state to t can be determined whether the community wants to buy it or rent it. The asset transfer won't happen if the building is not refurbished.

BL agrees with CC that we cannot sit back and wait to see what happens with the asset transfer, as it may not happen.

c) Town Co-ordinator:

As noted in the Chair's report.

Can we think about what we think the job should be/should do for us (for the CCC) – CC noting that there is a job description that outline's the job. Asking SH to circulate. SH will forward it to LB.

d) Callander Partnership:

- The leisure centre kindly offered the room meetings as refurbishment at the current venue.

- The discussion about St Kessogs has been covered earlier.

- Claish Farm work apparently starting in January. Highlighted that Sustrans were happy to go and speak to the group. MF noting that the 3 of them are available, MF awaiting response from RJ.

e) Callander Landscape Partnership:

Meeting tomorrow morning.

	<p>f) National Park: - from email ??</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stakeholder forum – pleased how it went, it was interesting - Annual report coming up – discussion about by-laws- camping management zone has been in place for 3 years. Important report to Scottish ministers. Looking at how will deal with zones in the future. <p>It needs financial resources. We need sites for motorhomes and campers etc, otherwise it won't work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statutory consultation to look out for (see the email) as would probably want to comment on- Active Park Healthy People <p>g) Stirling Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sent information out looking for people for participation focus group - Was looking at burdens as previously mentioned - Reminding that any community council actions or any information CCC want- there is a generic mail box- cc enquiries – so this is to be used. Any questions about the admin grant, around scheme of establishment and similar however should go to the engagement team. - Reminding that all minutes should be sent to SC 14 days after the meeting they are agreed at. She was doing a review and notes some recent ones missing. LB noting that the minutes from last few meetings have only recently been agreed as there were corrections. <p>Also, couple of the minutes missing from the website and were sent through. MF will check for them if we tell her which ones we think are missing. Seems to have fallen off the circulation list? It is useful to be able to say that she at least has a draft.</p> <p>BM wondering if the finalized minutes once corrected after each meeting could also be circulated, not just the draft. LB happy to do that.</p>	
8.AOCB	<p>Mentieth Crescent issues</p> <p>Local resident asking for help from CCC and SC regarding applications and houses given to certain individuals in that area, and issues connected to this.</p> <p>They have a drug problem there. Police are involved and aware. They had a meeting and with a local councillor and it went well.</p> <p>Houses there were originally built for pensioners. After they passed away, the houses were given to younger persons, who have problems with drinking and drugs and making life hell for other residents. There have been overdoses and assaults.</p> <p>Mentieth Crescent seems to have become “a dumping ground for people”.</p> <p>One of the houses there is used as a homeless temporary housing. After there were many complaints about a certain person there, that person was just moved from that house to a rented accommodation owned by SC, so they are still there and nothing has changed.</p> <p>ME noting he is aware and has been involved in some of these issues. SC have their allocation policy to follow, but there is nothing wrong with the community council, should it so decide, to write to the housing service of the LA to simply state to the SC whether they could be mindful to the fact that over the years there have been a few issues in that area, would they be mindful how they deploy their allocations policy in this small area in the future, as it may help re-balance people that live there and help resolve the difficulties faced by people there. If CCC so wish, they could just ask SC to be mindful how they allocate in a specific area.</p> <p>It was noted that generally public are not sure how allocations work for homeless</p>	

	<p>people. The resident is aware that there was a family there who had a son, who lived there all his life, was never homeless in his life, but SC allocated him the homeless house.</p> <p>ME is also aware that the allocations policy is being reviewed but that is not the point of what is being discussed here; whatever the policy is, will be the policy. On that basis CCC needs to be careful about the language they use here, but in his view, it is not an unreasonable request to make to SC.</p> <p>Residents, on advice, are doing the right thing here. If there is an incident, they are reporting it, which is important, as if it is not recorded, it doesn't exit. If there are problems, people need to make the council and the police aware of it.</p> <p>BL aware of similar problems in a different area when he was a chair. He is aware of how difficult it is to prove these cases of antisocial behaviour and to get any results. At that time, it was that bad that the local business started to refuse to serve that particular family. CC would of course not suggest going down that route. BL not suggesting that at all, just noting what happened at the time and trying to emphasize that it is not easy. CCC needs to give this gentleman assistance.</p> <p>The resident noting that there are elderly residents that won't go out now, because of that. The people in question can be intimidating to some.</p> <p>ML also aware of the problems and it has been going on for far too long. He is also aware that school kids go there in the evening to get their drugs. There are two ladies down there that write regularly to SC and nothing seems to get done.</p> <p>CC takes the point, but wondering why this has not been brought to CCC before now. He was not aware of the severity of the problem. DS noting it may have been mentioned, but not discussed specifically. CC will write to the SC.</p>	
9. Close	Date of Next Meeting: 7.30 pm on 13th January 2020 at CYP	