

## Callander Community Council

### Minutes of the meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**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), John Watson (JW), Elaine Watterson (EW), Marilyn Moore (MM)

**Also in Attendance:** Cllr Martin Earl (NP), Michelle Flynn (SC), Helen Terry (TC)

**Chair of Meeting:** Chris Corden

Topic	Detail/ Discussion	Action
<b>1. Introduction Apologies</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b> CC welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Helen Terry (HT - Town Coordinator) and Maggie Magor (Minutes Secretary)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> David Shearer, Roger Watt, Richard Johnson</p>	
<b>2. Callander Citizen of the Year 2019</b>	<p>Ronnie Forbes attended and was presented his award as Callander Citizen of the Year 2019.</p> <p>Ronnie thanked the CCC for recognition of his role in the community.</p>	
<b>3. Speaker 1: National Park (Caravan Survey)</b>	<p>Matt Buckland and Graeme Archibald attended from the National Park Office and gave a presentation on the Caravan Survey looking at levels of motorhome usage at the Meadows carpark. Data presented was based on two periods in 2019 (May/June and Aug/Sept). Additionally, two user surveys were completed to determine user-demographics, activity and economic spend. NP gave figures of 250,000 campervan ownership currently in the UK with an expected 14% growth per year without taking into account the hire sector.</p> <p>CC thanked the NP for their interesting presentation, which had some surprising results, particularly around economic spend.</p> <p>BL asked if the NP have a plan to deal with expected growth. Do they intend to implement policy and infrastructure? NP responded that a sustainable approach working with the Local Authority would be the best way forward. They have a page on their website listing places to stay and responsible usage.</p> <p>ML asked if the Station Road carpark could be used given the facilities there (toilets and laundrette). Signs could direct motorhomes to use this carpark. EW asked if there were any new waste disposal units, as users have in the past used the river. She asked, were there any plans to install new ones and where would they go? AM said that it wasn't seen to be appropriate to have a unit on the Meadows carpark. The NP responded that they have put work into where to put these, also there are apps which give locations to motorhome users.</p> <p>ML asked what rules were in place regarding motorhomes staying in the Meadows? ME responded that the bylaws in place do not prohibit people from staying</p>	

	<p>overnight, despite what the signs say.</p> <p>ME expressed that the surveys have provided invaluable information that should be fed directly into the Parking Management Plan meeting to be held for Callander in May 2020. He added that the CCC need to make sure they have proper representation at this meeting and that all proposals have community support.</p> <p>MM asked about the impact of Heart200 and the NP responded that there will be an impact (the same with the Trossachs Trail) and this impact needs to be managed, as well as managing people's expectations.</p> <p>The NP will be providing the presentation for CCC to read.</p>	
<b>4. Speaker 2: Sustrans (update)</b>	<b>DNA – put over to next meeting</b>	
<b>5. Minutes of December Meeting</b>	<p><b>Amendments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) 4a, p.2 (line 2) should be LAs not Las</li> <li>ii) 4a, p.2 heading Yorkpark should read Yourpark</li> <li>iii) 6b, p.3 Ancaster Square. Add 'We thanked the estate for the gift of the Christmas tree.'</li> <li>iv) 6f, p.4 Environment, para 3, should read 'too many deer' rather than dears.</li> <li>v) 6h, p5 Planning, third last line should read 'because of proximity to site' not size.</li> </ul> <p>Minutes agreed subject to the above amendments Proposed by Brian Luti, seconded by David Moore</p>	
<b>6. Action Log</b>	<p>1. Plastic Free Callander meeting presentation to be emailed round to community councillors ACTION: EW said this will be reproduced at the open day on 29<sup>th</sup></p> <p>2. Twinning enquiry with Callander in Canada (CC) ACTION: not yet complete, put over to next meeting</p> <p>3. Enquire about the current closure of the Callander community Police Station ACTION: LB has emailed ME to obtain contact details of Gill Marshall (GM), the Stirling area commander to make enquiries. GM confirmed recruitment process was ongoing, interviews taking place this week.</p> <p>4. Stirling Council to be contacted in relation to the Mentieth Crescent issues (CC) ACTION: not yet complete, put over to next meeting</p> <p>5. BEAR Scotland to be contacted to discuss the electricity supply infrastructure on the Main Street (for Christmas light) (LB) ACTION: LB will liaise with DS, as understands he has made contact with BEAR about this. MM confirmed he has indeed.</p> <p>6. MM to be put in touch with a resident seeking information in relation to Camp</p>	<p>EW</p> <p>CC</p> <p>LB</p> <p>CC</p> <p>LB</p>

	<p>Place Play Park (ML) ACTION: Contact details passed on. MM to visit.</p> <p>7. Enquire about a refund for the CCC's planning application that was withdrawn NP Planning office (BM) ACTION: BM contacted NP and spoke with Lynn Wyllie who advised that the National Park had issued a cheque for £200.50 immediately on receipt of CCC's planning application cheque for £401 in September 2016, saying community councils only had to pay half the standard fee. ME will make an enquiry re verbal assurances given at the time application was withdrawn. BM to forward copy of email correspondence from Lynn Wyllie to ME.</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>ME BM</p>
<p><b>7. Reports from Office Bearers:</b></p>	<p><b>a) Chair (CC):</b></p> <p><b>St Kessogs meeting</b> attended. It was very informative but more work is to be done. CC proposed that he report back further in a closed meeting which isn't officially CCC so as to limit any press involvement/coverage at this early stage.</p> <p><b>Callander Partnership meeting</b> is on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020. CC will report back at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Bracklinn Falls signage.</b> The proposed signage to go up around Bracklinn Falls alerting visitors to the dangers of the areas (following last year's fatality) had been circulated by CC. Discussion followed and there was a general feeling that the sign's message needs to be stated more strongly, i.e. the real risk of death.</p> <p>The issue of placing buoyancy aids at the Falls was also put forward (AM/BM). CC stated that following risk assessments and the advice of the Search and Rescue Service, there wasn't a case for buoyancy aids. ML reinforced this, stating that buoyancy aids don't work in these instances and that people need to be alert to the dangers but responsible for looking out for themselves. ACTION: CC requested all to consider the signs and send LB any suggestions.</p> <p><b>COP26.</b> Glasgow will host the United Nations climate change summit (26<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties, known as COP26) in 2021. CC put forward the idea of CCC having some presence at the event, such as highlighting what Callander and the area has to offer, i.e the Great Trossachs Path, as well as the environmental initiatives taking place in the locality. EW noted that this will be a high security event. ME noted that there is a high number of attendees expected (around 30,000 delegates) and that the event timetable will be busy.</p> <p>EW suggested the Hunter Foundation as an in-road to the event and the potential nomination of a McLaren High School pupil who is currently proactive in implementing environmental initiatives in her local area and at MHS. CC asked the group to consider other ideas to link in with COP26 and bring to the March meeting.</p> <p><b>b) Vice-Chair (SH):</b></p> <p><b>Stirling Council Open Meeting:</b> SH addressed the importance of continued good communications in the town to get people talking about issues that affect the whole community. This was in particular the case with regards to resident concerns about</p>	<p>CC</p> <p>CC</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>flooding. SH re-capped that the Nov meeting was focused on the Meadows Car Park Flood Alleviation Scheme (CCC had attended the Dec meeting and noted the wide concern). SH argued there was a need to look historically and holistically, not just at Bridgend, but the wider area with regard to the proposals. SH handed over to Ian McCourt (Bridgend resident) who, with MM, had attended a recent meeting at WSP in Glasgow (notes of meeting circulated).</p> <p>Ian McCourt (IM) expressed that the community need to look beyond the proposed flood wall. Currently Stirling Council are looking to construct the wall in 2021. IM argued that there should be a pause put on the time-scale to allow time to reflect and consider other options and ideas (of which there are many) with a view to developing a strategy that works for all of Callander.</p> <p>ME compared the flood discussions with those held for the changes to the Craggs lower woods (the latter having had very good communication). He argued that flood plans in Callander have been ongoing for several years and go on/off the Stirling Council agenda. He suggested there may be pressure to spend money allocated to this within a certain timeframe, but agreed a pause on developments is necessary. IM will forward notes of WSP meeting to ME.</p> <p>The next SC Open Meeting is 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020. SH argued that this needs to be advertised much further in advance and should also be better structured with a proper agenda, chair and recording of outcomes. SH to email Maria Lucey at Stirling Council to express this. BL argued that councillor RJ (not in attendance at CCC meeting) should be consulted and in attendance at these meetings. ACTION: LB to contact RJ to find out dates he would be available to meet SC representatives and consultants regarding the flood scheme.</p> <p>ML suggested that IM be co-opted onto the sub-group in acknowledgement of his background and involvement in the matter - all in agreement. CC/LB to check the procedure for this.</p> <p><b>c) Secretary (LB):</b></p> <p>LB had circulated an email regarding Heart200 and asked if councillors could read and comment ahead of their meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2020. ME suggested that Matt Buckland (Visitor Operations Manager at NP) is contacted directly regarding this.</p> <p><b>d) Treasurer (BM):</b></p> <p>BM had circulated his report. Updated figures are Airtricity Fund £64,071.11 and the Admin fund £4575.45. Nothing more to add from what was outlined in Action Log earlier regarding refund from NP office.</p>	<p>IM</p> <p>SH</p> <p>LB</p> <p>CC/LB</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>LB</p>
<p><b>8. Updates from other organisations</b></p>	<p><b>a) Police Report</b></p> <p>PC Deans and PC King attended (copy of report previously forwarded). No comments or questions. LB reported that she'd had word from Gill Marshall, Forth Valley Police, that the Callander police station was in the process of hiring a new receptionist following concerns that the last one had retired.</p> <p><b>b) Callander Community Development Trust</b></p>	

	<p>BM was unable to attend the CCDT meeting. Put over to next month.</p> <p><b>c) Town Co-ordinator</b> Helen Terry has been appointed and the group welcomed her. She is currently getting organised in her new role. She outlined that the interviews for a part-time manager at the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Summerfest planning has been taking place. An online survey will go live on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 regarding St Kessogs inviting the community to comment on how the building could be used (two-week response time).</p> <p><b>d) Callander Partnership</b> Nothing to report. Next meeting is 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 which will include discussions on how to develop Callander as a tourist attraction.</p> <p><b>e) Callander Landscape Partnership</b> The next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020. CC will attend.</p> <p><b>f) National Park</b> ME will be attending an update meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. He reported that currently most projects are working well. There is an ongoing conversation regarding the bridge at Leny Falls. The next year's budget is due to be set shortly. The Scottish Government's draft budget indicates there'll be an uplift in revenue, but decisions are still to be made about revenue and capital spend (meeting to be held in March). ME suggested that the NP caravan survey project (agenda item 3) remain on the CCC agenda for now, as grants may be made available to delivery these sorts of priorities in the future.</p> <p><b>g) Stirling Council</b> ME discussed the Stirling Council petition process citing a recent petition presented by the small community of Blairlogie with regards to speeding through the village. They did a well-presented and well-researched report, which has led to the lowering of the speed limit in Blairlogie despite going against national guidelines. ME suggested this should be sent to all Community Councils as a good example if they have similar issues (i.e. the trunk road going through the centre of Callander).</p> <p>The Stirling Council Budgeting meeting is to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020. The next year rates for Council Tax and the housing revenue accounts budget will be determined at this meeting. ME noted that the Council Tax rates set can be lowered following this meeting, however they cannot be raised. Capital and revenue budgets are due to be set at a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and following this, there may be flexibility to lower the rates set.</p> <p>MF gave information regarding the new McLaren Community Minibus which will be available for hire by community groups and organisations operating within the area. An information evening for potential users is taking place at McLaren High School on Wed, February 26, 2020 - 6:30pm-7.30pm.</p> <p>National Planning Framework meeting is taking place on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 (DM to attend).</p>	<p>CC</p> <p>DM</p>
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	<p>There is an Enterprise Workshop taking place in Balloch on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, which will be presenting local community projects (including some currently taking place in Aberfoyle). ACTION: ME will send the link regarding this.</p> <p>MF reminded the group about recording decisions on minutes, as officers do look back at previous minutes and the decisions agreed.</p>	ME
<p><b>9.Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>a) Airtricity</b></p>	<p>BL raised a proposal that CCC should discuss funding applications and methods with the Callander Hydro Fund. He argued that they have more money to spend. EW agreed that the Hydro Fund income will continue to increase, in contrast to the Airtricity fund, which will eventually run out. She argued that funding recurrent events will be difficult for Airtricity and maybe there should be a focus on one-off applications. BM argued that the CCC should not commit to any funding beyond one year and that all applicants need to re-apply on a yearly basis. It was agreed that CCC should liaise with the Hydro Fund. CC will meet with Frank Parkes to find an appropriate way to take this forward.</p> <p>2 applications were received for the Airtricity Committee's consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The VIC have applied for £5,000 for running costs. Airtricity Committee recommendation to agree to the application – full council agrees (CC/AM/SH declared an interest and did not vote – it was agreed that interests should be declared in a new agenda item after introduction and apologies – ACTION: LB to insert).</li> <li>2. Application from the Make and Meet knitting team run by Julie Carmichael at Deli Ecosse for £200 to go towards wool for future yarn-bombing projects in Ancaster Square – Airtricity Committee are happy to fund this – full council in agreement.</li> </ol> <p>There was continued discussion (over from December minutes) regarding the restriction on paying someone's wages in the Airtricity application rules (previously questioned by AM). BM has since had discussions with members of the Kilmadock Windfarm Trust and Dunblane Windfarm group regarding their distribution of funds. It was generally seen that wages were part of running costs and grants were given for salaries.</p> <p>BM proposed that the rules change so Airtricity can issue grants to fund salaries (such as the Town Coordinator). CC agreed that this exclusion clause should be removed. All in agreement. DM pointed out that as most applications were from voluntary groups, there would probably not be a big change, however it was good to have this additional flexibility. ACTION: BM to action changing the criteria and ensuring this is clear on the Airtricity grant application form guidelines and on the CCC website.</p> <p>This item is still subject to clarification.</p>	<p>CC</p> <p>LB</p> <p>BM</p>
<b>b) Bridgend</b>	SH, nothing further to report from earlier office-bearer report.	
<b>c) Callander</b>	No report for this meeting.	

<b>Observatory</b>		
<b>d) Camp Place Playpark</b>	She has had one example quote including installation and layout which came to about £100,000 and 3 quotes about to be sent off. Quotes are around £100,000. The project is moving along, albeit slowly.	
<b>e) Environment</b>	<p><b>Coilhullan Wood</b></p> <p>ML wished to raise the issue of Coilhullan Wood and referred to the Woodland Group report circulated by councillor RJ (not in attendance). CC questioned the relevance of discussing this, as RJ was not requested by CCC to attend this meeting or asked to produce a report. He added that the CCC were not involved in supporting or objecting to the application. Currently the Scottish Land Fund (SLF) is still considering the application and will make a decision before the end of April 2020. The Forest Land Services (FLS), however, is considering rejecting the application, mainly due to lack of community support. AM noted that Mark Griffiths had said that FLS had turned down the application using outdated criteria. This had been pointed out to them, in an appeal, still outstanding.</p> <p>SH pointed out that the majority of objections were from residents from the Invertrossachs Rd and on the Mollands estate (and that these totalled no more than 10 households). ML and EW pointed out that the majority of supporting statements were from non-Callander residents. SH pointed out that RJ had attended the Woodland Group meeting but had only observed and made no contribution to discussions. CC asked if his report adequately reflected what had taken place at the meeting? SH confirming that it did. CC/BM put forward that when a new application is submitted, the CCC can then take a view.</p> <p>ML asked that it be minuted that he fully supports RJ's actions and that he felt the CCC were sitting on a fence. EW asked if an updated business plan had been agreed. SH said that they were awaiting a Scottish Land Fund valuation before the application could go through (apparently the value of timber is a key point).</p> <p><b>Beavers</b></p> <p>ML reported the good news that there are a family of beavers at Eas Gobhain near the chalet park. He's keeping an eye on them.</p>	
<b>f) Plastic Free Callander</b>	<p>EW reported that the group met two weeks ago.</p> <p>They were disappointed to be turned down by the Hydro Fund in their application for re-usable bottles for all pupils at MHS. This was a setback and they now need to re-group and think what next. BM asked how much they had applied for to the Hydro Fund. EW was unsure. AM outlined reasons for the rejection stating that, i) 60% of pupils already have water bottles; ii) it was a one-off request, so next years S1s wouldn't receive one; iii) CPS children already receive a bottle when they start primary school.</p> <p>The group now has a logo, which is on the Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram. A weekly hashtag is going live this week, which will send a key fact/tip each week regarding plastic waste and recycling to all Twitter users. ME asked if these facts/tips could be collated into a list published in the BLV for non-Twitter users.</p>	EW

	<p>The Wildlife Group have asked PFC to share their space in the Meadows during Summerfest on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.</p> <p>The group will attend the Callander Enterprise meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.</p> <p>EW reported how the McLaren High School headboy has implemented initiatives within the school to get plastic cutlery switched to wooden and to get two new recycle bins in place. MHS are also hoping to organize a summit regarding these issues for other schools in the area.</p> <p>A survey is been put together to collect information from local businesses, for example, asking what products are sold/used and are these eco-friendly.</p> <p>There is a litter pick on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> April from 10am meeting in Ancaster Square. EW urged all to attend even if they can only commit for an hour.</p>	EW
<b>g) Planning</b>	<p>Written report circulated and DM went over some of the applications.</p> <p>The Callander Youth Project (CYP) application is particularly problematic because it is incomplete. DM compared this to the new clubhouse at the golf club where similarly the application was potentially problematic, not in principle, but in the way it had been put together. The application for is not yet on the NP site and therefore is not validated.</p> <p>DM has written to the NP to express concerns regarding this but the application is open to review. SH expressed that she had not received the outline of these concerns and was surprised by this, given that Bridgend is her locality. She feels that Bridgend residents over-reacted and there is in fact much that is positive in the application, it is just badly worded and needs more detail. She stated that she will be putting a positive posting on the site. BL stated that he wants to support the criteria but that the application is incompetent.</p> <p>ME will raise the matter of poor-quality applications with the NP.</p> <p>MF expressed that this should all go through the proper channels.</p>	ME
<b>h)Website Development</b>	<p>BM provided an update on the CCC website, which is now ready to go live.</p> <p>There was further discussion regarding website content. BM reported that there is now a section on NP planning processes, provided by DM, which is very informative and makes the process much easier to understand, although DM stated that this is still a work-in-progress and he's still working out what level to pitch it to people. ME suggested this section could also include links to the scheme of delegation and the NP Planning Panel.</p> <p>BM suggested that details about Plastic Free Callander could also go onto the site, although EW expressed that they have no posters or formal agenda. EW will have a look at the website and consider what could go on (ACTION EW).</p> <p>BM suggested a go-live date 1<sup>st</sup> of March. A poster will be prepared to announce the launch of the new website, which will also be shared on Facebook. ACTION: BM/LB.</p>	EW  BM/LB



	There was some discussion regarding ownership of content, as there is no formal contract with Callander Enterprise. EW expressed that there needs to be care regarding data protection and using people's name on the website.	
<b>i) Roads, P&amp;P</b>	Written report submitted. Covered in Agenda Item 3, National Park presentation and caravan survey	
<b>j) Stirling City Region Deal</b>	No report Still going through	
<b>k) Visitor Info Centre</b>	Nothing further to report.	
<b>10.AOCB</b>	<p>The Development Trust have asked the CCC to do a joint table with them at the Enterprise Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. There was a brief discussion on what information might be presented. MM suggested a focus on the Airtricity Fund and what initiatives have received money from the fund. ACTION: LB to compile list. ACTION: CC asked that all councillors work together to support the event.</p> <p>-CC announced that Toad Patrol will be out in their hi-vis vests from this week.</p> <p>-BL asked that more information be obtained on the Hydro Fund and how it works, to get some more clarity on this matter. ACTION: CC will speak to Frank Parkes regarding this and organize a meeting.</p> <p>-VE Day. EW reported that Deanston Distillery are now sponsoring the event. There will also be a short film made of people's memories to screen.</p>	<p>LB ALL</p> <p>CC</p>
<b>11. Close</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting: 7.30 pm on 9th March 2020 at CYP</b>	