

**Callander Community Council**  
**Minutes of the meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Community Councillors:** Susan Holden (SH), Brian Luti (BL), Mike Luti (ML), David Moore (DM), Alex Mitchell (AM), John Watson (JW), Elaine Watterson (EW), Marilyn Moore (MM), David Shearer (DS), Roger Watt (RW)

**Also in Attendance:** Ian McCourt, Helen Terry (TC)

**Chair of Meeting:** Susan Holden (SH)

Topic	Detail / Discussion	Action
<b>1. Introduction and Apologies</b>	<p><b>Introduction</b> SH welcomed everyone to the meeting</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Richard Johnson, Chris Corden, Lucia Bobkova, Brian McKay, Martin Earl, John Watson, Police,</p>	
<b>2. Speaker 1: Sustrans Update</b>	<p>Marie-Claire Nyinawumuntu and Ellie Mills attended from Sustrans to present Phase One of the proposed National Cycle Network 765 route (NCN765) from Doune to Burn of Cambus.</p> <p>Phase One is one quarter of the proposed traffic-free route (3km) from Doune to Callander. Phase Two, Burn of Cambus to Callander is aimed to be completed between 2022 and 2027 (9km). Sustrans were at the McLaren Leisure Centre today (9 March 2020) to allow residents to see plans for Phase One and make comments.</p> <p>SH thanked Sustrans for their interesting presentation to the group.</p> <p>RW asked what volume of cyclists Sustrans were expecting to use the new route? He also commented on how Callander has always been a hub/stopover for tourists travelling through and that hopefully the new link would continue to enhance that.</p> <p>DM stated that it was good to see progress, however he questioned the safety of the new route turning onto the A84 in Doune and argued that a route through Doune Ponds would be safer and more sustainable in the long-term.</p> <p>DS remarked on original timescales, Phase One had been put for 2019/2020 and Phase Two 2021. Sustrans stated the need for full consultation of proposals and complexities of Phase One (three bridges will be constructed).</p> <p>MM noted about the proposal to plant broad-leaf trees along the route and remarked that to encourage red squirrels there needed to be a variety of trees planted, not just broad-leaf. Sustrans were in agreement with this comment and they have an ecologist on the project to highlight these points.</p> <p>ML asked about equestrian access to the route. Sustrans replied</p>	

	<p>that this has been considered and there is heightened access under the bridges, as well as gates to the side of cattle-grids.</p> <p>DM remarked that posts proposed to prevent motorised vehicles accessing the route should not be so narrow that those on adapted bikes and wheelchairs cannot access the path.</p> <p>BL commented on access for emergency services along the route and MM remarked that vehicles can access NCN7 (at the Lade). Sustrans responded that these comments would all be noted and put to Transport Scotland.</p>	
<p><b>3. Speaker 2: Callander Youth Project Update</b></p>	<p>Patricia Kent attended from Callander Youth Project with a view to updated the CCC on work done by CYP and plans for the future. PK stated that she'd like to attend the CCC meeting on a regular basis to provide ongoing updates of work.</p> <p>PK referred back to Dec 2018 when funding came to an end for the CYP and there was a decision made to restructure going from 5 staff to 2. PK issued a handout of what CYP delivered in 2019, including employment opportunities to 12 young people, 277 youth provision delivery hours and 367 volunteer hours.</p> <p>CYP were working with the Callander Landscape Partnership and the John Muir Award offering outdoor activities to young people and funding individuals to do youth work and gain qualifications. The CYP has a youth club for P6 and upwards. They have a youth worker now based at the McLaren HS every Wednesday. They have a gardening project and plans for the future include assisting other rural communities to set up youth clubs (i.e., in Killin).</p> <p>PK reported that last year the hostel lost its 5-star rating largely due to the repair and renovation work that took place over the winter months. She referred to the planning application for pods and the reason CYP had applied for this, as funding is becoming more difficult, this is one solution for becoming self-sustainable. PK also said they were open to any suggestions the CCC may have and the importance of CYP as a legacy for the young people of Callander.</p> <p>RW congratulated PK on a great programme of activities and encouraged the CYP to keep going forward with new ideas. He stated that the CCC was here to help and to not hesitate in asking what CCC can do for CYP.</p> <p>Bill Miller (vice chair of CYP, also in attendance) said there was currently no disability access in CYP. The pods would change this (there is plan to have an autism-friendly pod). EW suggested a dementia garden. PK mentioned that they were broadening their constitution and the age of youngsters they support to 9yrs – 29yrs.</p>	

	<p>DM referred to the planning application for pods and confirmed that the CCC had not objected to the proposal. There were queries on the detail that were now in the hands of the NP planners. SH commented that it was good the CYP was so forward thinking and that the CCC welcomed an ongoing conversation. PK responded that she would like to report back to CCC 6-monthly on activities.</p>	
<p><b>4. Declarations of Interest</b></p>	<p>Discussion regarding declarations of interest and SH proposed waiting until Michelle Flynn from Stirling Council is next at the meeting to discuss the rules and regulations. There was some discussion regarding emails sent out by the group regarding this issue. ML read out an email he had sent to CC expressing his views that declarations of interest should be recorded.</p> <p>BL referred to a Stirling Council document Scheme of establishment) outlining rules and guidance with regard to this and suggested the group all read. ACTION: group to read report.</p> <p>CC had proposed starting a grid/spreadsheet showing declarations of interest and speak to Michelle Flynn. All in agreement. ACTION: CC</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>CC</p>
<p><b>5. Associate Membership - Vote</b></p>	<p>Proposal to give Ian McCourt associate membership of CCC for his work on the flood subgroup and programme. All in agreement. ACTION: follow up to SC, Michelle Flynn to advise.</p>	<p>MF</p>
<p><b>6. Community Council Private Meeting - vote</b></p>	<p>Discussion as to why private meetings of the CCC would be required. BL/DS/ML all stated that they were not in favour of private meetings. SH proposed that all issues be brought to the main meeting. All in agreement.</p>	
<p><b>7. Minutes of February Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>Amendments:</b></p> <p>Proposed amendments to the minutes for agreement on Monday 9 March 2020</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Under Environment/Beavers: Correction required, the river is called the Eas Gobhain, not East Kilbourn</li> <li>2. Item 6, Action Log, Item 7, correction required: It wasn't said that Lynn Wyllie had immediately issued a cheque for £200.50 after BM had spoken with her. What was said was that Lynn Wyllie 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.</li> <li>3. Item 9a, Airtricity</li> </ol>	

	<p>"Doune Kilmadock Development Trust" to be corrected to "Kilmadock Windfarm Trust"</p> <p>4. Item 9h, Website Development Correction required: ..." (although not 1st April 2020)" to be deleted as inaccurate. What was suggested was a go-live date of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020. 1<sup>st</sup> April may have been mentioned in connection with the contract with CE starting on that date.</p> <p>5. Vice-Chair report. Correction of dates required: The minutes state: 'The next SC Open Meeting is 24 Feb.' The minutes should state 02 March.</p> <p>6. The discussion on Coilhallan Woods is said to be inaccurate with comments attributed to AM instead of SH. AM noted that Mark Griffiths had said that Forest and Land had turned down the application using outdated criteria. This had been pointed out to them, in an appeal, still outstanding. This comment is to be added with the rest of the content attributed to SH.</p> <p>MM also added an amendment to the item on Camp Playpark: Delete: 'She has now had quotes from three play equipment suppliers, as well as three potential lay-out/designs for the new Camp Place play park. 'Replace with: 'She has had one example quote including installation and layout which came to about £100,000 and 3 quotes about to be sent off.'</p>	
<p><b>8. Action Log</b></p>	<p>LB had forwarded the Action Log to the group. All in agreement.</p>	
<p><b>9. Report of Flooding meeting</b></p>	<p>Ian McCourt circulated Community Consultation Process on Flood Management in Callander and documents (drawn up by the CCC sub-group) relating to developments, strategies and suggested solutions pertaining to the on-going debates/meetings with regard to Flood Management. IM expressed concern that he felt Stirling Council were picking up pace with their plans but with lack of communication and engagement. CCC have now asked SC to pause and MM said following the public meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, they are willing to talk.</p> <p>A questionnaire has been produced which ideally should be completed by all Callander residents. SC said these should be returned within a week, however, IM argued, this could not be regarded as reasonable and fair. IM referred to April meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>) which SC have referred to as 'Resident Engagement Event No.4' thereby claiming that earlier meetings were Resident Engagement Events. IM argued that it's all progressing too fast and that CCC need to put pressure onto SC to pause.</p>	

	<p>DM said it was concerning that the variety of solutions had not been put forward, however he worried that if they formally asked SC to pause, the CCC would be blamed for lack of any progress.</p> <p>BL questioned what the rush is? SC argue it's to do with budget but have given a completion date of 2025. Currently they can't answer questions. There are no facts and current information and arguments are misleading. IM agreed there is no back-up information for the current proposed schemes. He also agreed whilst the group should cooperate, they should also put pressure on SC to get facts. The information sheet along with questionnaire needs to be circulated and returned to SC by midnight 15<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>RW commented that if the project fails and CCC are blamed, that's ok, if CCC are standing up for the community and the project is flawed. He also argued that public consultations must penetrate to the public and that a return by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020 is not reasonable or fair. He proposed that an insert be put in the BLV which the CCC group will personally fund so the whole community can comment. This would be out with the deadline but would illustrate to SC the community's view. AM pointed out that the BLV does not accept inserts. IM said he had been putting articles in the BLV but they were currently overwhelmed with material.</p> <p>RW said a letter should be sent to the CEO of SC highlighting the issues around lack of public consultation. ML argued that they need to stop and that a letter should go to Maria Lucey at SC immediately. He put forward that proposals should look more holistically at working with nature instead of pushing the problems downstream.</p> <p>SH concluded that the sub-group should pursue the raised points (with wider group support). ACTION: it was agreed that a letter to SC will be drafted this week expressing the outlined concerns. This can be discussed at Sunday's sub-group meeting</p>	Flood subgroup
<p><b>10. Reports from Office Bearers:</b></p>	<p><b>a) Chair (CC):</b> Chair not in attendance. Report submitted re VIC (discussed below) SH stated that any discussion on the running of the CCC should be put over to another meeting, as key people were absent (this was in response to emails sent by the group since the last meeting). AM stated that there should be no private meetings and no harassment of the Chair (two counsellors, BL and ML, stated they had gone to see him personally about a matter). DS said these matters should've been brought to the group. ML and BL stated that an honest chat was had with CC about procedures. To be put over to next meeting to discuss further.</p> <p><b>b) Vice-Chair (SH):</b> SH has copy of last meeting of CCDT. She will digest these with a view to discussing at the next CCC meeting.</p>	

	<p>The next CCC/CCDT joint meeting will be provisionally held at McLaren Leisure Centre on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Presentation and discussion of the various proposals for St.Kessogs will be on the agenda.</p> <p><b>c) Secretary (LB):</b> Secretary not in attendance. LB had circulated her report and action-log, which were accepted.</p> <p><b>d) Treasurer (BM):</b> Treasurer not in attendance. BM had circulated his report, which was accepted.</p>	
<p><b>11. Updates from other organisations</b></p>	<p><b>a) Police Report</b> PC Deans had provided a report circulated to the group.</p> <p>MM referred to the section of the report regarding bogus workmen and a scheme formed between Stirling Council and the Local Authority Trading Standards Services - BUY WITH CONFIDENCE SCHEME. This scheme provides consumers with a list of local businesses which have given their commitment to trading fairly and can be found on the Stirling Council website. MM suggested this be posted on the OurCallander site. ACTION: MM</p> <p>ML said he was approached by a resident of Menteith Crescent regarding a hypodermic needle found on the road and concerns about drugs in the area. He proposed the secretary send another letter to the police expressing their concerns. All in agreement. ACTION: LB</p> <p>EW referred back to a previous meeting with Rural Stirling about housing allocations and discussing how/why people with previous anti-social behavior are been re-located to Callander. She suggested the group ask Rural Stirling to attend the meeting again as the problem was getting worse. ML argued that the residents need supporting. BL stated that this is not a new problem. SH suggested this be put over to the next meeting when SC are in attendance.</p> <p><b>b) Callander Community Development Trust</b> Covered in vice chair report.</p> <p><b>c) Town Co-ordinator</b> Helen Terry gave feedback on her activities. The new VIC manager, Paula Gardiner, is now in place and the VIC will be opening soon, so there has been preparation work around that.</p> <p>She has attended a forum in Stirling regarding the next</p>	<p>MM</p> <p>LB</p>

	<p>Community Action Plan (CAP) and there was some discussion regarding this. HT referred to the reason why people leave Callander and the implications when such a large amount of the population are economically inactive. EW said that people lack access to advice to encourage them to set up new businesses, but that self-employed people become employers, so it should be encouraged. MM suggested a large shop unit could be put over to entrepreneurial activity with a rent-freeze. HT stated that CAP would go some way to identifying what people want looking forward. BL agreed, though this was not Callander specific, and Callander is part of the bigger picture in society. SH suggested HT go ahead with a potential demographic survey of Callander looking ahead to likely future developments and population change, which in turn could feed into the next discussion of CAP from 2021.</p> <p><b>d) Callander Partnership</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p><b>e) Callander Landscape Partnership</b> Nothing to report. The next meeting is 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020. CC will attend.</p>	
<p><b>12.Matters Arising</b></p>	<p><b>a) Airtricity funded projects</b> BL reported there were no new Airtricity applications. No further movement on discussions with the Callander Hydro Fund.</p> <p><b>b) Bridgend</b> SH, nothing further to report from earlier office-bearer report. RW raised the issues of speed cushions down the street that are now a hazard as bolts are coming out, they are not secure and they're causing damage to car tyres. ACTION: SH to raise this with SC.</p> <p><b>c) Callander Observatory</b> RW had sent link to group for information on The Sill – a National Landscape Discovery Centre in Northumberland (<a href="http://www.thesill.org.uk">www.thesill.org.uk</a>). He said that a combination of factors – shocking weather, the Walter Scott out of action, the Coronavirus – could mean that 2020 is the worse trading year ever for Callander. He argued that these factors could become a feature of daily life for the long-term and therefore the idea of an Observatory in Callander is more urgent. The Observatory would sit in the river and serve multiple community functions making an economic difference. However, RW questioned whether there was sufficient enthusiasm to take it forward. He felt support was not unanimous and argued for a repositioning of the idea with the community deciding what they need. He also expressed that it needed to be a collective project, not with one specific leader.</p>	<p>SH</p>

BL agreed with RW but argued that the vision for an Observatory did need to come from an individual who was the main driver. EW agreed that RW had the passion for it. RW stated that he was passionate about the idea and he felt Callander was a unique community for a project of this type. However, he stated that he was not the right person to lead the project, as he would lose interest in the detail very quickly. SH suggested that everyone continue to spread the work and keep the idea alive to push it forward.

**d) Camp Place Playpark**

MM reported that she has been talking to SC about improving drainage. Currently the park is a mess following work been done to the zip wire that caused a lot of damage. This should proceed once it is dryer.

**e) Environment**

ML reported that he attended the Callander Countryside Group. He updated on the Leny Falls Bridge project and remarked that he felt the NP had now given up hope as ongoing difficulties with Transport Scotland regarding the A84 have failed to be resolved. He commented that it would now be up to the CCDT and MSPs to push this forward. He compared the good planning and consultation of the Sustrans project (see item 2) as missing in the Leny Falls Bridge project.

ML stated the need for the CCC to support an all-abilities loop in Coilhallan Woods. Forestry Land Scotland had previously committed £20,000 to this but will only fund if they retain ownership.

ML referred to land now sold to the Drumardoch Estate. There will likely be an access road for logging work, which would be good news for walkers.

ML said there is a litter pick on Sat 4th April from 10am meeting in Ancaster Square. ML urged all to attend.

ML attended the Horticultural Society AGM. He asked that the CCC consider sponsoring the Callander Hanging Basket Competition (there would be no monetary involvement in doing this). CCC were all in agreement they would support this.

SH gave update on Coilhallan Woods. A revised Woodland Management Plan was sent to the Scottish Land Fund this week. A copy will be on the CCDT website. A decision on the application is due by the end of August.

**f) Plastic Free Callander**

EW reported that after much discussion Scottish Water have agreed to install a Top Up Tap in Callander, subject to planning (it is hoped this will be in the Square). Initially it was refused as Scottish Water had stated that there was only to be one per region (there is one already installed in Stirling City Centre) so this proved to be an uphill struggle. EW stated that it was full credit to Paul Fraser for his tenacity. RW suggested CCC write to Paul Fraser to thank him for his effort. All in agreement.

- Meeting on 9 March took place for planning open day on 29th March.

- EW reiterated that there is a litter pick on Sat 4th April from 10am meeting in Ancaster Square (ML had mentioned in environment discussion). EW urged all to attend even if they can only commit for an hour.

**g) Planning**

Written report circulated by DM.

- The application for the pods submitted by CYP was dealt earlier in the meeting (see item 3). Other applications were chiefly small residential/domestic.

- DM attended a forum run by the Scottish Government on planning up to 2050, which was useful and highlighted how the process could be improved.

**h) Website Development**

BM (not in attendance) provided report on delay to the launch of the website.

**i) Roads, Parking & Pavements**

DMS had submitted report his report and made the following points:

- There has been an absence of the cleaning machine in the town and apparently the operator is unwell. ML pointed out that Colin Clark the street cleaner (and a previous CCC Citizen of the Year) is currently off work with stress. He suggested that CCC send him their good wishes and all in agreement. ACTION: CC/LB

- DMS has familiarized himself with all the potholes on Main St.

- The pathway from Bridgend to the Meadows is very dark and unlit. He has passed this onto Jim Shaw.

- There are currently 104 items with SC.

**j) Visitor Info Centre**

**Report sent from CC.**

A part-time manager – Paula Gardiner – (previously Visit Scotland) is now appointed. She will be responsible for stock and the rota. She will be holding two sessions on Tuesday 10 and

	<p>Wednesday 11 March between 2 and 4 pm. for people to meet with her.</p> <p>A budget has been prepared for the year with a contribution of £7500 from the Hydro fund, which with the support from Airtricity application will give sufficient funds to operate for another year. The retail target is ambitious but the board believes it is achievable.</p> <p>SH reiterated that the major threat to the success of the VIC is lack of volunteers. This needs to be addressed and will require a great deal of effort to persuade more people to come forward. As Loch Katrine are unable to provide staff support this year, double the number of volunteers will be needed.</p>	
<b>13.AOCB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SH reported that ME had emailed CC regarding the removal of CCTV at Lagrannoch Industrial Estate. He argued that due to the high number of burglaries in this areas, this should be reinstated. He asked that the CCC support this. All in agreement. ACTION: SH to confirm to ME.</li> <li>- MM had received information regarding coronavirus.</li> <li>- VE Day. EW reported that this event will now be a Veterans 1940s Tea Party. There will be transportation provided to those wishing to attend and themed food from the era. EW said if anyone wished to help they'd be very welcome. MM suggested contacting the local Coop who might donate food to the event. SH</li> </ul>	
<b>14. Close</b>	Date of Next Meeting: 7.30 pm on 13th April 2020 at CYP.	