

Callander Community Council

Minutes of the meeting: Monday 13th July 2020

Community Councillors: 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), Marilyn Moore (MM), Roger Watt (RW), Richard Johnson (RJ).

Apologies: Elaine Waterson, Michelle Flynn (Stirling Council) and Cllr Evelyn Tweed

Also in Attendance: Cllr. Martin Earl, Ian McCourt- Associate Community Councillor, Peter Davies- Rural Stirling Housing Association, Jim Thomson – Stirling Council Waste Management, Helen Terry- Town Co-ordinator, Katarina Cech- Minute Taker, 3 members of the public

Chair of Meeting: Susan Holden

Item	Action
<u>1. Welcome</u> SH welcomed everyone and introduced Katarina Cech as the new Minute Taker and Peter Davies from Rural Stirling Housing Association.	
<u>2. Declarations of Interest</u> SH - Director of Development Trust and Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Board; MM - Secretary of Callander Enterprise and represent CE on the CCDT board; AM- Director of CCDT and VIC; DM - Chair of McLaren Leisure Board and representative of MLB on CCDT; BM - Director representing CCC in CCDT	
<u>3. Confirmation of Co-opted Member as Full Member</u> Confirmation of a co-opted member as a full member after 6 months: CCC members unanimously voted that Lucia Bobkova, having been a co-opted member for a period exceeding six months, should become a full member of CC. SH welcomed LB as a full member.	
<u>4. Minutes of May and June Meetings</u> May Minutes – approval of minutes had been held over from the June meeting as a potential amendment was unclear. That was still the case, so it was agreed to approve the Minutes subject to a possible amendment at a later stage.	

<p>June Minutes: Item 5 - Planning report should be noted as received and part of the documentation of the June CCC. Name correction: Lucia Bobkova and Alex Mitchell Proposed - BL: Seconded – BM</p>	
<p><u>5. Vice Chair's Report</u></p> <p>In the absence of a Chair, following Chris Corden's resignation four weeks ago, SH as Vice Chair has assumed the Chair's responsibilities until such time as a new Chair is elected. She thanked everybody for all the support and advice they have given her. Her aim is to carry on till next AGM; to keep things running smoothly until then and to focus on current problems with Covid crisis and thinking post-Covid.</p> <p>SH provided an update on a few SC meetings she has been involved in and which she found very productive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Problems as public toilets, car parks were discussed. Good link with Steven Easton and David Crighton. More feedback we get, more action we get. ● SH was present at an online meeting with Alyn Smith (MP) last week to find out what are our concerns were regarding Covid and post-Covid. Also present were MM to provide an overview from Callander Enterprise regarding the retail point of view and HT to talk about Callander Support. It was a 40-45 minutes productive discussion. Alyn Smith would like to come and visit us for live meeting. HT said that Alyn seems very aware of potential problems we face in Callander and is willing to work with the community to try and head off some of the worst effects of the Covid situation. ● Councillors ET and ME have been in touch following the Menteith housing problem. There is some follow-up from their Housing Officer. They suggested that the Housing Officer should come to our next meeting to report the situation. SH asked if everybody is in agreement. It was noted that ML has been involved with the families about the problems. 	SH
<p><u>6. Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>BM advised that the situation regarding FETCH transactions had changed since the report's submission and that there had been four new transactions since then. BM had spoken to the Bank about the Projects Account and had been advised it had not been active for quite a long while. BM spoke to Bank of Scotland and asked the Bank to close this account and transfer the balance of £11.10 into our normal account.</p> <p>Airtricity Grant – BL reported there had been 2 applications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Cleaner Callander Group</u> - £89 to buy equipment for them. All agreed and approved. 2. <u>Jazz Festival</u> - BL said that this year is quite exceptional, businesses are struggling. BL proposed that we could help them. They are asking for £1,950 for publishing the programme and advertising. MM mentioned a possible 	

<p>further application for grant from Jazz Festival for PPE. BM proposed that Covid Fund money might be used to help towards that expense, to support John Martin. MM will speak with John about it. It was said that there was a conversation with Riverside venue manager, and they said that they have quite a good commitment from the performers if the festival goes ahead. BL will contact them to say they will have the money if they need it. The proposal was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>3. Proposed by Brian Luti, seconded by Brian McKay.</p>	<p>BL</p>
<p><u>7. Secretary's Report</u></p> <p>LB advised that Callander Police station is now staffed and opened Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm with a lunch break 12:30-13:30</p> <p><u>Resignation and the follow up co-option procedure:</u> Chris Cordon has resigned as a Chair of CCC and as a member of CCC. Vacancy became available and a member of our local community put his informal application forward to be considered for co-option to fill the space. Advice on the matter received from SC. The matter has been moved forward to a vote hopefully in August. Position has been advertised and the applications are opened till 21st July 2020. The applicants have to fill in the nomination form and send it to SC to approve. LB will keep CCC updated about the applicants.</p> <p>It was noted that the applicants could tell more about their background and experience to CCC. It was agreed that the format should be opened. CCC members agreed to write a letter of thanks for the service to Chris Cordon.</p>	<p>LB</p>
<p><u>8. Updates from Other Organisations</u></p> <p>a) Police Report It was noted that over last 3 months there have been complaints about large vehicles going too fast from the east end of Callander. Action - need to address that back to police.</p> <p>Cllr Martin Earl mentioned that in Perth and Kinross they made some funding available for high visibility cardboard cut-outs of Police Officers and that they had had a positive effect on the problem. BL said it is a great idea. There was a discussion about speed cameras in Callander. MM mentioned about 20mph in Callander and hidden speed cameras. Cllr It was said that static cameras are a problem because of position, it is reactive not proactive. BM explained an idea of traffic lights to slow drivers down. If you speed up, the lights will change to red, it forces you to slow down. Cllr Martin Earl noted that Transport Scotland might have a problem because their objective is to keep the traffic moving. RW thought that average speed cameras would work well.</p> <p>20mph through Callander- Member of the public mentioned that Transport Scotland together with Stirling Council work together in this and they have to keep the traffic moving through Callander.</p>	

b) RSHA Update

Peter Davies from RSHA explained problem in Ritchie Place. There was a 3rd car fire on Friday 26th June 2020. Emergency crews responded very quickly to this incident. Residents have been very helpful and reporting problems to police and Housing Association.

Action: Ask for an update with this situation

It was said that there is a direct correlation between antisocial behaviour and the victim. An update from Cllr Martin Earl, there has been a request about CCTV cameras at Ritchie place. This has progressed and is now a formal proposal on SC list of CCTV cameras locations. SC have acknowledged it.

c) Town Co-ordinator, Including Callander Support and Virtual VIC

- Support Group - HT noted that the support group noticed a decrease in calls. They have 5-6 regulars. HT has been in touch with Food Train and she is trying to put some solutions. There is a small amount of people who are dependent on getting their cash from the cash point and pension- seems to be an issue at the moment. It is a question of how things are organized and administered. People who are shielding might have more movement at the end of July.
- Visitor Centre - got funding for developing website. Currently working on Menu for the website. Brochure - what people ask for to hear about. Photographers will be delivering copyright images. It will be all up and running soon, hopefully by the end of the month.
- Picnic Tables - HT has been working with MM and Stirling Council (SC) on signage – this was a joint application bid with Aberfoyle and only temporary. But SC determined that picnic tables were a better option for the grant and more likely to be successful. Callander is in need of more Picnic tables at the Meadows. There has been some disappointment expressed about abandoning the signage as we want to welcome people with the message of trying to help rather than expressing that we don't want visitors here. It was noted that we need to welcome people but on the other side control them (be on the top of anti-social behaviour). HT noted that 5-6 residents' photographs, where the most littering happens, will be put on the posters and the posters will be out in a few weeks.

Picnic furniture is inappropriate. It should be wheelchair accessible. 7 out of 8 are broken and in need to be repaired.

MM noting that fisheries give their info about all the rivers on their website.

d) National Park

ME

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last weekend, police closed the A821 road twice because there was a lot of traffic on the road. • Loch Venachar - becoming a real problem because there is one way in/out, visitors having inappropriate behaviour. There will be a meeting with SC and some residents about the problem. There need to be specific measures to address the issues. 21 people were charged in various locations with anti-social behaviour. It was noted that the negative message spread faster than positive. <p>Action - update on the date of this meeting as CCC might want to have a representative at this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that there should be control over Invertrossachs Road. Is there a possibility of developing of South Venachar for camping? There has been a big problem with anti-social behaviour. It was noted that it is a serious situation and we need to keep on top of it. <p>e) Stirling Council – Waste Management Plans (Councillor Jim Thomson)</p> <p>The decision has been made to change the bin system. Current situation - in the next 2 days to be more information for Community Councils. Next stage forward will be a letter sent to households asking about their needs. Next stage is to consult with residents. Key issues: flats development - there might be problem with food waste from flats as they do not have garden.</p> <p>It was asked why there was not a Q&A done before agreeing the policy.</p> <p>Jim Thomson explained 2 key issues: spending £650,000 more than SC can afford and have to aim for 2025 targets of 70% recycling which is currently on 54%. These issues have to be dealt with and this is the reason why the new scheme which fits Stirling needs was developed through consultation of officers, Zero Waste officers and fellow Councillors elsewhere. There was a meeting planned with entire Housing Committee and Councillors regarding the new waste management changes in April 2020, when a plan and changes would have been explained in detail.</p> <p>It was also noted that Callander relies on its economy and business as a touristic town. Callander can be seen as a littered place on Saturday morning by a tourist because of the bins. CCC noted that there is a lack of communication from SC side. But Jim Thomson explained that SC is aware of Callander specific situation. CCC would like to know when Q&A will go public that members of community know about it and have time to ask their questions. The draft was submitted on Friday. There is a meeting planned for tomorrow. The point has been made that SC need to inform people about it.</p>	
<p><u>9. Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Planning (DM)</p> <p>It was noted that all community councillors have got planning update report</p>	

Crown Hotel - creation of a beer garden at the rear. There are concerns expressed by local residents about noise and disturbance. Draft recommendations by CCC: decisions are deferred until the planners can conduct a site investigation and contact Meg and deal with neighbours' complaints. And planners liaise with the licensing authority for the needs of the premises.

There were objections put forward which are quite extensive. Member of the public noted that people are welcomed to read what it was put forward to the planners (list of objections). Member of the public also noted that the exit belongs to the Ledi Court residents rather than Crown hotel. It was also said that residents are concerned that fire safety will get the priority over residents objections to the planners. Legal right to use it to come off the main street for the business needs to be established. Member of the public noting that it was already objected.

Stable Conversion - there is a plan for conversion of stables to multi family holiday let on Invertrossachs road. There is a concern about more traffic on Invertrossachs road. There are suggestions to put a hold in comment to National Park commenting on concerns about the number of traffic reserving our opinions until more neighbour notifications are in.

Youth Project - applications put in for bigger caravan park towards Youth Project. Side was increased by 7-8 metres pulling it back towards YP. It is not clear what happened there.

Roads, Parking and Pavements (DS)

DS would like to take an opportunity to say big thank you to the local Police and Edinburgh Police for all the help over the last 3 months.

Callander Enterprise (MM)

- Jazz & Blues Festival - High School is one of the most expensive venue, it is run by FES write to FPS to get a sort of reduction or a donation.

There might be applications from Jazz and Blues festival for marquees to manage more open-air events.

- MM and HT attended 'Love It Like a Local' and littering campaigns. There is enthusiasm in the 'Love It Like a Local' campaign, keen to get a lot of local people involved, especially in these two locations: Callander and Balmaha with their signage. It would be quite interesting to see what the signage looks like and take it from there to develop better signage (to include all other things we want to say which coordinates with SC and National Park).

Flooding (RJ)

- CC flooding group meeting last month discussed where we got to and where we want to go
- There is a long list of actions: Meet the Officer SC flood prevention- Where we are and where SC is in flood prevention works. The discussion will include what work they are doing at the moment and prevention settlement. Meeting for this week is planned. Community consultation- should be undertaken by CC

joined with SC by mainly led by CCC. SC put works on hold, Bruce Crawford was approached about this. BC sent a letter to SC before the lockdown but did not get an answer to that so he sent an email to Chief Executive of SC asking her to ask the officers to put the work on hold so we as a community could have more detailed discussions with SC on the plans.

- CC flooding group prepared an article for Ben Ledi View which should be appearing at the start of August.
- Community consultations- because of Covid situation we can't arrange physical meeting with the community but we hope to have one maybe in late Autumn.
- Strategic report for National Park was done many years ago, a lot of information about historical flood events are in the report. RJ as CC contacted SC if they are happy for us to use this report and the reply was Yes. SC is happy for CC to use all the information in this report.

Councillor Jeremy McDonald recommended to bring these two communities (Bridge of Allan and Callander) together and put joint ideas to SC.

SC wants to press forward the flood prevention in Callander in the Meadows area. There are a lot of properties which are not covered in the plan. Trying to find out why they are pressing with work to go ahead? Is there any pressure from Sc. Government or SC we don't know about? Scheme like this get 80% of the funding comes from Scottish government and 20% from SC. SC officers want to go ahead. Why the pressure- is there any pressure from Sc.

Government to complete the scheme this financial year? It is important that the whole project is put on hold. At the moment the scheme is not adequate to Callander settlement.

Cllr Martin Earl noted about the funding: Scottish government deals with River Funding Scheme. The work in Callander is looking at the surface water and drainage of the Craggs. Question: what are the terms of Scottish funding agreement for the 80%- when is that required to be spent or allocated? Is there any pressure of spending this money because of 80% allocation from the funding scheme?

Jim Thomson noted the government money is not guaranteed, it is necessary to bid for it. The criteria is appropriate for probably a number of properties.

RJ noted that events in 200 years should be considered in the matter of flood prevention. In Callander there are a lot more properties affected than it is currently proposed in the scheme.

It was noted that there are only 2 flooding projects in the whole of Scotland: Callander and Bridge of Allan which are considered to be on Callander level. All other communities in Scotland are getting protection at the higher level than these two. The report which was done in Callander identifies 20 properties but

only 10 properties are being protected by SC proposal. Flooding sub-group is having a meeting on 30th July 2020.

10. Current Situation

Callander Enterprise

MM noting about feedback from Callander Enterprise member businesses.

- Questions: Were you busy? Were customers happy about wearing face masks? Did they maintain social distancing rules? How they queue on the pavement? (especially where two food shops are side by side).
- Idea of parking suspension was to improve the pavement width to give people more opportunity to social distance if they wish to or needed to.
- Feedback from businesses: it has been generally very busy, locals were fine. Visitors were not very good at observing social distancing in the street but were good at it in the shops, most people were wearing face masks in the shops, if they did not wear it, they did not mind being reminded, queueing was fine but if you have 2 queues how to organise them differently that the queues did not cross each other, beer gardens were full with no places to sit, so customers were sitting on residents walls and entrance steps, people were trying to maintain social distancing when sitting down.
- Main problem was bins overflowing.
- Picnic seating is poor: 7 out of 8 are broken. MM written to SC with photographs of that.
- Campervans were staying overnight at Meadows but the Police did not make any comments about it
- Problem of bikers speeding and they are also very noisy

Car Parks, Toilets and Main Street

It was noted that 20mph should be pushed forward. SC is working with Transport Scotland and there was a request put forward that 20mph speed limit wouldn't be committed unless we've got rid of the parking on the street. Parking on the street is closely connected with the businesses that is why the suspension parking on the street has been suspended now.

SH noted that weekly meeting with David Crighton has been established. It is important to keep up the communication about parking, 20mph speed limit and all the other things around that.

It was noted that there are 1 or 2 places on the main street where they do not adhere to social distancing while it is busy. They need to be reminded of the problem as a help.

It was also noted that there is not any issue from SC officers about 20mph speed limit, it is solely Transport Scotland. There was an explanation noting about reducing the speed limit to 20mph. When you suspend parking on the main street, you are bringing

<p>pedestrians closer to the trunk road which means there is a reason for slowing down the traffic. It was noted that Transport Scotland requirement to keep the traffic moving SAFELY. It is not about the speed but about the safety.</p> <p>Member of the public was involved in developing an active plan for Callander last year. One of the result of this plan research was that people perception of A84 through the town is dangerous. The crossing, walking on side and cycling are dangerous. Transport Scotland manager said that everything what is done, it is done with the consultation of the local authority. MM asked for the copy of this report for CCC. Member of the public promised to get an electronic copy to CCC.</p>	
<p><u>11. St Kessog's Report and Discussions Update</u></p> <p>RJ noted that CC had a long meeting last week to discuss the proposal for St Kessog's building. A proposal is a joined agreement between SC and CCC to operate the building in the future. The working group is still updating report with the comments. Another outcome of this meeting was that we should be thinking about community consultations. CCC will be updated on the progress</p>	
<p><u>12. AOCB</u></p> <p>CCDT Report ML, as Environment Representative, was very interested in BM's report on CCDT meeting. In particular the Leny Falls Bridge. It was noted that we need more clarity on this report. NP will lease the bridge to CCDT for 3 year. The rental would be for 3 years and then the ownership will go to CCDT - question: to find out if it is true. Has any agreement been made to buy public areas such as car parks? Has Transport Scotland agreed to a public crossing over the A84 to the car park at Leny Falls? In the report was stated that the building should commence next summer. Answers for these questions are needed prior to this.</p> <p>Action: ML would like BM to go back and ask these questions.</p> <p>ML noted that Forestry Land Scotland owns the car park and National Park owns the bridge and then rent it to Callander Community Development Trust (CCDT).</p>	<p>BM</p>
<p><u>13. Date and Place of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Next meeting will be held on Monday 10th August 2020.</p> <p>The AGM will also be held on 10th August, but only if Covid restrictions preventing indoor meetings have been lifted</p> <p>Thanks to the Chair.</p>	

