

# Callander Community Council

## Minutes of the meeting: Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Community Councillors:** Susan Holden (SH-Vice-Chair), Lucia Bobkova (LB-Secretary), Brian McKay (BM-Treasurer), Brian Luti (BL), Mike Luti (ML), John Watson (JW), David Moore (DM), Alex Mitchell (AM), David Shearer (DS), Marilyn Moore (MM), Roger Watt (RW), Richard Johnson (RJ), Elaine Waterson (EW).

**Apologies:** Cllr Martin Earl

**Also in Attendance:** Cllr Evelyn Tweed, Cllr Jeremy Rice McDonald, Helen Terry-Town Co-ordinator, Katarina Cech- Minute Taker, 4 members of the public and 1 on the phone for one item.

**Chair of Meeting:** Susan Holden

Item	Action
<p><b>1. <u>Introduction</u></b></p> <p>BM reminded everyone that this meeting is being recorded. All agreed to be recorded. SH welcomed everyone.</p> <p>AOB: DS noted that Walk in the Park wasn't stated under AOB, DS is going to add it to Roads and Park section in this Agenda. LB noted that she was going to add it under Secretary's report and will let DS to deal with it. RW noted he wanted to make a proposal to the paper he will bring to the next meeting. The topic will be in the Agenda and at the end RW will ask for a review on it. SH noted a complaint from residents about noise from the Primary School playground area. MM noted she would like CCC to vote for the last item on her report – to allow MM to apply for a grant.</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>Declaration of Interest</u></b></p> <p>SH- Director of CCDT &amp; Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Board ML raised a Point of Order. It was also noted that this had not been in any way personal. It was noted that when Chris Cordon had been appointed as Vice-Chair, he had resigned as Director of CCDT and likewise as becoming Chair he had resigned as Director of VIC as he had considered these to be a major conflict of interest. ML noted that the position of Vice-Chair should be held without any combination and with no undue influence. As a</p>	

<p>result our Vice-Chair should resign as Director of CCDT and CCC limited with immediate effect. If she is unwilling to resign from these directorships than she should also resign as Vice-Chair and also consider her position as a CCC councillor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillors in favour of ML`s Point of order stated the following reasons: it is a conflict of interest when an office bearer holds positions in other community organisations, acting Chair can`t be acting as an Office bearer within another organization.</li> <li>• Councillors against ML`s Point of Order stated the following reasons: there is nothing in the scheme of establishment or any other document which says that a member of CCC cannot be a member of some other community organization, CCC councillors are here to represent the community not any personal interest whatsoever, there wasn`t any concrete example as how the conflict could arise.</li> <li>• SH noted that she had been elected to the position, so she has been trying to do her best to keep CCC going smoothly. In her view is what CCC does, what CCDT does and what CE does, what Heritage Society does is that they are all part of the same community and they overlap but working in different ways with different experiences. The community of Callander is made up of many different people and needs different perceptions and experiences.</li> <li>• BL will forward a letter about this issue from one of our locals.</li> </ul>	<p>BL</p>
<p><b>3. <u>Co-option vote &amp; AGM updates</u></b></p> <p>There has been an outstanding issue about electoral registration of the candidates but Registration office had confirmed that all of the candidates now appear on the electoral role for this area. This issue has now been sorted.</p> <p>LB noted that she had forwarded the email to the Engagement team who then had to forward it to the government team. LB is still waiting for the final confirmation that all the candidates are eligible, but it has sort of been provided by the Registration team.</p> <p>Because we had to wait till 1<sup>st</sup> September to check all this, there wasn`t enough time for us to comply with all the notices (14 days notice), so we are now looking at October for our vote. It was noted that we haven`t been sure if that will be a live meeting or not. LB suggested to go forward with deciding that whatever happens in October, the vote will take place online. The advice we received from SC is it needs to be an open show of hands vote, so there isn`t any reason why we shouldn`t do it online.</p> <p>It was asked that how this might work fairly for everybody? Our representative Michelle Flynn won`t be able to join us for the online Zoom Meeting. Does it mean that we will not follow the scrutiny of SC for</p>	

<p>the vote? How do we do that we are following the slightly complicated rules for a fair choice between people?</p> <p>Cllr Jeremy Rice MacDonald noted that Sottish government says that ZOOM is inappropriate, SC uses TEAMS. We need officers to meet with CCC. The problem is that they can't use ZOOM on a council device. Cllr Jeremy Rice MacDonald would like them to explore any other ways of being involved in community meetings.</p> <p>BM suggested for online CCC co-option vote and online AGM vote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCC co-option vote- fairness- BM can put them back to the waiting room as a host of the online meeting until such time when the vote is over.</li> <li>• AGM- SC has been very reluctant to allow us to hold AGM meeting online. It is very unlikely that there will be an opportunity to have a live meeting in the course of this year. There is a way of having a confidential vote on the Zoom meeting (that means that no one from CCC will know how the others have voted. Example: We can have Cllr Jeremy MacDonald (or someone from SC) acting as a host for the period of the vote, everyone will send a private message to Cllr Jeremy MacDonald, he would then do the count and announce the results. Once that is over, he would re-assign BM as the host of the meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Evelyn Tweed thinks BM`s proposal is good.</p> <p>It was noted that we should write to SC stating that we are going to have the AGM in October 2020. BL noted that the letter should be written by the CCC Secretary representing CCC. It was also noted that the date should be specified as October 2020.</p>	<p>LB</p>
<p><b>4. <u>Minutes of the August meeting</u></b></p> <p>Item 7a) Airtricity delete "£11m" and substitute with "£11".</p> <p>Proposed by DS, seconded by ML.</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Reports from Office Bearers</u></b></p> <p><b>a) Vice-chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that Planning should have come under Office Bearers section because it is a statutory function of this council.</li> <li>• 7c) Flooding RJ had contacted SC to see what the consultants are doing and is waiting for the reply.</li> <li>• SH has been involved in various meetings in which traffic was the main concern.</li> <li>• The greatest problem is the effect of on-way traffic lights at the Meadows car park, the temporary traffic lights will be working again tomorrow and the day after. There will be some disruption at Main Street and Bridge Street.</li> <li>• Attended a meeting which was set up by Bruce Reekie about public toilets in Aberfoyle and Callander. There was an investigation whether it was possible to have the public toilets</li> </ul>	

open till later in the evening. But that would necessitate extra cleaning and we couldn't get anybody to do it. The public toilets are opened from 8am-6pm.

- Flood group meeting online with SC
- Attended detailed meeting on Invertrossachs Road and Loch Venachar which was set up by Cllr Martin Earl
- Callander partnership meeting
- SH attended those meetings as Vice-Chair of CCC representing the council
- SH attended Hydro Fund Meeting, Development Trust meeting and Callander Enterprise (where SH is a paid-up member) as an individual and there aren't any conflict of interest.

#### **b) Secretary**

- Actions from the last meeting:
  - I. LB was asked to find out whether it is a 10 days or a 14 days' notice before AGM- It is a 10 days public notice before we have AGM.
  - II. LB was asked to find out from the Engagement team what happens if SH wishes not to continue as an acting Chair. LB hasn't received a response yet.
- Correspondence and communications:
  - I. Walk in the Park – contacted CCC seeking guidance and contact. They run classes for elderly (balance and strength exercises) at the Fire station which haven't been possible for a while because of Covid pandemic. They came up with a project doing some simple balancing exercise using the benches at Callander Meadows. DS and MM have been working on it to put them into right direction with SC and to have agreed signage. DS noted that he had had a meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September with Cathie Scott and people from NHS about this project. They wanted to find out who they should contact regarding the funding for this project. DS referred them to Derek Leitch who deals with the Meadows. It is a fairly new idea and DS thinks that CCC should support it. They will be using 8 selected benches in the car park nearest to the Main Road, they will be using those benches for balancing exercises to a certain extent. DS will help to pursue it with SC.
  - II. Charity called Re-engage who operate free telephone befriending service for elderly people. LB has shared the flyers, posted details on CCC Facebook page and shared it with HT. LB noted if anybody had a suggestion where else it send it to just to let LB know.
  - III. Debt management help service operated by Christians Against Poverty (operate in Stirling) is seeking recommendations and referrals. CCC doesn't deal with it so we have been asked to share it on the social media which was done.

- IV. Cricket club: LB has been contacted by the former Cricket club secretary. They are seeking the ways to make sure that the club reopens for the next season. They would like to come and speak with us. We should try and accommodate them maybe October, November- when the time allows. They are seeking our support trying to get the club re-opened. They will let us know what they need.
- V. Response from BT consultation about BT phone box at South Church Street: seeking views about removing the phone box on South Church Street. A very quick objection has been circulated. LB has received a further communication from the Trossachs Search and Rescue Team that those phone boxes are not suited for defibrillators. There is a question if it is worth keeping it or not? DM saw the draft objection response sent by LB and the conclusion is to keep the phone box at South Church Street because it is the only available pay phone in the town centre for casual use and tourists. In terms of local facility, it is important to keep it going. In terms of a bid put in by the Leisure Centre, there has been no formal feedback from NP or BT yet.  
LB suggested to put the objection forward with BT if all councillors are happy.

### **c) Treasurer**

The written report was submitted. There were two proposals within the written report:

- I. Covid Fund started as £1000 from Airtricity grant and £500 grant from SC. The current balance of Covid Fund is £1259.62.  
BM suggested to retain it as a Covid Fund for the time being and review it on the ongoing basis.
- II. Cardnet facility, which enables a community shopping service. The initial six-months contract with a bank expires in the beginning of November, two possible options were explained:
  - a. To let it expire. In case of need again, need to go through the whole application process again (which takes up to 2 weeks), which would include committing to another for at least 6 months, or
  - b. To let it keep going, roll on a month by month basis, which would include a monthly cost of £25 but would ensure it is available as soon as it is needed.

BM asked about views of the councillors whether Covid Fund should be retained and then whether Cardnet facility should be retained.

<p>All councillors agreed to keep both accounts going and available.</p> <p>It was also noted that FETCH team was one of the finalists for an award.</p> <p><b>d) Planning</b></p> <p>The written report was submitted.</p> <p>There is a concern that came up about the site opposite to Dreadnought garage, where there is an existing planning approval for use for retail purposes, and which is now on the market, it may revert to former housing use. That is concerning because it would undermine the south Callander development to stop it becoming a long town. And that site could also be a private site for a start of a new road junction on the A84 that could connect back to a long-term bridge over the river Teith. ML noted a declaration of interest on his behalf, he is a landowner on the south side of River Teith.</p> <p>A member of the public expressed her concern about Roslyn Cottage because the building was built in a different place from the one granted in the planning permission and it directly overlooks other neighbours. It was noted that the retrospective application had been put in. There seems to be a dispute about the access. The rights of access should be resolved before planners come to any decision. It was noted that a legal document from the developers of the estate, which makes it clear what rights on that particular land are, should have been put forward to NP. It was also suggested that maybe a neighbour from a 1<sup>st</sup> floor window could take a photograph for the planners which will be physical evidence.</p> <p>It was also noted that if you build something which is not in agreement with the planning of the local authority, a house is illegally built and has to come down.</p>	
<p><b>6. <u>Updates from other organisations</u></b></p> <p><b>a) Police report-</b> report was submitted. CCTV was installed at Ritchie Place. Cllr Evelyn Tweed noted that CCTV would be installed in Menteith Crescent within a week.</p> <p><b>b) Callander Community Development Trust</b> The written report was submitted. SH noted that a letter from Scottish Land Fund had been received saying that the application for the money had not been successful. This was sent to all the community councils, all the development trust people and the members of Woodland group. SH will keep CCC updated on any news.</p> <p><b>c) Town Co-ordinator</b> The written report was submitted. HT noted that she was starting to do the town audit looking at various businesses which are in Callander. Craigard Club has taken over delivering meals once a week each Thursday.</p>	SH

HT can concentrate on starting to prepare for the paperwork that will be involved in talking to Scotland's town who set up this whole partnership system. It is considered to be the best practice to do this before you go to any kind of consultation. That there will be a clear understanding before you consult members of the public. It would be good if CCC could think about one or two people or a group or a spokesperson that we can start talking to each other and working out how we are going to consult the members of the public about this.

RW noted one of the comments which had been mentioned in HT's report (it would be helpful if CCC could set up a steering group or main point of contact to help with the engagement for the next CAP)- now, the priority for CCC is to divine what the role should be in the consultation process and production of that CAP and RW would like to make a proposal for it at the next CCC meeting.

It was noted that Fiona from SC would be talking to the Park about whether they require planning permission for the disabled access benches.

**d) Callander Partnership**

CP had a meeting last Friday and the notes from the Proceedings were submitted.

**e) Callander Enterprise**

- Town Centre Growth Fund- the hand rails had gradually been completed by I.Clark and they will be going into about 15 different properties along the Main Street to help access into the shops.
- The usual monthly meeting took place via Zoom. It was discussed how businesses are coming out of the lockdown. There was one interesting comment made that because people were using self-catering, shops like butchers are doing really well because people would be buying a lot of food to eat at home. Quite a lot of businesses said that they had done well during Eat Out to Help Out. The Waverly has extended that for a period. CE and CCC are having meetings from a business point of view and CCC's point of view to discuss the situation about the traffic around Meadows. SC had come and had had a very positive meeting with shops which were affected by the power outage. SC also talked to the Old Bank about the impact of Station Road-Meadows crossroad lights on their business. SC will be down checking the situation this week about what is happening with the traffic there and whether or not the traffic is run better. Sadly they cannot get all the lights to engage unless they take out the A84&A81 lights and put in system which relates to the less sophisticated system in the Meadows and then they can time all those through.

- CE was successful in gaining the grant from Town& Business Improvement District Resilience and Recovery Fund towards Picnic benches- there will be 4 new picnic benches in the Meadows.
- In Callander website sharing- the signed agreement was received from CCC but still waiting for the one from CCDT.

**f) Callander Lanscape Partnership**

- ML would like to be an official representative of CCC on CLP
- BL proposed it and MM seconded it. All councillors agreed.
- MM noted that she had attended a meeting and there had been two items which directly impacted CCC. One was directional signage strategy. They have their own scheme on directional signage. MM sent this information to DS that he can talk to Emma Martin about it. Panels were put in place at certain points across facilities talking about the history, Gaelic language, fauna and flora in the area. Those panels are different in sizes: A1, A2 and double sided. Panels are at Falls of Leny, Bochastle, Little Leny Meadow, Town Centre, Callander Crags and Loch Lubnaig . Those panels are open for comments. DS noted that he had written to Emma Martin about it as he was not clear on what they mean by directional signage. There was no answer received yet.
- The issue about Economy vs Ecology was noted in the meeting. There had been a comment about extended car park size at Bochastle. MM asked if NP was considering limiting the number of vehicles visiting NP and whether they have a policy about Economy vs Ecology. Stuart Mearns had responded that it is a subject of great debate at NP and that he will be pleased to engage in separate discussion.

**g) National Park**

The written report was submitted.  
The suggestion was that AM should continue in the conversations and should feedback to CCC.

**h) Stirling Council**

- i. Dirty camping- Bruce Crawford had raised the issue in Parliament last week. There was a lot of discussion about it and Cllr Evelyn Tweed understand that the Committee is going to look at new legislation covering the issues that we had been experiencing.
- ii. There is new signage up at Bracklinn Falls to highlight the dangers in the area.
- iii. Comments: It was noted that CCC should make sure that our voices are heard about the dirty camping to the Committee. Cllr Evelyn Tweed noted that she had already spoken to CEO of SC about this and had said that she is happy to feed all the suggestions from all the places and various communities to SC. It



<p>was also noted that CCC might wish (if there is time) to consult with the community on how it had been affecting everybody. Cllr Evelyn Tweed will find out about the timescale and feedback to CCC. SH asked RW and ML to communicate that.</p>	<p>RW,ML</p>
<p><b>7. Matters arising</b>  <b>a) Airtricity (BL)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CAOS application had been withdrawn. But there is possibility they will need a little bit of help when they start the new production.</li> <li>- The cheque for the Jazz club £1950- BL will request the cheque back. All councillors agreed to this action.</li> </ul> <p><b>a) Flooding (RJ)</b></p> <p>RJ contacted the SC to see what the consultants are doing and waiting for the reply.  MM noted that it is needed to find out whether or not they were going ahead with the wall, if yes, what is the profile of that wall. BL`s understanding is that we are waiting to see the other proposals and the possibility of other proposals.  It was also noted that the written report should have been submitted and it should have been discussed. There were also safety issues mentioned regarding the wall. There was also a suggestion that somebody from SC should be invited to the next CCC meeting to discuss and explain all the different projects (regarding the wall).</p> <p><b>b) Roads, parking and pavements (DS)</b></p> <p>The written report was submitted.  Comments: BL noted that his neighbour had been concerned about trees needing pruning at Vorlich Crescent and that lights are not working at Station Road. It was also noted that two trees had been taken down at Vorlich Crescent. DS suggested that if anybody spots anything, a photograph with description will be helpful to have for DS.  A member of the public noted that the corner on the pavement when you go over the bridge towards the PS and turn left was dark. Lights should be fixed there.</p> <p><b>c) St. Kessog`s update</b></p> <p>The leaflets have been put out, the response has been really good, still getting the data. When the data is finalised, it will be incorporated to the proposal. The discussions are still ongoing with SC. The responses to the leaflet have been incredibly positive with only two responses being negative.</p>	<p>BL</p>

<p>EW thanked RW for all his help.  SH suggested a clear update and communication from both VIC and CCDT.  It was noted that the proposal for St. Kessog was not a proposal <i>from</i> CCC, it was a proposal that was being considered <i>by</i> the CCC.  It was also noted that we have to wait for the response from the community before going into any further discussions about it.  It was said that the councillors would have appreciated information about receiving the leaflets about St.Kessog; that they could have volunteered to get them delivered. ML and LB had volunteered and had delivered leaflets.  EW noted that the cost of the leaflet had been £80 and the cost of the sim card had been £10. The cost had been met by an anonymous donor.</p> <p><b>d) Subgroups proposal</b></p> <p>It was agreed that this matter will be discussed after AGM meeting.</p> <p><b>e) Payphone Consultation (LB)</b></p> <p>This matter was discussed under item 5b: Secretary`s report within these Minutes.</p> <p><b>f) Allotments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In response to query by Carol McGowan who wanted to set up an allotment group, some information went out on the social media and so far there have been 21 expressions of interest</li> <li>- David Hopper had written an article on behalf of SC on the way forward to have a more friendly natural environment, encouraging people to take up a hobby such as gardening and allotments; Carol is going to take it forward as an independent person. It won`t be any part of CCC or CCDT or CE. There is a possibility of asking for money if they need any.</li> <li>- Comments: It was noted that CCC should be present to listen and to help. If they want gardens CCC should put them in touch with councillors and officials within the local authority to help to provide that.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8. <u>AOCB</u></b></p> <p><b>a) Meeting of the Community Councils within NP (AM)</b></p> <p>It was agreed that AM will pursue it a little bit and then come back and tell CCC what is happening.</p>	

### **b) Camp Place playpark (MM)**

It was noted that all MM was asking for was not to do with that application because when MM had embarked on the project, the person who was advising from Stirling Council was new into that role, as a result of maternity leave, and had not advised MM about the procurement system.

Because the money is over £50,000, it will have to go through the SC procurement system, which seems to be a bit of a law unto itself and there is no set process, so what MM wants to do, in the meantime, and what MM does need CCC's agreement to, is actually to apply for a grant, and has been encouraged to apply for a Community Pride grant, because at the moment there is an excess of money in the Community Pride grant fund, which Stirling Council issues, to get the existing Meadows Car Park, the Meadows Play Park and the Camp Place Play Park, where we are keeping equipment, actually painted.

It was originally going to be done by the community service group, which is doing that as part of their punishment for having done some minor misdemeanour, but they are not in operation at the moment and are not going to be for the foreseeable future, because of the current pandemic, so it was suggested that MM gets a couple of quotes and applies for a grant and get them painted which would improve them enormously. Because the play area in the Meadows is under trees, it gets very mossy and dirty, so MM needs a minuted community council note to go forward with the application.

DS would like to be involved so MM and DS will discuss it together.

BL proposed MM suggestion and request and BM seconded it.

### **c) Primary School noise problems**

It was noted that an increase in the use of the Primary School additional play equipment (Trim Trail) in the upper corner of the field had caused residents to complain about a huge amount of noise during the day because PS is using it. But the equipment is also used over the weekend by visitors and late at night by young people (there has been a lot of drinking involved). Police were called because of the anti-social behaviour. The residents who live close by asked if CCC can do something about it. It was noted that the school is not responsible for who uses the equipment late at night or over the weekends.

BL noted that in terms of anti-social behaviour at night, the police should be informed. ML noted that he had already had a word with the janitor of the school and he will go to the Police about it. If residents call the police about anti-social behaviour there, they must mention the incident number. There were proposals that those areas of the playground should be lit.

RW noted that a number of conversations around the theme about what CCC is for and how we do it. RW is planning to summarize them briefly in a paper and prepare them for our next meeting, pulling out the points on which we all agree and furthermore these tally with SC thinks we should be doing and where we are perhaps in disagreement. If anybody wants to be involved in conversation, please let RW know and he will try to include as many people as possible. All councillors agreed that it is a good idea.

**d) Camper van problems** take forward to the next meeting.

Thank you to the Chair. Thank you to all the visitors for joining us.

**9. Date of next meeting (12<sup>th</sup> October 2020) + AGM**