

Callander Community Council

Approved Minutes of the meeting: Monday 14th June 2021

On-line meeting via Zoom

Community Councillors present: Susan Holden (SH-Chair), Roger Watt (RW- Vice-Chair), Richard Johnson (RJ- Secretary), David Moore (DM- Planning), Marilyn Moore (MM), Brian Luti (BL), Mike Luti (ML), John Watson (JW), Olga Watkins (OW).

Also in Attendance: Cllr Martin Earl (SC), Cllr Jeremy McDonald (SC), Helen Terry (HT-Town Co-ordinator), Katarina Cech (Minute Taker), plus several members of the public

Apologies: Police Scotland, Michelle Flynn (SC), Cllr Evelyn Tweed (SC), Moe Guertin (MG)

Abbreviations: All community councillors are referred to in these minutes by their initials.

CCC = Callander Community Council; CE = Callander Enterprise; CCDT = Callander Community Development Trust; SC = Stirling Council; LPP = Local Place Plan; NP = Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park.

Chair of Meeting: Susan Holden

Item	Action
<u>A: Introductions and minutes</u>	
<p>1. <u>Welcome-meeting structure</u></p> <p>SH welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was noted that the Zoom chat box can be used for any questions. Input from it will also be added to the minutes.</p> <p><u>Recording:</u> SH asked for approval that the meeting be recorded for the purpose of Minute taking - all those present agreed.</p> <p><u>Declaration of specific interest:</u> MM, on behalf of CE will abstain from any comments and voting on the website discussion, because of conflict of interest.</p> <p>2. <u>Invited Visitors: Frank Park, Chair of CCDT</u> <u>RW asked four questions on behalf of CCC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q1. What is the fundamental plan for 55 Main Street to be used for? Is it going to be used as a single let to a family or will it be used as multiple-person let? - Frank Park briefly explained the history of this application, and he said that at the beginning it was not sure whether it would be a residential, or a holiday let. He added it will be offered as single let, self-catering, with up to six people because it has three bedrooms. - Two sources of revenue:1. Sale of products and 2. revenue from letting upstairs - Q2. How might the VIC operate? A team of volunteers will be looking after it. - Q3. RW asked Frank Park if he is confident about his previous statement stating that the received income would be enough to run the VIC on a neutral financial basis? Mr. Park replied that he is 	

Item	Action
<p>confident about that because they have a good basis to generate enough revenue to cover any VIC costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q4. What is the extent to which this represents another call on income which come into Callander generally? - There was a concern raised about booking the accommodation through VIC, which might disadvantage some other local businesses. Mr. Park reassured everyone that most bookings are done through the websites, such as booking.com, not through the VIC. - RJ noted that CCC has not had monthly reports from CCDT and also they should plan meetings together with CCDT and CE. It was noted that Brian McKay's role as a CCC representative on CCDT was not filled after his resignation. SH apologised for this. It was noted that DM volunteered to send reports from CCDT. - It was agreed to have a discussion about the Hydro project in the future. - RW said that CCC and CCDT have different roles and we should respect each other. - Frank Park explained the history of the VIC. There was then some disagreement between Mr. Park and some councillors regarding the set up of the VIC board. A member of the public noted that the information about the VIC should be more available to the public. - RW suggested that more discussion about this is needed in the future. 	<p>DM to produce monthly reports from CCDT</p> <p>CCC/CCDT set up joint discussion</p>

<p>3. <u>Minutes of the previous meetings</u></p> <p><u>May Minutes:</u></p> <p>OW proposed delaying agreeing the minutes until CCC have discussed OW's email and amendments. DM & JW seconded that. BL suggested dealing with them via email. Draft minutes to be carried forward. BL suggested getting them adopted before the next meeting.</p> <p>RJ made a general comment about the difficulty producing the May minutes because the meeting was disjointed in so many parts. RJ appealed to everyone to speak clearly and announce the numbers of votes after the voting.</p> <p><u>MATTERS ARISING:</u></p> <p>LPP update and funding needs:</p> <p>RW noted that the LPP has been progressing as planned. The steering group has met and approved running focus groups. The first focus group, which will be a trial one, is currently being organised. It will be working with people who volunteer in Callander. After that, there will be a meeting of the steering group to discuss how it went.</p> <p>Consultation to be over by January 2022, final outcome by June 2022. The aim is to distill the results and then the last step will be negotiation with SC and NP.</p> <p>HT explained the approach they are taking is that the focus groups should reflect the demographic structure of Callander. There are areas in Callander in which</p>	<p>May draft minutes amendments to be carried forward to next (July) meeting for approval.</p>
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<p>people do not engage, so it is important to get their opinions. We have to report to NP as our planning authority, but any infrastructure actions come from SC, so HT is investigating how to cope with this mismatch. The NP are interested in our methodology. The results in the final paper must be deliverable.</p> <p>BMX track: written report submitted, and MM gave a further update. MM had a meeting with one of the SC people who would be involved in giving us permission whether or not we can go ahead with it. She looked at where the track had been identified and asked if a membrane will be put down underneath the type 1 and the wind dust. As a result, this should reduce the number of volunteers to keep it maintained. The SC representative is going to find out whether or not they will be able to clear it for us. MM also asked about contractor obligations in terms of bike accidents, and will ask about SC responsibilities re insurance.</p> <p>Motorhomes- written report submitted by OW. Date re the joint SC/NP meeting: Cllr ME has not heard anything. Kenny Auld (NP), David Hopper (SC)- have a plan for a wider forum meeting, not specific to Callander. Clarification needs to be sought because we need a specific motorhomes provision for Callander and the subgroup has to be included. We need to welcome motorhomes, but also to manage them. It was noted that Callander needs a specific plan. We need to keep in mind that this is going to be very expensive and we have to have a plan ready to pay for it. OW noted that there will be grants to look at in a long term. DM noted that there is a planning application for Callander Woods Caravan Park- to change 33 travelling motorhome caravan pitches to become 33 static caravan pitches.</p> <p>Website proposal and planning: Developing website: RJ noted that the proposal CCC had voted on and agreed to at the last meeting was to develop a new website as per report. Therefore RJ continued developing a skeleton website. There was a discussion about the voting at the last meeting re developing the new website. There seemed to be a misunderstanding about the proposal and voting. Those who proposed and seconded the proposal agreed with RJ but other councillors disagreed. MG is on holiday and it was agreed that he should be involved as he is the current website manager.</p> <p>Coat of Arms use proposal: the proposal was that we make more use of the Coat of Arms. Cllr Jeremy McDonald mentioned that RJ could speak to Economic Development SC about how that might be applied in other places to promote Callander. Some councillors supported RJ's proposal but no decision was made.</p>	<p>HT to discuss with SC and NP.</p> <p>MM to update at next meeting.</p> <p>OW/MM chase meeting date with SC/NP.</p> <p>Discuss with MG.</p> <p>Carry forward.</p>
<p><u>PART C: REPORTS</u></p>	
<p>Chair</p> <p>Written report submitted and SH gave a further update. Various meetings attended concentrated on roads, parking, new signs for Meadows Car Park, new toilets signs, painting of the entrance and exit in the Meadows Car Park will be improved. Also still ongoing discussions with residents of Invertrossachs South Loch Venachar how to resist camp fires and trees cut down, etc .</p> <p>Re Bracklinn Bridge- Cllr Martin Earl's understanding is that there were some fundamental issues with the design, but we have to wait for a report from NP to</p>	

<p><u>Stirling Council</u></p> <p>Cllr Jeremy McDonald gave a brief update on the Covid plan- there will be consultation with the local community; finance and economy-talking about making Stirling City Centre dementia friendly and how we can get further money for Callander and other communities. It is good to see progress on St Kessogs. Cllr Jeremy McDonald thanked EW and DS for all the hard work they have done for CCC.</p> <p><u>National Park</u></p> <p>Board meeting had happened that day- the whole ministerial change which would impact NP. The biggest item is sustainable transport.</p> <p>NP was identified as one of the five strategic NPs in Scotland. There is a lot of seasonal ranger deployment at the moment. Meetings take place every Monday between SC, NP and Police. There is a national shortage of seasonal rangers.</p> <p>The new core-path plan was officially adopted, with over 800 km of core-paths identified within the NP area. Cllr ME will send the report to the Secretary.</p> <p>Future Nature report- this is a road map restoring some of the biodiversity loss and the natural environment across the Park. Cllr ME will email it to the Secretary who will pass it on to CC councillors.</p> <p>RJ has been in touch with Susan Brooks (NP) about the Local Development Plan: the consultation was meant to start in 2020 but because of Covid and new regulations, the plan has been delayed, but the consultations with community councils will be starting very soon.</p> <p>RJ asked Cllr ME if there are any reports about camping management zones. It was included in the three year review document which was sent out to Scottish Ministers in early 2020- RJ noted that it has been very successful document.</p> <p><u>Other Callander organisations:</u></p> <p><u>CE-</u> written report submitted.</p> <p><u>Town Coordinator-</u> written report was submitted and HT gave a quick update. The BLV article had stated that the LPP website will offer a public forum comment section. This is not correct, there will be a public comment section but towards the end of the consultation. HT suggested including air quality, traffic, foot path and cycle track monitoring and emailed Shaun Marley but has not had any reply.</p>	<p>Request circulation (SH)</p> <p>Cllr Earl will forward report.</p>
<p><u>D: PROGRESS REPORTS</u></p>	
<p><u>Airtricity (BL)</u></p> <p>No report</p> <p><u>Camp Place Play Park (MM)</u> A grant application will be completed for the fencing from Awards of All. SC gave their permission to go ahead with it.</p> <p>The Viridor Credits application requires three identical quotes. As one current supplier only provides equipment, a new supplier has been identified and a site meeting was held. The new supplier has now provided costs and a design. The</p>	

<p>other two quotes need to be amended so all three align. This grant application has been held over until July, their next deadline date.</p> <p>A Community Pride application has been successful and CCC have been awarded £1500 for wet pour surfacing for the toddler/inclusive area. Money was already paid to CCC.</p> <p>The DDA path was put down. It was taken to where the fence for the inclusive play area will be. This was done by the same contractor who will be doing the play area.</p> <p>Cleaning of the retained equipment at Camp Place has happened and painting will follow. Cleaning and painting of the Meadows play park equipment will follow.</p> <p>The junior area will hopefully be starting in summer and finished hopefully at the end of the year if the rest of the money is assured. If not, that will be to follow.</p> <p><u>St. Kessogs</u></p> <p>It was noted that the information trail is not very good. Date of the next meeting is planned for Friday 18th June 2021. Cllr JM noted that a report about St.Kessogs had been received which talks about four different configurations to the building. There needs to be consultation on the best way it could be done.</p> <p><u>Environment (ML)</u></p> <p>No report but there was a concern raised that there is lack of support from SC re bike route between Doune and Callander. This issue was directed to Cllr JM.</p> <p><u>Flooding (RJ)</u></p> <p>RJ came up with a rough plan regarding flooding in the main river which he described to CCC. He explained two reasons why the River Teith floods: 1. because there is a lot of water in the river and 2. because of the constrictions in the river channel. It cannot get through the gap between the mounds of ground just upstream of the Red Bridge. The water cannot get away fast enough so backs up and floods the Meadows and spills into the carpark and round into the back of Bridgend. The water which does get through the bridge is just too much for the channel downstream of the bridge, so floods out in a few places and affects a few properties.</p> <p>The current plan is to move the constriction slightly upstream and use it to control the amount of water flowing under the bridge. The constriction will be two bunds, grass covered earth banks, which extend from the high ground at Invertrossachs Road over to the high ground in the Meadows next to the putting green. The bunds would not meet, there will be a gap between them. The gap will be designed so that it limits the flow of water to the rate which just does not flood downstream properties. It was noted that the construction of earth bunds should withstand the weight of water, the water stores upstream of Callander and is let through in the controlled manner, so it does not flood the Meadows car park, Bridgend and any houses downstream of the Red Bridge. To make it even better, flood banks could be designed.</p> <p>RJ will be needing help with promoting the plan. Cllr JM asked about the costs involved and how the idea could be explored further. Scottish Government and</p>	<p>Update to be requested.</p> <p>Request update.</p> <p>RJ to circulate draft to CCC members (confidential) following the meeting.</p>
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Appended Documents

1. Resignation – Elaine Watterson – Received 10 July, 2021

----- Original Message -----

From: "rcjohnson9" <rcjohnson9@aol.com>
To: "Susan Holden" <swan227@btinternet.com>
Sent: Thursday, 10 Jun, 21 At 18:12
Subject: Fw: Resignation

Susan

See email below from Elaine.

Begin forwarded message:

On Thursday, June 10, 2021, 3:28 pm, Elaine Watterson <elainewatterson@btinternet.com> wrote:

Dear Dick

I am writing to you as Secretary to confirm my resignation from the Community Council.

The constant negativity, meetings that achieve nothing, meetings about meetings, a useless Chair, agendas for meetings which are the worst I have ever seen in my life. That is only to start with. But life is too short.

The latest shenanigans regarding the new website sums it up. The new website is good but yet there will no doubt be endless discussions on utter and complete nonsense. Instead of just getting on with it. But no it will have to be micro managed by the Chair who does not have a clue. Hopefully for the good of Callander she will resign soon before she does more damage to the reputation of CCC.

To read that a new member does not have 37 minutes to spare on Community Council work was shocking. A real insult to the Councillors who put in hours upon hours of work. And the manner in which you were addressed in an email regarding the article in the BLV was shocking. Someone should remind that member that you are THE Secretary not her Secretary. The hours we have spent going over and over matters which she doesn't like beggars belief.

I was also incredibly disappointed by the Chair not recently standing up for the CCC when it was suggested you were being economical with the truth likewise with recent correspondence from the previous Secretary.

It has been a complete pleasure to work with you, never a chore and you certainly have the ability to bring out the best. Also my thanks to Roger Brian and Mike. Again a delight to work along side them. I have copied them in this mail.

There is some regret in my resignation but at the same time total relief that I don't have to put up with attending another awful meeting.

My personal thanks again to you Roger, Brian and Mike.

Best wishes.

Elaine

Sent from my iPad