

Callander Community Council – Evelyn Tweed update 13.12.21

Storm Arwen

Storm Arwen caused a very difficult situation for a large area of rural Stirling, including Callander, I firstly want to pay tribute to the communities that pulled together to care for their neighbours. In Callander, in particular, I am very aware that there were failings in the response to the power cuts, lack of phone signal (which is still an issue for some and I am working to resolve) and the communication received from authorities. I am very keen that we learn from this and ensure that our communities are protected through the review of resilience planning at all levels. The first stage of this, is a survey in which I am seeking feedback from those impacted in order to guide these plans. The survey can be accessed here; <https://forms.office.com/r/NmqpK8jMsC> Paper copies can be made available by emailing me.

Flooding

I recently met with the Callander Flood Group to discuss ongoing concerns about the flooding mitigation in the town. I have written to Stirling Council regarding this and have received a response that advises that they are looking at a holistic approach to flooding mitigations in Callander which means the town will be looked at in its entirety and both river and surface water flooding will be considered. The Council have advised that they hope that consultation on the approach to flooding will begin with the Community Council in December and the wider public between January and April 2022. The hope is that these will take place as outdoor events within covered areas to engage with as many residents and stakeholders as possible.

In terms of funding for future mitigations they have advised that they are awaiting confirmation of future flooding funding from the Scottish Government however there may be other funding options available to the Council. I will continue to push on these issues.

Covid Boosters

Due to the new variant, Omicron, boosters are being brought forward and 30-39 year olds can book a booster from today. A booking portal will be made available for 18-29 year olds later in the week. Given the higher transmissibility of this variant, the public is being encouraged to organise boosters as soon as possible. Please see my social media feeds for more information or for specific questions, please get in touch.

Other Local Updates

I am working with a number of constituents on local housing issues.

Festive Season

I would like to wish all Community Council members all the very best for a safe and happy festive season.