



Callander Connect



SEPTEMBER 2024

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Who's been in?



Callander Flood Group

A working group monitoring Stirling Council's plans for protecting against flooding in Callander, and responding to proposals of a large defence wall in The Meadows.

CAOS

Callander Amateur Operatic Society have been busy making plans for their March 2025 show Made In Dagenham, which began rehearsals this month!

Scrabble Club

Every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, some of Callander's keenest Scrabblers gather to battle it out, 7 tiles at a time!

Community Council Surgeries

Callander CC have been holding their surgeries (now once a month the Saturday before their Council Meetings) to listen to local queries and concerns.

Knit & Knatter

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month, a newly formed band of knitters and knatterers learn the basics.

Save St Kessog's

Once a month, the Save St Kessog's group hold an open meeting to share thoughts and discoveries about the status of Callander's iconic landmark.

The Gathering 2024



At the end of August, Callander Connect joined forces with the Friends of the Canmore Trust to put on 'The Gathering' - where we hosted different local organisations such as the Rotary Club, Forth Environment Link, Roll Outdoors, Callander Film Society and Walk In The Park, ahead of the annual Street Ceilidh. We were also delighted to have performances including Liz Campbell's School of Highland Dance, Doune Ukulele Group, students from McLaren High School, Callander Jazz Jam and Song Squad.



Local Place Plan Priorities update

Pedestrian Footbridge (1.i.a)

We are thrilled that a project manager has been appointed by Stirling Council to carry out the preparatory planning work for the new pedestrian bridge at the East end of Callander, as well as the path networks on either side of the river.

Meadows Masterplan (2.i)

We have secured funding to develop ideas for a Meadows Masterplan (including Station Road car park). We want to hear from local residents about their ideas, memories and wishes for these spaces, specifically when it comes to flooding, biodiversity, visitors and active travel.

Drop into Callander Connect, email development@callandercdt.org.uk, or come along to our events such as In & Around the Meadows on Sunday 22nd September or an autumnal celebration in the Meadows on Saturday 26th October. Details available on our social media channels.

Safe Walking Routes to School (1.i.b & 1.ii)

Negotiations are ongoing with Stirling Council and landowners to level the gradient of the Creep footpath, in the first instance, before addressing the broader network of paths to the schools. We are looking at creative solutions, such as a walking bus, as an interim measure!

Main Street Regeneration (5.i & 5.iii)

The project team have acquired paint charts for painting Main Street shop fronts that would like a touch-up, and will seek advice from the National Park on colours to use in a conservation area. Funding is being sought for paint while we wait for quotes.

Development Trust update



CCDT were delighted to announce their latest round of Community Hydro Fund Grants. Each year there is around £55,000 available to support community projects in Callander. This round, we are thrilled to award the following amounts to three very worthy causes:

- £20,000 towards Stirling Citizen Advice Bureau hub in Callander, providing life-changing support to those in short-term crisis in Callander three days a week.
- £5,000 towards Callander Festive Events for their fantastic Christmas Lights display and switch-on event.
- £5,000 towards the Craigard Club, which offers friendship and weekly chef-prepared lunches to Callander residents aged 60 and over.

Congratulations to all grantees! The next deadline for Hydro grants is 30th September!

In other news, CCDT are hoping to support a local business to host the new Post Office, once the current one closes. Failing that, we are prepared to step in and run it if needed. We've also adopted the old phone box in Camp Place which was due for removal. Ideas welcome for what it could be used for!

Community Council update



Callander Community Council have awarded two grants from their Braes of Doune Fund to:

- Callander and West Perthshire Rotary for covering a series of social events in the Kirk Hall for older residents and those attending the Community Hub
- Callander Festive Events to allow lampposts along Main Street to be upgraded to take festive lights and motifs.

In other news, CCC are in talks with Thornhill Development Trust to talk about possibilities for some public transport to link Thornhill with Callander, Doune and Deanston with possible travel links to Dunblane Train Station.

There will be a meeting with Chris Kane MP on 27th September to visit the inside of St Kessogs in the hope of generating wider interest in keeping St Kessogs as a Callander icon.

And the CCC surgeries held at Callander Connect will now only take place once a month. Come along and talk to us about becoming a community councillor, find out what is happening in your town and be part of it!