



***Fintry Community Council***

**20th June 2024**

**19:30**

**Menzies Hall**

- **Present/apologies for absence:**

<b>Group/Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Fintry Community Council Reps	Michele Bennett Chair Ian Rodgers Vice Chair Moira MacKay Secretary
Stirling Councillor	Cllr G McGarvey Apologies
Members of Public (MoP)	4
Police	Apologies
Apologies	Ronnie Garvey Jackie Garvey

- **Declaration of interest in any items of business**

- **Approval of Minutes of last meeting:**

Approved

## **Councillor's Report**

No report

## **Police Report –**

See Attached

## **Finance –**

### **Gazebos**

The Purchase of 3 gazebos £300 was voted on and approved. They are to be stored in the resilience shed.

### **Grant opening dates**

Student travel and tuition grants both open up in July closing end of September 2024. Micro and macro grants open from the 2nd of September closing 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. Individual grants open 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

### **Driving Lesson Grants**

8 Driving lesson grants have been received and approved payments will be made end of July 2024

Tuition grant voted on and approved

### **Cicily's Way funding and construction plans**

MM raised whether there could be a year where the FCC does not provide grants just to fund and complete Cicily's Way. It was agreed that Micro & Macro grants payments will be reduced this year.

To complete Cicily's Way, the FCC needs to 'match fund' the landfill grants £8k in total & additional survey works to be carried out. This was voted on approved from this year's budget as a special project with agreement from Foundation Scotland.

IR states that his dry-stone dyke contact is not available for the job of dyking Cicily's Way. MB suggests that the FCC works with the West of Scotland Dry Stone Dyke Association, using their dyking courses to involve members of the public in dyking some sections of the path. IR agrees that it would be good to involve the community. He notes that there may be costs associated with doing the course, but this could potentially be made free through the individual grant.

### **Bank card**

The FCC need a Debit bank card to pay for Fasthosts etc so it was agreed that the treasurer would hold it., It was proposed and agreed that one other persons would have access to the bank accounts for invoices payments etc.

### **Movement of a shed**

A MOP has complained to Fintry Primary school, requesting the shed at the school to be moved. The shed will be moved within the school grounds. MB will return to the FCC with the cost for this which will then be voted on.

### **Resilience update**

Himalayan Balsam removal works will be being carried out in the second week of July and we'll advertise for volunteers nearer the time to assist.

Some giant hogweed has been removed from various sights in and around the village.

Japanese knotweed will be getting treated again in September.

Malcolm McCormick has agreed to be adviser on our flood forum along with Hendy Spence.

Meeting arranged with Stirling Councils flooding officers along with Hendy & Malcolm for the Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Site visit to houses who have issues with flooding

Phase 2 flooding programme the community council has £2,500 set a side towards this from the flood prevention project monies. FCC will be meeting the Scottish government to discuss additional funding.

Next flood forum meeting will be held in early August 2024

### **Planning**

No new planning applications

### **Licensing meeting**

MM attended a licensing meeting, but there was nothing relevant to the village discussed.

### **Roads/Paths**

#### **Cicily's Way**

Further expansion of Cicily's Way will not start until early 2025 as permission is needed from some landowners, and a survey must be conducted, to allow essential new drains to be put into the field along the path. MB to speak to Anderson Associates and to arrange a meeting.

#### **Crack on road**

There is a crack appeared in the tarmac near the Knockraich Farm turn off. MB has emailed Stirling Council to request a site meeting.

#### **Gonachan Bridge and park wall**

MB has emailed Stirling Council to find when the works will be completed for the Gonachan bridge which has been hit recently, and has emailed about the wall in the park, however has not received a reply as yet.

MB arranged for a road sweeper to clear the area up and over the bridge and kippen road due to the mess left after road repairs etc.

MB arranged for drains to be cleared

Both works were carried out yesterday

### **Correspondence**

Grant Applications (see finance)

Email received requesting a copy of minutes to be sent out, FCC admin sent copies.

### **A.O.B.**

#### **Earlsburn**

The Earlsburn project is set to go ahead after court proceedings about the wind farm's visibility from Stirling Castle finish.

#### **June picnic**

The picnic in the Community Garden was a great success. The FCC would like to thank the Killearn Community Council for lending their gazebos, and everyone who helped out.

The FCC donated the leftover cakes and juices to St Mary's food bank in Bearsden.

The FCC donated bottles of water along with ice lollies leftover from the picnic to Fintry Primary School, as they were hosting their own picnic.

#### **Seed library**

The FCC received an update regarding the seed library which is a huge success within the village and wishes to thank Angela May for setting up the seed library and for all her hard work in managing the library at the Fintry Sports Club.

#### **Playpark developments**

Play Park is still ongoing but due to staff leaving and not been replaced due budget cuts it taking a lot longer for the contract to be awarded.

MB has chased up getting swings painted, and new wood chips put down in the Fintry park, however, she has not yet gotten a response.

#### **Grass cutting**

There are several issues concerning grass cutting in the park. Stirling Council has removed grass cutting from the budget, and additionally, the grass at the park is so long that when it is cut, the park is still left a mess.

MB has sent out an inquiry to find out whether the beech hedge near the bridge belongs to the council as she would like it to be cut. Any cutting is likely to take place in September.

#### **Flowerbed near Menzies Hall**

Unfortunately, and without informing the FCC, Stirling Council has seeded the flowerbed with grass. MM is to discuss with the garden committee to see if they want to take it over.

#### **Community litter pick Loup**

Discussion held about the FCC organising a community litter pick at the Loup of Fintry in August. IR will speak to Hamish Mundell to see if he is happy to allow that.

**Bus Trip**

August bus trip will be to Pitlochry

September / October will be to Glasgow

**Minutes**

The FCC wishes to thank Isla Rodger for her work writing up the minutes. The June minutes will be her last as she leaves for university.

Jo Skabara will be returning in September to be our minute taker

**Date of next meeting**

- 7.30pm 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 AGM

<b>Community Council:</b>	Forth and Endrick, Fintry Community Council
<b>Reporting Period:</b>	May 2024 – Compiled by PC Matt McCammon
<b>Ward Plan Priorities</b>	

**Road safety**

A motorcycle collided with another vehicle on the B822 causing damage. The motorcyclist thereafter left the scene of the accident. Enquiries are ongoing.

On 11/05/24 A large number of people in vehicles attended on the A818 between Fintry and Lennox town to observe the Northern Lights. Unfortunately, the volume of vehicles completely obstructed the road. Police attended and managed to move vehicles along and clear the road.

**Incidents of Note**

Please keep in mind that there have been a number of attempted house breakings in other villages, So please remember to stay vigilant and report any suspicious activity.

# Where to Report Scams

## **Scams**

In Scotland, report all scams to **Advice Direct Scotland** by calling **0808 164 6000** (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or online at [www.consumeradvice.scot](http://www.consumeradvice.scot)

## **Fraud**

If you have been the victim of fraud, report it to **Police Scotland** on **101** or **999** in an emergency.

## **Suspicious Emails**

You can forward suspicious emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) and send links from websites which you think are trying to scam the public to the **National Cyber Security Centre's** scam website reporting service at [www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website)

## **Suspicious Text Messages**

If you receive a suspicious text message you can forward it to **7726**. The free-of-charge '7726' service enables your provider to investigate and take action if malicious content is found.

### **What basic steps can I take to protect my home?**

Having your home broken into is not common. There are however many ways that you can help secure your home. They don't all cost money – some are common sense and good housekeeping.

First, think about basic good housekeeping routines that aren't expensive:

- Keep your home locked at all times
- Many thieves do not need to break in at all because a door or window has been left open or unlocked
- Don't leave keys on the inside of door locks, under mats or anywhere else they can be easily found
- If you have a 'thumb turn' lock on the inside of a door, ensure that it cannot be accessed from outside
- See details on letter-plates, glazing and adjacent windows advice below
- Don't put your name or room number on your keyring if you live in shared accommodation, if it is lost or stolen, the thief will have information that could direct them there
- Don't keep house keys and car keys on the same key ring
- Don't keep a lot of cash in the house
- Mark your property with a UV marker pen or Security DNA marking Kit - these can be bought online or in some stores
- Look for the Secured By Design accreditation on the product and register - you can place an invisible imprint of your postcode and house number on your possessions
- You can record and register details of your valuables, serial numbers and features or marks, on devices on the national mobile property register on [the immobilise website](#) - this includes mobile phones, cameras, laptops and tablets
- Don't leave valuables where they can be seen through a window - for example, around the tree at Christmas time
- If you have a wall calendar, avoid having it shown near a window from where appointments can be seen - people may see when there will be no one in.

### **What should I do when I go on holiday?**

When you go on holiday there are a few steps you should take for security.

- Get to know your neighbours, if you trust them they might keep an eye on your home, draw curtains and remove mail from behind the door
- Consider using Royal Mail's Keepsafe service, they will keep your mail for up to 66 days
- Make sure you cancel any regular deliveries such as milk or newspapers
- Use timers on lights, make sure your alarm is set
- Don't post on social media that you're going on holiday - criminals can search for this kind of information to identify empty houses.



**Some other tips include:**

- Doors should be fitted with a 5 lever mortice deadlock to BS 3621 standard or a Euro Profile Cylinder lock to TS007 3 star standard
- Door frames should be strong enough to support the door, hinges and lock.
- If the door is not a 'multi – point locking' door, fit mortice bolts at the top and bottom of the door and hinge-bolts give additional resistance
- External timber doors should be solid core and a minimum of 45 mm thick.
- UPVC doors should be to PAS024:2016 standard as below
- New / replacement doors should be manufactured and installed to meet standards PAS 024:2016 or equivalent
- Glazed panels within or adjacent to the door should have laminated glass in at least the inner pane to standards P1A
- Letterboxes should have an internal cover plate and not be at floor level. This means that mail drops down and can't be taken from outside
- If you are replacing your letter-plate, look to replace it with a letter-plate to TS008 standard
- Fit a door viewer and a door chain
- Don't leave keys in the door. They could be turned or stolen through the letter-plate if a standard letter plate is fitted
- Think about having your door reinforced with a security door bar
- Ask the manufacturer/supplier before fitting any extra locks to double glazed windows or doors
- Windows should have internal beading to avoid the glass being removed from the outside. Some systems which have external beading are secure because the glass is adhered to the frame or secured by special tamper-proof clips. This can be checked by consulting the manufacturer
- New / replacement windows should be manufactured and installed to PAS024:2016 or equivalent. This indicates set specific standards of design and security for windows.

**What if I'm making home improvements or even carrying out routine maintenance?**

Your property can be more vulnerable whilst you're carrying out home improvements.

- Don't give keys to workers as they can make copies quickly and easily
- Let your neighbours know about work being carried out, where workers are likely to be and who they are
- Scaffolding may allow an intruder access to areas they wouldn't normally be able to access
- Remember to lock all accessible windows.

