



Minutes of the meeting held on
10th September 2025

I. Present/apologies for absence:

- **Present:** Michele Bennett (Chair), Moira Mackay (Treasurer), Hendy Spence (Secretary), Jackie Garvie, Ronnie Garvie,
- Rosemary Fraser (Stirling Councillor)
- **Apologies:** Ian Rodger (Vice Chair)
- 5 members of the public

II. Declaration of interest in any items of business

There were no declarations of interest.

III. Approval of Minutes of last meeting

The previous minutes were approved.

IV. Stirling Councillor's Report

- Councillor Fraser reported that all households will be getting another wheelie bin. This will be for glass recycling and will be collected every 8 weeks. It will be smaller than the other wheelie bins (140 litres) but will hold twice as many items as the current blue box. They will have purple lids. Councillor Fraser explained that it was important to keep the glass separate from the other recyclable items as the council get cash for recycling and need to avoid cross-contamination. The blue boxes can get very heavy and the operatives sometimes lift as many as 200 boxes a day. This has led to a large number of back problems. If the glass bottles/jars break in the wheelie bin, this will no longer be a problem. The current blue boxes will be taken away and recycled.
- Councillor Fraser reported that Stirling Council (SC) are in the process of setting up a pilot scheme for the Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) system. There will initially be two 9-seater mini-buses which will be run by SC and will do 4 timetabled trips a day between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. This will include Fintry and should be timetabled to connect with public bus timetables. There is still some consultation over the timetable but Councillor Fraser will email the provisional timetable to MB. The service will also deliver school meals to a few schools in the area. Bus passes can be used on the service and fares should be similar to previous DRT fares. The number of vehicles available to SC for the DRT service dropped from 11 to 4 so it was no longer viable to run the service as it had been operating. It will be possible to book trips up to a month in advance and it may also be able to hail the bus as it passes (to be confirmed). The proposed Visitors Levy will help towards the funding of the DRT service.
- A by-election is planned for the end of October in the Braehead area of Stirling as a Councillor has stood down. A full election will be held in 2027. No boundary changes are anticipated.
- A resident asked about SC's grass-cutting policy as they felt that Fintry was not being as well looked after as some other areas in Stirling. They also raised concerns over the maintenance of the grass verges and the fact that invasive species of weeds are being left to grow unchecked. The resident also referred to the weeds growing on the land near the Polmaise waste facility. Councillor Fraser assured the resident that the grass cutting policy is the same throughout Stirling – there are a set number of cuts per year and the grass is not collected. She confirmed that invasive species of weeds

on SC land should be dealt with by SC but if the land is privately owned, it is up to the landowner to deal with it. SC can put in a request to landowners to deal with the weeds. The land near Polmaise is privately owned but the landowner does have a plan in place to deal with the weeds.

V. Police Report

Fintry

Crime

A theft was reported from an unlocked outbuilding near to a residential property whereby various items were stolen. Enquiries were conducted, however, no suspect was identified. This would appear to be an opportunistic crime and residents are reminded to ensure that their properties are secured using appropriate measures.

The owner of a motorcycle contacted Police after it had been stolen from the Loup of Fintry Waterfalls car park. The owner locked and secured the motorcycle and left it for a short period and on his return the motorcycle had been taken. Unfortunately, there are no further lines of enquiry at this time and the theft remains undetected.

Having advertised a vehicle for sale on Autotrader the owner became the victim of a fraud. The suspects attended at the home address of the owner and took the vehicle for a number of test drives. Following these the suspect's began to haggle at the price due to their perceived mechanical issues with the vehicle. Once a price was agreed the suspects paid some cash to the owner with the rest paid via bank transfer. This transfer was not made and before the owner could question this further the suspects made off in the vehicle. The vehicle has since been recovered however enquiries are ongoing to identify the suspects.

VI. Planning

- Since the last meeting, the following planning applications have been submitted to SC:
 - Proposed installation of air source heat pump on side elevation, and solar PV panels on the front elevation at Glendaruel 10A Main Street – awaiting decision.
 - Dormer extension to roof at 6 Menzies Avenue – awaiting decision.
 - Renewal of planning permission for a single storey side extension to 10 Menzies Terrace to provide ancillary accommodation – approved with conditions.
 - An application for 4 more wind turbines at a farm property along the Denny Road.

VII. Finance

- An admin grant has been received from SC for £803. Community Council insurance will be paid from this.
- Grant applications have been received for:
 - A hearing device microphone for £1300 for a child with hearing difficulties. It was proposed that the item should be purchased and owned by FCC so that it can be used by other community groups if required. Approved.
 - An individual grant for £250 for netball in the Menzies Hall. Approved.
 - An individual grant for £250 for the seed library. Approved.
 - A macro-grant for £500 for a polytunnel for the Men's Shed at the Old Bowling Hub. Approved.
 - An individual grant for £250 for seeds and compost for the Community Garden. Approved.
 - An application for £600 from the Menzies Hall committee for funding for the annual ceilidh. Approved.

VIII. Resilience update

- Clearance of Himalayan Balsam was done and is planned again for next year.
- Wood was donated to the Community Resilience and delivered around the village.

- The next phase of the Leaky Dams project has just started. An Open Day is planned for November 28th.
- An application has been submitted to install willow spilling to the rear of the Sports Centre to limit flooding in that area.
- The Community Garden was a great success this year.

IX. Roads/paths

- The wall at the Cross has been repaired.
- A zebra crossing is to be installed on Main Street. Concerns were raised over the limiting of parking provision for residents who would usually park their vehicles within the area of the crossing. MB will be meeting the Roads Officer on site and will discuss the parking issue. Councillor Fraser also indicated that she would raise the concerns with the Roads Officer.
- A resident raised concerns over the speed with which vehicles travel through the village. Michele Bennett advised that speed monitoring is underway at the moment.

X. Correspondence

- Information about free cycling lessons available to children in the Forth Valley area was received and a post was put on Fintry Buddies.
- Information about filming in the Menzies Hall on 17/09/25 was received. Parking will be restricted and temporary traffic lights will be in operation. A post was put on Fintry Buddies.
- A request from SC for participation in a housing survey was posed on Fintry Buddies.
- Information about a meeting of Community Councillors on 24/09/25 has been received. MB and MM will attend.
- FCC have been advised that SC has a temporary Chief Executive – Brian Roberts.
- Local planning information has been received.
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XI. Any other business

- A tree in the area near the Cross blew down in the stormy weather. This tree had been planted for the Silver Jubilee. MB will apply for a grant from SC to replace the tree with one of the same species (tulip tree) and the plaque will be reinstalled.
- Materials for the repair of the bus shelter have been ordered.
- Margaret & Brendon Sims have joined a sub group with the Community Council for a new woodland community project this is at a very early stage more information will follow.
- The Picnic in the Garden was a huge success and planning for a similar event next year (13/06/26) is already underway.
- The bench near the post-box has been removed as it was unsafe. The plaque on it has been removed and will be fixed onto another bench.
- A vacancy has arisen on the FCC as SR has decided to stand down. This will be advertised in the near future.
- Money had previously been put aside for the installation of a flying fox at the play park. The work was not done by SC and the costs of the apparatus has now increased. Unfortunately, some of the money which had been set aside had to be used for legal and architect fees for another project. Grants are being applied for to pay for a flying fox. Councillor Fraser indicated that if SC had not honoured their agreement to carry out the installation, then they should be liable for the difference in costs. MB and Councillor Fraser will liaise about this. MB also mentioned to Councillor Fraser that repeated requests for the bark around the play equipment to be replaced and for the equipment to be repainted had not been met. SC had advised that the work would be done over the summer but to date has not been done. A piece of metal had been left sticking out of the ground and a child had been hurt. In addition to this, the roundabout had been vandalised and had subsequently been removed. It is not known if it will be replaced.
- Representatives from the Sports Centre asked to discuss the issues that have arisen from their request for a new lease to be agreed with FCC and the length of time this has taken. MB advised that correspondence should be directed through FCC's solicitor. Councillor Fraser suggested a meeting between FCC and the Sports Centre representatives with the FCC's solicitor.

XII. Date of next meeting

- The next FCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th October at 7.30 p.m.

***Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
10th September 2025***

XIII. Present

- Michele Bennett, Moira Mackay, Hendy Spence, Jackie Garvie, Ronnie Garvie
- Rosemary Fraser (Stirling Councillor)
- 5 members of the public

XIV. Apologies

- Ian Rodger

XV. Approval of Minutes of last meeting

- The minutes from the last AGM (11/09/24) were approved.

XVI. Combined Chairperson's & Secretary's Report

- The Community council has had a very busy year this year working with authoritative bodies on the community's behalf. This year we managed to secure external grants to the value of £55,595.08 for various projects. One of which was the installation of our first 5 leaky dams project along with, embankment sibilation works, the Christmas Party and our new village orchard. Another great project we were involved in was the Picnic in the Garden which we worked on with the FDT. This brought the young members of the community together and was a great success. We have also been involved with our warm space initiative due to fuel poverty etc which was very well received.
- We also funded the following projects within the community:
 - Outdoor picnic benches for the Sports Centre
 - The seed library
 - Bird boxes for the community
 - Santa's tour
 - Church welfare fund
 - Football strips for Fintry Primary School
 - Seeds for the Primary School
 - Fintry Museum works
 - Fintry Outdoor Bowling Green Open day
 - Menzies Hall ceilidh
 - Strathendrick RFC training
- The Community Council are currently working on projects that will benefit the community. Some of which are listed below:
 - Affordable Housing Project
 - Fintry Nursery to full-time opening
 - Local plan
 - New woodland project
 - Information Booklet for the village
 - Footpaths
 - Driving Lesson Grants
 - Flooding
 - Hardship Grants
 - Fuel Poverty (warm space initiative)
 - Extension to Cicely's way.
 - The Restoration of the fountain.

- Bee hives for our community.
- Creation of 3rd resilience centre at the session house.
- Phase two and three of the playpark refurbishments.
- Traffic Calming survey / Installation of crossing at Main Street
- Place plans
- Installation of additional river gauges / flooding monitors
- Planting of Trees
- At this time, the Chair would like to thank the Community Council members for all their hard work and support.

XVII. Treasurer's Report

- The final balance for the year 2024-25 is £8984.74. The audited accounts are with the accountant.

XVIII. Election of Office Bearers

- Councillor Fraser asked if any of the current Office Bearers wished to withdraw, or if anyone new was being proposed. As the answers to both questions were negative, the Office Bearers were re-elected as follows:
- Chairperson – M.Bennett. Proposed by M.Mackay, seconded by J.Garvie.
- Vice-chairperson – I.Rodger. Proposed by M.Bennett, seconded by R.Garvie. (IR had indicated his willingness to stand as vice-chairperson prior to the meeting this was approved by Stirling Council).
- Secretary – H.Spence. Proposed by M.Bennett, seconded by M.Mackay.
- Treasurer – M.Mackay. Proposed by H.Spence, seconded by J.Garvie.

XIX. Date of next A.G.M.

- To be held immediately prior to the September 2026 meeting (09/09/26).