

Callander Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 18th August 2025

Venue: CYP, Callander

Community Councillors present: John Kennedy (JK), Fiona Kerr (FK), Ruth Barrie (RB), David King (DK), Marilyn Moore (MM), David Moore (DM), Richard Johnson (RJ), Heather Ward (HW)

Also in attendance: Caroline Stewart (CS, minute taker), Councillor Martin Earl (ME) plus 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Olga Watkins

Abbreviations: All in attendance will be referred to 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; FLS= Forestry and Land Scotland; FOI = Freedom of Information; CC = Community Councillors, St.K = St Kessogs, BoD = Braes of Doune Community Fund

Chair of Meeting: John Kennedy

	Actions
1. Welcome, apologies and meeting procedures The Chair welcomed everyone to the August meeting, particularly the new Councillors and thanked them for joining. He went through the new CC members: John Kennedy (Chair) Ruth Barrie (Treasurer) Richard Johnson (Secretary) John Kennedy & Fiona Kerr (Planning) Other Community Councillors are Marilyn Moore, David Moore, Olga Watkins, Heather Ward and David King. Apologies had been received from Olga Watkins and the meeting was being recorded for the benefit of the minute taker. RJ declared a conflict of interest and advised he wouldn't participate in any discussion about planning due to his role on the National Park Planning Committee.	
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting May 2025 - DM proposed; MM seconded June 2025 – DK proposed; FK seconded	
3. Matters Arising - Waiting for a copy of the fire certificate for Callander Connect. - MM has liaised with RB to get RB and JK access to Braes of Doune account. They are now both signatories with full access. - Need to do a follow up on co-option at the September meeting.	RJ to include co-option in September agenda

	Actions
4. Report from the Police The report from Police Scotland was read out by JK. There was a discussion about the need to get the information to the public and it was felt it should be included in the Ben Ledi View. RJ will contact the Police about this. Issues with homeless housing allocation in Callander were highlighted. RJ will contact MSP to arrange a meeting to understand the process of housing allocation.	RJ to contact Police Scotland and MSP
5. Special Items 5.1 Callander Flood Group Update Ian McCourt, Chair of the Callander Flood Group, gave an update. Ian has attended various meetings with Stirling Council about the Flood Protection Scheme and Flood Extent Maps. He has challenged the maps with regards to accuracy. Stirling Council are currently looking at five options for flood protection in Callander. They initially came up with one option in 2019, which was a wall across the Meadows car park which the community did not support. 27 other options were considered and Stirling Council are now looking at 5 of these options. There are various constraints regarding the options which have been looked at and there is a meeting that will take place at the end of August to discuss these further. The deadline to get the preferred option is January 2026, however this is likely to be extended. There is also no money currently available once the preferred option has been decided on. Ian directed everyone to the Stirling Council website to look at the Flood Extent Maps. Ian has questioned the accuracy of the maps due to the generalisation and simplification of flood risk but the maps will be the basis on which decisions are made so due to the inaccuracy people could miss out on adequate flood protection. Ian also highlighted that Callander Sewage Works are liable to flood. He has already written to Councilor Earl about this, and a meeting has been arranged with the Flood Officer from Stirling Council. A lottery application was made for funding to complete an aerial survey to look at Natural Flood Management. The application was unsuccessful. The Flood Bus will be returning to South Church Street, Callander on 19th September. It provides advice on flood adaptations to residential properties. There are also a range of activities that will be taking place in the church hall about climate change. 5.2 Defibrillators RB and MM visited Trossachs Search and Rescue who look after defibrillators in Callander. The defibrillators around the town must be adopted by the person responsible for the building they are attached to. This has caused an issue at the Post Office as Callum Menzies has now left. The defibrillator at the Post Office needs a new battery pack. The owner has also been found for the defibrillator at the golf course. Permission has been gained to remove this defibrillator as it needs new pads and a box. A new position also needs to be found for it, RB is looking at the possibility of putting it at the club house. Someone at the golf club will also need to adopt it. An application will be made to Braes of Doune to cover the cost of battery, pads and boxes. MM has clarified this is an appropriate use for the fund. RJ asked RB for a written report on all defibrillators in Callander and circulated.	MM to submit a funding application to Braes of Doune RB to send RJ a report on the defibrillators
6. Questions from members of the public None	

	Actions
7. LPP / Callander Connect No report	
8. Office bearers' reports 8.1 Chair Nothing more to report 8.2 Planning Three applications that have yet to be approved: • Formation of access at Leny Feus. • Duck feeder which has been installed but not approved. • Tesco Express installation of electric vehicle charging points 8.3 Secretary Regeneration of Main Street Mark Nicols, Mark Reid and MM are meeting with the shop sign supplier to visit the first 4 shops for new shop signs. The grant provides the signage but not the installation which will need to be met by the shop-owner. The painting of 18 shops has now been competed (counting Lady Kentmore and Rob Roy Centre as a single shop). The final report will be submitted before end September. MM applying for a further Premises Improvement Grant for 25/26 but can only be awarded 50% of the money required and it must be all completed by end March 2026, including the final report. So far, there are 5 or 6 shops willing to meet 50% of their painting costs. Co-option of New Community Councillors Time has been spent on establishing a written method for co-option of new community councillors, for which Olga has been invaluable in providing a procedure agreed by Stirling Council. Three applications have been received and by the time of the meeting, two will have been selected. Speeding along Main Street CCC has received further correspondence from a resident who has previously enquired about the Transport Scotland speeding survey carried out across Scotland as she followed up with an FOI enquiry to them for the individual results for a more in-depth survey. She then wrote to our MSP and has recently received a reply and a promise of some action. She will present progress at the next CCC meeting in September. Meadows Play Park Two pieces of equipment are being replaced in the Meadows Play Park – a multi-unit and a springie. Camp Place Play Park Stirling Council have reneged on their promise to pay towards the installation of accessible paths to 2 of the 4 accessible picnic benches. From any residual grants CCC will contribute £1,200, a further grant from Strathcarron has been secured for £2,500.	MM to submit final report MM to apply for funds

	Actions
We are awaiting an invoice from SC for the amount they need to install the benches and paths. Councillor Earl asked for both emails to be forwarded 8.4 Treasurer Current bank balance is £4,679.01 as of 17th August, this includes £2,500 the committed Strathcarron fund award, £1,200 committed to Stirling Council for benches and £856.50 the committed FEL fund award, leaving a balance of £122.51.	MM to send emails
9. Other reports Braes of Doune – The second quarter window closed at end July 2025 by which time we had received 4 applications, plus one for money for installation of the accessible paths and picnic benches in case our application to the Hydro was unsuccessful. We are awaiting confirmation of the status of this. We will organise a meeting to discuss the applications in the next week or so but they have been circulated to the current CCC members in the meantime and will be sent to the coopted members after the meeting. MM had a meeting with the preferred applicant for St K's in a personal capacity. They are coming to Scotland to have further discussion, and MM has passed on details of relevant parties. Roads Issues with the lane next to the Co-op being closed, no idea how long and why it has been closed, only a map has been put out. Councillor Earl advised it was due to roofing work taking place on a property and he will send on the official notice. Licensing Nothing to report. Stirling Council - Environment Committee is due to meet on 28th August and there is a proposal from Officers to change the glass collecting service which is currently done every four weeks with the 55 litre blue box. The proposal is to have a 140 litre wheel bin which will be collected every 8 weeks. It was highlighted that some residents in flats don't have access to any bins but in these circumstances they will be able to retain the existing box or use a communal bin. - Meeting on Trossachs Explorer to look at sustainable funding, so it is embedded as regular service. There are issues with other forms of transport as currently no taxi service in Callander, no DRT as no operators and C60 won't go up Mollands. National Park Board meeting next month	MM to arrange meeting ME to send details
10. AOCB DK was the judge for Best Garden last year along with Mike Luti. DK isn't available to do the judging this year so was looking for a volunteer to attend the show.	
11. Date of next meeting 15th September 2025	