

Callander Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 17th November 2025

Venue: CYP, Callander

Community Councillors Present: Richard Johnson (RJ), Fiona Kerr (FK), Ruth Barrie (RB), Heather Ward (HW), David King (DK).

Also in Attendance: Marco Limonci (CCDT), Caroline Stewart (minute taker), Councillor Martin Earl (Stirling Council) and Mike Luti.

Apologies: John Kennedy (JK), Police Scotland

Abbreviations: All in attendance will be referred to by their initials.

CCC = Callander Community Council; CCDT = Callander Community Development Trust; SC = Stirling Council; NP = Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park.

Chair of Meeting: Richard Johnson

	Actions
1. Welcome, apologies and meeting procedures. RJ chaired the meeting in the absence of JK. He welcomed everyone to the November meeting. Apologies had been received from John Kennedy and Police Scotland.	
2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest RJ declared a conflict of interest and advised he wouldn't take part in any planning discussion, due to his role on the National Park Planning Committee. No other declarations of interests were received.	
3. Minutes of Previous meeting The minutes of the October 2025 were proposed by DK and seconded by FK.	
4. Matters Arising There were various actions from the previous meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main Street speeding – JK to contact Laura Waddell – no update if this has happened • An article has been submitted by the CCC to the Ben Ledi view for the December issue which includes information on speeding. • JK to attend Flood Group meeting – no update available • RJ to put an article in Ben Ledi view with regards to Braes of Doune. This has also been included in the CCC article for the December issue. 	
5. Presentation from “Lunar Eclipse” Therapy Horses RJ was contacted by Cherene Robertson who runs “Lunar Eclipse Therapy Horses” who had asked to come and speak to the CCC. She recently moved to Callander and has a facility on the Cambusmore Estate including twelve miniature horses who visit care homes and attend parades. Cherene was not present so there was no presentation.	
6. Special Items 6.1 Citizen of the Year FK gave an update. Three nominations were received:	

	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Carmichael with one nomination • Kenny from the Pharmacy who also received one nomination • Alex Walker who received nine nominations. 	
<p>As Alex received most nominations, it was agreed he will be the Citizen of the Year for 2025. All nominations said similar things about Alex, highlighting his contribution to the “Callander Before and After Facebook page” and to Callander over many years. Citizen of the Year winners are normally invited to attend the next CCC meeting, but this is not appropriate for Alex due to his age. FK will arrange for the presentation to be made at the “Teapot Café” which he attends regularly.</p>	FK to arrange the presentation the Citizen of the Year award
<p>6.2 Street Matters</p> <p>There have been discussions at previous meeting about the importance of keeping Callander's streets clean and concerns have been raised about both Colin, the regular street cleaner, possibility been taken away or hours reduced, and the big “Green Machine” which has recently been taken to Stirling for repair. RJ sent an email to Scott Mason, SC, highlighting the CCC concerns, and no reply has been received. Councillor Earl has had previous correspondence with SC who clarified that the “Green Machine” will be returning to Callander but won't be permanently based there as it will also be used to cover other areas. RJ agreed to follow the matter up further with SC.</p> <p>RJ highlighted that issues with the street furniture also needs to be raised with SC to try and get damaged items repaired before the tourist season starts next year. It was agreed that the CCC need to make a list of all the items that need to be replaced or repaired with details of location and once this has been received the CCC will arrange a walk round with the appropriate person from SC.</p> <p>RJ said he would also like to include features for disabled and elderly person access so that Callander can become an “All abilities friendly town”. Councillor Earl also highlighted the “Disabled Access Friendly Hub” who ensure drop kerbs etc are maintained and also the Stirling Area Access Forum.</p>	RJ to follow up with SC CC members to send details of any required repairs to RJ
<p>6.3 Co-option of new members</p> <p>RJ noted that the CCC is currently under resourced and needs new members. There is currently the opportunity to co-opt two new members. It was agreed at a previous meeting not to formally co-opt anyone until the New Year. However, if there are any interested parties, it would be valuable to invite them to the December meeting.</p>	Invite interested parties to December meeting
<p>6.4 CCC Open day</p> <p>A meeting of Community Councillors was recently held to discuss the idea of an Open Day to promote the work being undertaken by CCC and also to generate interest in the co-option process. It is proposed that the open day will be held on Saturday January 17th 2026 from 12pm to 3 pm in the Kirk Hall. There will be a variety of presentations and informal discussions on the day covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to the Braes of Doune Fund. • Emergency 999 calls during power cuts • The development of the Cragans Woodland. <p>The Community Councillors will be available to discuss other issues and to chat about their roles and provide information.</p>	
<p>6.5 Footbridge over the River Teith</p> <p>JK was planning to attend a meeting about the plans for the footbridge, RB will now attend on his behalf at 2pm on 18th November in Callander Connect.</p>	RB to attend meeting about footbridge

	Actions
<p>6.6 Duck Feeder The CC applied for planning permission which has now been granted. The duck feeder is owned by a private organising who maintain and refill it. Therefore it is now not the responsibility of CCC.</p> <p>6.7 Callander Digital Hub SC is looking at all the options for a Digital Hub located in the Burgh Chambers. They are currently undertaking a feasibility study.</p> <p>6.8 Questions from members of the public Nothing raised</p>	
<p>7. CCC Reports</p> <p>7.1 Chair No report submitted</p> <p>7.2 Treasurer The Treasurer gave an update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current bank balance: £8,788.71 • Treasurer now has access to the Braes of Doune bank account – current balance is: £91,433.65. • Registered business address needs to be changed as the address is still registered to a former member of the CCC. 	RB to submit change of address forms to the bank
<p>7.3 Secretary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp Place play park – all play equipment was installed several years ago apart from four benches and access tracks – these have now been installed. RJ complained to SC about the quality of benches and design of the access tracks. SC has removed the benches to return them to the supplier and gone back to the contractor to upgrade the access tracks so wheelchair users can have access to the benches • CCC accounts - CCC holds an amount of £856 in the bank account which was originally a grant from Forth Environmental Link (FEL). RJ has contacted FEL to find out more information about the grant. FEL is expecting a final report which Marilyn Moore will draft. The £856 in the bank account may then have to be returned to FEL. • Callander Crags lower footpath – RJ was contacted by a member of the public regarding a wooden bridge along the footpath. The handrails of the bridge are broken and rotting which has become a major hazard as there is a substantial drop on both sides. RJ has contacted SC to repair and make safe as soon as possible. In addition RJ noted to SC that three wooden benches along the footpath are broken and need repair. • Kirk Hall – Callander Kirk had applied to the Braes of Doune Fund for support to maintain the Kirk Hall. The application was withdrawn but RJ contacted them to see what the plans were for the future of the hall. CCC and the Development Trust have been invited to a meeting on 23rd November at 12pm in the Kirk Hall to view plans for the hall. • Callander Primary School – The Development Trust are considering an asset transfer once the Primary School moves to the new building. Brian McKay from CCDT is providing monthly updates to CCC and reports that they are planning to commission a feasibility study. 	

	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Place Plan – The Callander LPP was formalised in 2022 and runs to 2032. RJ has suggested that there is a midterm review where the CCC, CCDT and the community to review and possibly update the document. RJ will pick this up with the CCDT in the New Year. 	
<p>7.4 Braes of Doune Community Fund</p> <p>RJ has had a number of conversations with the Braes of Doune agents, Foundation Scotland, which have highlighted some changes to the way the fund operates. There are three levels of funding available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lowest – can apply for up to £400, Small groups - can apply for up to £1000, Larger groups - can apply for funds of more than £1000. <p>Guidance and application forms are available on the new CCC web site.</p> <p>RJ had found a discrepancy between the amounts in the CCC bank account for the Braes of Doune and the management accounts held by Foundation Scotland. The amount was approximately £18k in excess of the Foundation Scotland total. It has been agreed with Foundation Scotland that they will adjust their account to the amount shown in our bank account on 31st March 2018 which results in the agreed fund at 31st March 2025 of £84,985.79. RJ will circulate full details of the fund to all Community Councillors before the December meeting.</p> <p>The Braes of Doune bank account shows two previous payments into the account which are not Braes of Doune funds. RJ suggested that these amounts (totalling £661.04) are transferred to the CCC main account and shown as donations. Community Councillors agreed to this.</p> <p>A grant to Adaptive Riders for £400 was made but the applicant did not cash the cheque, this has been removed from the Foundation Scotland account. The applicant has requested that a new cheque be issued.</p> <p>CCC has received one application to the Braes of Doune Fund from the Callander Amateur Operatic Society. They have applied for £285 and the CCC formally agreed to support the application. RJ will send a reply.</p>	RJ to circulate details of the fund to all Community Councillors RB to transfer £661.04 to the CCC main account RB to re-issue a cheque to Adaptive Riders RJ to send a reply to the CAOS.
<p>7.5 Planning</p> <p>FK reported that between 13th October and 10th November 2025 there were four application all of which have been approved.</p> <p>7.6 Liquor Licensing</p> <p>DK reported that there will be a meeting of the Liquor Licensing Board on 20th November in Stirling at 2pm.</p>	
<p>8. Other Reports</p> <p>8.1 Police Scotland</p> <p>A written report was received. There have been various minor incidents including anti-social behaviour, road safety and theft. The police are encouraging people to get involved in a neighbourhood watch scheme to provide more local information relevant to the community and raise alerts about local trends. A link has been provided to allow people to sign up.</p> <p>8.2 Stirling Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recent bi-election resulted in a change of administration including changes of Council Leader to Susan McGill, change of Provost to Rosemary Fraser. First meeting under new administration in early December. 	

	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance to Tesco in Callander - there have been issues with pavement parking outside the shop. BEAR have put together a programme of work to address this and stop parking on the pavement. 	
<p>8.2 National Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of Futures Group looking at the potential effect of climate change on NP operations, which generated a good discussion. A review will be published. • Strategy day - concentrated on the communities of the NP and also discussion about Local Place Plans. 	
<p>9 Any other Business Nothing raised</p>	
<p>10 Date of Next meeting 8th December 2025</p>	
<p>11 Close of Meeting Close of meeting at 8.47pm</p>	