

# Callander Community Council

## Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Venue: CYP, Callander

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

**Also in attendance:** Caroline Stewart (CS, minute taker), Councillor Gene Maxwell (GM, Stirling Council), Ian McCourt (Callander Flood Group) and two members of the public.

**Apologies:** 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:** John Kennedy

	Actions
<b>1. Welcome, apologies and meeting procedures.</b> The Chair welcomed everyone to the October meeting. Apologies had been received from Police Scotland.	
<b>2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest</b> 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.	
<b>3. Minutes of Previous meeting</b> The minutes of the September meeting were approved - proposed by HW and seconded by FK.	
<b>4. Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main Street speeding – Laura Waddel attended the last meeting and has since send the vehicle speed data to RJ. JK approached Police Scotland about speeding, they emailed back information for neighbourhood watch on speeding. This would involve the community having the kit and monitoring speeding themselves. The kit would cost around £2000. CCC were not keen to undertake the monitoring. RJ proposed that the CCC leave the issue to Transport Scotland/BEAR, asking that they produce a technical report on the results of their speed survey. JK to update Laura. RJ to include information on speeding in the CCC article for the Ben Ledi View.</li> <li>Coilhallan Wood - RJ contacted the Callander Wood Group about a new footpath at the Bridgend entrance and offered CC support. They are in discussion with Forest and Land Scotland.</li> <li>Citizen of Year - RJ has advertised this and FK is managing nominations. The deadline is the November CCC meeting. Some nominations have been received already.</li> <li>Alex McDonald had raised an issue about surface water drainage along Main Street which RB has followed up. SC advised it is BEAR that deals with the roads. RB will contact Alex with an update and pass on email received from SC.</li> </ul>	JK to contact Laura.  RJ to include in the BLV report          RB to contact Alex with an update

	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RJ attended the stakeholder meeting for Callander Primary School asset transfer. RJ has since received an email from Brian McKay who is leading the Asset Transfer for CCDT advising that there have been no developments since the stakeholder meeting.</li> <li>• CCC surgeries at Callander Connect - due to decreasing numbers attending, it has been agreed that future surgeries will be held at the library on the Friday before the CCC meeting.</li> <li>• RJ emailed Marilyn Moore asking for copies of the Braes of Doune files. He is still waiting on the information being sent over.</li> <li>• RB and JK had contacted Marilyn Moore to get signatories for the bank accounts changed. Marilyn has sent the signed forms to the bank and said that CCC can collect the banking information from her from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025. RJ said it was wrong for Marilyn to withhold CCC information, it was agreed that if the information is not received on 1<sup>st</sup> November then she would be advised of formal actions to recover the information.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>5. Special Items</b></p> <p><b>5.1 Co-option of new members</b></p> <p>RJ contacted Stephen Bly (SC) to inform that CCC was going ahead with co-opting new members. Stephen Bly advised that there is now the opportunity to co-opt two new members. These vacancies have been advertised but no nominations have been received. It was agreed that the CCC will take time to consolidate and then re-advertise the vacancies. This was proposed by RJ and seconded by HW and agreed by CCC.</p> <p><b>5.2 Camp Place play park</b></p> <p>RJ has gone through previous Secretary emails to understand this project as well as discussing with SC. The play park was originally funded by planning gain from the housing development at Lagrannoch. Benches were included in the original project and were purchased by SC but were never installed. The benches have now been installed by a SC contractor. The benches have been inspected by the CCC and were found to be in a poor state. They are covered in packing tape, which someone has tried to remove and has damaged the paint. SC has agreed to rectify this issue. The benches also do not appear to be wheelchair accessible. Access tracks have been installed which don't seem to be suitable for wheelchair access. RJ asked for a copy of specifications that were given to the contractor, but nothing has been received. The total cost of the installation of four benches plus the access tracks was in excess of £11,000, SC have some money from the planning gain, but it was previously agreed that the CCC will pay the remaining cost of £6,411.25. CCC have these funds but will refuse to pay until issues are resolved.</p> <p><b>5.3 Callander Digital Hub</b></p> <p>This is progressing as part of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal which includes a digital hub in Callander. It was felt that the CCC hadn't received sufficient information about this. Information is channelled through the Callander Partnership but the previous CCC representative had not passed the information to the rest of CCC. RJ has asked SC to copy CCC into future correspondence. JK will liaise with Freddy Bowen-Bate to ensure himself and RB are invited to future Callander Partnership meetings.</p> <p><b>5.4 Emergency 999 calls during power cuts</b></p>	

	Actions
<p>This was raised by a member of the community after the recent storms. He pointed out that with the new digital phones, a 999 call cannot be made from a digital land line or mobile during a power cut. RJ had a meeting with BT to discuss this. He has also gathered feedback from members of the community that most people don't understand digital phones. BT had consulted on this in May to provide more information and 34 people attended but no notes were taken by BT. RJ is working with BT to find out what parts of Callander have been switched over. RJ will gather information and put an article in the Ben Ledi View. CCC will also offer a joint public meeting with BT once clear answers have been received.</p> <p><b>5.5 Footbridge over the River Teith</b></p> <p>JK has been invited to attend a meeting in November. Finance has been secured by SC to carry out a feasibility study.</p>	
<p><b>5.6 CCC Facebook and website</b></p> <p>No one could find out how to transfer the old Facebook page and website so RJ has started a new Facebook page and website and is now looking for feedback from members.</p> <p><b>5.7 Questions from members of the public</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member of the public asked if there were any updates on St Kessog's. No updates have been received.</li> <li>• Ian McCourt noted that the Flood group is meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Burgh Chambers. The meeting is open to community organisations to hear updates on flooding. Ian was looking for someone to attend from the CCC. JK agreed to attend the meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>CCC Reports</b></p> <p><b>6.1 Chair</b></p> <p>JK has moved the CCC surgeries to the library, hoping this venue will be more successful.</p> <p><b>6.2 Secretary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three resignations letter sent to SC, which have been logged.</li> <li>• Received an email from Councillor Maxwell regarding the repainting of white lines on roads – RJ has sent a list to SC where re-painting is required in Callander.</li> <li>• Email from a lady in the community who wanted to donate to Trossachs Search and Rescue for the maintenance of defibrillators but was having issues contacting them. RJ also tried to contact them with no success. Has now found someone else who may be able to help.</li> <li>• Street cleaning – RJ contacted Councillor Earl about street cleaning and the "Green Machine" being moved to Stirling. It is understood that Green Machine has been taken to Stirling for repair and once repaired it will be deployed to other communities before coming back to Callander. Councillor Maxwell has logged a corporate enquiry and will chase this up. RJ suggested CCC sends a letter to SC stressing the importance of street cleaning and the need to return the Green Machine.</li> <li>• RJ was contacted by a member of the community concerning the condition of Mollands Road out to Balvallachan Cemetery. SC hope to do resurfacing work as part of the capital budget next year.</li> </ul>	JK to attend flood group meeting.

	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correspondence received from NP regarding the Trossachs Explorer, an initial assessment of the 2025 season is that it was very successful with number of passengers up significantly</li> <li>Braes of Doune - no information has been received from the former Secretary so RJ approached Foundation Scotland to find out how the funding process works. The main grant includes an amount of £2000, which can use for administrative fees, RJ proposed that this grant is used for the new website. The micro grant system has also been updated to keep it in line with other communities. The main changes are that the maximum grant amounts are now £400 for individuals and £1000 for small groups It was felt there is a need to advertise these changes, information will go on the website and also in the Ben Ledi View.</li> </ul> <p><b>6.3 Treasurer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SC administration grant has been received - £985.30.</li> <li>Money out for minute taking and service charge - £78.65.</li> <li>Ringfenced for Camp Place - £6,500.00</li> <li>Ringfenced for FEL - £856.48</li> <li>Bank Account total - £8,788.71</li> <li>Balance after ringfenced money removed - £1,432.23</li> </ul> <p><b>6.4 Braes of Doune Community Fund</b></p> <p>No applications received</p> <p><b>6.5 Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The field for the dog park has received planning approval.</li> <li>Rural housing – planning request for a single-story extension</li> <li>Co-op put in a request for planning permission</li> <li>Drummond Lodge reduction of 2 holly trees to just above ground level</li> </ul> <p>Councillor Maxwell reported that asbestos material had been removed from the Callander Co-op as part of its renovation.</p> <p><b>6.6 Licensing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DK wrote back to planning to advise no objections to the liquor licence for the Callander Gift Shop.</li> <li>Applications for public processions, one on 29<sup>th</sup> November to bring Santa into town and one for the British Legion parade on 9<sup>th</sup> September for Remembrance Day. No objections to either</li> </ul>	<p>RJ to advertise the fund on the web site and in the BLV.</p>
<p><b>7 Other Reports</b></p> <p><b>7.1 Police Scotland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few issues with young people and extra patrols have been carried out</li> <li>Road traffic collision on A84 with the driver under the influence of alcohol</li> <li>Speed checks carried out when possible</li> <li>Break in at a business premises under investigation</li> <li>Theft by shop lifting under investigation.</li> </ul>	

	Actions
<p><b>7.2 Stirling Council</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finance committee – last year’s accounts still not completed. The Special Audit Committee meeting has been cancelled as the audited accounts are not ready. Half year report forecast £2m overspend and a reduction of the amount in the general reserve to 1.7%.</li> <li>Brian Roberts had been appointed as the new Chief Executive, he is a long time employee of SC.</li> <li>Several bids have come in for operators for the film studio at the old MOD site in Stirling, the site will include workshops which can be used as a training centre for Arts and Crafts apprentices around film making, lighting and costume making.</li> <li>Work on the new Callander primary school is ongoing.</li> <li>Work on a feasibility study for a footbridge over the River Teith in Callander has started.</li> </ul> <p><b>7.3 National Park</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accounts have been audited</li> <li>Large amount of time being spent on the LDP</li> <li>Meeting to investigate resilience in the NP related to a changing climate</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8 Any Other Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RJ reminded members that this year’s Remembrance Service will be at 10.45 on 9<sup>th</sup> November.</li> <li>RB attended 2 online meetings with SC regarding rural transport. The first was on 13<sup>th</sup> October with Robert Plues, regarding the DRT service. There are plans for 2 buses, one going from Callander to Aberfoyle with the potential to take people to Kinlochard and the other covering the Southern villages to Drymen. Concerns were raised that the plan is to run the bus at a similar time to the X10 A.</li> <li>RJ proposing that the December CCC meeting should be on 8<sup>th</sup> December as the 15<sup>th</sup> December is too close to Christmas – all agreed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9 Date of Next meeting</b></p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> November 2025</p>	
<p><b>10 Close of Meeting</b></p> <p>Close of meeting at 8.40pm</p>	