

The Communicator

Contact the editorial team at bcccommunicator@outlook.com

**BCC Ordinary Meeting, Mon 5th September, 7:30pm,
Memorial Hall. All Welcome.**

Buchanan Community Council Update

Following the resignation of 6 Councillors at the end of June, Stirling Council's Chief Governance Officer, Iain Strachan, advised: according to the Scheme of Establishment, "should circumstances arise that lead to the number of elected community councillors falling below HALF of the maximum permitted membership, the local authority shall be informed and shall undertake arrangements for an interim election to be held, as described with the Guidance Notes".

Therefore, it has been agreed that the Community Council will continue with the remaining 3 Community Councillors, until interim elections are held. This is likely to be before the end of 2016. The Community Council can hold 3 meetings between now and the Interim Elections, they cannot co-opt in to the vacancies, the quorum for meetings remains a 1/3 or 3, whichever is the greater. In the event of the Interim Elections not bringing the number of Community Councillors up to the 7, Stirling Council would move to dissolve the Community Council. The election process will be organised and managed by Stirling Council Democratic Services.

We would like to thank Stirling Council Community Engagement Team for their support over the Summer and in particular for their generosity which has enabled us to produce this edition of the Communicator during the period when the Buchanan CC accounts are in abeyance. Please see our new website www.buchanancc.org for future updates.

Job Vacancies

Are you one of the enthusiastic volunteers we are looking for?

We are looking for community minded residents with time, commitment and enthusiasm, to be part of the Buchanan Community Council team as we fulfil our role to ascertain and fairly represent the views of the residents to outside agencies such as Stirling Council, the National Park, Police, NHS and Rural Stirling Housing Association. Buchanan now has more opportunities to shape its community and services due to Community Empowerment legislation.

Please contact the secretary if you would like more information.

Contact your Community Councillors

buchananccsecretary@outlook.com

Dave Morris 660632, Audrey Peebles 661304, Lorna Buchanan 660700

buchanancc.org

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Meeting Agenda

- 1 Recording of membership present and apologies received.
- 2 Statement of current CC standing and financial report
- 3 Appointment of Office Bearers.
- 4 Declarations of Interest
- 5 Minutes submitted for approval:
 - BCC Meeting March 2016 Minutes with amendments
 - Minutes of Car Park workshop with amendments. June 2016
 - BCC Meeting June 2016 Minutes with amendments.
- 6 Matters Arising from June Minutes
- 7 Correspondence
- 8 Reports: Police, Planning, Roads, Forestry Commission, Affordable Housing TBC
- 9 **COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS**
 - Meeting with NPA and East Loch Lomond Visitor Management Group - Implementation of new camping byelaws
 - Traffic calming measures for Milton of Buchanan and Balmaha
 - Parking update Balmaha.
 - Car Park charging at Millarochy. Community considerations requested by Susan Brooks NPA.
- 10 Questions from the floor
- 11 Upcoming Meetings
 - Public Consultancy Meetings
 - 13th Sept: NPA meeting with BCC and ELLVMG re Implementation of new camping byelaws
 - 15th Sept: Transport Strategy Consultation 3-8pm, Drymen Library
 - Councillors' Meetings
 - 13 Sept: DCDT meeting re traffic calming measures/cycle path
 - 15th Sept: City Park Development & Access to M9 Consultation Buchlyvie Village Hall
 - 20th Sept: Broadband Delivery Meeting, SC Chambers
- 12 AOCB

Camping Management Byelaws Update

In January Scottish Government Ministers approved proposals for camping byelaws in the most pressured areas of the National Park. These will apply in four separate 'camping management zones' on and around our busiest loch shores. The byelaws come into force on 1st March 2017, and will apply from March until September each year. They cover where people can camp and will help deal with irresponsible fire-lighting. Within these zones camping will be allowed by booking a pitch at a low impact campsite or by obtaining a camping permit. The Park Authority has committed to providing 300 camping places across the camping management zones by the start date of the byelaws. More information and a copy of the Bye-laws can be found at www.thisisyourpark.org.uk.

Gordon Watson and his Senior Team wish to update each of the communities affected and have invited Buchanan Community Council and the East Loch Lomond Visitor Management Group to a joint public meeting to outline where camping facilities will be provided. The joint meeting allows us to share our plans, answer questions and gather feedback. The Community Council asked for specific local information in advance of the meeting so residents can engage more fully, but none was available when going to print. The meeting takes place at 7pm on Tuesday 13th September in the Memorial Hall.

What is the ELLVMG

We asked the National Park to describe the role, composition, appointment process, reporting structure and aims of the East Loch Lomond Visitor Management Group. Thank you to Charlotte Wallace who coordinates the group at the National Park for the following information:

The ELLVMG was formed in 2004 with the support of the National Park Authority, in specific response to local community concerns about antisocial behaviour and visitor infrastructure issues within the East Loch Lomond area. The group, which pre-dates the early East Loch Lomond camping management byelaws, was set up to bring together all the partners dealing with the challenges in the area. The primary aim has always been to coordinate improvement actions via a Visitor Management Plan. ELLVMG is chaired by Kevin Lilburn, the NPA provides secretariat, writing and circulation of minutes in addition to carrying out Authority-related actions arising from the Visitor Management Plan. The group allocates tasks out to the key partners, community groups or members through the process of review and delivery of the Visitor Management Plan. The Chair ultimately has the decision making power around who sits on the group, however the approach taken over the last few years has been to raise additions to the membership at meetings and discuss these with the group prior to additional invites being circulated.

Local Paths and Roads Update

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Thank you to Tom Wallace of Drymen Community Trust for keeping us up to date on the various projects:

Milton of Buchanan

The designs for 'on-road' cycle lanes in Milton are being costed by Stirling Council. Designs will be discussed at the BCC meeting on 5th September.

Wilkie's Path Vegetation Maintenance

The maintenance plan for the route relied on the Paths Group which unfortunately is short of members. Work will be scheduled as soon as possible.

Road to Castle in BCE

As a result of the outcomes of the consultation with BCE residents and with His Grace the Duke of Montrose, the National Park have been able to secure a proportion of the funding required to upgrade the road link to the castle. Funding for this has been provided as part of an £80k grant towards progressing the final elements of the cycle paths project, including Milton of Buchanan works and the link to Balmaha. DCDT is in the process of working with the Duke to source the required match funding to allow the work in BCE to be completed.

Old Library Path (Winnock Court to Home Farm)

After early difficulties with ownerships, DCDT now have agreements in place to create this link which will open up a short circular path between Drymen and the farm. A planning application will be required once funding is secured.

Drymen Community Development Trust AGM

This will include a road safety workshop - the Drymen traffic island is an agenda item. The aim is to identify a solution that the community finds acceptable. The BCC is will be attending and will present your comments.

Planning

In June, the planning application for the former Highland Way Hotel site in Balmaha was passed by the Planning and Access Committee in June. J Twaddle spoke at the meeting and objected on behalf of the BCC. Work cannot commence until the legal paperwork has been completed.

The BCC objected to two applications in Buchanan Castle Estate on the grounds of not according with the Buchanan Supplementary Guidance re change of character, subdivision of plots, precedence and scale and massing. One application falls under the Drymen CC area.

The Rowardennan Hotel has 5 applications pending at the moment including new staff accommodation, new letting bedrooms, restaurant extension and owner's accommodation.

There is an application to demolish and rebuild the house, Overmains, on the Gort Daraich Walk.

Planning applications can be found on the National Park planning portal.

<http://eplanning.lochlomond-trossachs.org/OnlinePlanning/>

Milarrochy Consultation:

Parking Charges

Susan Brooks, Forward Planner at the NPA, has let us know that 'the Park is advising communities and businesses of their plan to charge at sites where there are facilities and/or a requirement to manage parking. The Park is currently tendering for a car park management company to manage parking at Milarrochy, Tarbet, Inveruglas and potentially other sites. Until the tender process is complete, we are not able to go into further detail of future management, however, at this stage the NPA would appreciate feedback from the community council of any considerations that they want to highlight eg resident's permits have been mentioned so we are aware of this consideration. The intention is to work towards joined-up management across the Park.'

Buchanan Castle Estate Loses Designed Landscape Designation

In 2014 Scottish Government announced it would write legislation to merge Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. The newly named Historic Environment Scotland has been reviewing Scotland's historical assets via the 'Inventory Refresh Project 2014-15' and the 'Buchanan Castle Designed Landscape' status has been downgraded as the designation only recognises gardens and landscapes of national importance that survive with good integrity (or wholeness). It is not intended to recognise lost or only partially surviving landscapes.

The Designations Officer stated: 'Although Buchanan Castle no longer meets the criteria for inclusion on the Inventory this of course does not mean it is not of interest in regional and local terms, not least for its contribution as a principal entry point to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. I was interested to learn about the pathways initiative and other initiatives to conserve and enhance the designed landscape which we continue to encourage. I should also reassure you that the decision to remove Inventory status from Buchanan Castle designed landscape has no effect on the listed status of the historic buildings within it such as Buchanan Castle.'

Transport Strategy Consultation

Stirling Council is putting together a new transport strategy for the next 10 years. Since the last transport plan was introduced, Larbert has become our 'local' hospital. In the next 10 years, thousands of new houses will be built in Stirling leading to congestion in the City of Stirling if the Council doesn't deliver some of the options in the proposed Strategy. Some of the issues to be addressed are:

- Road safety
- Road maintenance
- The ability of the transport network to enable everyone to access jobs, services and opportunities
- Opportunities to walk and cycle
- The ability of the existing transport network to promote and accommodate economic growth
- Quality of roads and street environment for residents and visitors
- Impacts of traffic on health and the environment
- Journey times and travel options to, within and beyond Stirling

The most significant section of the proposals for us is the 'Towns, Villages and Rural Area Transport Plan'. The documents can be accessed at <http://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/transport-and-streets/transport-policy/local-transport-strategy-consultation> and the feedback questionnaire is at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3QWBD76>. There will be consultations on the Roads Asset Management Plan and the Road Safety Plan in due course.

Buchanan Community Council will be considering its response on 5th September so please make your opinions known to us.

Forestry Commission Report

Sallochys Campsite

The campsite at Sallochys has been open since the end of March and we welcomed back to site the same team as last year: Helen, Arthur and Moira. Fire-pits can be hired and firewood is available. Camping costs £5 /person per night. Tents may be booked in for up to three nights. Reservations are via our internet booking system www.sallochys@forestry.campsite.co.uk.

Annual Car-Parking Discount Ticket

If you wish to secure a discounted annual seasonal passes at any of the FES car-parks in Cowal, Trossachs Forest District they available from the village shop at Balmaha for an annual cost of £20. Please contact them directly.

Ironworks Initiative

This year we are participating again with LLTNP and Police Scotland staff with joint patrols and regular ongoing liaison. Last year we found working together really helpful as by sharing information and having direct communication we were able to manage a number of anti-social activities on site and dealt with promptly and effectively.

Rowardennan Car-Park

The carpark has been very busy at times - even in the early part of the season up to 147 cars parked, some overflowing onto the grass areas. We are very pleased that Stirling Council took effective steps to rectify the road damage immediately before the carpark, prior to the busy season.

Ben Lomond Hill Path

As part of The Mountains and People project we are working in partnership with LLTNP, SNH and the Cairngorms Outdoor Access Trust to upgrade a number of hill paths including the quality of the hill path on Ben Lomond. There will therefore be a number of contractors working in and around this path and generally in the area, we will endeavour to keep you up to date with progress and the timing of works. **David Robertson, Recreation Manager**

Drymen Health Centre
 Phone: 660203 Prescriptions: 660809
 Prescriptions now available online
www.drymenhealthcentre.co.uk

Library Opening Hours
 Mon & Fri 9.30-1pm and 2-5pm
 Tuesday & Thursday 9.30-1pm and 2-7pm
 Wednesday Closed. Saturday 9am-1pm

Balfron Recycling Centre
 Dunkeld Court (behind the Co-Op)
 Monday to Friday 17:00 - 20:00
 Saturday 10:00 - 14:00

Existing Waste and Recycling Collections - Details will change
 Brown Bins **Sep** 14th, 28th - Oct 12th 26th
 Grey Bins **Sep** 7th, 21th **Oct** 5rd, 19th
 Stirling Council 01786 404040

Public Transport Buses
www.travelinescotland.com
 309 Balmaha – Bonhill
 8/C8 Glasgow – Drymen

Drymen Post Office
 Monday - Friday 9am – 5pm
 Closed for lunch 12:30 – 13:30pm
 Saturday 9am – 1pm

Deadline for 'What's On' events is 26th October
bcccommunicator@outlook.com

Police Scotland ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk
 Call 101 for non urgent matters

NHS 24 Free Calls Now
 Call 111 for medical advice

Police Report

The Community Council has arranged to receive the Police Report prior to publication of the Communicator so we can highlight points where appropriate. Police reports can be found on our website buchanancc.org. Please send us comments so we can include them via the feedback process.

Over the Summer there were several bike thefts from campsites, two road accidents, two arrests due to drugs, damage to 3 vehicles in Buchanan Smithy, 3 fixed penalty notices for drinking in public, numerous fixed penalties for parking, an assault near Balmaha, a driver without insurance or licence and an overly loud party in Milton of Buchanan. Thanks to PCs Murphy and Graham.

Air Weapons Surrender Scheme

The **Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015** comes fully into effect on 31 December 2016. The new law will require any person who possesses, purchases, uses or acquires an air weapon to have a certificate to hold them legally. It will be an offence not to have a certificate for these purposes from 31 December 2016, unless you are exempt, but you are now able to apply to Police Scotland for a certificate. Contact the Police Office in Balfron which is designated for surrender and making safe.

New Bins Arrangement in the Autumn

Stirling Council will be contacting all houses in the area to explain the new waste collection system and pick-up days. The 4 bins will all be the standard size ie 240 litres, but half sizes will be available if you contact the Waste Services Team. The bin pull-out service will continue as normal.

www.stirling.gov.uk/services/waste-and-recycling/improved-waste-collection-service

Container	Frequency	Waste Stream
Blue Bin	2 weeks	Plastics, cans, cartons
Green Bin	4 weeks	Paper and cardboard
Brown Bin	2 weeks	Garden and food waste - all year
Grey Bin	2 weeks	Non recyclables
Blue Box	2 weeks	Glass

**Stirling Council
 Broadband Delivery Group**

A key priority for Stirling Council is the delivery and improved access & speed of internet services throughout the Stirling area. The Council formed a Broadband Advisory Group in 2013 to facilitate community projects in rural areas that were unlikely to be covered by the Digital Scotland Step Change initiative. The group now has a change of focus, is renamed the Broadband Delivery Group and the membership has been extended. Councillor Neil Benny, also Deputy Leader of Stirling Council and Chairman of the Finance and Economics Committee will chair the group. Members come from: Killearn, Balfron, Callander, Trossachs, Kinlochard, Gartmore and many others. I now sit on this group to represent Buchanan's interests.

Stirling Council has committed £300k funding to support projects that extend Next Generation Broadband services. To date, none of this funding has been spent, although 4 initiatives are currently under active consideration. Councillor Benny has indicated that the Broadband Delivery Group will make the decisions on how the funds will be allocated.

At the group's meeting on the 17th August, Digital Scotland gave some insight into the launch of a new project called R100 (Reaching 100% of the population by 2021). While it is too early to be sure, it may be a game changer in the aspiration to meet the Governments definition of Superfast broadband (24Mbps). Note the EU definition is 30Mbps. **D Morris**

The BCC Communicator will be distributed to all addresses within the Buchanan Community area. If you learn that you did not receive a copy and think you should have, please contact us on bcccommunicator@outlook.com. It is produced and distributed by a group of volunteers led by Lorna Buchanan who are accountable to the Community Council
Archives: All editions of the BCC Communicator will be held in the National Library of Scotland.

Disclaimer: Whilst every care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this publication is accurate, the Buchanan Community Council and Buchanan Editors cannot accept liability for matters outwith their control. We do not do endorse any organisations or companies mentioned herein.
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