

Police Service of Scotland Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick Ward, Buchanan Community Council

Reporting Period:

March 2018 - Compiled by PC Scott Craigie

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

There have been no such incidents within the period of this report.

Road Safety

Following the transfer of parking enforcement from Police Scotland to Stirling Council the police cannot issue parking tickets, although vehicles causing an obstruction can be removed. Parking enforcement is now carried out by Parking Enforcement Officers who are employed by Stirling Council. The line manager for this department is Keith Davidson, who is the Parking Enforcement Co-ordinator for Stirling Council.

The 2017 season was the first year that this new structure was in place along the loch side. Like all new procedures and working practises things can take a time to bed in and afford time to allow any problems to be ironed out.

Following on from last season, Loch Lomond National Parks Authority are liaising directly with Stirling Council to see how parking along the loch side is going to be managed over the coming season.

There were number of issues as a result of the recent heavy snows however these have been resolved without issue.

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THEFT

There have been no issues of this nature in the Buchanan Council area since the last meeting, however there continues to be issues within the Strathblane/Dumgoyne area relating to the theft of unattended vehicles and houses/ outbuildings being broken into breaking, so once again, I would ask everyone to remain vigilant. It is of note that two people were disturbed acting suspiciously around vehicles in Kippen on Sunday.

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Community Engagement and Reassurance

PC Steven Graham has taken up a new role as a response officer at Balfron Police Office. PC Scott Craigie is based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the police office, on 101, or at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk. He has access to this email address mailbox, and it is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact. A process is underway to identify a replacement for PC Graham is underway and PC Craigie will keep you up to date with this process.

Social Media

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at

www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision

www.facebook.com/policescotland

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Other Incidents / Activity of note

Rural Watch Scotland

'Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland movement and endorsed by the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and Forth valley Rural Crime Group aimed specifically at the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to all rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

Rural watch is an online community for any member of the public where appeals, crime prevention tips and safety alerts can be posted by those who subscribe which can be viewed by all members. Subscription is free and the sharing of information on the forum is a great example of real time crime prevention in action.

The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time.
- Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community.
- Improve community cohesion and well-being by supporting communities to develop 'their watch, their way'.
- Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional or unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather.

The experience of Neighbourhood Watch throughout Scotland and elsewhere across the world is that members of Rural Watch Scotland will be less likely than non-members in the rural community to be a victim of crime.

By joining the Rural Watch Scotland scheme members can receive alerts and advice by phone, text or email. By keeping members informed about crime and other threats in specific areas, Rural Watch Scotland can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and members responses to these alerts can help catch criminals or be better prepared to deal with other threats to communities. To join Rural Watch Scotland simply:

- Log onto www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk
- Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.
- Follow the on screen instructions."

PARKING DECRIMINALISATION

From 3rd May 2017, Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) came into force. The responsibility for parking enforcement is now transferred from Police Scotland to Stirling Council. The council have displayed several notices to inform the public of this change in responsibility. Any vehicle found to be in breach of a parking restriction will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) for £60. Should this be paid within 14 days, it will be reduced by 50% and if ignored, will increase to £90.

Details are contained on the Stirling Council website under the link

<http://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/transport-and-streets/parking-and-car-parks/parking-fines>

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Issues raised

Community Council Feedback

Police Message of Local Residents

It is getting to the time when it gets darker earlier which can make it easier for thieves to target your property if they can see that nobody is home. We need your help to make it make it harder for the thieves so please consider the following:

- Use timer switches on lights and radios to make it look as if your home is occupied.
- Ensure all doors and windows are secure when you leave and when you go to bed.
- If possible use secure lighting at the front and back of your property.
- Make sure all garden tools and ladders are locked away when not being used. Don't give the thieves the tools to break into your house.
- Use a good quality lock on any garden sheds and outhouses.
- Make a note of all makes, models and serial numbers of expensive items in your home.
- If you note anything suspicious in your neighbourhood report it on 101.

If anyone would like further crime prevention advice, please contact PC Scott Craigie who will be happy to assist.