



Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

Held on Tuesday 18th November in the Allan Centre.

Present:

Amanda Coulthard (AC) *Chair*; Leslie Harkness (LH) *Secretary*; Inga Bullen (IB) *Planning*; Sybil Greig (SG); Karen McGregor (KMcG); Jenny Smith (JS);

Apologies:

Patricia Hammett (PH) *Treasurer*; Kathryn Chadwick (KC); Rosemary Dodds (RD); Mike Watson (MW); Councillor Robin Kleinman; Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor Thomas Heald; Alexander Stewart (MSP); Graham Russell (*Chair, Friends of Bridge of Allan*); Douglas Neilson (*Secretary, Friends of Bridge of Allan*); PC David Collins; PC Siobhan Rennie;

In attendance:

Councillor David Wilson; Isobel Walter (*Secretary, DBOA*); 10 other residents; Brian Bullen (BB) (*Minute Secretary*);

Abbreviations have moved to the end of the minutes.

B 2582. Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest

AC welcomed those present at 7.30 pm. The apologies were noted as indicated above. No conflict of interests were declared.

B 2583. Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log

IB proposed the October 2025 minutes be approved, Seconded by JS.

Matters Arising (LH)

In relation to **Item B 2573.1** and the residents' concerns about ***Over the Bridge***, the CC was sent a very detailed update of the situation at the time of our last meeting, along with two documents, a Festive Period Risk note and a tabulation timeline of events leading up to the current position. Councillor Heald wrote to say he was still waiting for a meeting with council officers to be updated on any ongoing reports of relevant anti-social behaviour.

Regarding **Item B 2569** and the ***Henderson Street road traffic accident***, Councillor Heald wrote to report that neither the layout of the road nor vehicle speed was a contributory factor. The councillor also indicated that he was in favour of a working group to look more broadly at the effectiveness of road safety and traffic management measures along the whole of Henderson Street.

Regarding **Item B 2577** and the ***dog walker incident*** near Cocksburn Reservoir, the CC was sent a copy of a communication from Scottish Water sent to the lady who had been knocked down by a dog. In this communication, Scottish Water reported that it is considering options for social media campaigns and site signage to assist in educating dog owners about keeping their dogs under control.

With regard to **Item B 2573.4** and the site meeting to discuss ***Henderson Street traffic issues***, some days prior to the meeting, residents had already written to Councillor Tollemache to itemise a number of concerns about safety issues related to the parking bays in Henderson Street, issues which were also raised at the site meeting. The councillor forwarded the email to SC and, in a response, sent to Councillor Tollemache on the day of the meeting, SC stressed that, while traffic calming measures were designed to reduce traffic speed, they can not eradicate bad driver behaviour.

Regarding **Item B 2573.3** and the issue of dangerous trees, a matter which has been raised with MPs, MSPs, and councillors by a businessman who owns properties in the town, Councillor Wilson has raised with SC the viability of the local authority addressing the matter by means of the Crown Estate. We have subsequently been informed that the land involved is in private ownership and is not owned by the Crown Estate.

Action Log.

The items will be covered under Agenda Items or the Chair's Report.

B 2584. Police Report.

PC Siobhan Rennie (email: DunblaneBridgeofAllanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk) had emailed their report, which LH summarised. The full report is reproduced here:

Introduction / synopsis of previous month:

This report should provide sufficient information regarding police activity since the last community council meeting. If you have any further questions about the police report or any incidents that you are aware of that are not included in this report, then please email us direct on the above email address and we will answer your questions.

If anyone has any information on any incidents that we have been unable to identify a suspect then please let us know by email, 101 or by contacting Crime stoppers.

The report encompasses all relevant crime and matters of note which have occurred between 20th October 2025 and 16th November 2025.

Current Priorities:

Our current priorities in the Bridge of Allan area continue to be Anti-Social Behaviour, Housebreaking, Road Safety and Community Engagement and Reassurance.

Main Report:

Between the 20th October 2025 and 16th November 2025, a total of 11 crime reports were recorded within the Bridge of Allan area. The crimes detailed below are those that are of relevance to the local community.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

31st October- Vandalism occurred on Lyon Crescent, window has been smashed. Enquiries ongoing. No suspect has been identified

15th November- Vandalism occurred on Keir Street. Window has been smashed. Youths were observed in the area however no suspect has been identified. Enquiries ongoing..

DRUG MISUSE

20th October- Quantity of controlled drugs recovered from a residential property. After lab analysis, one male to be reported to the PF for possession with intent to supply.

2nd November- Male stopped by police on Airthrey Road, found to be in possession of a personal amount of class A drugs. Male issued with a recorded police warning..

VIOLENT CRIME

None.

HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY

None.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME

24th October- Driver issued with a fixed penalty notice for driving whilst using their mobile phone on Henderson Street.

29th October- Driver issued with a fixed penalty notice for speeding on the A9, entering Bridge of Allan.

31st October- Driver stopped by police close to Stirling university for driving on a provisional licence, unaccompanied and with no L plates. Driver has been reported to the PF.

8th November- Driver has been reported for speeding on the A9, entering Bridge of Allan.

OTHER CRIME

None.

OTHER MATTERS

None.

Community engagement and reassurance

Activity for forthcoming month:

Continued road safety/speed checks due to the increased number of accidents within the Bridge of Allan area.

Inputs at local schools/out of school activities.

Issues raised at the Meeting:

<https://scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts>

Community Police Email Address: DunblaneBridgeofAllanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

B 2585. Road Traffic Issues.

Before introducing SC Road Services Manager Gary Neill AC opened this item by noting there had been 7 road traffic accidents in the last 10 months, there had been a site meeting on Henderson St with a SC officer and a special meeting of the CC will be arranged for the community to share their concerns. Gary Neill then addressed the meeting. Referring to the recent accidents, he said that the roads were not a factor. He talked about liaising with the community on what can be done, and particularly parking issues would be discussed with the CC. He explained about the forthcoming SC roads *route review*, which would include factors in categories such as:

- the recent 7 accidents
- all accident in the last 5 years
- speed survey
- vehicle types
- pedestrian activity

A report will be presented in the springtime, and there will be options discussed with CC.

A resident commented on large vans obscuring sight-lines.

AC noted frustration regarding parking and also there had been more police presence in the area in the last two weeks. IB asked if the route review was only Henderson St, Gary Neill confirmed that but that there would be a separate report by another Roads Officer on local roads such as Keir St.

JS raised the issue of the new zebra crossing opposite the Co-op with parked cars obscuring sight lines for drivers of pedestrians waiting to cross, however the SC Roads Officer had said the parking bay was within legal guidelines.

Gary noted that a parking bay on Henderson St by the Memorial Park will be removed, he went on to talk about the BOA Parking Strategy which was stalled due to COVID, and that the process will be restarted in the New Year.

Councillor Wilson reported that speed indicator signs were due to be installed on Henderson St by the Memorial Park. A resident suggested that there by parking on one side only of Fountain Rd. Gary Neill replied that this would not slow traffic, it would be better to stagger bays on each side of the road. A resident suggested bus bay parking be marked out at the bus stop by the Health Centre car park. He also raised the issue of cones acting to push vehicles into the centre of the road and the possible risk of accidents. The resident reported that in the last parking review (perhaps 10 years ago) it was decided not to have pay to park meters. Gary Neill commented that the issues of parking and economic activity need to be balanced.

KMcG asked if residents of Henderson St could be consulted on the position of the new speed indicator signs.

For traffic; heading West into town, a sign by the Memorial Park is appropriate, but for traffic heading East of out town she suggested between Melville Place and Graham St, the point traffic is observed as speeding up.

AC thanks Gary Neill for coming to the meeting and giving his talk.

B 2586. Updates from BOA Community Groups.**B 2586.1 The Dr Welsh Trust.**

Gavin Drummond reported that the Trust had received planning permission for the plaque to be erected at the entrance to The Avenue.

B 2586.2 Update from Discover Bridge of Allan.

Isobel Walter (*Secretary, DBOA*) reported:

1. Two members of the board had stepped down, Pam Wilson and Duncan Leask, and she expressed thanks to them for their contribution.
2. Funding applications are in process
3. They would welcome members to join their Accessibility Working Group.

B 2586.3 Update from Friends of Bridge of Allan (FBOA).

LH read out the update from FBOA *Chair* Graham Russell on the activities of FBOA since the last CC meeting.

- The Christmas wreaths have been hung.
- Christmas Lights Sponsor's plaques attached to lampposts..
- Provost Park tidied up.
- Christmas Lights erected.
- Christmas Tree to be delivered this Thursday.
- New storage contained delivered and equipment is being moved from that at UCP..
- A social evening was held..

B 2587. Residents' View.**B 2587.1 Patterson Clock.**

A resident asked about the Patterson Clock. LH announced that he had been informed that the process to restore the clock had started, to be funded by the insurer's of the car driver. A resident expressed concern that the clock might be stored at the Ballantine's premises, and as it had recently gone into liquidation it would be stalled there.

AC indicated she will help explore this with SC

ACTION: AC to contact SC re a timescale for the restoration of the Patterson Clock.

B 2587.2 UCP Factory.

A resident asked what was happening with UCP. AC replied that the consultant hired by UCP who had been liaising with CC has come to the end of his contract. AC said she would contact UCP directly.

ACTION: AC to contact UCP for an update on the future of the factory.

B 2587.3 Over The Bridge concerns

The owner of Over The Bridge stated that she had not been made aware of the issues directly. She invited residents with concerns to talk to her.

B 2588 Our Bridge of Allan Planning.

AC reported that the LPP was submitted on Oct 31st. SC are currently reviewing it, and we expect to have permission to publish prior to the January meeting. One of key priorities was car parking.

B 2589. Planning Report.

IB (*Planning Lead*) opened her report saying there was not much of significance planning wise. One item is that Network Rail are planning to repair the railway footbridge that is between BOA and Dunblane, just north of the railway station. The footbridge will be closed 19th Jan to 17th May for deck repairs. This will impact access to Park of

Keir. IB reported attending the recent Flood Protection Scheme presentation. Work is due to start in Spring 2026. She spoke to representatives of contractor Balfour Beatty who said there was planning work to be done, e.g. to negotiate with landowners a site for storing equipment, possibilities include the UCP site, or by the Cornton Level crossing. The work will involve disruption to Allan Vale Rd.

AC queried the application from the Old Bridge Inn owners. IB explained they have applied for a change of use, from a Class 3 license to a generic pub class. No external changes. Proposed opening hours Sun to Thurs of 11am to Midnight, then Fri-Sat up-to 1am. It was suggested we checked with the owner if they will stay open those hours, or in practise close earlier. SG raised issue of parking on Station Rd. It was observed that many customers of Over The Bridge do not drive to the establishment.

Regarding the Flood Protection Scheme, a resident noted that one of the justifications for the scheme was protection of the factory at UCP, and with it closing he expressed a concern that the scheme may not actually proceed.

B 2590 Chair's Report.

AC reported on issues not covered already in this meeting. She commented on the Remembrance service at the Memorial Park being well attended by the public, and also many new organisations. The CC currently has 3 membership vacancies. A public safety meeting was held on Nov 17th, further to the discussions on tree safety at the October meeting. It was attended by resident's affected by dangerous trees, elected members and cc members. A number of actions will be followed up. A Road Safety special meeting is to be held in early December. Gary Neill will be invited and this will cover a range of road safety issues.

AC congratulated and thanked KMcG and RD for their work on obtaining sponsorship for the Christmas lights and also co-ordinating with local businesses and groups on events in the run up to Christmas, producing a printed calendar for posting in shops etc. and social media.

The new SPAR shop is now open, with it's official opening this Fri 21st. There will Post Office and pay/withdraw cash services opening in January. KMcG responded to a query about a possible banking hub to said that the provider had judged that we do not qualify.

B 2591 Secretary's Report.

Communications from Councillors

Councillor Kleinman

Councillor Kleinman reported positive progress on the speed monitoring signage. The Airthrey Road sign, just before the Sport Scotland Institute of Sport, has been replaced and is working. The Lecropt Nursery sign had been replaced, but was not working as a new battery and a charge controller were required. A repair was initiated, and this additional repair work has now been completed. A replacement build-out board has been fitted at 105 Henderson Street and is working. He has also reported the good news that SC is now going through the procurement process for the restoration of the Paterson Clock.

Councillor Heald

Councillor Heald has raised the concerns from residents about noise from the Co-op site. The councillor has also forwarded a notification from BEAR Scotland of essential resurfacing of the M9 southbound between Junctions 10 and 11, over four nights starting on Monday, 24th November, while Councillor Tollemache has confirmed that part of this work involves the section of roadway just beyond the Stirling exit, where there have been several accidents recently

Councillor Tollemache

Councillor Tollemache has raised the following issues with SC:

- The slippery leaf litter on the A9 near the station and the Lecropt nursery – now addressed;
- in response to a complaint from a resident, the slippery leaves on Well Road; -
- the issue of a blocked drain in Inverallan Road;
- in relation to the Darn walk, a resident's concerns about the worsening erosion of the path, the poor state of repair of the wooden steps and the boardwalk leading to the cave, and the hazard caused by a tree which has fallen across the path
-

Communications from Residents

Residents have raised the following:

- a concern about drivers continuing to park on the 'keep clear' grid in the train station car park, making it difficult to get around the bottom end to exit the car park;
- a concern about the overgrown weeds and moss in Alexander Drive - *Councillor Tollemache has contacted SC and, while Alexander Drive is not included in the current maintenance programme, a supervisor has inspected the area, and, subsequently, a section of the pavement has been cleared;*
- a request that the CC raise with Scottish Water the discharge of raw sewage into the river, something that a member of the CC has explained happens when heavy rainfall affects the vintage sewage system.

Communications from Stirling Council

The CC received the following SC communications:

- details of a series of drop-in community engagement sessions in relation to SC's Flood Prevention Strategy for Bridge of Allan and a copy of a flyer publicising these;
- details of Trustees Week organised by SC Community Development;
- details of the Investment in Neighbourhood deep cleans;
- a notification of a public procession, the Trossachs Tractor Run;
- details of Transport Scotland's online evaluation survey of the Free Bus Travel scheme;
- notification that Balfour Beatty would be contacting the CC about the social impact of the Bridge of Allan Flood Prevention Scheme works;
- a request that the CC complete the standard return outlining the full schedule of CC meetings for 2026 (duly completed by the Secretary);
- details of the November meeting of the Stirling Local Licensing Forum to be followed by a Joint Meeting of the District of Stirling Licensing Board;
- the November update on Stirling funding opportunities;
- a request from the Stirling Observer for a CC briefing on the ongoing issue of the Royal Hotel;
- the November Community Development bulletin

General Communications

The CC received the following:

- a copy of the Cornton Community Council's Local Place Plan;
- details from Climate Forth of two upcoming Climate Conversation sessions;
- details of the Courier Roadshow: Powering for Communities event in the Albert Halls, Stirling;
- the minutes of the September board meeting of the Friends of Bridge+- of Allan;
- Alexander Stewart's November newsletter;
- a communication from Stirling Rugby Club Under-14 Girls inviting the CC to share in a car wash fundraising initiative;
- a petition sent to all CCs calling for CCs to have the same powers as parish councils in England;
- the Autumn/Winter edition of Scottish Water's digital stakeholder newsletter;
- a copy of SCVO's Monthly News Round-up.

B 2592. Treasurer's Report

In the Treasurer's absence LH passed on a comment from her suggesting a QR code for donations to the Christmas lights fund. She had emailed prior to the meeting to report:

1. Still not received MUGA invoice from Stirling council.
2. Christmas lights donations are coming in but I do not know who is still outstanding.
- 3 I have completed the form for Stirling Council for connectivity of the Christmas lights to the electricity supply.
4. Graham (ex treasurer) no longer has access to the bank account.

When I she has the bank account pin number she will complete the accounts and send on

B 2593. AOCB

KMcG reported she had sent a chasing email regarding the provision of a water tap for the village. Apparently Scottish Water have reached a quota limit for this calendar year, and we may have another chance in 2026.

KMcG reported on the new zebra crossing at the Primary School to say how bright the overhead lights were (not the Belisha beacons she clarified), and they must impact on the house at the corner. She was contacting Councillor Kleinman.

KMcG reported on experiencing a new miss whilst driving, at the mini roundabout at the junction of Kier St and Henderson St (near the Tennis Courts).

KMcG reported that a poster with the Calendar of Christmas events had been distributed to retail outlets. (*with a QR code for donations*)

KMcG reported obtaining a license to collect money at the Christmas lights switch on.

JS updated the meeting regarding sharing a photo of poor sight-lines at the zebra crossing by the Co-Op with the SC Roads Officer Gary Neill.

AC closed the meeting just on 8.30 pm.

B 2594. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting is Tue 20th January 2026, 7.30pm at the Allan Centre.

Action Log Summary:

- From B 2587.1: AC to contact SC re a timescale for the restoration of the Patterson Clock.
- From B 2587.2: AC to contact UCP for an update on the future of the factory.

Abbreviations:

Annual General Meeting (AGM), Bridge of Allan (BOA), Community Council (CC), Common Good Fund (CGF), Councillor (Cllr), Stirling Council (SC), Wallace Monument Stakeholder Advisory Group (WMSAG), Discover Bridge of Allan (DBOA), Residents Against Greenbelt Erosion (RAGE); Community Action Plan (CAP); Local Place Plan (LPP); Friends of Bridge of Allan (FBOA); Community Right to Buy (CrtB); Prospective Parliamentary Candidate (PPC); Lawn Tennis Association (LTA); School Crossing Patrol (SCP); Clackmannanshire and Stirling Environment Trust (CSET)

Appendix 1. Treasurer's Report. November 2025

Bridge of Allan Community Council				
Treasurer's report				
November 2025 meeting				
Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
1. SC Administration Fund	£852.45			£1,027.98
Webhosting October			£6.00	
Service Charge October			£4.25	
IOC Web updates annual charge			£34.80	
Stirling Council admin grant		220.58		
				2
2. Unrestricted Fund	£16,315.62			£16,315.62
				1
3. Christmas Lights Fund	£9,403.20			£11,653.20
G Bechelli - xmas lights		250.00		
R Watts xmas lights		250.00		
Exec golf - xmas light		250.00		
Bechellis - xmas lights		250.00		
Undersoft carpets - xmas lights		250.00		
Two personal donations - xmas lights		500.00		
F/Flow guala - xas lights		250.00		
Francis materson - xmas lights		250.00		
Bank balance at 31 October 2025	£26,571.27			£28,996.80

Notes:

- 1 - Still waiting invoice to pay MUGA (£13,806.00)
- 2 - Stirling Council for Admin grant 25/26
- 3 - Paid Nettle for web security annual fee?????

Other:

Patricia Hammett
Treasurer