



## Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

Held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March in the Allan Centre.

### Present:

Patricia Hammett (PH) *Acting Chair*; Leslie Harkness (LH) *Secretary*; Rosemary Dodds (RD) *Acting Treasurer*; Inga Bullen (IB) *Planning*; Kathryn Chadwick (KC); Karen McGregor (KMcG); Jenny Smith (JS);

### Apologies:

Sybil Greig (SG); Mike Watson (MW); Alexander Stewart (MSP); Councillor Thomas Heald; Douglas Neilson (*Vice-Chair, Friends of Bridge of Allan*); PC Siobhan Rennie; PC David Collins;

### In attendance:

Flora Chirnside (Senior Transport Development Officer, Sustainable Travel, Stirling Council); Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor Robin Kleinman; Councillor David Wilson; Isabel Walter (*Acting Chair, DBOA*); Graham Russell (*Chair, Friends of Bridge of Allan*); 10 other residents; Brian Bullen (BB) (*Minute Secretary*);

*Abbreviations are at the end of the minutes.*

### **B 2626. Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest**

PH acting as Chair Pro Tem. welcomed those present at 7.30 pm. She gave a brief introduction outlining the special circumstance of Amanda Coulthard's resignation as Chair and as a member from the CC and that she was chairing this meeting.

LH then reported the apologies which were noted as indicated above.  
No conflict of interests were declared.

### **B 2627. Resignations and Election of Interim Office Bearers**

LH explained that Amanda Coulthard had resigned as Chair, with reasons that included that she had not been able to devote as much time to the role as needed. LH said she had left with some significant legacy, including the purchase of Sunnylaw Meadow and her role in overseeing the creation of the Local Place Plan.

A priority for the CC is to have an interim chair until the AGM in June.

PH was nominated by LH, seconded by IB. LH asked Members present to give a show of hands and she was unanimously voted to be Acting Chair.

With PH currently being Treasurer, that role now needed a replacement; PH nominated RD to take her role, seconded by KMcG.. LH asked Members present to give a show of hands and RD was unanimously voted to be Acting Treasurer.

Regarding the vacant Vice-Chair role, the SC Community Council liaison officer (Stephen Bly) suggested due to the closeness of the AGM, that we wait until the AGM to fill that role.

### **B 2628. Co-opted Membership**

LH outlined the situation with 3 vacancies for Co-opted Membership. After a publicity campaign (thanks to KMcG.) there were two applications received. SC followed the procedure of checking the prerequisites (residency in the town). For each candidate, both of whom were present, a vote was taken and both Gaynor Hunter and Scott Wylie were unanimously co-opted as Members.

LH explained they had the same voting rights as the other members, except for new co-options. After attending 3 meetings or after 6 months, if they wish to do so they can be appointed as full members.

## **B 2629. Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log**

KMcG proposed the February 2026 minutes be approved, Seconded by RD.

PH moved the meeting to Agenda Item 5 (reported below in section B 2630), and returned to Matters Arising at the conclusion of Item 5.

### **Matters Arising**

LH read from this report on Matters Arising, which is reproduced here:

In relation to **Item B2621.1** and the **potholes**, SC wrote to Councillor Tollemache to confirm that permanent repairs would be undertaken in the 2026/2027 works programme, and that, in the meantime, the area would receive regular safety inspections. Should further permanent repairs be required, these would be prioritised.

In relation to **Item B 2614.3** and the **Active Travel Route**, a resident, Gavin Drummond, has written to express significant concerns about the planned route. In his view, the community council and the elected members have not been fully consulted by SC on the proposals. Among his concerns are the large number of parking spaces which would be lost to the town; the impact on local businesses, with, as an example, Timorous Beastie losing its outside seating; and the fact that, in any case, the majority of cyclists are unlikely to use the Keir Street diversion. It is Mr Drummond's view that the route should be terminated at the Keir Street/Henderson Street junction, and that all that is required for the Dunblane section is the widening of the path from the Lecropt Church north at a lower cost than the proposed £7million. .

Mr Drummond has subsequently written to note that members of the CC have now taken forward the issues of the UCP/Guala site and the Lovers Loan path that it had agreed to address.

In relation to **Item B2614.4** and **105 Henderson Street**, Councillor Tollemache has contacted SC for an update on the demolition order, including details of the date of the warrant, the length of time SC would normally allow to elapse before enforcing the warrant, and the current proposals for the site and the remaining timescale of these plans.

In its response, SC has confirmed that the building warrant was issued on November 4th, 2024, that a demolition warrant has a standard 3-year duration period like all building warrants, that no enforcement is possible under the warrant approval, that once demolition has begun, it must be completed and all material removed from the site before the expiry of the warrant, that if the warrant approval package is not followed, then possible enforcement can be initiated, that the developer has confirmed that the planning application for elderly residential accommodation is coming together and should be ready to be submitted for planning in six weeks, that an update engineering assessment for the on site Ivy building has been made with a view to establishing the cost and viability of retention of the building, and, that the developer has asked for a site meeting with Historic Environment Scotland on the revised proposals

Regarding **Item B2614.2** and the **Lovers' Loan core path**, in response to IB's communication, SC maintains that the wall and the land above the path are the responsibility of Discover Bridge of Allan, and that SC has written to them to take appropriate action. Planning lead, IB, disputes this and has contacted SC again to point out that the southern boundary of the Sunnyslaw land owned by Discover Bridge of Allan is 3 metres north of the retaining wall above the core path

Councillor Kleinman reported that he been updated by SC, and they have admitted a mistake has been made and now acknowledge the wall is on their land and it will be repaired by them. The Councillor said the path had been closed for 2 years and he will continue to pursue the repair.

RD said that 105 Henderson St was in a dangerous state and not properly secured, and she anticipated that children would enter the premise with warmer weather and the Easter holidays coming. She believed that a council could enforce demolition on health and safety grounds. Councillor Tollemache said he will ask question regarding the issue of enforcing demolition with SC.

Resident Gavin Drummond pointed out that the asset maps on the SC website were wrong in detail around the Lovers' Loan path.

### **Action Log.**

PH reported on Actions summarised in the February minutes:

KMcG. had contacted Flora Chirnside re Active Travel Update (as just presented)

KMcG. and BB had published an updated recruitment poster on the website and Facebook.

PH and JS have been pursuing the issue of a ramp at the War Memorial. A SC officer had suggested a site meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.30. Seeing Isabel Walter in the audience, PH invited her to attend, and Isabel said she would,

PH also referred to a dormant bank account with a small sum which should be under CC control, and she would arrange this with the remaining signatory on the account (who was a former CC member).

Councillor Kleinman had already clarified the situation of Lovers' Loan and reported no progress on the overhanging trees on the A9. SC have told him that responsibility lies with the owners of the land. KMcG said she would pursue this with Fairview School.

### **ACTION: KMcG. to contact Fairview School regarding trees on their land overhanging the A9.**

Councillor Tollemache indicated the issue of leaves on the Henderson St pavement is outstanding.

Councillor Tollemache reported that he met SC officers at the Provost's park, along with Councillor Kleinman and Graham Russell of FBOA, Councillor Kleinman added that a maintenance plan would be prepared.

KMcG. reported she had a reply from GUALA, and that the site is provisionally sold, and that she will be finding out who the new owner is later in the year once the sale has completed.

### **B 2630. Stirling Council Presentation on Active Travel.**

Flora Chirnside ([Senior Transport Development Officer](#), Sustainable Travel, Stirling Council) opened her presentation saying she would cover all aspects of the Dunblane to Stirling Active Travel route, giving some background and clarify some issues. She explained that the Dunblane to Stirling route is one of the priorities of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire City Region Deal, which is part funding the route, with Transport Scotland providing extra funding.

In 2021 a feasibility study began the project. In 2024 design work was split into two phases, Initially Causewayhead to Bridge of Allan, with the second phase being Bridge of Allan to Dunblane.

Drop in sessions were held last summer, giving feedback to the team to reflect upon with the focus on the first phase.

Now in 2026, we have a bid for construction funding, and if successful work will start in the summer.

In Jan 2026 a planning application for the first section from Wallace High School to Graham's Diary. The application included a safety audit for the whole draft route. No decisions on the route through BOA to Dunblane will be made until the community has been consulted, which is planned for events later in this year. Project updates will be on the website {1}.

Flora invited questions. A resident raised concerns about the route indicated in the safety audit. Flora explained this was a concept route and that much detailed design and consultation was yet to be done and she apologised for the concerns that the safety audit had caused.

RD queried the siting of the route along the side of the Wallace High School playing fields. Flora explained putting the cycle path along the Airthrey road had been advised against.

There was a discussion about the funding and other pressing needs such as pothole repairs. Regarding the City Region Deal, Flora said that the project had been tested as meeting the objectives. KC said there were benefits to the wider community, such parents being able to cycle safely with children,.

Councillor Wilson said he would ask for assurances that the work would not begin until the Cornton Rd works were completed.

A query was made regarding the monitoring of the use of cycle routes. Councillor Tollemache referred to a recent SC press release on Active Travel , which indicated about 500 cyclists on the Causewayhead Road.{2}.

A resident commented on the emphasis on active travel, but that better road safety measures were important too.

A resident queried why there was no planning application for the route along Keir St, Flora explained that Keir St was already a National Cycle route, but that the new route at the edge of the playing fields was a change of use so an application was needed.

## **B 2631. Police Report.**

PC Siobhan Rennie (email: [Forthvalleycommunitypolice.stirling@scotland.police.uk](mailto:Forthvalleycommunitypolice.stirling@scotland.police.uk)) had emailed their report Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March. 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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026..

### **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 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026, a total of 15 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**

2<sup>nd</sup> February- Local resident was threatening towards another neighbour in Cornton Crescent. The suspect was arrested and thereafter committed further offences towards officers. She was conveyed to custody and cautioned and charged.

6<sup>th</sup> March- police received a report of damage to a fibre optic box, at a local business on Henderson Street, resulting in them losing internet connection. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify suspect

#### **DRUG MISUSE**

N/A.

#### **VIOLENT CRIME**

N/A.

#### **HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY**

Between 22/02/26-06/03/26- a housebreaking occurred in Coxburn Brae, Bridge of Allan. Nothing was stolen from within. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify the suspect.

Between 20/02/26-25/02/26- Local resident was a victim of a fraud, whereby suspects attended at their home address stating they were from a local reputable company to carry out work. However, it was later established after transferring a four-figure sum that they did not work for this company. Enquiries are ongoing to identify suspects.

Between 25/02/26- 5/03/26- Local resident was the victim of a fraud, they have observed 5 unusual transactions on their account, which have later been identified as fraudulent activity. Enquiries are ongoing.

Between the 01/03/26-04/03/26- a housebreaking occurred in Kenilworth Road, Bridge of Allan, whereby a quantity of Jewellery and money was stolen from within. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify the suspects. Currently there is nothing to suggest this is linked with the housebreaking at Coxburn Brae.

#### **ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME**

1<sup>st</sup> March- Report of careless driving on the A9 towards Bridge of Allan, driver has overtaken vehicles without adequate space/time. Resulting in other vehicles having to sharply brake to avoid a collision. Enquires are still ongoing to trace the driver..

**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:**

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

Community Police Email Address: *Forthvalleycommunitypolicestirling@scotland.police.uk*

**B 2632. Updates from BOA Community Groups.**

Due to the prior lengthy discussion on Active Travel, PH asked if any community groups had any brief items of note.

**B 2632.1 Update from Allotment's Association.**

JS reported they were now just waiting for the paperwork for the new agreement with SC.

**B 2632.2 Allan Centre.**

Councillor Kleinman reported that at a recent trustees meeting it was proposed to install technology in this room for online meetings/conferences. PH commented that the CC can do hybrid meetings.

**B 2632.3 Update from Discover Bridge of Allan.**

Isabel Walters (*Acting Chair, DBOA*) reported that they have achieved charitable status in principle, and that she was the Acting Chair.

**B 2633. Residents' View.**

*(PH deferred this item until after the Officer's reports.)*

**B 2633.1 Memorial Park flag**

A resident (Gavin Drummond) reported that the flag flying at the Memorial Park flagpole was in very poor condition.

Councillor Kleinman indicated he would arrange for it's removed. Mr Drummond display a poster of a replacement design for the flag, featuring the same motif of the Burgh of Bridge of Allan as on the roadside signs at the approaches to the town. After discussion it was agreed to do nothing about a replacement for now.

**B 2633.2 Library Door**

Councillor Wilson said he would ask SC again about having the library door repainted.

**B 2634 Our Bridge of Allan Planning.**

IB reported that progress was now being made on the validation of the LPP by SC. We have supplied some updates to them. A copy will be printed for display in the library, once validated.

**B 2635. Planning Report.**

IB reported there were no new planning applications of significant concern. PH added that she had been informed that work on converting the old Police Station into two houses would be commencing soon once a building warrant was approved.

**B 2636. Secretary's Report.****B 2636.1 Secretary's Report****Communications from Councillors****Councillor Kleinman**

Councillor Kleinman has raised the following with SC:

- the condition of the support outside the Bridge of Allan Library disabled toilet;
- the condition of the bollard on the Fountain Road roundabout;

The councillor reported that the Cornton Road crossing would be closed from 0800 to 2200 hours starting on March 14 and that Sheriffmuir Road would be closed for drainage works, between 0900 and 1600 hours, from March 16 to March 27, from its junction with Tannery Way to its junction with Pendreich Road.

**Councillor Tollemache**

Councillor Tollemache has raised the following with SC:

- the blockage causing a leaking external drain cover in the Provost's Park (*The council is arranging for its Plumbing contractor to deal with the problem*);
- a broken safety rail at Lower Westerton Wood;
- fly-tipping at Sheriffmuir Road;
- the missing diversion signs relating to the closure of the railway bridge (*This has now been addressed by Network Rail*);
- the implications of the temporary closure (until March 29) of Cornton Road for bus routes, particularly the Number 54 service (*SC has responded with details of the diversion operating during the closure and has also indicated that a revised timetable from McGills would be imminent*);
- the traffic island bollard at the junction of Keir Street and Westerton Drive that has been unlit for ten years;
- the fact that the "road closed" signs in Cornton Road are insufficiently specific

The councillor has forwarded the following:

- notifications from Scottish Water of the temporary closure of Cornton Road because of emergency repair work
- details from Amey of overnight convoy work to resurface part of the A9 northbound carriageway from Wednesday, 18th March to Wednesday, 25th March;
- details of the closure of parts of Glasgow Central Station

**Councillor Wilson**

Councillor Wilson has raised the following with SC:

Concerns about the poor condition of the frontage of the library. In its response, SC has stated that it is aware of the problem but that, as yet, the library is not top of the priority list for financial investment, although money will continue to be spent on Health and Safety repairs. The council also notes it has already spent £14,000 this year from its annual maintenance budget, on addressing internal dampness, replacing 3 windows, removing asbestos, redecoration and new flooring. There is also a lighting upgrade costing £7,817 planned for this year. The external painting of the rails and door is unlikely to take place until the New Year

**Communications from Residents**

The CC has received the following:

- a copy of a submission to SC reporting that two street lights at the junction of Well Road and Alexander Drive were not working;
- a resident of Keir Street has written to say she will be writing to Police Scotland about the increased and dangerous level of speeding in Keir Street during the temporary closure of Cornton Road, while a resident from Westerton Drive has contacted Councillor Tollemache to identify a similar issue. (*Councillor Tollemache has raised the matter with SC and, while recognizing there may be little that the police can do, he has contacted Police Scotland and suggested that something might be done in terms of awareness and enforcement.*)
- a resident contacted the CC to report that the Glasgow bus timetable at the bus stop outside the Royal Hotel is currently obscured

**Communications from Stirling Council**

The CC has received the following:

- notification of the publication of the council's 2026/27 draft budget;

- a communication from the Waste Service providing confirmation that, in relation to the Recycling Bin Changeover, the council is addressing the problem of the backlog of delayed deliveries of new bins and of collections of old bins;
- details of a consultative survey on SC's Sports Strategy;
- Funding Stirling updates;
- the Informed Communities newsletter;
- an update on the Inspire Volunteering Awards 2026;
- a schedule of forthcoming, complimentary Mackay Hannah conferences for community councillors;
- a final reminder of the Shaping SVE survey;
- a press release announcing the launch of the new Central FM broadcast centre at 90A Henderson Street;
- details of Rebel School social enterprise workshops in early March;
- an update from Network Rail on the works being carried out to improve the line between Dunblane and Bridge of Allan;
- details of the King's Highway Active Travel Project for a route along the A811, covering Gargunnoch, Kippen, Buchlyvie, Balfron, and Drymen;
- a Funding Stirling update;
- the release of the 2026/27 Garden Waste Recycling permits;
- the March Community Development Bulletin.

### **General Communications**

The CC received the following:

- MSP Alexander Stewart's March newsletter;
- a leaflet from our Community Police on the Dunblane and the Bridge of Allan Community Alcohol Partnership;
- the Scottish Community Councils Newsletter;

### **B 2636.2 Updates from Councillors and Members**

- JS reported problems with buses not turning up.
- JS also reported some street lights on Keir St were not working-. Councillor Kleinman promised to pursue.
- Councillor Kleinman reported on road safety, that the bus stop at the Graham St junction was being moved back and that warning signs were being erected for the new zebra crossing at the Fountain Rd/Keir St junction.
- Councillor Kleinman also reported that the proposed closure of the Cornton Crossing (previously reported as planned for March 14 ) has been postponed due to the closure of Cornton Road.

### **B 2637. Treasurer's Report**

PH reported that the invoice for the MUGA has now been received and about £13000 paid, details are in the statement at Appendix 1.

### **B 2638. AOCB**

#### **B 2638.1 Drumbrae Liason Meeting**

IB reported that the University of Edinburgh Drumbrae Woodland creation project Ranger had met with local CC (Bridge of Allan and Dunblane) and Development Trusts (including DBOA) members. The Ranger reported that they are still waiting on planning consent for their proposed hut/learning facility. They are keen to engage with the local community and local schools. They intend to apply for funding for an education officer to deliver on this for a 5 yr period, once the hut is constructed. The new deer fencing is in place with saplings planted.

#### **B 2638.2 Flood Defences**

JS reported attending the recent SC Flood Defence information session. There will be some disruption. The contractors (Balfour Beatty) promised monthly progress reports. Funding should be in place by the end of March.

#### **B 2638.3 Road Closures**

PH said she planned to get details of future road closures.

**B 2638.4 Dunblane and BOA Community Alcohol Partnership Consultation**

Local agencies in Dunblane and Bridge of Allan were inviting residents to complete a survey about young people drinking in the area. Councillor Wilson reported attending a meeting at the University along with representatives from SC, the Police and the other partners (which include Scottish Fire and Rescue, Active Stirling) and said he would forward details of the campaign {3}

**ACTION: KMcG to print some Alcohol survey posters to display, BB to publish on website/fb.**

**B 2638.5 New Powers for Community Councils campaign**

PH reported on receiving a newsletter from a group campaigning for new powers for Community Councils asking CC to survey residents what they think of the idea of giving Scotland's community councils the same wide choice of discretionary powers (with matching budgets) as England's parish councils.

**B 2638.6 Christmas Lights Event.**

KMcG. reported discussing the date of the Christmas Lights event with FBOA, and the date is Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2026.

PH closed the meeting just after 9 pm.

**B 2639. Date of Next Meeting.**

The date of the next meeting is Tue 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026, 7.30pm at the Allan Centre.

**Action Log Summary:**

Actions for Members:

**From B 2629:** (Action Log) KMcG. to contact Fairview School regarding trees on their land overhanging the A9.

**From B 2638.4** KMcG to print some Alcohol survey posters to display, BB to publish on website/fb.

Councillors were to pursue these issues with SC:

**From B 2636.2:** Councillor Kleinman to pursue street lights out Keir St/Westerton Dr. junction..

**From B 2633.2:** Councillor Wilson to pursue with SC the repainting of the Library entrance door.

**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. March 2026

Bridge of Allan Community Council				
Treasurer's report				
March 17th 2026 Meeting				
Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
<b>1. SC Administration Fund</b>	£995.97			£985.72
Webhosting sept			£6.00	
Service Charge sept			£4.25	
<b>2. Unrestricted Fund</b>	£16,315.62			£2,509.09
Stirling Council - MUGA invoice			13806.53	
<b>3. Christmas Lights Fund</b>	£10,944.91			£10,944.91
<b>Bank balance at 31 January 2026</b>	<b>£28,256.50</b>			<b>£14,439.72</b>

### Notes:

1 - Invoice received from Stirling Council and paid 20 Feb 26. MUGA (£13,806.00)

### Other:

Patricia Hammett  
Treasurer

- 1 Stirling Council Bridge of Allan to Dunblane Project: <https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/folders/north-stirling-active-travel> also the survey: <https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/bridge-of-allan-to-dunblane>
- 2 Stirling Council press release on Active Travel: <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/news/active-travel-in-stirling-continues-to-increase-in-popularity-according-to-new-figures/>
- 3 The Community Alcohol Partnership website: <https://www.communityalcoholpartnerships.co.uk/post/new-local-partnershuip-that-will-highlight-the-risks-of-underage-drinking-launches-in-bridge-of-allan-and-dunblane>