



Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

Held on Tuesday 19th May in the Allan Centre.

Present:

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

Apologies:

Kathryn Chadwick (KC); Mike Watson (MW); Councillor Thomas Heald; Graham Russell (*Chair of the Friends of Bridge of Allan*); Douglas Neilson (*Secretary of the Friends of Bridge of Allan*) PC Siobhan Rennie; PC David Collins;

In attendance:

Councillor Robin Kleinman; Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor David Wilson; Isabel Walter (*Chair, Discover Bridge of Allan*); 10 other residents; Brian Bullen (BB) (Minute Secretary);

Abbreviations are at the end of the minutes.

B 2658. Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest

PH welcomed those present at 7.30pm.

LH then reported the apologies which were noted as indicated above.

In response to LH asking members for any declaration of conflicts - none were declared.

B 2659. Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log

RD proposed the March 2026 minutes be approved, Seconded by IB.

Matters Arising

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

In relation to **Item B 2651.1** and **the parking on Keir Street in the vicinity of Forglen Road**, SC have responded to Councillor Tollemache's query by confirming that a council officer will visit the site to assess the appropriateness of providing double yellow lines at this junction.

Regarding Item **B 2655.2** and **the former Royal Hotel building**, after KMcG had raised concerns about the safety and security of the building with Councillor Kleinman, the councillor contacted SC, and, in its response, the council indicated that Building Standards officers would visit the site to see if the building is now dangerous, particularly given the recent fire, and will also examine the fencing around the building. The council has also indicated that it could raise the issue of health and safety with the owner.

Subsequently, after a resident wrote to the CC to report that the premises were being used by young people as a drinking den, Councillor Tollemache raised the matter with SC and, in its response, the council has indicated that, having visited the site, it takes the view that the building is not dangerous and is fairly secure, that any breaking and entering is a criminal matter, leaving no scope for the Building Scotland Act emergency powers to be used, and that it is for the owner to secure the site. However, the council has also confirmed that there have been recent planning inquiries regarding the site and that the council is trying to be as helpful as possible to have the site suitably redeveloped.

In relation to **Item B 2651.1** and the resident's frustrations about **the difficulty of finding a disabled space in Bridge of Allan** and about the potentially dangerous situation of having parking on both sides of several streets, particularly where the street is a bus route, having had no response from SC, Councillor Tollemache has again raised the matter with the council. In its response today, the council has confirmed that it has been conducting a review of its parking policy, with a proposal document to be brought to the appropriate committee in June. This will include a revised timetable for the delivery of Community Parking Management Plans for various towns and villages, including Bridge of Allan. A proposal is currently being considered to include sections of staggered double yellow lines on Fountain Road to allow for both the retention of some parking and the safe movement of traffic along this busy road.

In addition, and in relation to the maintenance of the Library/Health Centre/Allan Centre car park (including lining and resurfacing) SC has today informed Councillor Tollemache that, since this area is on private ground, the council has no remit in the matter.

Councillor Tollemache gave an update in the meeting, to the effect, that he had contacted NHS Forth Valley, so said that SC have the use of the health centre car park for library access.

PH queried the BOA car park survey/proposals from before the Covid pandemic. PH suggested LH send the 2018 survey report {1} to SC.

Action Log.

PH gave an update on Flood Defences at agenda item 7.

Councillor Wilson reported on the issue of an alternative cash machine, that he had been in touch with the LINK organisation, who in turn were contacting the Co-op, but there was no proposals currently.

B 2660. Offer of Full Membership to Co-opted Member.

LH asked SW if he was willing to become a full member, and SW agreed to do so. PH reported that SW has volunteered to make proposals regarding social media., including a refresh of the CC website. PH welcomed SW to his role as Social Media lead.

B 2661. Police Report.

PC Siobhan Rennie (email: Forthvalleycommunitypolice.stirling@scotland.police.uk) had emailed their report Monday 18th May. 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 21st April 2026 and 18th May 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 21st of April 2026 and 18th May 2026, a total of 27 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

06/05/26- vandalism has been reported at the back of the Royal hotel to a bench, fence and path. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify those involved.

DRUG MISUSE

N/A.

VIOLENT CRIME

14/05/26- A local resident has been assaulted within Avenue Park, Bridge of Allan. The perpetrator has been arrested and cautioned and charged..

HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY

Between 25/03/26-27/04/26- a housebreaking occurred in Abercromby drive, Bridge of Allan. A quantity of jewellery was stolen from within. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify the suspect.

Between 15/04/26-28/04/26- a housebreaking occurred in Kenilworth Road, Bridge of Allan. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify the suspect. It is unknown if this is linked to the previous incident however it has similar circumstances.

Between 21/04/26-14/05/26- a number of thefts have occurred from the Coop, Bridge of Allan. The male has now been traced, arrested, cautioned and charged for all offences.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME

14/05/26- concerns were raised regarding the manner of driving of a vehicle within Bridge of Allan. Police have traced the vehicle and two males thereafter made off from the vehicle. Searches were conducted by several police resources. Suspects located and arrested for several road traffic offences and a theft of motor vehicle

OTHER CRIME

A large volume of calls were received between April and the start of May with regards to youths entering the derelict building on Henderson Street (the previous Royal hotel.) Police attended on numerous occasions, tracing several youths within. Letters were thereafter sent out to parents to try and reduce the amount of youths attending in the area. Police also contacted the owner to secure the property on several occasions. The property has now been secured, and the issues appear to be resolved at that location..

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: Forthvalleycommunitypolicestirling@scotland.police.uk

B 2662. Neighbourhood Alert.

Councillor Tollemache spoke briefly about Neighbourhood Alert, but suggested it would be better to speak directly to a representative of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland.

ACTION: KMcG and PH to contact Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Engagement Officer**B 2663. Active Travel.**

PH summarised a recent email from Flora Chirnside:

- They are almost construction-ready for the first phase connecting Bridge of Allan and Causewayhead, but funding uncertainty remains our biggest risk. Key updates are as follows:
- they continue to focus on the Bridge of Allan to Causewayhead section of the route; this includes the traffic calming on Keir Street and new segregated cycle way on Airthrey Road. They are in the process of finalizing the detailed designs and will share these when they are available.
- They have now secured planning permission for the off-road section of the route beside the Wallace High School pitches and Graham's Dairy field. This is a crucial milestone and brings us a step closer

to being able to begin construction. They are in regular contact with Wallace High School and Graham's Dairy to ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place prior to construction.

- Regarding funding, there has been no change. They are still awaiting feedback on our Transport Scotland funding bid, and approval of our Business Justification Case from the City Region Deal (CRD) is still pending.
- They have an ambitious programme which, subject to securing funding from both the CRD and Transport Scotland, would see construction on Airthrey Road begin this July 2026. Our programme has been designed to avoid any disruption on Airthrey Road during the Bridge of Allan Flood Protection Scheme works. The most significant risk to our start date remains the timely confirmation of funding.
- Construction this financial year will include Airthrey Road and Keir Street. The next phase of the route, to Dunblane, requires further consultation with Community Councils and local businesses etc, and this will be progressed in due course.
- They continue to regularly update the Engage folders [Folder: North Stirling Active Travel | Stirling Council](#)

Flora Chirnside is leaving her role with SC, with Elliot Williamson taking over her Active Travel remit. Councillor Tollemache said he would seek clarification on the Kier St. traffic calming measures.

B 2664 Flood Defences Update.

PH reported that SC would hold a public open day in June (date TBC). A resident asked regarding the timing of the various road closures.

ACTION: PH to invite representatives of the Flood Defence Project to the June CC meeting.

B 2665 War Memorial Ramp Update.

JS and PH jointly reported. They had received a proposal for the ramp from two residents and had passed it on to SC officers. Apparently a license to occupy will be required – but not a planning application.

ACTION: PH to follow-up the War Memorial Ramp with SC

B 2666 Our Bridge of Allan Planning.

PH that our LPP now published on our website {2}

ACTION: PH to print a copy of our LPP for the library

B 2667. Planning Report.

IB reported on five items.

Drumdrills Farm: Tree Felling.

The application from Drumdrills Farm for tree felling included a message for CC to submit comments by 25th May (application FOA – 13417). Felling is proposed for a 2 year period from 1st Aug 2026 until July 2028. An area of 9 hectares of which 8.5 ha is broadleaf. Predominantly diseased ash. Some clear fell of ash, larch and Sitka which would be restocked with mixed broadleaf. Some thinning, but any ash trees showing resistance of ash die back will be retained. There should be no felling in the Kippenrait Glen SSSI. SC have commented on new off-road loading infrastructure. A max of 4 lorry loads per day avoiding morning and afternoon school commuting times and not between 1900 and 0700 hours. IB has submitted a comment on behalf of CC, that should there be any restrictions on public access (Glen Road and local paths) please inform the Community Council.

51 Charlton Road – House Extension.

An application for an extension to 51 Charlton Rd. Though in a conservation area, it is a modern house already extended.

24c Kenilworth Road.

An application for a garden room (with a sedum roof) and hot tub/ pergola at 24C Kenilworth road also in a conservation area.

Trees.

The SC Weekly Planning Schedule lists tree work in Conservation Areas. IB reported writing to the Tree Officer as some local properties have had trees felled which have not been in the Planning Schedule. No reply as yet. IB agreed to invite the Tree Officer to a CC meeting.

ACTION: IB to invite the SC Tree Officer to a CC meeting.

Local Development Plan – Consultation on Site Options.

SC have a survey for comments on their Local Development Plan Site Options at their engage.stirling.gov.uk website. Entering comments is best done by writing them in a document then cut and paste into the text box. There is a Public Drop In Meeting on June 3rd from 13:00 to 18:00 at the Allan Centre.

ACTION: A subgroup of CC to look at the Site proposals and comment to SC.

B 2668 Chair's Report.

PH open her report with the latest update from the Co-op, which was that the temporary store would close on June 13th.

The Classic Car show was well attended. She thanked the FBOA for their recent plant sale. She had no news on the situation with 103/105 Henderson St, nor was their sign of building at the old Police Station. Other items have been covered already.

B 2669. Secretary's Report.

Communications from Councillors

Councillor Tollemache

Councillor Tollemache has raised the following with SC:

- damage to the brickwork adjacent to a drain in Forth Park;
- the potential impact of the Blairforkie Drive roadworks on the Open Garden day (*SC has, in its response to the councillor, stressed that there will be no foreseeable access issues on the day of the event*)

The councillor also sent a link for Dunblane Community Council's Speedwatch initiative

Councillor Kleinman

Councillor Kleinman having again raised the issue of cardboard Police Office cutouts with SC, has been informed by the council that, despite the increased traffic in Keir Street because of the Cornton Road diversion, permission for the installation of 'Pop-Up Bobs' can not be given.

Communications from Residents

The CC has received the following:

- a resident contacted the CC about the availability of Craig Mair's history of Bridge of Allan (*Gavin Drummond has confirmed that the Doctor Welsh Trust is arranging for the book to be reprinted though at a higher cost than the first print*);
- a resident wrote to express concern about the vacant Royal Hotel apparently being used by young people as a drinking den and to express the hope that the police would monitor the situation more closely.

Communications from Stirling Council

The CC has received the following:

- notification of the launch of consultation on the Local Development Plan, and of a drop-in event between 1.00 pm and 5.00 pm on Wednesday, June 3rd;
- details of the SC District Licensing Board's extension to licensing hours and the application requirements for all 2026 World Cup matches;
- confirmation, in response to a CC enquiry for an update on the Flood Alleviation project, that with funding approved by the Scottish Government, the council is now in a construction project with Balfour Beatty;

- details of a new environmental journalism network and magazine, Scottish Community Alliance;
- the latest Funding Stirling updates;
- details of an online meeting to discuss issues of concern for the Allotment Association;
- a copy of “Shaping the future of Scotland’s Forests”, a survey from the Forest Policy Group;
- notification of the current Road Forward Works programme;
- notification of the Spatial Strategy and Site Options consultations relating to the Local Development Plan;
- the agenda for the next Informed Communities Meeting;
- notification of the Community Development Team’s celebration of Volunteers’ Week through spotlighting on social media a number of community councillors;
- the May Community Development News Bulletin;
- The council’s Roads Forward Works programme.

General Communications

The CC received the following:

- the Spring newsletter of the Scottish Flood Forum
- details of Volunteers’ Week 2026 from Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise;

B 2670. Treasurer’s Report

RD (Acting Treasurer) reported a quite month, the CC bank balance was £14,525.70. The only movement was expenditure of £10.25, details are in the statement at Appendix 1.

B 2671. Updates from BOA Community Groups.

B 2672.1 Discover Bridge of Allan

Isabel Walter (*Chair, DBOA*) reported a successful AGM was held on April 20th. A new board member has been appointed (Scott Abercrombie).

B 2672.2 Allotments Association.

Councillor Kleinman reported that the lease negotiation had stalled due to a funding issue.

B 2672.3 Dr Welsh Trust.

Gavin Drummond reported the trust had received an enquiry from the FLS/Scottish Water ranger service regarding the plaque recovered a few years ago from the Cocksburn reservoir {3}. The plaque commemorates the gift of the Cocksburn Reservoir to the BOA Town Council in 1919 by owner Edmund Pullar. FLS were considering an info board at the reservoir and possibly erecting the plaque. The possibility of erecting in the village was discussed.

B 2672.4 Allan Centre.

Councillor Kleinman reported that at the recent trustees meeting it was decided there would be no increase in membership fees.

B 2672 Residents’ View.

B 2672.1 Post Office provision.

A resident asked if the refurbished Co-op would have a Post Office. In response it was observed that not only would be refurbished Co-op not have a Post Office, but it was believed that the Co-op was proposing to remove all Post Office services from it’s stores – as they require knowledgeable staff to deal with all the various complexities in the range of services. It was commented that the Stirling Post Office (in the former WH Smiths store) has now closed. A discussion on changes include possible options (i.e services now available from the Royal Mail via it’s website).

B 2672.2 Lovers’ Loan Path.

A resident observed that the barriers on Lovers’ Loan had gone. IB confirmed she had visited the path and barriers have been removed. Apparently though the path is still formally closed pending wall repairs.

B 2673. AOCB

B 2673.1 Scotland’s Open Garden

IB reported that the Sunnyslaw Community Greenspace will to participate in the Open Gardens event.

The event includes teas/coffees and a plant sale at St Saviour's church.

A resident suggested donations of plants could be dropped off at the church at any time.

B 2673.2 Cornton Rd Pavement.

Councillor Tollemache reported he was querying an issue regarding the Cornton Rd pavement (by the sinkhole) with SC.

B 2673.3 Various Infrastructure and Upkeep items from JS:

JS report on three items:

- The broken give way post on Alexander Drive has been replaced.
- Broken paving stones outside the Butchers have been reported to Councillor Tollemache.
- A vandalised bench on Well Rd has been reported to the Police.

PH closed the meeting later than normal at 9.20 pm.

B 2674. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting is Tue 16th June 2026, 7.30pm at the Allan Centre, to be preceded by the 2026 AGM at 7.00pm.

Action Log Summary:

Actions for Members:

From B 2662: KMcG and PH to contact Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Engagement Officer

From B 2664: PH to invite representatives of the Flood Defence Project to the June CC meeting

From B 2665: PH to follow-up the War Memorial Ramp with SC

From B 2666: PH to print a copy of our LPP for the library

From B 2667: IB to invite the SC Tree Officer to a CC meeting.

From B 2667: A subgroup of CC to look at the Site proposals and comment to SC

.Councillors were to pursue these issues with SC:

From B 2663.: Councillor Tollemache said he would seek clarification on he Kier St. traffic calming measures..

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. May 2026

Bridge of Allan Community Council				
Treasurer's report				
May 2026 meeting				
Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
<u>2. SC Administration Fund</u>	£975.47			£965.22
Webhosting			£6.00	
Service Charge			£4.25	
<u>5. Christmas Lights Fund</u>	£10,877.70			£10,877.70
<u>3. Unrestricted Fund</u>	£2,682.78			£2,682.78
Total Available Funds				£14,525.70
Bank balance at 30 April 2026	£14,535.95			£14,525.70

Rosemay

Dodds

Treasurer

Notes:

End Notes:

- 1 The BOA CC conducted a parking survey in march 2018, the report is published on the CC website here: <https://www.ccbridgeofallan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Parking-Survey-Report-Final.pdf>. The report was announced in a post on the website : <https://www.ccbridgeofallan.org.uk/page/2/?s=parking+consultation>
- 2 The BOA CC Local Place Plan document: <https://www.ccbridgeofallan.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/Our-Bridge-of-Allan-Local-Plan-Plan-2025-2035-11-march-26-online.pdf>
- 3 The recovery of the Edmund Pullar plaque was reported in the online Stirlingnews in october 2024 <https://www.stirlingnews.co.uk/news/13572304.bathing-society-race-to-the-rescue/>