Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

Held on Tuesday 20th October in the Allan Centre.

Present:

Patricia Hammett (PH) *Chair;* Leslie Harkness (LH) *Secretary*; Rosemary Dodds (RD) *Treasurer*; Inga Bullen (IB) *Planning;* Karen McGregor (KMcG); Jenny Smith (JS); Mike Watson (MW);

Apologies:

Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor David Wilson; Scott Abercrombie (*Chair of Discover Bridge of Allan*); PC Siobhan Rennie; PC David Collins;

In attendance:

Councillor Robin Kleinman; Councillor Thomas Heald; Graham Russell (*Chair of the Friends of Bridge of Allan*); Douglas Nielsen (*Secretary of the Friends of Bridge of Allan*);Gavin Drummond (*a former Chair of the Community Council, 2010--15*); 13 other residents; Brian Bullen (BB) (Minute Secretary);

Abbreviations are at the end of the minutes.

B 2733. 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 PH asking members for any declaration of conflicts - none were declared.

B 2734. Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log

IB proposed the September 2026 minutes be approved, Seconded by RD. A correction to the reported date of the Dr Welsh Trust AGM to the 12th Nov was noted.

PH announced that Kathryn Chadwick had resigned from the CC.

Matters Arising

The Secretary read from his prepared report of Matters Arising which is reproduced here:

In relation to I**tem B 2729.5** and **the speeding concerns of the** residents of Pullar Avenue, Councillor Tollemache raised the issue with SC.(*In its response, the council has stated that recent speed surveys recorded a 7-day average speed of 21.4 mph, and that, since average speeds of 24 mph or less are acceptable parameters for a 20 mph speed limit, no further traffic calming measures were proposed. However, when resources permit, a road safety assessment will be undertaken to determine if consideration requires to be given to the implementation of further measures to support better compliance with the 20 mph limit.*)
In terms of **Item B 2726** and **the concealed speeding sign**, the council, in its response to Councillor Tollemache, has confirmed that, since the extension of the 20 mph limit to the west of the Inverallan Road junction will be delayed owing to the Flood Prevention Scheme works, Roads Maintenance will arrange for the foliage to be cut back so that the sign is visible.
Regarding **Item B 2726** and the **proposed traffic calming speed restrictions** for a number of streets in the town, a resident has written to express their view that, in relation to Keir Street, this is an expensive and unnecessary waste of money, given that the street has no significant traffic problems and that there have been no traffic accidents in recent years. (*The Chair has responded to the resident's communication.*)
In relation to **Item B 2721** and the Flood Prevention works, Councillor Kleinman contacted SC to ask how long **the temporary traffic signals between Lyon Crescent and Orchard Road** would be in operation. (*In its response, SC has confirmed that, due to the sequencing and requirements of the contractor's construction programme, with substantial carriageway works imminent, it is not currently possible to remove the temporary traffic lights.)*

Regarding **Item B 2726** and the fact that **the double yellow lines were located on Fountain Road before there was a resolution of the objections**, Councillor Tollemache raised this with SC. (*In its response, the council indicated that two objections have been received, one from the CC and the other from a resident, and both are currently being considered. Also, with the reopening of the Co-op car park, the council will be reassessing the parking on Fountain Road.)*

Action Log.

LH reviewed the outstanding Actions:

From B 2703 (Carried forward from B 2676): KMcG and PH to contact Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Engagement Officer. KMcG reported she had had a telephone call with the Dunblane representative, and she will follow up with an in person meeting in the new year.

From B 2703 (Carried forward from B 2676): IB to invite the SC Tree Officer to a CC meeting. IB had emailed but no response so far. A resident also reported trying to contact the Tree Officer but apparently they were no longer in post. Councillor Kleinman offered to find out if there was a Tree Officer currently.

ACTION: Councillor Kleinman to find out the status of the Tree Officer role in SC.

From B 2729.5 Councillor Tollemache had contacted both SC Roads and the Flood Defence Team regarding traffic speeds on Pullar Avenue. A site meeting was being arranged with residents who had come to last months CC meeting.

From B 2730.2 Councillor Tollemache to check if the Centenary Path is a Core Path – carried forward.

B 2735. Police Report.

PC Siobhan Rennie (email: Forthvalleycommunitypolicestirling@scotland.police.uk) had emailed their report Sun 18th October with apologies for being unable to attend due to assigned duties. MW summarised the reports, which is reproduced in full 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 13th September 2026 and 18th October 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 13th September 2026 and 18th October 2026, a total of 23 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

None.

DRUG MISUSE

22nd September- Male found in possession of cannabis at Stirling University. He was issued with a recorded police warning..

VIOLENT CRIME

None.

HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY

17th September- Local resident has been the victim of a bank impersonation fraud whereby someone has contacted them stating they work in the bank of Scotland fraud team. Stating there had been fraudulent activity on their bank; they requested that they

withdrew a large quantity of money and send it to an address in the London area to protect their money. Unfortunately, the local resident has completed this. Enquiries are still ongoing currently.

18th September- - A theft of cooking oil occurred at a Local business in Bridge of Allan. Enquiries are still ongoing to identify the suspects.

21st September- - Local resident was the victim of a fraud, whereby 3 fraudulent transactions have been made from their eBay account. Enquiries are still ongoing

4th October- Theft of a motor vehicle was reported. Suspect has attended at the address during the night and stolen a white Audi Q5. Enquiries are still ongoing.

11th October- Local resident was the victim of a fraud, whereby the suspect has accessed their Marks and Spencers online account and made fraudulent transactions. Enquiries are still ongoing.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME

18th September- Driver has been issued with a fixed penalty ticket for Speeding.

4th October- Driver issued with a fixed penalty ticket for driving whilst using a handheld device on the M9 near Bridge of Allan

11th October- Driver issued with a fixed penalty ticket for driving with no insurance on the M9 near Bridge of Allan

17th October- Driver stopped by police on Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan due to them driving in a dangerous manner and one of their tyres had been observed to be completely removed from the rim. Driver arrested and charged with failing to provide a breath sample at the roadside, dangerous driving, driving a vehicle in a dangerous condition, drink driving and putting a child a risk who was within the vehicle at the time of the incident. A report has been submitted to the PF.

OTHER CRIME

None.

OTHER MATTERS

None.

Community engagement and reassurance

Activity for forthcoming month:

Continue road safety/speed checks

Inputs at local schools/out of school activities.

Continued patrols at the Royal hotel (significantly less calls again)

Patrols around the area, especially at weekends due to ongoing antisocial behaviour with youths. Letters have been sent out to youth's parents who were traced in the area.

Input/drop-in session - Due to the high number of victims of frauds

Issues raised at the Meeting:

https://scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

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

B 2736. SC Deep Clean Priorities.

KMcG asked for ideas for Deep Cleaning (of footpaths in particular). MW suggested the area at the junction of Inverallan Rd and the Avenue Park roads..

B 2737. Active Travel.

PH reported that the Project had a new Manager who had contacted her. PH would invite them to a forthcoming CC meeting (Jan or Feb).

Referring to the current road works on Kier St and Graham St: KMcG had contact Councillor Kleinman with the closure of Graham St impacting a new house build and local residents. There is an outstanding issue with bins not being collected. A resident reported the road restrictions impacted access to their house which was currently undergoing building works, and complained that they had not received any prior warning of the road works. The Councillors present both said this was likely to have arisen due to the late award of funding to the Project, but it was regrettable and unfortunate that residents were affected.

B 2738. War Memorial Ramp Update.

PH reported that obtaining the drawings needed for SC was progressing, with 4 options, including the idea that Gavin Drummond outlined at the September CC meeting..

B 2739. Memorial Funds.

PH reported on the funds that are being held in a separate (now dormant) bank account, which represent money remaining from the refurbishment work of the War Memorial in 2008-09. There are two signatories to the account, neither of whom are current CC members. PH indicated two possibilities.

1 – Contact the signatories requesting them to re-active the account and transfer the funds to CC.

2 – SC may take control of the funds.

Former Chair Gavin Drummond is one of the two signatories. Mr Drummond indicated that money from this account can be made available to help with the Ramp project.

B 2740. Christmas Lights.

RD reported the necessary licenses are in place. KMcG added that invoices have been sent to all sponsors. RD reported that 4 new lights have been ordered. The switch on ceremony will be on 21st Nov at 3pm. The banner will be displayed at the end of next week. Alot of volunteers will be needed on the day. Gordon Electrical will be on standby on the day to deal with any failing lights, replacing them with the new ones. Various entertainments are in hand, including Piper, DJ, Santa, face painting and miniature horses. RD will be speaking to local businesses. We will have some umbrellas with the CC name. PH and KMcG announced that there will be a Christmas Window competition for private houses. RD, KMcG and PH will tour the village to judge window displays. The prize is a food hamper sponsored by the Coop.

B 2741. Planning Report..

IB reported on one significant planning application. This was for the first of three housing plots at Lecropt which is in designated Green Belt. The application is a Matters Specified by Condition application as there is a grant of Planning Permission in Principle decision (Sept 2025). We objected to the PPiP but as it only had 4 objections it was delegated to a planning officer who gave approval with conditions. These conditions have not been met in the current application. The three plots share access, drainage and biodiversity aspects. There is no drainage plan although it was specified in the PPiP. The notice to the neighbours was sent by letter which was received with less than 2 weeks to submit comments. I contacted Cllrs Wilson and Heald who both wrote to the Planning Dept. We were given an extra 9 days to submit comments. There are now six objections. We now have to wait to see if it will go to the Planning Panel or the decision will be made with delegated authority by planning officers. PH commented that one of the issues which residents supported in the consultation for the Local Place Plan was that the Green Belt should be protected.

B 2742. Chair's Report.

SC LPP Showcase Event.

SC are inviting all of their Ccs to an LPP Showcase event – on Feb 17th. In addition they are offering a 1-2-1 meeting with the SC Planning Team. PH will collect names of interested members and dates.

Corra Foundation – Year of Activism

PH had received an invitation for a meeting with the Corra Foundation. There is an online drop in session on Oct 29th if any member is interested.

Red Telephone Box

PH reported that we have received an offer from **Danial Mahoney** to restore and improve the old Red Telephone box. He is currently working on one in Callander. LH had confirmed that the box is owned by CC. A previous proposal to have it moved caused some upset. KMcG said it was an important fixture for the local community and that she would follow up.

ACTION: KMcG to follow up with Danial Mahoney about the old Red Telephone Box.

Hybrid Meetings

PH asked members if there was an appetite for holding the CC meeting as a hybrid (in person/ online) , and what form would it take. In the ensuing discussion polarised views were aired about attendance in person on the one hand, and attendance remotely using some form of technology. Cllr Heald commented that the Dunblane CC had hybrid meetings, and apparently that Members attended in person. Cllr Kleinman said that the Allan Centre is installing video-conferencing equipment PH said she would contact the Dunblane CC Chair for their experiences. There was some discussion as to whether Members are expected to attend in person. {[1]}

B 2743. Secretary's Report.

The Secretary read from his report which is reproduced in full here:

Communications from Councillors

Councillor Tollemache

Councillor Tollemache has raised the following with SC:

- the limited accessibility for visually-impaired residents from the encroaching footpath vegetation on Forglen Road, Keir Street and Graham Street (In *its response, SC has confirmed that the SC Road Inspector will engage with the relevant owners to have the foliage trimmed*);
- what appears to be an unsatisfactory repair to the pavement outside the Heart and Stroke shop on Henderson Street;
- a resident's concerns about the impact on the primary school of the traffic re-routing during the Flood Defences works (*In its response, the Flood Defences Team has indicated that the resident has been contacted directly and in-person meetings offered*);
- a request from a local business trader that SC consider suspending parking restrictions for the 18-month duration of the Flood Defences to minimize the impact on businesses in terms of a potential reduction in trade;
- in the context of the Flood Defences works, the concerns of a resident about potentially inadequate signage for pedestrians using Cornton Road (*The council has contacted the contractor who has confirmed that there are currently no obstructions to pedestrian routes around the works; that all signage has been positioned with sufficient clearance for safe pedestrian passage; that, in terms of the foot-way/cycle track, all signage directs pedestrians to the crossings to the north and south of the closure with onward progress via the western foot-way; and that, to further improve clarity, the contractor will reposition the fencing so that the foot-way closure begins earlier, the diversion will be more apparent to pedestrians who will be encouraged to use the two zebra crossings and the western foot-way at the safest available crossing points.)*;
- in the context of the closure of Allanvale Road and associated parking facilities, the option of removing parking restrictions on Henderson Street or providing parking permits for residents in the affected areas (*In its response, the council has indicated that, given the duration of the works, it is reviewing the parking provision on Henderson Street and Union Street, and that car parks will re-open as soon as feasible)*;
- another damaged drain in the town;
- three pedestrian-related issues, namely the time taken for the lights to change at the Allan Water Café pedestrian crossing; the excessive, temporary blocking of the width of the pavement by the signage at the Union Street end of Keir Street; and the need for a pedestrian crossing on the railway bridge to facilitate access to Lecropt nursery;
- the need for clarification relating to the Cornton Road notice in the Stirling Observer;
- the continuing lack of lighting in the Health Centre/Library car park.

Councillor Kleinman

Councillor Kleinman has informed the CC that to allow Balfour Beattie to carry out piling activities, there will be a full closure of Cornton Road, apart from bus services, from 9.30 am on Monday, October 26, until 4.0 pm on Tuesday, October 27

Communications from Residents

The CC has received the following**:**

- a resident's concerns about the impact on parking provision of the closure for 18 months of Allanvale Road (*The secretary has forwarded the communication to the ward's elected members)*;
- in the context of HGV vehicles using Henderson Street, a resident has written to report that when those vehicles strike a manhole cover on the Henderson Street roadway, serious vibrations are felt in neighbouring buildings (*Councillor Heald took this forward and, in its response, SC has confirmed that its officers have reported the faulty cover to the utility company for repair*);
- a resident wrote for information on the new 'Chicken Run' pathway and on the new footbridge(*IB responded to the resident*);
- A resident has contacted the CC with a query about the Tennis Courts gate being locked (*This has been forwarded to Councillor Kleinman who subsequently reported on Oct 27th that he was advised by Stirling Council that there have been problems with the issue of access codes to some users of the tennis courts meaning the gate to the courts cannot be opened. At present this remains unsolved, however after several communications with Stirling Council, it has been agreed to leave the gate open until the access codes issue is resolved.)*

Communications from Stirling Council

The CC received the following:

- Funding Stirling updates;
- details of the proposed parking restrictions from October 5th in Westerton Drive, Graham Street and Keir Street, along with the works for the 'raised tables' and speed bumps;
- the council's Roads Forward Works Programme;
- Issue 4 of the Bridge of Allan FPS newsletter;
- confirmation that the Local Place Plan Showcase event has been postponed for rescheduling;
- the Housing Services open day in the Albert Halls;
- a Stirling Council media release confirming that work would begin on October 5 on the Active Travel Bridge of Allan (from the Keir Street and Fountain Road junction) to Stirling route, with traffic calming measures, surface alterations, and widened footpaths prioritised for Keir Street to discourage speeding and enhance pedestrian safety, requirements which emerged from the public consultation on the Active Travel initiative;
- a reminder from Stephen Bly that he is always ready to work with and support community councils during the co-option process;
- details of the Round Table's yearly Christmas tree sale;
- a copy of the 2026 Stirling Council CPMP

General Communications

The CC received the following:

- a request for Bridge of Allan CC representation on a ward-level community resilience steering group;
- details of a proposed Scotland-focused project exploring the support needs of young people and adults experiencing family estrangement;
- an online survey from Scottish Water;
- a request for the CC to publicise the establishment of a community choir in the town;
- details of the Bridge of Allan Community Activities Group AGM on October 20;
- details of an evening event organised by 'The Courier';
- the launch of the Council Watch website**.**

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PH added that there was an invitation to the CC to attend a meeting about the Community Parking Management Plan (CPMP) to be held between 4 pm and 6 pm on either Tuesday 17th November or Wednesday 18th November.

B 2744. Treasurer's Report

RD reported that August was a relatively quite month, the CC bank balance was £ 13,028.39. This included a payment to the Information Commissioners Office for our Data Protection Registration until next September and a payment to Brian Bullen to arrange the renewal of our domain name 'ccbridgeofallan.org.uk' with the 123 Reg company for a further two years. Details are in the statement at Appendix 1

B 2745. Updates from BOA Community Groups.

The time being after 9pm the Chair asked if any Groups had anything to report, but none responded. DBOA had submitted an email report which arrived to late for the meeting, but is reproduced here:

B 2745.1 Discover Bridge of Allan

Scott Abercrombie, {Chair DBOA} sent their apologies for being unable to attend, but provide an email update:

Wildflower Planting
We're inviting the community to join us for a wildflower planting session at Sunnylaw on Saturday 24 October at 2pm. If it's raining, we'll aim for Sunday 25 October at 2pm instead. Everyone is welcome, and we'd encourage people to bring their own gardening tools where possible, although we'll do our best to have spares available. Thanks to the Community Council for helping spread the word.

Sunnylaw Community Greenspace Management Plan
With the Sunnylaw committee now established, and a clearer understanding of the site's operational responsibilities and running costs, the committee is beginning work on a draft management plan. The committee feels the time is right to develop a community-led plan for the land, and is preparing a draft outlining potential options. This will be shared at a public meeting in the near future, giving the community an opportunity to contribute, discuss the ideas and help shape the final plan.

B 2746 Residents' View.

B 2746.1 No taxi rank at Stirling Station.

A resident complained that there was no longer a taxi rank at Stirling Station with taxis waiting for train users arriving at Stirling.

It's now necessary to walk up Station Rd to the Stirling Baptist church on Murray Place.

Councillor Heald indicated he will look into this.

ACTION: Councillor Heald to investigate issue of Taxi Rank at Stirling Station.

B 2746.2 Chicken Run.

A resident queried the status of the Chicken Run.

B 2746.3 Patterson Clock.

Councillor Kleinman reported that he had heard yesterday that the Patterson Clock report is progressing and it is due to be positioned back in early spring (February/March) at it's prior location by the Westerton.

B 2747. AOCB

None.

PH closed the meeting at 21.12.

B 2748. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting is Tue 17th November 2026, 7.30pm at the Allan Centre.

Action Log Summary:

Actions for Members:

From B 2734: (Carried forward from B 2676): KMcG to meet Neighbourhood Watch Scotland Engagement Officer From Dunblane CC.

From B 2734 (Carried forward from B 2676): IB to invite the SC Tree Officer to a CC meeting.

From B 2742: KMcG to follow up with Danial Mahoney about the old Red Telephone Box

Councillors were to pursue these issues:

From B 2734: Councillor Kleinman to find out the status of the Tree Officer roles in SC.

From B2734 (Carried forward from B 2730.2): Councillor Tollemache to check if the Centenary Path is a Core Path

From B 2746.1 Councillor Heald to investigate issue of Taxi Rank at Stirling Station.

Abbreviations:

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

Appendix 1. Treasurer's Report. October 2026

Bridge of Allan Community Council				
Treasurer's report				
Oct 26 Meeting				
Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
2. SC Administration Fund	£924.22			£851.38
Webhosting			£6.00	
Service Charge			£4.25	
Information Commis			£47.00	
Licence (Brian Bullen)			£15.59	
Treasurers report Sept Meeting				
5. Christmas Lights Fund	£8,756.10			£9,494.23
Public Liability Insurance			£11.87	
Donations x 3 £250.00		£750.00		
3. Unrestricted Fund	£2,682.78			£2,682.78
Total Available Funds				£13,028.39
Treasurer report to 30 Sept 26	£12,363.10			£13,028.39

Rosemay Dodds
Treasurer

Notes:

The Licence payment to Brian Bullen was for the *ccbridgeofallan.org.uk* Domain Name service arranged with 123 Reg for two years up-to Sept 14 2028.

End Notes:

1: The SC Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils (https://www.stirling.gov.uk/community-life-and-leisure/your-community/about-community-councils/scheme-of-establishment/) in section 10 on Meetings states: "Any meeting of the Community Council may take place in person or by means of video or teleconferencing or other remote means, or by combination of in-person and remote means, but shall ensure reasonable access for members of the public, "