

STRATHAVEN AND GLASSFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 25TH MARCH, 2025.

1. **Sederunt:** Aileen Mc Mann (Chairperson); Gordon McAllan (Vice Chair); Les Hoggan (Secretary); Sheila Munro Tulloch (Treasurer); John Graham (Minute Secretary); Morag Arnot; Linda Brown; Margot McDonald and Aileen Stewart.
Police Scotland: Thomas McEwan.
2. **Apologies:** Councillor Margaret Cooper; Councillor Elise Frame; Councillor Susan Kerr and Douglas Scott.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (25/02/2025).**
The Minutes were approved without change. Proposed - S. Tulloch. Seconded - M. McDonald.
4. **Police Report.**
 - (a) Since the last meeting officers have been out on foot and, on three occasions, in a marked car in the area.
 - (b) There have been eight reported crimes in the area. These included shoplifting, telephone fraud, a drugs find and domestic abuse.
 - (c) Police have engaged with local youths and moving them along when seen. There doesn't appear to be a lot of youth disorder but they will continue to keep an eye on the situation and engage with the youths.
 - (d) Road checks have been carried out since the last meeting.
 - (e) Secondary schools are being visited and advice given to pupils.
 - (f) A report was given to the officer of electric bikes causing problems in certain areas of the town.
 - (g) Parking problems on several streets were brought to the attention of the Police and they agreed to keep an eye on this.
 - (h) Speeding incidents were also raised by CC Members.
 - (i) The officer informed the CC that a review of pub Licences was imminent and asked if there were any concerns regarding renewals. None were raised.
[T. McEwen left the meeting at 7.30pm].
5. **Visitor Input.**
No visitors were present at the meeting.
6. **Community Action Plan (CAP) and Local Place Plan (LPP).**
The LPP has been submitted to SLC and an acknowledgement has been received.
7. **Planning Applications.**
No concerns were raised regarding the March Applications.
8. **Funding Opportunities.**
Some projects are well advanced in seeking funding.
9. **Kype Muir Community Fund.**
 - (a) An Application for funding has been submitted from Strathaven Rugby Club but has not yet been seen by the CC. However, there should be a community benefit from this and a decision should be known by the end of May, 2025. Funding for this to come from Pot 2.
 - (b) Two bids have been rejected. One from the Strathaven Bridge Club and one from Strathaven Airfield.

- (c) Some Applications from parent groups for funding for schools are being tidied up.
- (d) An Application for defibrillators for £9,500 will be submitted by the end of April. It is for five defibrillators plus batteries and pads.
- (e) Work on improvements at Abbeyfield has been completed. L. Hoggan to take photographs of the work.

10. CC Micro Grants.

- (a) All the money has been allocated for the current financial year.
- (b) Outstanding paperwork is still required for ten projects.

11. Secretary's Report.

- (a) **Strathaven Co-ordinating Group - CAP:** The group plan to schedule another meeting for April, 2025.
- (b) **Funding Application:** Climate Action Strathaven (CAS) was awarded a grant by SOLWEC to support development of the Bike Repair Service in the hub on Green Street.
- (c) **Avondale Radio:** The Radio continues to develop its services and now has over 205,000 monthly listeners. New PA equipment has been purchased and will be used to support community events.
- (d) **Glassford Community Group:** The group is in the final stages of preparing tender documentation, engineering drawings and full costings for the development of Glassford Village Hall. With the plans approved by SLC, it is expected that the tender will go out in early May with a proposed start date of September, 2025. The build is anticipated to take around twelve months. An initial funding enquiry has been submitted to the REF.
- (e) **Transport:** CAS has released the Report into the Traffic and Transport Community Consultation Survey and also its Active Travel Report. Both SLC and Police Scotland have agreed to hold meetings to discuss these documents in April, 2025.
- (f) **Transport Sub-Group:** SLC have been contacted to ask for a meeting of this group but no response has been received to date.
- (g) **One Way System for Bridge Street and Wellbrae:** No update as to when this will be implemented has been received.
- (h) **Local Initiatives:** The Rotary Club of Strathaven is working on developing links with schools including Strathaven Academy. Following on from the funding of two places for a Leadership Course last November for two students, other initiatives are being discussed. It is intended to continue running the Photography Competition and funding will be sought to support prizes from OnPath Energy.
- (i) **Castle Newspaper:** The next edition is due out in April, 2025.
- (j) **Christmas Lights:** It has been agreed to end the arrangement for installation, removal and storage by an external contractor and to bring the process in-house. To this end a local contractor has been appointed following a short tender process and he will be responsible for the installation, removal, storage and maintenance for 2025 and beyond. It is intended to have the lights up in time for Bonfire Night each year and removed by the last weekend in January.
- (k) **Lighting:** Provost Margaret Cooper has confirmed that she has funding for the installation of lighting at the Rifleman Khan Statue in the Common Green with improved landscaping, and also for the Rotary Garden in the Allison Green.
- (l) **Strathaven Castle:** Friends of Strathaven Castle (FOSC) is making progress in its

project towards repairing steps at the southwest side of the Castle and is in contact with HES regarding permission. They have asked if there is a report on the present condition of the steps and what works would be required to repair and reinstate. When FOSC has this information it will be able to get a quote for this work and to put it to tender. It is continuing work with Strathaven Academy on the development of an Information Board for the top of the steps. Work on the Information Board for the front of the Castle is the responsibility of the CC and the work on producing this needs to be completed. Funding for lighting remains available to be undertaken after the remedial work on the stonework is completed.

(m) Climate Action Strathaven: It has launched a shuttle service serving areas not covered by existing public transport and this runs each Saturday.

(n) Scotmid Mural: Fairtrade Strathaven has been in discussions with Scotmid about the creation of a mural on the side of their premises in Strathaven. This would form part of the Strathaven Mural Trail.

(o) Defibrillators: A full review of coverage across Strathaven (and Glassford) is underway. This is being undertaken by the Rotary Club of Strathaven in conjunction with Diane Campbell. A meeting was held with WEL to discuss options and locations and to agree pricing, which has now been received. If the funding Application to the Kype Muir Community Fund is approved all devices and boxes could be in place over the summer ahead of the Strathaven Balloon Festival.

There are currently publicly accessible defibrillators at the Barrie Shelter, the Strathaven Hotel, Strathaven Fire Station, Trinity Church and at Glassford Village Hall. The unit at Ann Davidson Butchers is to be relocated to the Common Greenery and the one formerly at the Tudor will be installed at Creative Strathaven. Due to issues with both AEDs for the latter two, the Rotary Club will have to fund new units to install in these boxes. A site has been confirmed on Colinhill Road and the SBA will use the funding it has already in place to buy an AED and box to be installed. There are also plans to install devices at Nether Lethame Farm and also between the Robertson Homes and CALA estates. Agreement has also been reached on a location at East Overton, in addition to plans being developed for AED devices to be installed at the square and at the playpark area once this is built as part of the next phase of the development. Contact has been made with Sainsbury's about new units for their premises which is an area requiring coverage.

It is intended to arrange training courses in CPR and the use of defibrillators and to ensure adequate coverage on social media and various websites (including the CC).

(p) VASLan: They are launching Phase 3 of the Keep the Beat Alive campaign and have contacted the CC telling of a Survey which is taking place regarding the campaign.

(q) Local Development Plan 3: A. McMann and M. McDonald attended an on-line community engagement event on the Plan.

12. Treasurer's Report.

(a) As agreed at the February meeting Micro Grant payments of £1,690 were paid to Strathaven Miniature Railway, Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust (SJHMT), eAmber Anderson and the Darby and Joan Club.

- (b) New Bank charges have now been implemented at £4.25 per month plus extras (Cheques 50p). For 2025/26 the CC shall be required to set aside a minimum of £60 to cover the charges.
- (c) £36.90 was paid to Colin Dempster for the Remembrance Wreath in November, 2024. However, the paperwork was only received on the 14th March showing the cost to be £39.60. A payment of £2.70 balance was made to cover the shortfall.
- (d) Uncommitted balance in the COVID Fund is £4,738.81.

13. Reports from CC Members.

- (a) An event will be held on Tuesday 8th April, 2025 between 10.00am - 1.00pm in the Calder Room in the Avondale Wing to see if a Men's Shed can be set up in Strathaven.
- (b) Fly-tipping was reported on Glassford Road. SLC to be contacted once more details are known.
- (c) Problems were again raised regarding youths being housed at Nether Lethame Farm. All three SLC Councillors to be contacted by L. Hoggan seeking information on this facility.
- (d) The roads around the Cala Homes have been resurfaced.
- (e) Flooding has again been reported at the Town Mill.
- (f) Some gravestones in the Cemetery are going to be laid flat for safety reasons by SLC.
- (g) It was reported to the CC that the 256 Whitelaw's bus had missed out Glassford on certain occasions. L. Hoggan to contact the company regarding this.
- (h) Residents have asked if a gate and fencing can be erected at the former Police Station to prevent youths sitting on the wall. They should be advised to contact SLC Planning Department.
- (i) During discussions on the Castle it was asked if a general Information Board could be considered for the cobbled area in front of the Castle. This could be a project for the community in the future.

14. Reports from SLC Councillors.

No Councillors were present at the meeting.

15. Date of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 29th April, 2025 at 7.00pm in the Avondale Wing.

Members of the Public are most welcome to all our Meetings.

All correspondence to:- strathavencommcouncil@gmail.com

