Buchlyvie Community Council Meeting
Minute of Meeting
28/8/2025
Buchlyvie Village Hall

Present: Jessica Langford (Chair)
Margaret Bennie (Vice Chair)
Alison Moffat (Secretary)
Colin Mutch (Planning Officer)
Maureen Burnside (Member)
Fionna Armour (Associate Member)
Paul Henke

Apologies: Ashleigh Donaldson

Minutes: Caroline Stewart

Residents: 38 residents in attendance

1. **Welcome**
   The chair welcomed everyone and expressed thanks at the large turnout both at the business meeting and at the Place Plan meeting which took place prior. She also welcomed Paul Henke to the meeting.

2. **Recording of Declarations of Interest**
   None

3. **Matters Arising**
   - Railings: the contractor has said that the railing will be installed at the Village Hall at the end of September.
   - Work has started on the Tavern but there have been reports that plaster or paint is being tipped down the drains and there has been complaints by residents. The CC hope to follow this up. There was a suggestion to contact SEPA due to the environmental impact. Paul asked the Chair to email more information, and he will pass this to SC. There was a request for signage to be installed in the village with directions to the public toilets at Flanders Rest as tourists are knocking residents' doors asking to access their bathrooms.
   - Burn Green, the bank of the burn is collapsing near the car park area. 2 red warning cones have been placed there to warn pedestrians and drivers. Alison has contacted Stephen Bly who has advised it is not council property. CC need to try and determine who the owners are. Alison agreed to contact Alan Motion to try and get more information on the owners.

4. **Chairs Report**
    - There was a AGM team meeting earlier in the week where all the CC were re-elected.
    - Youth Café started last Friday. The CC have received enough grant funding to employ a youth worker for this term. Nicola Ross ran the Guides in Balfron for 10 years and has also been involved with the café as a volunteer. It will be possible to pay her a small fee to supervise the session along with volunteers. The café runs on Friday 7-9 pm for all secondary age students.

5. **Treasurers Report**

    Fionna gave the Annual Report for 2024-2025 and then the second update from when the Annual Report ended until today. Summarises were available to take away or look over to see detail around income and expenditure

    14th June 2024- 31st May 2025
    - The initial balance was £3481.63 this has grown substantially to £8435.09 in the main because of grant and funding applications that have been made throughout the year.
    - The Treasurer was keen to highlight the work that Jessica has done to secure funding.
    - Money was ringfenced for the Youth café. During the year the community hub started using the account from February 2025, so their figures are included in the final figure.
    - Forth Environment Link and SC have been allocated funding, to allow them to progress with activity in relation to LPP.
    - Community Pride Grant from SC was used to purchase Christmas lights, carry out repairs to nativity scene and to the railings at the Primary school.
    - The Youth Café secured £1500 of funding to purchase equipment, bring in presenters and go on trips and provide catering.
    - Throughout the course of the coming year the CC will continue to look at other grant and funding applications.
    - In February 2025, the Bank of Scotland introduced a service charge due to the type of account, also introduced individual transaction fees. The CC is currently looking at ways to reduce this including moving to online payments which do not incur charges instead of cheques , as well as looked at moving to another bank.
    - Claire Maser independently reviewed accounts with Fionna. The accounts have now been submitted to SC as part of grant application.
    - The second update was from end of May until now, not a lot of change in the balance. The ringfenced funds have changed brought in £511.10 from petty cash and donations, £604.42 includes hall hire, minute taking and bank service charges. Some anticipated expenditure as the fee is due for the website.
    - Grant application to SC in July to cover admin and minute taking costs, £355.90 retrospective.

6. **SC update from Paul**
    - Paul advised that around a month ago the police gave a talk in Balfron about scamming. He proposed that he arranges for a similar talk to be delivered to BCC. There are also leaflets available on the subject. There was a vote on who would be interested and a show on hands showed there was an appetite.
    - Balfron book festival starting a week on Friday 5th September both in the library and around the community.

7. **Planning update**

    One new application for the old Manse – fell a spruce tree, and reduce overall height, as well as fell a Norway Maple, Ash and Holly. The application is still awaiting a decision as it was only accepted on Tuesday.

8. **Co-option of new Community Councillors**

    The CC welcomed Cathy Stokes to be co-opted. The CC are able to have 7 full members, we currently have 5. The co-opted member can be offered a full membership after attending 3 meetings or 6 months membership as a co-opted member. There was a unanimous vote in favour of Cathy joining the CC. Cathy gave some background information about herself. She has lived in the area for 15 years so knows it well, both her children were born in Scotland, recently retired so has more time. Had a long career with the BBC in Children's TV and Sport. Lorna Young was also invited to be an Associate member, as she no longer lives in Buchlyvie is unable to be a full member of the CC.

9. **The Triangle**

Maureen gave an update; she wanted to express her thank to those who signed the petition, asking SC and police to restore the green space at the Triangle. There were responses from almost half the village. The petition was sent to the Stirling Observer and Daily Record, and both had a front-page spread. The police responded quickly, and they felt the petition should only have been directed at SC and not them, as they can only act within police powers and clearing the paths would be classed as a civil matter. Police can and will be involved in any anti-social behaviour, contact local community policing team

SC response heard nothing back – did have a quote in the newspaper advising that they are still trying to ascertain who the landowner is. Maureen got in touch with SC to advise that she had information about the ownership and wanted to be put in touch with whoever is dealing with the matter in order to share knowledge The Media team at Stirling Council have confirmed that their interpretation of the situation was incorrect and provided a further response "We are aware of the ongoing situation but we are not able to verify who the landowner is. We are assessing what action we are able to take in order to resolve the issue"

Following the CC approach to the Planning department they are looking at the change of use from open space to residential. Maureen called SC on 12th August asking for an update but hasn't heard anything back. She also emailed on 25th still no response. CC continue to do all they can to get it reinstated as an open space.

The CC are trying to follow the wishes of the community to get the area cleared.

10. Local Place Plan – Anne Winther update

- 35 people at the workshop
- Anne was asked earlier this year to help the village to develop the LPP.
- Due to be finished by the end of October, being paid for time, grant application last year and Anne is doing a mixture of paid and voluntary work which she is happy to do, she is a member of the community be is trying to be as independent as possible.
- First survey has been distributed door to door and had 105 responses, currently analysing the last few, there is still an opportunity to response, until 14th September, for both the first and second survey.
- The first survey there is a link available on the survey that was distributed tonight. New survey there will be the opportunity to pick up paper surveys from the medical centre.
- Once all the information has been collated at the end of September, hope to have a final drat LPP that will bring everything together, it will then be put forward for the community o review during October.
- Formation of a Community Development Trust is going ahead independently,

11. Play Park upgrade, application, Jessica Langford

Looking very sad needs some care, Jessica has been liaising with the company who installed it and they have made a list with a budget of the work that needs to be done. Grant application was not successful. SC maybe be able help with funding or work.

12. Community Development Trust, update prepared by Colin Mutch

- Set up in March.
- Last meeting voted for charitable status from the offset ensuring it meet the needs of the community.
- Lot going on behind the scenes had suggestion want gala day back.
- Looking at putting together a constitution, have a template currently working on this will s the information from the LPP to show what the community want and to add this to the constitution, then start to apply for funding.
- CC restricted in the funding, but the Development Trust are not restricted in funding applications.
- Could own land and property and businesses further down the line.

13. AOB

Community member - 20mph speed limit – there were concerns raised by a resident about the speed people are doing at the end of the village and issues with overtaking, including overtaking the bus. This is also causing issues with safety, pollution both noise and air. 20mphs not enforceable by police only advisable need clarity from police on why it isn't enforced. Contact Police and ask what they can do about the situation.

Community member – beech trees in Play Park, try and have them inspected. The issue was reported to SC due to the fungus on the trees. Will be examined as part of the playpark. Jessica will have a meeting soon and will bring the subject up

Community member – Need more volunteers at the Community Hub. The hub runs weekly but people are needed as part of a wider group of volunteers so wouldn't be required every week. It runs on a Thursday at 12.30pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday 23th October 2025, 7.00pm