

Riverside Community Council
Public Meeting
24th January 2021 7pm

Members Present

Fiona Berrow
Bob Dale
Sue Dumbleton
Susan Engstrom
Emily McLaughlin
Joan Murphy
Ashleigh Phillips
Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice
Phil Boydell
Fiona Dyet
Andrew Fraser

10 residents

Apologies

Danny Gibson
Susan McGill
Riverside Bowling Club

5 residents

1) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

2) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for September Meeting were adopted

Sandra Engstrom proposed; Sue Dumbleton seconded

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting:

None

4) Reports

a) Chair

Christmas Parcels – Thirty four of Riverside’s older residents were given Christmas goody bags by a team of volunteers. The bags were filled with items bought using some of Stirling Council’s COVID grant, donations from local supermarkets and generous Riverside residents. Surplus was given to Nicola (From Betty Loves Violet) who was organising Christmas Meals and presents for local Stirling families facing hardship over the festive period.

Two Christmas Quizzes were held over the festive period, hosted via zoom and organised by Ashleigh Phillips. These were huge successes and enjoyed by all who attended. More will be planned for future months.

Fiona Berrow has completed updating the heritage leaflets and has received delivery of the hard copies. These are available in the local shops and will be placed in leaflet holders when COVID restrictions allow.

Riverside Community Council was successful in obtaining funding from Scotland Loves Local for the community planters and money will be given to Riverside Naturally which will be used for native bulbs to be planted around Riverside including by the pontoon.

Joan Murphy attended the Stirling Voluntary Enterprise seminar on the voluntary sector response to lockdown 2021. The full report can be found on the Riverside Community Council's website.

Sandra Engstrom, Emily McLaughlin and Phil Boydell will re-visit the Community Resilience plan following on from the COVID challenges the area has faced and other situations that can leave the Riverside vulnerable in the event of an emergency.

Recruitment for a new community councillor will start in February.

Inspired by lockdown walks Bob Dale is planning a Fairy Trail around the river path in Riverside. Construction of our fairy accommodation is underway and Bob Dale will lead the new sub-group on this project.

As a reminder, Bob has also suggested making a commemorative video of Riverside, its community, history and its beauty. This could include pictures, videos, stories, music etc. Anyone who wants to be involved with ideas and inspiration can contact Bob through the Community Council's email address. Bob Dale will lead on this project.

Step Into Spring is the new Riverside Windows event. As an idea to bring some brightness to our walks and celebrate the start of Spring we are asking people to join us and decorate their window from the 7th March 2021. People who would like to be included on the map are to contact the Community Council by the 7th February.

b) Secretary

Police Report (Given by Secretary)

There were three undetected cases which are part of an ongoing investigation with twenty one calls to the police.

Milk thefts were noted in the police report and they have asked that anyone who is experiencing this issue to contact the police as soon as possible, and if there is any footage via CCTV cameras or 'Ring' door bells to get in touch. This is happening in other areas and it appears the suspect is similar in description.

Spaces for People – there has been the indication that Riverside will be featured in some traffic calming measures funded by the Spaces For People grant, including some possible art work. Further information is needed as Riverside Community Council has been given no information about this.

Riverside Bowling Club – The AGM has been re-scheduled until Sunday 11th April at 2pm, to be reviewed in March.

2021 is the Bowling Club's centenary year and to allow them the proper opportunity to celebration, events to commemorate this will be postponed until 2022.

Renovations – The Bowling Club has secured grants which will allow some renovations of the club house including new heating. Work should start in February.

c) Treasurer

The Community Council, in partnership with Riverside Naturally, submitted an application to the Scotland Loves Local Fund. We received £563.50 to be spent on improving Riverside with plants. £249 will be spent on plants for the community tubs which will be managed by Iain Gibson and the Riverbank Centre. £314.50 will be spent on bulbs to be planted around the river walkways which will be bought and planted by Riverside Naturally.

The Riverside Heritage Trail Leaflets have been printed and delivered and the Shiphaugh Interpretation board has been installed. Both of these were designed and made by Art is an Option and we have now paid for these: £390 for the leaflets and £1,512 for the Interpretation board made up of funding from the Community Pride fund as well as £12 from the Community Council's unrestricted funds.

We spent £14.39 on a month's subscription to Zoom from the Admin Grant and £15 on prizes for the second Community Council Quiz from Unrestricted funds.

d) Planning

Riverside Community Council received notification that that an Appeal has been submitted to the Scottish Government against refusal of a Planning Application for Application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act to vary Condition 1 of planning permission 15/00790/FUL to authorise use of existing student accommodation as short term holiday lets between 1 June and 31 August annually at Riverside Quay, 1 Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1HZ.

Detailed comments are being drafted and sent in objection to this appeal.

Residents are encouraged to submit their own comments about this planning application.

5) Sub Groups

Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The Active Travel survey has been extended until the end of March.

The recipients of the Christmas Bags were given an opportunity to complete a survey.

After the consultation period is completed an action plan will be made to reflect the results of the data collected through our various outreach options.

The Active Travel Day has been postponed indefinitely due to the COVID restrictions and any suggestions on activities that can be safely organised and undertaken in the meantime would be greatly received.

Parking This is an ongoing issue in Riverside and further complaints have been received. Riverside Community Council is working on this and hoping for further engagement with Stirling Council. An article was placed in the Stirling Observer that will bring more attention to the lack of progress with this situation. (Parking in future will be considered a separate Sub-Group)

Gritting Riverside Community Council has been in contact with Stirling Council regarding a delivery of grit for communal use should there be a long freeze. We have had no communication regarding this.

Di Alderdice has a group of volunteers who are willing to distribute the grit in areas we have identified as being a priority in consultation with the Over 60's Group.

SVE has also secured funding from the National Lottery Committees Fund to equip groups with rock salt to de-ice paths of vulnerable and elderly members of the community. We have expressed our interest in being included in this initiative.

Defibrillators

The Living Advent Windows were a huge success with over £550 being raised in donations for Lucky2beHere over the festive period.

Environment

Riverside Naturally members have been planting some spring bulbs along the river path on Riverside Drive, a mixture of snowdrops and bluebells.

The next area for development is the neglected 'D' shaped bed closest to Cambuskenneth Bridge. Three old cherry trees will be removed and Aspen, Hawthorn, Birch and Rowan trees will be planted. The dogwood will be cut back to allow it to be reshaped and nurtured.

In addition more Cherry Blossoms will be planted along the pathway.

The Scotland Loves Local grant will be spent on native bulbs to be planted around Riverside by March.

Litter A resident approached Riverside Community Council regarding the build up of litter around the area. Riverside Community Council are not hosting any group litter picks during the current restrictions but are ready to do so when it is safe. Community members are encouraged to make use of the equipment we have available for families and individuals to help tackle lockdown litter.

Dog Fouling This is an increasing problem around Riverside and further discussion will be necessary to decide how to address it.

Issues with shared bins were reported in the flat blocks. A suggestion was to consider a recycling awareness campaign for seasonal or short term tenants. Any other issues with bin collections should be logged on Stirling Council's website.

Shiphaugh Centenary

The interpretation board was installed near the path in front of the beech tree that was planted in November.

6) Rats

Riverside Community Council received a few reports of rats being seen in residents' gardens. Stirling Council was contacted. Their pest control officer had a walk through the locations we had been given notification of. On this occasion he could see no indication of rats.

Stirling Council would ask that people who are experiencing a rat problem log the job with their address so that they can carry out a proper inspection. You can call 01786 404040 or visit their website to log a job for pest control and find out more information, including charges.

We were given further advice on measures people can take to deter rodents coming to their garden. Suggestions include:

- ensuring your garden is tidy and that there is no nesting material or places they can make a nest
- removing any food source is a big help - if there's nothing for them to eat they won't be attracted to your garden
- bird feeders as these can be a food source for rodents at this time of year. Any spilled food from the feeders should be cleared up

It was noted that there is little that can be done about rat activity on the river as Stirling Council can't set bait boxes due to the danger it poses to wildlife.

7) Appointment of Associate Member

Diane Alderdice's appointment as Associate Member was proposed by Sue Dumbleton, and Seconded by Fiona Berrow

8) A.O.B

None

8) Date of next meeting - 24th February 2021 7pm via Zoom

Public Meeting

24th February 2021 7pm

In Attendance

Fiona Berrow
Bob Dale
Sue Dumbleton
Sandra Engstrom
Emily McLaughlin
Joan Murphy
Ashleigh Phillips
Alison Swanson

Diane Alderdice
Phil Boydell
Fiona Dyet
Andrew Fraser
Cllr Danny Gibson

4 residents

Apologies

David Sherman

1 resident

1) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

2) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for January Meeting were adopted

Bob Dale proposed; Fiona Berrow seconded

Proposal of new Community Councillor

Ashleigh Phillips was proposed by Sue Dumbleton as a full member of Riverside Community Council.

Seconded Alison Swanson.

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting:

None

4) Reports

a. Chair Report

Co-Opted Members - Ashleigh Phillips has been with Riverside Community Council for 6 months now and has joined us as a full member of the Community Council. Sandra Engstrom will have been with us six months in March and Bob Dale in April.

20 Minute Neighbourhood - The 20-minute neighbourhood concept is all about 'living locally'—giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from home, with access to safe cycling and local transport options. Riverside fulfills almost all the criteria and we are keen to build on this.

Recruiting - We are actively looking for another Community Council Member with this being promoted on the website, on the noticeboards and in the newsletter. Applicants need to be registered to vote at a current Riverside address.

Communications - Our newsletter is a round-up of activities and information relevant to Riverside. To sign up a QR code is available on the noticeboard or residents can do it by emailing the Community Council email address. Leaflet holders will be installed next to the noticeboards shortly.

Facebook – Bob Dale, Ashleigh Phillips and David Sherman are Administrators of our new Facebook page. This is an ongoing project with content and strategy to be discussed further.

Planters – Signs for the community planters have arrived and will be installed when the planters are tended to later in the year.

b. **Secretary**

Police Report -There were 2 detected cases and 7 undetected cases which are part of an on-going investigation with twenty one calls to the police.

Milk thefts were noted in the police report and they have asked that anyone who is experiencing this issue to contact the police as soon as possible, and if there is any footage via CCTV cameras or 'Ring' door bells to get in touch. This is happening in other areas and it appears the suspect is similar in description.

Riverside's Community Police Officers are moving on to new jobs from the 1st March. PC Cowan and PC Dale will be replaced with PC Fisher and PC Hunter. We look forward to welcoming our new officers and give thanks to PC Cowan and PC Dale for all their help and support over the years.

c. **Treasurer**

Spending this month was limited to stationery, with the money for the Shiphaugh Tree, litter picking events and Zoom restricted until payment is due. The Riverbank Centre has been given the money from the Scotland Loves Local grant.

The Admin Grant is diminishing due to the Zoom cost and after the projected payment of another 5 months (including February) there will be very little left over. There are still unrestricted funds should anything arise.

We have been asked by Stirling Council to consider what items need to be insured for 2021/22. Riverside Community Council initially bought the trees in 2012 and it was suggested we have a discussion with Riverside Naturally about the Community Orchard.

d. **Planning**

20/00187/FUL - Application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act to vary Condition 1 of planning permission 15/00790/FUL to authorise use of existing student accommodation as short term holiday lets between 1 June and 31 August annually.

Riverside Community Council submitted a written objection which can be found in detail on the website.

DEPA comments on their website indicated that the decision is going to be made by a reporter and the applicant now has an opportunity to comment.

CTIL 108818 TEF 72513, VF N/A - Upgrade of Telecoms equipment. This is situated next to AMF Bowling Centre. The structure will not change in height and will not change remarkably in appearance.

5) Subgroups

a. Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

Survey – The survey has had over 100 responses. Paper copies are now available on the noticeboards which can be completed and handed in to the shops for collection.

Riverside Primary School and adjacent community council's will be approached and asked if they could share the survey on their communication channels too.

It was agreed to approach Paths4All regarding further funding to run the survey again after COVID restrictions ease to compare the active travel habits and needs of our community.

The Active Travel and sustainable Transport group are compiling questions for discussion on how to make active travel more accessible to members of the community with disabilities.

Air Monitoring is currently being undertaken by members of the Active Travel and Sustainable Transport group.

Riverside Community Council is also looking into creating and documenting some walks local to Riverside , to support active travel and mental wellness throughout lockdown and beyond.

Gritting – The Active Travel and Sustainable Transport group identified priority areas of Riverside that are not on Stirling Council's gritting paths and, with the help of Ann Graham of the Over 60s group, a number of addresses which may need gritting assistance.

A group of residents (named the True Gritters) have volunteered to help grit priority areas. With thanks given to Stirling Voluntary Enterprise, Riverside received grit which was used in these areas.

Grit Bins – Following Stirling Council's Winter Service plan, Riverside does not qualify for grit bins. Di Alderdice will investigate whether we qualify for Community grit bins.

There was discussion regarding the cost and feasibility of buying and stocking our own grit bin for the community. This may be prohibitively expensive and further investigation is needed on whether Stirling Council would supply the grit or/and this cost could be shared with Cambuskenneth.

Sandra Engstrom raised the issue of salt being destructive to roads and the natural environment and there may be more sustainable options, for example beetroot juice to de-ice paths.

Thank you to Ann Graham

Thank you to the volunteers able to assist

b. Defibrillators

Fundraising - The defibrillator group is meeting to discuss fund raising opportunities for the coming year. The defibrillators will shortly need new batteries at a cost approximately £240 each. The group is considering approaching the local Robertson's Trust for funding.

School Defibrillator – Last year it was discussed that the defibrillator located at the side of the school is not easily accessible. It was suggested that a sign be placed on the footpath clearly indicating where the AED was located. Fiona Dyet was advised to send the information to Danny Gibson for support.

Step Into Spring - As an idea to bring some brightness to our walks and celebrate the start of Spring we are asking people to decorate their window from the 7th March 2021. Those who participate are being asked to consider a voluntary donation to Riverside Naturally.

c. Environment

Dog Fouling – The issue of dog fouling is causing increasing anger and concern in Riverside. Riverside Community Council has placed posters and free poo bags next to all the dog bins along the river path and pontoon area to encourage and help sustain a clean and happy environment.

The location of the bins and/or adding to the existing number will be considered.

Stirling Council will be contacted to discuss how Riverside can be further supported with this. It has been pointed out that there is already official signage however with no support for the consequence of fining, this is proving ineffective. This will be monitored and reported on at the next Riverside Community Council meeting.

Riverside Naturally – Work on the Southern Woodland Garden (bed nearest the Cambuskenneth Bridge) was started in February. Some old and unproductive trees were removed to make way for more trees which are native and encourage more biodiversity. The dogwood has not been removed, but trimmed back to allow for a more nurturing and sympathetic growing.

Over six hundred bulbs have been planted between the two woodland gardens with more ordered for the Southern Woodland Garden. Further information is available on their website.

Entrance to Riverside – Riverside Community Council has been approached by Riverside Naturally to start discussions regarding the refurbishment of the green spaces located at the entrance to Riverside from Seaforth Place. This would be an introductory conversation to discuss what we would like to happen in the area from a practical, environmental and aesthetic point of view and will be considered a long term project.

d. Fairy Trail

Bob Dale has distributed all the fairy doors to be painted and is working on the furniture. Further information will be shared closer to the fairies moving in date.

e. Lovers Walk

Stirling Council has cut back some of the trees along Lovers Walk.

Network Rail will be contacted regarding the consistent drip which becomes a serious hazard when the water freezes. This area will also be added to the priority gritting area.

Sue Dumbleton has been in touch with Stirling Council for an update on the blacksmith who was due to fix some of the broken fences. The weather has prevented work being undertaken.

f. Parking

Riverside Community Council has contacted Stirling Council again to request to re-start the consultation and address the outstanding request for double pips around the school.

6) Bins

Riverside Community Council approached Stirling Council in September 2019 regarding starting a conversation about household bins in Riverside. No response was received.

Sue Dumbleton proposed we approach Stirling Council to restart this discussion to consider the access issues on Forth Street, education of recycling and refuse collection and issues in shared accommodations throughout Riverside focusing on how we can support residents and keep Riverside safe, clean and accessible for all residents.

7) A.O.B

Electric Cars – this was discussed as there was interest in using the charging points in the Riverbank Centre car park. This is not possible and are reserved for the use of the Home Care Team. There are grants available to install home charging points.

Riverside Bowling Club shared the information that the renovations to upgrade the club house has had to be stopped due to finding wood decay in parts of the building. Fortunately some of the building can still be used when the club is able to re-open for the season.

8) Date of next meeting: 31st March 2021 at 7pm, hosted using Zoom

Our AGM will be held on the 28th April 2021, hosted using Zoom

Further details of things discussed can be found on our website or you can e-mail us directly.

Public Meeting

Date 31st March 2021 7pm via Zoom

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Susan Engstrom

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Ashleigh Phillips

Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Fiona Dyet

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Cllr Thomson

Residents - Five

Apologies

Sandra Engstrom

Phil Boydell

1) Welcome

2) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for February Meeting were adopted

Fiona Berrow proposed; Bob Dale seconded

4) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting:

None

5) Reports

a. Chair Report

Joan Murphy welcomed everyone to the meeting focusing on the brighter things going on in our community, with the better weather, COVID restrictions beginning to lift and the vaccination programme being successful.

Joan Murphy mentioned the Step Into Spring Windows which have been a cheerful addition to Riverside and a good fundraiser for Riverside Naturally.

Riverside Gateway – In conjunction with Riverside Naturally, Riverside Community Council are discussing the possibility of regeneration of the open areas around the Junction of Forth Street, Forth Crescent and Forth Place, including new planting, improved street furniture, signage and utilities.

The regeneration plan will take into account:

- The visual impact of the area
- Ease of use by people who pass through the area on foot (seating)
- Planting to support biodiversity and to reduce water run-off and air pollution
- Maintenance beyond the initial project works
- Road safety and the safety of pedestrians
- Impact on immediate neighbours
- Funding including professional landscape architectural input
- Support of Stirling Council

The four local councillors have been contacted and an onsite meeting will be held with a representative of Stirling Council.

Consultation and communication with the Riverside Community will be a priority.

b. **Secretary**

Police Report - There were five detected cases and ten undetected cases which are part of an on-going investigation with twenty one calls to the police. There have been a number of thefts over the past month and our Police Officers urge community members to report any issue they may have.

Graffiti – There has been an issue of vandalism in Riverside this month and Alison Swanson has been in contact with our new Community Police Officer, Jennifer Fisher. The main issue is that although the graffiti is on Stirling Council property, the council may not be aware of them so they go unreported. Riverside Community Council would like a contact to deal with directly to ensure these antisocial activities are addressed effectively.

Correspondence -

Electric Cars – The charging posts are scheduled to be installed in the summer months – this has been delayed due to COVID and requisitions issues.

Broken Post Box – This was reported and replaced in the same day.

Fallen Tree – A Tree along Dean Crescent on the Riverbank had been reported in March 2019 and has fallen further. This has been reported as a potential hazard

Broken Fencing – There are areas of the fence round the river that are in need of repair – this has been reported to Stirling Council.

Flooding on Lovers Walk – This has been reported to Stirling Council who said it was the first time they were aware of this area flooding although this has been raised during our extensive Lovers Walk communications. Network Rail is aware and we have made repeated requests to fix it.

Damaged Sign on James Street – This was reported and fixed promptly due to being a street lamp with exposed wiring.

Consultation – Stirling Council is running a consultation on their Climate and Nature Emergency Plan and is encouraging residents to comment. There is a survey running until 30th April 2021 and people can comment for a further four days at <https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/folders/climate-emergency>.

c. **Treasurer**

Expenses this month are £61.25 from the COVID Grant for the Easter Bags, £62.59 for stationery, Zoom subscription and leaflet holders and £243.48 was paid to Iain Gibson, Stirling Council from the Scotland Loves Local Grant.

Outstanding or restricted funds are £152.37 for walking or litter picking events, Zoom Subscription, Shiphaugh Tree and a card reader for the air monitoring unit. It was agreed that Di Alderdice could be reimbursed for this expense before the grant is paid out.

£3700 is outstanding though does not need to be paid until the grant money is received.

d. Planning

Barracks Signage – This was raised in June 2020. Riverside Community Council was informed that Enforcement Issues are confidential and therefore details would not be shared online. However, the signage was removed due to being unauthorised.

6) Subgroups

a. Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The Active Travel Survey will be closed on the 31st March 2021. There have been over 120 responses with a variety of comments that will be analysed by Forth Environment Link. This information will be used to create the Active Travel Plan for Riverside.

The grant claim and progress report has been submitted to Paths4All. This can be found on the website.

It was agreed that we would look into an audit of Riverside regarding accessibility for people with disabilities with the money that was allocated to the Active Travel day, which will not go ahead due to COVID. that

A University Student is planning to do their PhD around Active Travel using Riverside as a case study.

b. Defibrillators

There is a spare Defibrillator which Fiona Dyet was given last year. Last year Polmaise Community Council contacted Wilma Comrie at Stirling Council enquiring if we could 'lend' them a couple of defibrillators. The Sub-Group agreed that it could be offered to them on the understanding that they replace both the battery and pads and maintain it.

Lucky2Bhere has been contacted to see if the recent fundraising, linked to the Advent windows, might be partially used to offset replacement batteries this year.

Mrs McPhee, the headteacher of Riverside Primary School has agreed to moving the AED, ideally to be relocated near the main entrance to the school or moved to face Alexandra Place. The Sub-Group have also been in discussion with Stirling Council to discuss the costs of this.

The Sub-Group plans to apply for funding for the defibrillators from a variety of Funds.

c. Community Resilience Plan

There is no update this month.

d. Environment

Riverside Naturally – The Step Into Spring campaign has been a huge boost to the charity with over £400 raised. There is lots of new growth to be seen in the North Woodland Garden.

With the funding from Scotland Loves Local planting will be undertaken at the end of April and beginning of May.

The ARK, in partnership with Stirling Council is being prepared for wildflowers to be sown.

The Wildflower Meadow next to the Community Orchard will be planted at the start of May.

Dog Fouling – Over 300 bags have been given out for free and the response to the campaign has been positive.

Emily McLaughlin has been in touch with the Dog Warden who is aware of the most problematic areas in Riverside and may visit out of uniform. We were offered further signage and free bags.

It was agreed that we should continue our campaign and introduce pictures by children on posters.

Litter Pick – With COVID restrictions easing it was agreed that we would host a socially distanced litter pick on the 10th April 2021. Emily McLaughlin will organise.

e. Fairy Trail

Bob Dale has the fairy doors ready to go and plans to put them out late Friday night on the 2nd April.

f. Lovers Walk

Stirling Council has trimmed back some of the overgrowth on the Riverbank.

Riverside Community Council awaits information from both Stirling Council and Network Rail about the improvements to and closure of Lovers Walk. It has become apparent that Lovers Walk falls within the Bridgehaugh Conservation Area. This means that the plans for repairing the fence have to be approved by the conservation planning officer at Stirling Council.

Riverside Community Council has not seen the plans and has no information on the proposed work or when it will start. Separately Network Rail will undertake repairs to the railway bridges at Lovers Walk and the road will be closed for 'some months'. No further information has been made available.

Updated in April - This will not be happening this year and has been postponed until 2022.

g. Parking

On 24th March Riverside Community Council was made aware of plans for traffic control and build outs around Forrest Road and Alexander Place funded by the Scottish Government's Spaces for People scheme. Riverside Community Council had a number of concerns about the plans, the proposal and the scale of the consultation. An extension for offering comments was granted.

Riverside Community Council will also meet with Cllr Thomson to discuss this issue

h. Well-being Walks

There has been no response from Paths for All regarding the request for support in developing post-covid walks in Riverside. Sue Dumbleton will continue to follow this up and look at other options for the proposal,

7) Bins

Further attempts have been made to contact waste services about the bins on Forth Street and work which the Riverside Community Council might do to alleviate the problem of the blocked pavement. All communication has been via the Community Council Enquiries email address.

There has been no response to date.

8) Easter Parcels

Following on from the success of the Christmas Parcels, Easter Parcels will be delivered by a group of volunteers to over 40 people around Riverside.

9) AOB

None

10) Date of next meeting:

Our AGM will be held on the 28th April 2021, hosted using Zoom

Further details of things discussed can be found on our website or you can e-mail us directly.



Public Meeting Minutes

Date - 28th April 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sandra Engstrom

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Ashleigh Phillip

Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Phil Boydell

Fiona Dyet

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Cllr Gibson

Residents - 6

Apologies

Sue Dumbleton

1) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

2) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for March were adopted
Alison Swanson proposed; Sandra Engstrom seconded

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting

None

4) Proposal of new Community Councillor

Sandra Engstrom was proposed by Fiona Berrow as a full member of Riverside Community Council.
Seconded Alison Swanson.

Robert Dale was proposed by Ashleigh Phillip as a full member of Riverside Community Council.
Seconded by Emily McLaughlin

5) Reports

a) Chair

Joan Murphy welcomed everyone to the meeting by sharing some of the positive comments and messages Riverside Community Council has received over the past few months.

Joan Murphy, following on summarised Riverside Community Council's Code of Conduct and highlighted the behaviours to expect from Community Councillors. However one of our members was stopped on the street by 2 residents who harangued her in an unpleasant manner with incorrect information about parking issues. Joan emphasised that council members are volunteers who donate their time to serve Riverside and threatening and aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.

It is Riverside Community Council's aim to be a conduit of information and community members are strongly encouraged to get in touch with questions, suggestions and comments.

b) Secretary

Police Report – There was one undetected case involving vandalism and one detected case involving threatening behaviour.

Riverside Maintenance – Giant Hogweed, Pontoon Debris and Seagulls have all been discussed with Stirling Council and logged for attention.

Consultations – Stirling Council have four consultations running for residents to comment on.

Climate and Nature Emergency Planning (Emily McLaughlin to comment on behalf of Riverside Community Council)

Specialist Additional Support Needs: Expansion Consultations (Ashleigh Phillip to comment on behalf of Riverside Community Council)

Stirling Community Mental Health and Well-Being

The Scottish Government has a consultation running on *Local Place Plans*. (Andrew Fraser to comment on behalf of Riverside Community Council)

The comments will be made available on Riverside Community Council's website.

Spaces For People – As agreed in our discussions with Stirling Council we have been shown the drafts of the posters and asked to comment on locations for these signs. In April 2020 we requested additional support from Stirling Council for Lovers Walk and the issues with Social Distancing. We will ensure signage includes this street.

Calendar – Local residents are running a fortnightly "Meditative Moments" zoom gathering to reflect on varying topics, all are welcome and details can be found on Riverside Community Council's website.

c) Treasurer

Fiona Berrow gave the treasurers report.

The second instalment of AT&ST funding (from Paths for All) came into the account: £3,793.99.

£3,700 of this was paid to Forth Environment Link for their work on the Active Travel survey. The remaining £93.99 was transferred to the unrestricted funds as repayment for printing of leaflets (£90) and the card reader (£3.99) for the air monitoring device.

Two months of Zoom subscriptions were paid (£14.39 per month).

£19.60 that had been overpaid for Covid support expenses was repaid.

Riverside Community Council currently has £2,059.27 in the bank account. Of this, £487.19 is unrestricted.

d) Planning

There was nothing to report.

6) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The Active Travel and Sustainable Travel subgroup has been in touch with Disability Equality Scotland for advice and support in conducting an accessibility audit in Riverside and recommended Living Streets for further advice.

Riverside Community Council has been offered free Disability Awareness Training.

The results of the Active Travel survey is in the process of being analysed and the results are due to be shared shortly.

b) Defibrillators

The Defibrillator Group continues to look into ways to fund the new batteries and pads that are due for renewal this year.

c) Community Resilience Plan

A meeting will be scheduled between the Community Resilience Sub-Group and Kerri who works with Ready Scotland to discuss plans for Riverside.

The Community Emergency Plan is out of date and the sub-group will look into updating it

d) Environment

Litter Pick – This event was a huge success with over twelve groups collecting twenty two bags of litter. The embankment behind the Premier Inn was identified as an area in need of ongoing additional attention and it was agreed to pursue this further with Whitbread. The neglected Forthside plot is an area of concern due to a build up of litter and giant hogweed. This will be followed up with Stirling Council.

A huge thank you was given to all who took part.

Dog Fouling – Riverside Community Council has received many positive comments about the poster and poo bag campaign. The next step will be to replace the posters with ones that have been made with help from local children. A selection of designs are on the website.

Wild Flower Meadow – Riverside Naturally will be starting work on their low growing wild flower

meadow at the start of May. An area will be fenced off temporarily, next to the Community Orchard to give the new plants and seeds a chance to grow, protected for rabbit. The plants bought using the Scotland Loves Local grant will be planted along Riverside Drive throughout May.

f) Fairy Trail

The Fairy Trail was highly enjoyed by those who saw the doors hidden along the river path, unfortunately a lot of the doors were taken before they could be fully appreciated. The subgroup will look into ways of ensuring that the fairy's can stay for longer on their return.

g) Lovers Walk

The fences have been repaired and painted along Lovers Walk.

h) Parking

On 24th March we received an email from the Council which proposed to 'introduce a 20mph limit in Riverside and install temporary build outs in Forrest Road and Alexandra Place'. This was to be part of the Sumatrans Spaces for People proposals linked to the pandemic recovery.

This was discussed at the Community Council meeting on 31st April and a number of concerns were raised including the short time scale for responding and that local residents had not been involved. In addition several members of the CC studied the details of the proposals and we then gave a detailed response to the Council indicating why we did not want to agree to the structural changes proposed.

It was agreed that the Council would 'proceed with introducing a 20mph zone in Riverside and a behaviour change campaign 'Physical Distancing Campaign' but not the structural changes.

Going forward, Stirling Council has agreed to a site visit to discuss the on-the-ground issues and to further community consultation regarding ongoing issues as well current pandemic difficulties.

Following comments from Cllr Gibson we agreed that we would send him our detailed response previously sent to the Council's proposals.

i) Spring Parcels

Over 40 of Riversides residents were visited and given a goody bag in celebration of Spring over Easter Weekend.

A huge thanks to Mr Mohamed of Riverside News for donating the sweet treats.

7) Bins

Sue Dumbleton has been in contact with Stirling Council regarding some of the bin issues we have around Riverside. Stirling Council will send letters to residents remind them of their responsibility to remove the bins from the pavement following collection. If this continues to be an issue this will be forwarded to the Enforcement Department.

A Waste Collection Supervisor will visit the area to assess the area for further solutions.

8) **A.O.B**

Riverside Bowling Club is hoping to open 19th May with various other events to encourage people back to the club – new members are very welcome.

David Sherman raised The Queens Green Canopy initiative and hosting a street party in celebration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee and our community for consideration.

9)

Date of Next Meeting

26th May 2021

7pm Hosted using Zoom

Riverside Community Council Annual General Meeting Minutes

28th April 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow
Robert Dale
Sue Dumbleton
Sandra Engstrom
Emily McLaughlin
Joan Murphy
Ashleigh Phillips
Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice
Phil Boydell
Fiona Dyet
Andrew Fraser
David Sherman

Cllr Gibson

Apologies

Sue Dumbleton

Six Riverside residents joined the meeting.

1) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

2) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for the previous Annual General were adopted

Fiona Berrow proposed; Alison Swanson seconded

4) Chair's Report

Introduction

Riverside Community Council is currently made of eight community councillors and five associate members.

We currently have a vacancy for one further member.

Our Year Of Challenges

COVID 19 has affected us all and has added many challenges to our way of life.

The strength of spirit and Community Resilience in Riverside has been inspiring and we felt strongly that we wanted to help and support our community as much as we could throughout this strange year.

- We continue to hold virtual zoom meetings
- Our zoom account is available to community groups to facilitate meetings and events which normally would be held in person.
- We engage with Stirling Council in any matter that is brought to our attention and monitor those which will need to be address when COVID allows.
- We have looked for ways to encourage safe activity and community engagement to help boost spirits throughout lockdown.

Communications

Communication is very important to Riverside Community Council – we endeavour to be representative of our community. We communicate in the following ways:

Website: Updated regularly, report community news events and our progress on all our activities.

E-Mail: Contact us directly about things that matter to you.

Drop Ins and Noticeboards: Our non-digital means of sharing information. Drop Ins have been cancelled during COVID.

Newsletter: Our regular e-mail round up of the events around Riverside and the Stirling Area, also offered in paper form.

Others: Facebook page, Community WhatsApp Group, Stirling Observer, Community Partnerships

When asking for ideas, big and small these were some of the suggestions

Playgroup

Community resilience Plan

Community Space

Well Being Walks

Language Cafe

Hosting A Charity Event

Flooding Information Event

Pontoon and River Activities

Student Welcome Pack/Event

Renting/Landlord Rights responsibility Event

Community Choir

Houseplant Event

Litter Picks

Shiphaugh Centenary Party

Easter Egg Hunt

Wake Up and Smell The Coffee (and tea) Event

Board Game Night

Accessibility Play Equipment and Paths in Waverley Park

Our Sub Groups

Active and Sustainable Transport

Sub-Group created to focus on people powered travel and looking at ways to encourage and improve the safe, active and sustainable transport in the Riverside Area.

Travel-light project was awarded £5000 by Smarter Choices, Smarter Places grant by Paths For All. Also supported by Forth Environment Link.

Travel-Light project successfully ran an Active Travel Survey with over 120 responses. Data from the survey and information collected through other mediums will be collated and an Riverside Active Travel Plan will be designed.

Seasonal Parcels

Sub-group created initially to spread some Christmas Cheer within Riverside's Older Community and extended to include Spring time celebrations too.

2020 - 34 festive parcels were delivered around Riverside. Surplus was given to Nicola (From Betty Loves Violet) who was organising Christmas Meals and presents for local Stirling families facing hardship over the festive period.

2021 - Following on from the success of the Christmas Parcels, Easter Parcels were delivered by a group of volunteers to over 40 people around Riverside.

Community Resilience Plan

Sup-group created to facilitate the updating and improving of Riverside Community's Resilience Plan.

The purpose of a resilience plan is to ensure the community is empowered to prepare, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.

Stirling Council's Climate and Nature Emergency Plan emphasises the need and importance of resilience plans.

Flooding is an important consideration for any Riverside plans.

Defibrillators

Sub-group created in 2020 to support the group of Riverside residents that organised the installation of the three defibrillators Riverside has.

The first defibrillator was installed in 2017 and the devices and supplies have been provided by the Scottish Charity Lucky2BHere.

Riverside's Living Advent Windows had another successful fundraising event over Christmas with over 50 houses participating and over £550 raised for the defibrillator fund.

Environment

Sub-group created to ensure environmental factors were considered through the actions and consideration of Riverside Community Council.

Hosted a lockdown litter pick in April involving twelve groups and twenty two bags of litter.

Running a Dog Fouling Awareness campaign and offering free poo bags, with over 400 been given out.

Developing an environmental policy to support Stirling Council and residents as we work to achieve the 2045 climate emergency goals.

Fairy Trail

Sub-group created to add a bit of fun to the walks around Riverside and to boost spirits during lockdown.

Inspired by other communities and forest areas, fairy doors and accompanying furniture was created by members of the Riverside Community Council.

The doors were placed along the river path during Easter Weekend to for people to enjoy.

Unfortunately some doors were taken before they were fully appreciated.

This will be revisited as Riverside is the perfect place for fairies to live.

Lover's Walk

Sub-group created to support the Stirling Council Participatory Budget Funded project to clean up and enhance Lover's Walk.

A tidy up and improved lighting was agreed by the residents after extensive discussion.

Lighting has been installed, the riverbank has been cut back and the fences have been repaired and painted.

We have liaised with Network Rail. Stirling Council is responsible for the pigeon issues.

Lover's Walk is an area that needs further money and time invested in it.

Parking

Sub-group created to address the continuing issue of Parking in Riverside

Parking remains one of Riverside's key issues.

Riverside Community Council continues to liaise with Stirling Council regarding these issues.

Spaces for People – Temporary foot-way widening plans rejected on safety grounds. An awareness campaign was agreed upon.

Our aim is for clear communication and strong community engagement.

Other News

Shiphaugh Centenary Commemorations

The sign was installed and the tree is thriving. Copies of the leaflet are available online.

Heritage Trail Leaflets

The heritage trail leaflets have been updated and printed. These are available online and in the leaflet holders next to our noticeboards.

Riverside Gateway

Riverside Naturally and Riverside Community Council are hoping to make improvements to the green space bounded by Seaforth Place, Shore Road, Forth Place and Forth Crescent. We would like to make it a nicer place for people and wildlife.

Scotland Loves Local Grant

We were awarded just over £500 for green projects around Riverside this money was split between Riverside Naturally for seasonal bulbs and the Riverbank centre for the community planters.

Planning

Community councils have a statutory right to be consulted on applications for planning permission and the community council has a special role, representing a broader yet still local view which can be set alongside the comments of those with a more individual interest.

Forthside Development	Nothing further has happened with this development space. We will continue to monitor activity.
Riverside Quay	We objected to this application.
Short Term Lets	This planning application was rejected and is not going through the appeal process.

Our Huge Thanks to everyone who has supported and engaged with us throughout this year.

We truly appreciate your help and support.

5) Treasurer's Report

Fiona Berrow presented the checked and authenticated accounts from 1st April 2020 until 5th April 2021.

In 2020-21 Riverside Community Council had a total income of £3,875.06.

This came from the Stirling Council admin grant (£236.56), Stirling Council Covid-19 support funding (£500), Community Pride funding (£390 for Riverside Heritage Trail leaflets and £1,500 for the Shiphaugh Centenary tree and information panel), a Paths for All grant (3286.03), Scotland Loves Local funding (3563.50) and surplus admin grant funds from previous years (£398.97).

The Community Council had a total expenditure of £4,641.70.

This was spent on admin expenses (£96.44), Covid-19 support (£436.32), repayment of Stirling Council funds from the previous year (£100.07), cards and gifts for community members/supporters (£45.00), west expenses (£98.86), Zoom subscription (£14.39 per month, £100.73 in total), ICO registration (£40), transfer of surplus admin funds from previous years (£398.97 to our unrestricted funds), community plants (£272.22), a Community Resilience workshop (£30), Active Travel & Sustainable Transport (£90), Shiphaugh Centenary tree and information panel (£1,512.00), Quiz prizes (£30), Heritage Trail leaflets (£390) and Notice boards (£157.08).

At the end of the financial year there was £1,988.45 in Riverside Community Council's bank account. Of this, £398.19 was unrestricted funds.

6) Appointment of Office Bearers

Ashleigh Phillips proposed to maintain the status quo. Seconded Fiona Berrow

Chair – Joan Murphy

Vice Chair – Sue Dumbleton

Treasurer – Fiona Berrow

Secretary – Emily McLaughlin

Planning – Alison Swanson

7) Date of next Annual General Meeting

27th April 2022



Public Meeting Minutes

Date - 26th May 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

In Attendance

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Susan McGill

Residents - 10

Apologies

Di Alderdice

Sandra Engstrom

Ashleigh Phillip

Alison Swanson

Phil Boydell

Fiona Dyet

1) **Declaration of Interest**

Susan McGill declared that she is a board member of the Cowane's Trust.

2) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes for April were adopted

Fiona Berrow proposed; Sue Dumbleton seconded

3) **Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting**

Emily McLaughlin noticed an omission in the July minutes - Phil Boydell was proposed by Alison Swanson as an Associate Member 15th July 2020 and seconded by Fiona Berrow.

5) **Reports**

a) Chair

Like dandelions, which are one person's beautiful flower and another's dreaded weed, Community Councils can't please everyone all the time. Community consultations are vital to engagement and understanding community needs but it must be understood that consultation can slow the process down. Riverside Community Council is trying hard to listen to all points of view and find acceptable

solutions for the range of issues that the community raises.

CC recruitment - Riverside Community Council has been recruiting and is currently verifying an applicant for potential co-option at our June meeting.

Riverside Gateway – landscape architects, with experience of community consultation, will be contacted and a list of wants and desires for the area will be prepared. The name of the area will be decided as part of the consultation. Andrew Fraser will contact the council regarding the signage strategy. The group will apply to The Mushroom Trust, the deadline is 16th July 2021

Treebilee - The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is an initiative to celebrate the Queen's 70 years on the throne. David Sherman has suggested we investigate the possibility of combining this with an outdoor event next year and applying for funding

b) Secretary

Police Report: There were two undetected cases involving theft and one Act in a Racially Aggravated Manner and one detected cases involving vandalism.

A Social Media Policy was proposed and adopted.*

Consultations -

Climate and Nature Emergency Plan – Riverside Community Council commented on this consultation.*

Specialist Additional Support Needs: Expansion Consultations - It was felt that Riverside Community Council was not in a position to make a comment on behalf of the community, though urged individuals to have their say through Stirling Council's Engage platform.

The Scottish Government has a consultation running on *Local Place Plans*. (Andrew Fraser to comment on behalf of Riverside Community Council)

Newsletter – It was decided that after a year of sending newsletters monthly that a change was necessary and starting in August the newsletter will be send bi-monthly.

Agenda – It was agreed to change the standard format of the agenda, removing sub-groups which have completed their objective and adding more current issues. The agenda is available 14 days before each public meeting and can be found on the noticeboards and the website.

*This can be found on our website.

c) Treasurer

Fiona Berrow gave the Treasurer's report.

Zoom is recorded as having been paid twice this month due to how the meetings fell and February being a shorter month.

Upcoming expenses include our ICO registration, litter picking/well-being walks insurance and our ongoing Zoom cost.

d) Planning

The enforcement order on the James Street garages is continuing to be investigated.

6) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The first draft of the Active Travel Survey report is being revised following comments from Riverside Community Council and sub-group. Thanks were given to everyone who turned out on Saturday for the photo shoot, and to Bob Dale for the great photos.

Andrew Fraser is working on the first draft of Older People's survey report. This will need to be a stand-alone report and not an appendix in the main report, because of production costs.

Disability access survey - there has been no reply from Living Streets after two emails and a phone call. We will now approach Sustrans.

Thanks were given to a volunteer for continuing the air pollution monitoring.

The MSc student hasn't started on her Active Travel and Vulnerable People Safe Spaces project yet due to finishing course work, but plans to start when time allows

b) Defibrillators

Nothing to report

c) Community Resilience Plan

A meeting is hoped to be arranged for June.

e) Environment

Forthside – Riverside Community Council has been in touch with Stirling Council to ascertain who is responsible for this plot. Concerns have been raised due to the increasing abundance of Giant Hogweed and accumulated litter. Stirling Council has indicated that volunteers would not be able to access the land to tidy it up due to the hazards the Giant Hogweed in particular presents.

Cowane's Trust – Riverside Community Council has been in touch with Stirling Council and the Cowane's Trust to ascertain who own the land between Shore Road and Forth Crescent as there is a plant which looks very precarious and there is concern it could bring the wall down.

Treelink has approached Stirling Council to manage the Old Harbour Forest, to ensure it is maintained and nurtured in a manner supporting natural growth and biodiversity.

Riverside Naturally – Volunteers over the summer will be engaged in 'balsam bashing' which is working along the river path clearing the highly invasive Himalayan Balsam that has taken over the riverbanks. Nettles will not be removed by this group as despite their prickly nature they are highly prized in a biodiverse area and they are loved by butterflies to eat and to lay eggs on.

f) Fairy Trail

Nothing to report.

g) Lovers Walk

Stirling Council confirmed that work has been completed except for the painting of the fence round the river. No timescale for this action.

Stirling Council's conservation planning officer has confirmed that the Bridgehaugh conservation

area related to the river walkway fence. This is the original fence, approx. 100 years old and, if damaged, has to be repaired in keeping with the original.

Stirling Council Roads Officer has advised that a decision on repairs to Stevenson Bridge is yet to be made.

A request that Riverside Community Council be involved and consulted on this, as far as possible, has been logged with CC Enquiries.

Drains have been cleared at Lovers Walk again

h) Parking

Stirling Council has introduced a temporary 20miles/h speed limit on those streets within Riverside to which such a permanent limit does not already apply.

Riverside Community Council has received further comments since the April meeting about parking problems since our last meeting and have been in communication with Stirling Council's Transport and Planning Officer.

Riverside Community Council is making clear that a proper consultation needs to be organised to allow for everyone to be heard and all possible suggestions made.

Previous suggestions will be put forward by the Council at the end of March and our response to Council is available on website

A meeting of interested residents will be arranged as a precursor to discussions with the Council. It was suggested that a member of staff from Riverside Primary School be invited.

7) A.O.B

Riverbank Centre has opened up to approximately 1/3 capacity. They are planning to fill the planters next week, weather permitting.

Riverside Bowling Club is open for the season. Their Clubhouse is still undergoing repairs but the lounge will be re-opening from the 21st May 2021 with the return of Friday nights in the Lounge. There is hope of inviting the schools for some taster sessions which proved very successful in the past.

Thanks to the Council were expressed for repairing the broken railings

9)

Date of Next Meeting

7pm Hosted using Zoom

Public Meeting Minutes

Date - 26th June 2021

Members Present

Sandra Engstrom

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Alison Swanson

Carol Robertson

In Attendance

Phil Boydell

Fiona Dyet

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Cllr. Susan McGill

Apologies

Di Alderdice

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Ashleigh Phillip

Residents - 8

2) **Declaration of Interest**

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) **Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting**

No matters arising

4) **Co-Option of New Community Councillors**

Carol Robertson was proposed by Sandra Engstrom, seconded by Emily McLaughlin representing the remaining three attending members. Carol Robertson was voted in with 4 votes of the 4 votes eligible.

This brings the total number of Community Councillors to 9 – a full complement – plus 5 associate members.

5) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes for May were adopted

Joan Murphy proposed; seconded Carol Robertson

6) **Reports**

a) Chair

Riverside Quay Short Term Lets – the reporter’s decision was announced on the 2nd June 2021. The appeal lodged by Riverside Quay to allow them to rent their rooms out over the summer was denied and there will be no permission given for short term lets.

b) Secretary

Police Report: There were three undetected cases of vandalism, failure to stop after an accident and an assault and one detected case of assault to injury.

Riverside Community Council also notified the Community Officers about some reported anti-social behaviour in the Old Harbour Forest.

Amendments regarding what Riverside Community Council shares and does not share was made to the GDPR/Privacy policy. These were adopted.

Riverside Community Council has written an environmental statement. This was proposed and adopted.

These can be found on our website.

Consultations -

Local Place Plan – it was decided the Riverside Community Council could not enter a comment. The consultation was inaccessible due to it’s complicated terminology an unclear objective. It was also debated whether this was relevant to Riverside at this point.

Tree and Woodland Policy - 23rd August 2021

Alive with Nature - 19th August 2021

The following maintenance issues have been reported to Stirling Council

Tree fallen in Old Harbour Forest – the tree has been made safe

Path cracked – Old Harbour Forest, this has been reported to Whitbread

Damaged Wall. Forth Crescent - Joan Murphy has been in contact with Cowane’s Trust and Stirling Council to ensure this is resolved.

Forthside development site – member of Stirling Council to visit the site and determine what action is necessary.

Hidden sign – Seaforth Place – this has been reported to Stirling Council

The issues with nesting seagulls and gritting bins have been rescheduled for discussion at the appropriate times.

Stephenson Bridge – we have had assurances that no work is scheduled until at least April 2022. Riverside Community Council has continued to impress the importance of clear communication regarding Lovers Walk and any work undertaken that would cause and disruption to the community.

Stirling Council is improving community engagement by changing how they deliver services and support communities. Stephen Bly has been appointed as the Community Council Enquiries Co-ordinator.

Stirling Council has launched a new awareness “For Kids’ Sake” campaign to help identify and support vulnerable children over the summer who may be in need of extra support. People are urged to contact Stirling Council’s Social Work team to discuss any concerns they may have.

c) Treasurer

Emily McLaughlin gave the Treasurer's report.

There has been very little activity this month with the only expenditure being the Zoom subscription.

d) Planning

Joan Murphy has been in touch with Alison Allyson regarding Bellwood Hall for an update. There is nothing new to report.

7) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The final draft of the Active Travel Survey is being completed by Forth Environment Link with a last chance to change any details needed.

The remainder of the budget needs to be spent by the end of July – this will be split between the Disability Access Survey, hospitality and stationery costs.

Disability access survey –A walk round Riverside, including a consultant from NFP Planning and local residents with different abilities and needs, has been arranged for July to ask questions about the issues facing people with disabilities in navigating safely around Riverside.

b) Community Resilience Plan

Nothing to report

c) Defibrillators

Nothing to report

d) Environment

There will be a Litter Picking Event first weekend in August, details to be decided.

Plant a tree for the Jubilee – David Sherman, Emily McLaughlin, Riverside Naturally and Treelink are meeting to discuss the feasibility of applying for the Woodland Trust's free tree packs in celebration of the Queen's Platinum jubilee next year.

f) Parking

There was a sub-group meeting which 13 people attended including a representative of Riverside Primary School.

It was a positive and constructive discussion which included the active travel feedback which has been gathered over 2 years, with some focus on the difficulties faced around the school pick up times.

A list of problems and solutions was created.

There is a meeting with Stirling Council representatives on the 13th July 2021.

g) Riverside Gateway

A sub-group including members of Riverside Naturally and Riverside Community Council members are investigating options to improve the green areas at the entrance to Riverside – the junction of Seaforth Place, Forth Place, Forthview, Forth Street and Forth Crescent from Stirling town centre.

The key concepts are: to improve accessibility; make the space a nice place to pause when walking around Riverside or to the city centre; animate the area with playful features for all ages; improve biodiversity and sensory experience; create a safe area that is people-friendly; create a sense of arrival into Riverside.

The group met with a landscape architect who will develop a concept proposal, arrange a survey and run a public consultation.

It was agreed that the group will apply for funding to cover this expenditure, approximately £1800.

h) Well-being Walks

No groups that have been approached have been interested in supporting this endeavour. It will be revisited after the summer.

8) Local Groups

Riverside Naturally has had a website upgrade and will be working through the summer to maintain the green spaces and work to eradicate the Himalayan Balsam along the banks. Next maintenance session is on the Saturday 31st July 2021 at 9.30

Treelink has been working on clearing the Himalayan Balsam from the Old Harbour Forest and has another session on Saturday 10th July 2021 between 10am and 4pm

Riverbank Centre is opening up with a few more service users attending but for less days. The service users filled the community planters which will bloom throughout the summer.

There is a review being undertaken to identify the best use of the facilities within the Riverbank Centre and it is hoped there will be more opportunity for community involvement.

8) A.O.B

Summer Jubilee Celebration

David Sherman has proposed a four day celebration for the Queen's platinum jubilee celebration on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th June 2022.

We are planning to engage the whole community and all local groups, including Riverside Primary School, Riverside Rowing Club, Riverside Bowling Club, Riverbank Centre. A group of volunteers to be at the forefront of this activity will be recruited over the next few months.

9)

Date of Next Meeting

25th August 2021 7pm Hosted using Zoom

All previous minutes, policies and consultation comments can be found on our website and available on request.

Public Meeting Minutes

Date – 25th August 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Carol Robertson

Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Fiona Dyet

David Sherman

Cllr Jim Thomson

Residents: 8

Apologies

Ashleigh Phillip

Sandra Engstrom

Phil Boydell

Andrew Fraser

2) **Declaration of Interest**

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) **Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting**

An amendment was made to the previous draft minutes to clarify the Co-Option of Carol Robertson

4) **Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes for June were adopted

Alison Swanson proposed; seconded Joan Murphy

6) **Reports**

a) Chair

Joan Murphy welcomed everyone back after the summer break and informed everyone of the activities the Community Council had been engaged with over the summer, including the formation of new sub groups.

It was explained that there are many things that community members would like to be addressed around Riverside varying from exciting and fun, to practical and less enjoyable and that Riverside Community Council is very keen to have as many residents involved in these activities and events and would like to encourage people to join in, however they feel they can. Everyone is welcome.

Joan Murphy listed the summer activities, most to be discussed further within the meeting:

- Travel Light project completed and submitted
- Disability Audit undertaken
- Litter picking event on 1st August 10 people joined in 15 bags collected
- Two Stirling Council Consultations commented on – Alive with Nature and the Tree and Woodland Policy
- Parking meeting with Council and 11 residents 13th July

b) Secretary

Police Report: Over the past two months there were five undetected cases including vandalism, failure to stop after an accident, assault, theft, and driving whilst over the limit. There were two detected cases of possession of a bladed article.

Police Scotland has also started a Fuel Theft campaign. There has not been any reported incidence of this in Riverside, however if anyone is interested in getting advice in relation to this, including preventative measures for domestic and commercial properties. The campaign is available on the following social media:

ukifda.org/consumers/oil-tank-security

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

Road Closures

There was a Notice Of Public Procession through Riverside on Saturday 12th September between 10.30am and 12pm. This is the Stirling 10k.

There was notification of Scottish Water undertaking maintenance in Cooperage Quay and Riverside Drive between 9.30am and 3.30pm on 13th September.

The secretary noted that these traffic notifications can occur at any time during the month and when Riverside Community Council is given this information it will be detailed on our [website](#).

Consultations

SEPA – Forth District Local Plan (FLOODING) – This is a draft document outlining the proposed action points to manage and reduce flooding across Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park in the west to the inner Forth Estuary, including Stirling. It was agreed that Riverside Community Council would comment on this consultation. Alison Swanson will lead, the Community Resilience group will contribute and a number of community members will also be involved in drafting a response. Details can be found [here](#).

Walk, Live, Cycle Stirling – City Centre South – In the next stage of this consultation Stirling Council are asking residents to visit engage.stirling.gov.uk and log any issues they have navigating around the South side of the city.

Police Scotland – Body Cameras - This consultation is an opportunity for the public to be part of an ongoing conversation to help shape the use of Body Worn Video cameras by police officers

and staff when interacting with communities in Scotland and you can find out more [here](#). It was agreed that Riverside Community Council felt there is not enough understanding of community opinion to comment however individuals are encouraged to do so.

Bin Issues – Riverside Community Council requested an update regarding the bin issues on Forth Street and has had no further information. Cllr Thomson has offered to follow this up on our behalf.

Forthview – An update and advice on any further action available to Riverside Community Council was requested regarding the ownership and land maintenance. No information was given.

Trolleys in the Forth – A large number of trolleys are visible in the river. SEPA, Scottish Water and Stirling Council have been notified.

Stirling Council will be meeting on the 7th October 2021 to discuss reinstating face to face meetings for Community Council public meetings. The Scottish Parliament are rescinding restrictions at the start of September so it could be possible that Stirling Council aligns with these plans. Up to date notifications about Riverside's public meetings will be put on our [website](#).

c) Treasurer

In July and August, we used the last funds from the 2020/21 admin grant to pay the annual ICO (GDPR) registration fee, two months of Zoom subscriptions and buy paper and ink cartridges.

We now have no money left in our admin grant, but the 2021/22 grant (£263.54) should arrive in the bank account imminently.

We used unrestricted funds to pay for a Riverside Street Audit (£300) and refreshments for the participants (£31.10). This money will be reclaimed from the Active Travel and Sustainable Transport sub-group's Paths for All funding.

d) Planning

Riverside Community Council has been contacted by a resident regarding the Abbey Road Market, which is operating legally, with all the necessary permissions.

There have been no complaints made to Riverside Community Council.

In the event that the Abbey Road Market applies for a permanent licence Riverside Community Council will be notified as a statutory consultee and will be given an opportunity to comment on this application.

7) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

A huge congratulations and a big thank you to Di Alderdice was offered on the completion and submission of the Travel Light project.

At the end of August the Active Travel Survey report, completed by Forth Environment Link, the Older Persons Survey Report and the Disability Audit was submitted to Paths4All.

A meeting will be scheduled to discuss how the information is used in a constructive and positive way.

b) Community Resilience Plan

A meeting is scheduled for the start of September.

Members of the community interested in this are encouraged to join the sub-group.

c) Defibrillators

The portable defibrillator was gifted to Polmaise Community Council.

The Christmas campaign is being discussed with regards how to fund the new batteries needed for the defibrillators next year.

d) Environment

There was a litter picking event at the start of August. The equipment is available to individuals and groups throughout the year for walks or events.

Jubilee Hedge – Permission was sought from Stirling Council for a hedge to be planted along the fence in the Old Harbour Park. There were a number of issues raised as a result of this request: space would be needed between the hedge and the fence for maintenance, how the hedge would be maintained and the selection of hedges can not include any thorny plants.

With these restrictions an alternative location will be investigated with Riverside Naturally.

It was noted that Riverside Community Council felt that the response was disappointing, particularly with regards the restriction placed on the species allowed to be planted which are selected by The Woodland Trust due to their environmental benefits.

f) Parking

Stirling Council has appointed Living Streets to “to build on the previous consultation work around parking and engage with Riverside Primary School, the Community Council, the local community and other key stakeholders to explore how a School Streets project could possibly be implemented in the area to provide solutions to the previously highlighted parking issues.”

20mph Zone – This change in speed limit has been welcomed by the community.

It was noted that some of the 20mph signs have been stolen and there is some confusion at the entrance to Riverside regarding the change of zones.

Residents also felt that there has not been enough awareness made of the change of speed limit.

g) Summer Jubilee Party

David Sherman has proposed a four day celebration for the Queen’s platinum jubilee celebration on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th June 2022.

The immediate considerations to be addressed are funding, toilet facilities and identifying an electrical source.

Local musicians have been notified and are enthusiastic.

A meeting will be scheduled to begin planning this event and any members of the community that would be interested are encouraged to join the group.

g) Riverside Gateway

The sub-group has applied for funding to pay for the cost of an architect who will landscape architect who will develop a concept proposal, arrange a survey and run a public consultation.

h) Well-being Walks

To be revisited later in the year.

8) Local Groups

Riverside Naturally is holding an outdoor event – Orchard Day on the 25th September 2021, you can find details on their [website](#).

Lawn Bowling – The bowling club will have its closing of the green on Saturday 18th September. Thee lounge bar will remain open on Friday evenings.

Renovations to the clubhouse are continuing so we hope to be able to have some social functions such as our quiz night in the not too distant future.

8) A.O.B

Fly-tipping – This was addressed independently with Stirling Council and has appeared to have stopped. The use of CCTV was raised by a member of the community as a solution. Concerns were discussed and Cllr Thomson informed us that Stirling Council has roaming CCTV units. It was agreed to find out more information for further discussion.

Electric Charging Units – It was noticed that further charging units were being installed in the Riverbank Centre's car park. It was confirmed that these would exclusively be for the Stirling Council fleet. Riverside is scheduled to get two roadside charging units. This was delayed due to procurement issues and will be followed up.

9)

Date of Next Meeting

29th September 2021

7pm Hosted using Zoom

All previous minutes, policies and consultation comments can be found on our website and available on request.

Public Meeting Minutes

Date – 29th September 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Sandra Engstrom

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Phil Boydell

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Cllr Oxburgh

Residents: 8

Apologies

Fiona Dyet

Ashleigh Phillip

Carol Robertson

2) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting

Electric Cars – Kerbside chargers will be installed October/November time.

4) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for September were adopted

Sue Dumbleton proposed; Fiona Berrow seconded

6) Reports

a) Chair

Joan Murphy welcomed everyone by sharing a quote by the Dalai Lama "Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." and discussed the kindness and friendship that can be found in Riverside, through actions and activities. It was acknowledged that there may be issues that

arise that are emotive or unpleasant but that treating people with courtesy, respect and kindness is the way that Riverside Community Council would always aspire to.

For clarity and understanding Joan Murphy outlined the relationship with Stirling Council

- From May 2021 there were changes to Community Council Support
- Support to Community Councils will now be delivered in a new more focused way.
- The name of the Community Engagement Team has changed to the Community Development Team.
- A dedicated Community Council Enquiries Co-ordinator has been appointed to support Community Councils.
- The post holder will assume responsibility for enquiries, dealing with collective community concerns and representation from Community Councils.

b) Secretary

Police Report

Over the past month there were two undetected cases including Theft and Failure to stop after accident.

Consultations

SEPA – Forth District Local Plan (FLOODING) – This is a draft document outlining the proposed action points to manage and reduce flooding across Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park in the west to the inner Forth Estuary, including Stirling. It was agreed that Riverside Community Council would comment on this consultation. The working group is meeting on Tuesday 5th October to discuss this further, with the intention of drafting a response to bring to the October public meeting and submit before the 31st October 2021.

This is a public consultation, and any member of the community can contribute.

Budget Conversation - Residents are being asked to give feedback on their personal spending priorities and most valued services through an online survey as part of the budget-setting process for next March. Stirling Council would like to know what's important to you, what you value, and what you think the Council should prioritise.

Common Good Register - Stirling Council is creating a Register of Common Goods which is properties held by former Scottish burghs. They want to increase transparency about what Common Good assets are, and get residents involved in decisions they take about them.

Stirling Council would like to hear your views on any of the proposed Common Good assets. They would also like to know if there are any other land or property assets which is felt should be included in the register.

[Gaelic Language Plan Consultation](#)
[City Centre South](#)
[Buchanan Primary School Closure](#)

Pontoon – This was reported to Stirling Council and it will be cleared in due course.

Planters – Forthside – An enquiry about the ownership and plan for these planters was raised with Stirling Council. There had been plans to add plants last year but COVID restrictions

prevented that. Weeding will be undertaken as standard maintenance and spraying only as appropriate.

Bin Issues – Cllr Thomson followed up our enquiry about bins on Forth Street and had assurances that letters will be sent out to remind residents of their responsibilities regarding waste collection and bin storage. Stirling Council would rather not engage enforcement measures, however this is an option should the issue not improve.

The site will also be reviewed for potential communal recycling facilities which would reduce the number of bins on the pavement but this is dependent on a suitable location.

20mph Zone – Stirling Council asserts that the signage in Riverside is accurate and acceptable. There is no need for further awareness when change in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph. Eight 20mph signs were stolen and have been replaced.

CCTV – There are CCTV available for use. This is decided by a bidding system with the partner agencies on a quarterly basis.

There are some limitations about use including:

- around power which does restrict where they can be used

- legal implications to be considered, including privacy concerns

- it will only be used when other attempts have been made to rectify the issue

- there needs to be evidence from the council land the police to show demand for the resources

- can not be used on private land

Graffiti – This is an ongoing problem along Lovers Walk. The issues include land ownership, reporting as a crime and frequency of graffiti. It was agreed to contact Stirling Council and requests that Lover's Walk be included in the improvement plan as we feel that for reasons of pedestrian, cyclist and driver safety, and for many environmental reasons, action to address the problems is urgently required.

It was suggested that residents report the graffiti to Stirling Council when it appears in an effort to have the area cleaned up promptly.

Reminder - Stirling Council will be meeting on the 7th October 2021 to discuss reinstating face to face meetings for Community Council public meetings. The Scottish Parliament are rescinding restrictions at the start of September so it could be possible that Stirling Council aligns with these plans. Up to date notifications about Riverside's public meetings will be put on our [website](#).

Website updated to include Active Travel, Parking and Riverside Gateway

Riverside Primary School – Nursery currently have the litter pickers and have been making good use of them.

Riverside Community Council has been invited to join their learning activities for the school related to climate change and COP26. It was agreed that we would attend and speak about our environmental considerations as a community council.

c) Treasurer

This month we have paid for our annual website subscription and two months' worth of Zoom

from the Admin grant funds. This means that we now have -£104.39 in our admin funds. We have been informed that we will be receiving £263.54 of admin grant for this financial year (and £10 of Minutes Grant) but this has been delayed. Stirling Council have told us that these funds should be in our account by 11th October.

We received the final part of the funding (£919.98) from Paths for All for the Active Travel project, survey and report. £500 of this has been paid to Forth Environment Link to complete the payment for the Active Travel report and £331.10 was used to reimburse the Community Council for the Street Audit Day. The remaining £88.88 is to reimburse the Community Council for printing and stationery costs. £31.91 of this had been spent last month on printer ink and paper. There is £57.97 remaining, and this will be spent on the next stages of the Active Travel and Sustainable Transport project.

d) Planning

Riverside Community Council has received one complaint regarding the Abbey Road Market from a member of the community.

Riverside Community Council has no authority to act upon complaints of this nature and we would advise that if anyone has any comments they can notify the relevant department directly.

We have been notified by Stirling Council that the licensing conditions have been met.

James Street/Edward Road Garages – First reported to Stirling Council on the 28th October 2019 and reported the issue to Stirling Council who were looking into it, including the issue of ownership. Riverside Community Council has had further complaints regarding this area and we have requested an update.

7) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

The next step will be to use this information and develop an Active Travel Plan for Riverside, allowing us to plan our current and future projects based on what our community has told us.

This will involve forming a short term working group, consisting of members of other sub groups, including the Parking Group and the Riverside Gateway group, other interested parties, eg, Stirling Council and Riverside Primary school, and as many members of our community that would like to have a say in moving towards more Active Travel in Riverside.

b) Community Resilience Plan

Sandra Engstrom spoke about the plans for the Community Resilience Plan and the mapping of assets within Riverside.

The next newsletter will include a guide to getting ready for winter.

Members of the community interested in this are encouraged to join the sub-group.

c) Defibrillators

The portable defibrillator was gifted to Polmaise Community Council.

The Christmas campaign is being discussed with regards how to fund the new batteries needed for the defibrillators next year.

d) Environment

Following on from the SEPA consultation Riverside Community Council asked for an update on the issue specific to Riverside.

- The dates on the SEPA consultation are inaccurate and refer to historical dates and the current programme indicates a potential construction timeline of 2026-2028.
- Stirling Council is still working on updating the Optioneering Report and further subsequent works have been commissioned to fully understand all flood mitigation options for the area, the report is now due for completion approximately summer 2022
- It was decided that the 200 plus climate change defence height would not be acceptable
- Stirling Council is now expanding what it is exploring with regard to flood mitigation options
- This could potentially mean Riverside only schemes together with online and offline storage, natural flood risk management, road raising, property resilience etc
- A defence for the Riverside area would consist of areas of embankment/wall and wall and embankment.

Riverside Community Council will remain in communication with the flooding team and share any further updates.

Jubilee Hedge – Riverside Naturally is taking the lead on this project and ascertaining where would be feasible, if anywhere, to plant a hedge.

f) Parking

Any on-going concerns raised by residents with parking round the school which I have been reported to Transport Planning Officer and any replies sent to residents.

These are then reported to Stirling Council's Enforcement Team Leader, who arranges for officers to be on site.

There is the hope that the first project steering group will meet late October. Living Streets are expected to be in touch to officially invite two members of Riverside Community Council, including the Chair, on to sit on the steering group.

A community wide consultation will also be undertaken so anyone who wishes to comment will be given the opportunity.

g) Summer Jubilee Party

David Sherman is going to arrange a meeting with key members to develop the overview of the

celebrations.

Further information is needed regarding the use of local businesses to support the event.

g) Riverside Gateway

The sub-group has been successful in its application to The Mushroom Trust and was awarded £3500.

Fiona Berrow will contact Stirling Council to notify the relevant departments of the success of the application and to confirm the specific input that can be expected regarding this project.

Eve Keepax (Riverside Naturally) will contact Sam Shaw (architect) to discuss the budget and what can be negotiated to fit the budget.

h) Well-being Walks

Riverside residents are invited to join in on a Well-Being walk on the 17th October 2021, starting at 10am from the Abbey Road Market.

First discussed March 2021, Riverside Community Council feel it would be a good way to meet new people and see old friends, away from a screen and outwith the zoom meetings and have the chance to ask questions about our activities in Riverside and hear peoples' thoughts and ideas.

8) Local Groups

Riverside Naturally held their orchard day celebrations on the 25th September 2021 and are looking forward to a new addition in the North Woodland Garden. An otter will be carved into the remaining tree stump on the 30th September 2021.

Lawn Bowling – Renovations of the club house are almost complete and the Bowling Club are inviting groups who are interested in renting the space on a regular basis to get in touch with John Millar on 07709 058642 or e-mail johnmillar@aol.co.uk.

9) A.O.B

None

10)

Date of Next Meeting

27th October 2021

7pm Hosted using Zoom (tbc)

All previous minutes, policies and consultation comments can be found on our website and available on request.

Public Meeting Minutes

Date – 27th October 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Emily McLaughlin

Ashleigh Phillip

Carol Robertson

Alison Swanson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Phil Boydell

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Apologies

Sue Dumbleton

Sandra Engstrom

Joan Murphy

Residents: 8

2) Declaration of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting

4) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for September were adopted
Fiona Berrow proposed; Bob Dale seconded

6) Reports

a) Chair

Alison Swanson chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone to the first 'in person' meeting since before COVID. Thanks was given to the Bowling Club for their hospitality.

James the Postie – Riverside's postman James will be retiring at the end on November after 18 years of delivering the mail in Riverside. The community are hosting a small event to present James with a card and gift – date and time to be confirmed.

Newspaper – Gillian Armstrong has offered to support Riverside Community Council with liaising with the Stirling Observer to increase non-digital communication and community outreach.

b) Secretary

Drink Spiking - Following recent reports of drink spiking in Stirling, the members of the District of Stirling Licensing Board have issued the following statement.

Cllr Danny Gibson, Chair of the Board, said: “The Board would strongly encourage people to report any concerns over drink spiking or injection to Police Scotland and they will be thoroughly investigated with all necessary action taken in response.

A new **Good Food For All Fund** has been launched by Stirling Council. Grants of up to £10,000 are available to third sector/community groups across Stirling to tackle food inequalities and insecurities and ensure that everyone has access to nutritious healthy food in line with Stirling’s Food Framework. Also open to internal Stirling Council Services and community planning partner public agencies.

The deadline for applications is 11 am on Monday 8 November 2021

SEPA – Forth District Local Plan (FLOODING) Consultation – Thank you was offered to the group who worked on this consultation. This will be submitted to SEPA and a copy of the comments are available on the website.

This is a public consultation, and any member of the community can contribute, ending on the 31st October 2021.

Lovers Walk – Flooding – This has been reported to Stirling Council who are sending an inspector out to see what can be done about the blockages.

Lovers Walk –Riverside Community Council has approached Stirling Council to continue to raise awareness and ask for consideration about Lovers Walk. It continues to be an unsafe and unpleasant place to traverse and Riverside Community Council would like assurances that this will be an area that is taken into account when the plans for the city centre and travel plans are made.

Graffiti – Bob Dale is going to investigate the possibility of a mural under the bridges. It is acknowledged that land ownership may be an issue. Other options for making Lovers Walk most hospitable are being looked into.

Bin Issues – Cllr Thomson has requested an update on this issue as Riverside Community Council has had no further correspondence on this matter.

Riverside Scavenger Hunt – Forth Valley Welcome are hoping to host a scavenger hunt around Riverside to welcome and introduce some of the New Scots to Stirling. It is proposed for the 12th December.

Community Council Meeting Venue - there was discussion regarding our next venue. This remains unresolved at this point.

The Riverbank Centre is unavailable.

Cambuskenneth Hall was unable to be booked at this point.

The Admin Grant will not cover the cost of Zoom or Venue hire for the remainder of the year.

Fiona Berrow will further investigate the issue with the admin grant and payment dates.

c) Treasurer

We have received the admin grant and AGM minute funding for 2021-22 from Stirling Council. We will be paying to hire a venue (Riverside Bowling Club) for this month's meeting at a cost of £15 per hour, so this will be an expenditure of £30 or £45.

There was £5.22 remaining from the Scotland Loves Local fund – Fiona Berrow proposed Riverside Community Council donate it to Riverside Naturally. This was agreed. (Emily McLaughlin abstained from this decision)

d) Planning

There were no planning issues this month.

7) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

Ashliegh Phillip will be the Community Council lead on the Active Travel and Sustainable Transport Group, which plans to meet shortly to begin work on the Riverside Active Travel Plan.

Stirling Council have released their Winter Policy and we are continue to work towards a gritting solution for Riverside.

The True Gritters group were out a couple of times last year to clear paths of neighbours – if there are any homes that may need assistance during the winter months residents were urged to contact Riverside Community Council.

b) Community Resilience Plan

Sandra Engstrom is investigating the possibility of arranging an event about the effects of flooding and how to protect homes against damage.

c) Defibrillators

The annual Living Advent Windows are being organised for December as a fundraiser for the defibrillators. Money raised will be used to replace the batteries for the units.

d) Environment

Riverside Naturally is working with Stirling Council to ensure the replacement of any missing trees and future replacement of trees that may need to be felled*. It was confirmed that Riverside Community

Council continue to support these endeavours.

*Some of the ancient cherry trees along the river are nearing the end of their lives and may need to be felled.

f) Parking

Stirling Council has secured £34K funding for consultation and experimental solutions around the school. This will be in partnership with specialist Living Street.

- A steering group will be formed including representatives from local businesses, school, residents and members of the Community Council.
- The project will be split to represent the issues with commuter parking and school parking.
- The research will include further travel survey and will include our Active travel survey and include the 20 minute neighbourhood idea.

There will be some further questions that will be asked:

- When will practical aspects take place?
- Will the March plan be based on the finding of the experimental solutions?
- Will the March plan be used for community consultation that will lead to more permanent solutions?
- Are the results from the previous parking survey available?

g) Summer Jubilee Party

Riverside Community Council is proposing a Jubilee Celebration on the 2nd - 5th June.

Thursday: Older People afternoon tea – potential school engagement

Friday – Rowing Club Event

Saturday – 12pm-4pm Family Fun Day, including Bake Off, Crafts, Visiting Services

Saturday – 6pm – 10pm Music Event

Sunday – 10am – Litter Pick – Tea and Cake

It was agreed that funding could be applied for this event.

Residents that would like to be involved can contact David Sherman: riversidejubilee@gmail.com

g) Riverside Gateway

Joan Murphy and Eve Keepax met with the architect October 15th. The following was discussed:

- A successful application by the community council to the Mushroom Trust has raised £3500
- against the projected budget costs of £3900.
- Receipt of the public utilities records by the community council from Stirling Council means
- that the cost item for this in the budget, allowed sum of £325 +VAT, no longer applies.
- Confirmation has been received from Derek Leitch that the design and planting must be in agreement with Stirling Council and that Stirling Council will supply labour for the removal of old shrubs, preparation of beds and replanting. There was a discrepancy in the areas described. Stirling Council will be contacted to clarify about the inclusion of the area across from Forth Street.

- RFB will arrange a topographical survey of the site to inform their initial plans/drawings for
- discussion at a next meeting 1pm, 23 rd November 2021, Abbey Road Market, to include
- Stirling Council. Joan to invite Derek Leitch, Stirling Council.
- Abbey Road Market was suggested as a venue for the public consultation of the plans. Time:
- 3pm – 7pm on a Wednesday evening in mid-January Venue owner is agreeable. This removes the cost item in the allowed budget of hiring the RFB marquee for half a day.
- Further discussion is needed to expand the opportunity for consultation.
- The two identified cost savings bring the projected expenditure within the £3500 grant.
- The next meeting will be held on the 21st November.

h) Neighbourhood Walks

Neighbourhood Walks will be on the first Sunday of every month at 10am, meeting outside the Abbey Road Market.

These are suitable for everyone and an opportunity to meet new people, meet old friends and chat about what is going on in Riverside.

8) Local Groups

Thanks was given to the Lawn Bowling for use of their premisses – it was warm, bright and inviting.

Riverside Naturally has their monthly maintenance session on the last Saturday of the month, 30th October, 9.30am at the Community Orchard.

9) A.O.B

Curry and Quiz Night – Bob Dale is looking into a social evening over the next few months involving curry and a quiz. It was agreed that the unrestricted funds could pay for any initial costs which would then be reimbursed from the ticket sales. Fundraising details to be decided.

10)

Date of Next Meeting

24th November 2021 – TBD

All previous minutes, policies and consultation comments can be found on our website and available on request.

Public Meeting Minutes

Date – 24th November 2021

Members Present

Fiona Berrow

Bob Dale

Sue Dumbleton

Emily McLaughlin

Joan Murphy

Ashleigh Phillip

Carol Robertson

In Attendance

Di Alderdice

Andrew Fraser

David Sherman

Residents: 8

Apologies

Phil Boydell

Fiona Dyet

Sandra Engstrom

Danny Gibson

Alison Swanson

1) Welcome and record of attendance

Chair Joan Murphy welcomed the eight residents attending, in addition to those Members and Associates listed above.

2) Declarations of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

3) Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting

Lovers Walk, Lovers Walk Flooding and Bins on Forth Street are all ongoing issues with nothing to report this month.

4) Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for October were adopted
Ashleigh Phillips proposed; Fiona Berrow seconded

5) Reports

a) Chair

James the Postie

James, Riverside's postman of 18 years was overwhelmed by kindness of people from Riverside to him. A gathering was held on the 4th November to say good bye, thank you and give him a card and gift. Joan Murphy spoke to him as he was finishing his final shift and he was delighted with many more thank you gifts.

At his presentation he said "This could only happen in Riverside – the people have been amazing,"

Happiest Place to live In Scotland – Stirling was voted the happiest place to live in Scotland (and 6th in the whole of the UK) from a poll by Rightmove of 21,000 people across the UK. This came as no surprise to anyone in Riverside!

Riverside Naturally – was recognised by Keep Scotland Beautiful and Royal Horticultural Society for their outstanding efforts to enhance our local area.

Link with Stirling Observer – Riverside Community Council is very grateful to Gillian Armstrong for volunteering to be a link to the Stirling Observer to increase our non digital presence in Riverside. We are aiming for a weekly item and have started a monthly schedule.

Meeting Venue – Due to the vulnerability of the service users of the Riverbank Centre the facilities are not being made available to the Community Council at this time. This may be reviewed in the springtime. The location of our next meeting is still to be decided.

Christmas events

- Riverside Ceilidh Band - 28th November 2021 at the Abbey Road Market
- Advent windows starting on 1st December - 70 households are signed up to date
- Quiz and Karaoke – Lawn Bowling - 4th December 2021 – SOLD OUT
- Neighbourhood Walk - 5th December 2021 and 9th January 2022
- Christmas Market 5th and 12th December 2021
- Festive Concert – 19th December 2021 at 3pm
- Christmas Parcels for older people
- Santa Breakfast for younger members of the community - Saturday 18th December 9am (tickets available from Abbey Road Market)

b) Secretary

Police Report

There was nothing to report however it was noted that they are aware and monitoring the parking situation around the school and have spoken to people in the area about this matter.

The Police Inspector is looking at the process of how the community officers report to the community council and is looking for our opinion on whether a less standardised, more personal report each month, consisting of what activity and engagement has been going on in our area.

Consultations

Space for People – COVID temporary measures review – Stirling Council are looking for views on the

temporary measures and whether you feel these interventions should be made permanent. In Riverside this refers to the temporary 20mph limit. This consultation runs until **10th December 2021**.

Common Good Register - Stirling Council is creating a Register of Common Goods which is properties held by former Scottish burghs. They want to increase transparency about what Common Good assets are, and get residents involved in decisions they take about them. Stirling Council would like to hear your views on any of the proposed Common Good assets. They would also like to know if there are any other land or property assets which is felt should be included in the register. **Closing Date: 14th December 2021**

Greener Options for Longer Travel – Stirling Council feels that to tackle climate change they need to look at longer distance bus and rail connections, and the Park and Ride/Park and Choose provision as well as active travel. **Closing Date: 24th December 2021 approx**

Further consultations can be found [here](#).

The following has been logged with Stirling Council for attention:

Cambuskenneth Bridge – the netting underneath is in disrepair and no longer functions

Benches along Forthside – There is an issue with ownership but it is recognised that this needs to be addressed and made safe.

Dropped Kerb Waverley Park – Riverside Community Council has requested that the kerb opposite the accessible entrance to the park be lowered to allow access for wheelchair users and those with mobility issues.

Funding:

Empowering Communities Fund: 2023-2026 – Application entry from March 2022

The [ICF Fund](#) aims to support community anchor organisations based in the places they serve by delivering activity across the following four areas for action in our most disadvantaged and fragile communities across Scotland:

tackling poverty and inequality;
sustaining place-based approaches;
community-led regeneration;
ensuring a just transition to net zero.”

Scottish Water is encouraging customers in communities across Scotland to prepare their homes for winter. Their winter advice advises anyone with a home, holiday home or business premises to take action to **heat, insulate** and **protect** their properties.

Visit www.scottishwater.co.uk/winter where you can find winter information, films and advice and further information can be found online about your pipework responsibilities [here](#).

Stirling’s Hogmanay 2021 – Stirling Council has released it’s programme of festive activities. Fireworks will be at the National Wallace Monument and not at Stirling Castle. Bob Dale will be operating the drones filming this display.

Disabled Parking Bays Forrest Road – Objection by the 8th of December

You can visit the Scottish Government’s [Tell Me website](#) for further public notices.

Schedule of Meetings – 2022

26th January 2022

23th February 2022

30th March 2022

27th April 2022

25th May 2022 – AGM

29th June 2022

31st August 2022

28th September 2022

26th October 2022

30th October 2022

c) Treasurer

This month we paid to hire Riverside Bowling Club as a venue for our October meeting (£30) and we transferred the remaining £5.52 from the Scotland Loves Local (SLL) funding to Riverside Naturally (we applied for the SLL funding partly for Riverside Naturally and partly for the community planters).

Admin Grant Query – Fiona Berrow highlighted a problem with the timing of the payment of the admin grant. The admin grant money is for the financial year (April-March) but the money is received in September. Therefore there is a problem if we have spent all the admin grant money by the end of the financial year, then we don't get any more money until September, however if we don't spend it we get less the following year. The discussion is ongoing.

d) Planning

Delegated Decisions:

Enforcement Enquiry - EN/19/151/AMENIT

Issue: Unkempt condition of land and buildings

Address: James Street, Edward Road, Stirling,

A member of the community raised the point that there is insufficient information on the decision process regarding this area and there is no explanation as to why this ruling was made.

You can visit Stirling Council's [Planning Portal](#) for further planning information.

You can visit the Scottish Government's [Tell Me website](#) for further licencing information.

6) Sub-Groups

a) Active Travel and Sustainable Transport

Accessibility – all people powered travel, looking for a new subgroup with people who are excited about moving happily and safely around Riverside.

Gritting Policy – Actions points

- discuss the policy for adoption
- continue to ask Stirling Council for a supply of grit when there is an extended period of colder weather for local residents to use to help neighbours
- look for other paths that may benefit from regular gritting and approach Stirling Council for

further assistance

b) Christmas Parcels

Joan Murphy gave thanks to Ann Graham and the over 60's group there are now 40 households receiving parcels which will be delivered the weekend before Christmas.

P2 of Riverside Primary will once again making the Christmas Cards that will be placed in the bags.

Parcel group have met once and will meet again on 25th November to plan a list of items we are looking for.

There are already a number of donations promised but if anyone would the list of suggested donations please contact riversidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com or phone Joan Murphy on 07958 235596.

c) Community Resilience Plan

Sandra Engstrom has approached the Scottish Flood Forum regarding a face-to-face presentation.

d) Defibrillators

Riverside Advent Calendar will be starting again on the 1st of December raising funds for the three lithium defibrillator batteries that need replaced at a cost of £720. The map of participating households can be found [here](#)

The defibrillator group encourages those who take part and those who enjoy the windows to donate [here](#).

e) Environment

COP26 Riverside Primary School – Fiona Berrow, Emily McLaughlin and Carol Robertson met with the P4's of Riverside Primary school to speak about Riverside Community Council's environmental activities. Discussions included: what makes a resilient community, what things they would like to see in Waverley Park and what could be done help people chose active travel on the journey to school. An action plan involving the pupils' suggestions will be put forward in the new year.

[Dandelion](#) is a creative programme, focusing on sustainability whilst demonstrating the power of collective action and to rediscover our connection with the food we eat and the joy of sharing what we grow and cook with good music. This may be a source of support and inspiration for some of Riverside's projects.

f) Parking

The Initial steering group meeting for the Riverside School Streets project will be on Tuesday 30th November. Sue Dumbleton and Joan Murphy will be representing Riverside Community Council – other participants include people from the school and local businesses.

The purpose of the group is to inform and support the development of a School Streets project around Riverside Primary School, and related work. It will initially run from now until the end of March 2022.

It will meet three times during that time and be chaired by Susan McDougall, Transport Planning Officer at Stirling Council, with Living Streets providing note-taking and meeting planning support.

g) Riverside Gateway

A meeting was held on the 23rd November.

- Topological Survey will be undertaken – this will lead to more detailed plans for consultations
- Initial plans depict issues and rough suggestions.
- Consultation will be in January over a few days – details to be shared closer to the time.
- Funding will be the next stage of the project – Stirling Council will facilitate the project if funding is secured.
- Consensus with the sub-group to have a controlled crossing, if found to be feasible.
- Very impressed with the attentiveness and enthusiasm of the architects.

g) Summer Jubilee Celebrations

Riverside Community Council is proposing a Jubilee Celebration on the 2nd - 5th June.

Thursday: Older People afternoon tea – potential school engagement

Friday – Rowing Club Event

Saturday – 12pm-4pm Family Fun Day, including Bake Off, Crafts, Visiting Services, Active Travel

Saturday – 6pm – 10pm Music Event

Sunday – 10am – Litter Pick – Tea and Cake

David Sherman has:

Approached the Riverside Lawn Bowling about hosting the afternoon tea. Volunteers needed.

Approached the Riverside Rowing Club regarding hosting the event – tide dependent.

Fiona Dyet will offer defibrillator training

Lawn Bowling may offer bowling lessons

Abbey Road Market is interested in supporting the event regarding beverages and catering.

Looking for crafters who may like to hire a stall for the family event.

Investigating funding opportunities closer to the time when specific funding becomes available.

Three fundraising opportunities – Defibs, RN and RCC

David Sherman is planning to organise specific meetings in January to plan this event.

7) Local Groups

Riverside Naturally – A year end **report** was offered to Riverside Community Council outlining the work of the local charity.

It's Your Neighbourhood "Outstanding Award" based on Community Participation, Environmental Responsibility and Gardening Achievements. Emily McLaughlin gave thanks to Riverside Community Council on behalf of Riverside Naturally, emphasising the hope for continued transparency and engagement throughout Riverside.

27th November at 9.30am – Maintenance Session, 10.30am – Tea break and a chat.

TreeLink – A year end **report** was offered to Riverside Community Council outlining the work in Riverside undertaken by the Stirling based charity.

18th December 10am -1.30pm – Join Treelink at this session in Old harbour Woods to make wooden

objects, large and small.

Lawn Bowling – Friday night bar open. They are hoping for more regular events.

8) **A.O.B**

Waverley Park – Riverside Community Council will approach Stirling Council regarding lowering the kerb at the accessible entrance, replacing the missing and broken pieces of equipment and later next year looking into adding paths and accessible play equipment.

Curry and Quiz Night – Riverside Community Council are planning to hold a curry and quiz night in the Green Lounge 12 or 19th February 2022 (TBC). It will Costing £100 to hire, including the bar being staffed. It will be a ticketed event.

Graffiti – Bob Dale has investigated the possibility of using Mia the graffiti artist to enhance Lovers Walk and Mia is very keen to be engage with this project. If we propose an idea/theme and the artist would create a relative design. Mia has a contact with Network Rail regarding permission to paint on their property.

Fiona Berrow raised the point that painting the tunnel would encourage unsafe behaviour on the road. As a target of Riverside Community Council is to encourage Active Travel a priority should be given to the pedestrian spaces.

Initially costing; Including tunnel £5k, just the pedestrian walkway £2.5k. It was agreed that funding could be sought for this project.

Faded Road Markings on Sutherland Avenue – Emily McLaughlin will follow this up with Stirling Council

9)

Date of Next Meeting

26th January 2022 – Venue TBD

All previous minutes, policies and consultation comments can be found on our website and available on request.

Previous minutes and further information about Riverside Community Council can be found on our [website](#).