

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 25th June 2024,
18:30 - 20:00, Fallin Church Hall



Discussion Topics

- Christmas lights
- SPEN bike track
- Burntisland
- Fun day
- Fundraiser events
- Miners museum
- Buses
- Community garden
- AOB

Attendees - Listed below in Table 1

Apologies - Rev Alison Grainger; Nikki Thomas

Christmas lights

Michelle confirmed that so far an additional 11 main lights and 26 rope lights have been sponsored, to add to the lights from previous years. It was agreed that FCV funds raised from within the community would be used to sponsor another light for Mrs Spence, who sadly passed away this year. **Neil** will arrange for the lights to be put up week commencing 25/11 and the 30/11 was agreed as the provisional date for this years' Christmas Tree lights switch on and fair. It was agreed that this year the sleigh parade would take place the same day - so the running order will be: Sleigh parade through the village, ending at the church hall; followed by the Christmas lights switch on and community hero announcement; followed by the Christmas Fair. **Karen** will check that the date is ok with the Church. **Neil** will also arrange for this years' liquor licence.

SPEN bike track

Neil advised that there was still no indication of timeframe for installing this or confirmation of what will be happening. Chris Burns had indicated a couple of weeks ago that there was a meeting imminent with SPEN, so we await the outcome of that meeting.

Burntisland

The bus will be departing from top road at 9am and returning 5pm. 96 people have booked for this trip, including 3 babies! FCV funds raised from within the community will be used to cover the cost of transport for all children attending, plus purchase of outdoor toys including bucket and spade for each child.

Fun Day

This year's free Family Fun Day is Saturday 3rd August and stallholding spaces are still available for anyone who would like one (£20 per stall for sellers). **Volunteers will be needed for the Fun Day again.** Anyone available, please contact Michelle at fallincv@gmail.com.

Fundraiser events

£1500 was raised from the Cocktail Fundraiser ran at the Miners Club last month and there seemed to be lots of appetite for another similar event soon, so Michelle and Karen will organise one in September. Another prize bingo is also being considered, provisionally for Sunday 18th August. **If anyone has anything they can donate to the prize bingo, please contact Michelle at fallincv@gmail.com**

Miners museum

MSP Evelyn Tweed has been contacted by someone regarding the poor state of repair of the outdoor mining museum. For many years, Karen's father has maintained this space on a voluntary basis, but personal circumstances means this is no longer possible. FCV and PCC wish to thank both Karen's dad, and Stuart, for his recent work on the garden, also done free of charge. A longer term solution has yet to be identified for maintaining this space, although Stuart has kindly offered to maintain the greenery for the foreseeable. It was noted that, although upfront funding was provided to install the museum, a 50 year lease was put in place in 2006, identifying Polmaise Community Council as responsible for site maintenance, with no long term funding identified for doing the maintenance. On top of this, it is much harder for community councils to secure funding than it is for registered charities. **Neil** agreed to contact those organisations who provided the initial capital funds, to enquire about potential funding for ongoing maintenance. Without funding, the site can only rely on volunteers to keep it in good condition, which isn't a reliable long term solution. **Therefore, residents keen to see the site maintained are encouraged to come forward as volunteers to either help manage the space or help identify and apply for additional funding.**

Buses

Naomi advised that MSP Evelyn Tweed has been in contact with McGills regarding the reliability of their service and they are refuting that there are any issues with it that would breach set minimum standards. They have requested that village volunteers evidence the exact times and dates of all late or no-show buses as a way to resolve the issue, which there clearly isn't capacity to do. On top of this, as the F16 bus is run under a Falkirk Council contract, Evelyn has no authority as MSP for Stirling to act - although she has committed to continue supporting where she can and we have been advised we can still take forward any complaint via the Falkirk MSP. Naomi has a meeting scheduled with Stirling Council's community development officer next month to discuss the Stirling Council's commitment to improve public transport provision in Fallin and will report back on any progress with this.

Community garden

Planning permission has been submitted and a final response is expected by the end of July, after which we will need to get a lease in place. Funding has been secured for most of what we need, including security fencing and clubhouse. After the election, we will be able to publicly announce the most recent funders who have supported the project. Iain Guthrie put forward the idea of an outdoor learning space for children, which was agreed to be a good idea. Iain will investigate potential for support from Dunblane Lighting Engineering on this. *Meantime, we still need volunteers to help with clearing the site, building beds, fostering seedlings and more.* To get involved, contact Nikki at fallincvgardening@gmail.com

AOB -

Congratulations Michelle

Neil led the room in congratulating Michelle on her tremendous success winning SCVO's Trustee of the Year Award. Over and above recognising her outstanding contribution to the community, it brings positive publicity for the village as a whole.

Play in the Park

Neil advised that he has emailed the council to ask why Fallin has been missed off this years' Play in the Park programme. The response he has had is that there aren't enough resources to cover everywhere. Neil will follow up to find out how they decided which areas from previous years would be cut. There is a concern that this decision was taken based on either low numbers last year (due to the weather being torrential rain) or the fact that FCV is now putting on an annual fun day. This will be investigated further.

Absent friends week

Iain asked for views on having Fallin children build a small cairn at the Bing as a commemorative event. One resident noted that the space might be considered sacred and so may not be appropriate. Others were content with the idea in principle, but agreed to add this to the agenda for the next meeting when there will be more school reps present to give their view.

Scottish Sports Future

Noted the moving on of Sandheep from Scottish Sports Futures, who has been great for the kids in the village and will be missed.

Armed Forces Training Centre

Neil advised he's looking into bringing in an Armed Forces training centre for the Eastern Village area and will keep people updated on any progress with this.

Football Club Update

Iain asked if there had been any further development on the football club idea, advising that staff from Dunblane Lighting Engineering had expressed an interest in doing a 5-a-side. Michelle advised there had not been enough volunteer interest in supporting it, so there was no plan to take it forward at this time. Alex offered to host something if the DLE staff were interested. **Iain** will check with them.

Residential Gardens

One resident asked if there was anything FCV could do about residents who kept untidy gardens. He was advised this should be taken up via the community council or local councillors if it was a concern.

Community Fridge

Advised this is still awaiting delivery. Need to check water access for the garage to make sure it will be H&S compliant for hand washing. May need to either have water installed or consider keeping in the Alpha if Church is still not an option.

Bookkeeping Volunteer

Steve Wilson kindly offered to take on the bookkeeping volunteer role.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 30th July, 18:30, Fallin Church Hall

Attendees	
Neil Taylor (Chair)	Kevin Jack (Polmaise Community Council)
Michelle Robertson (Treasurer)	Alex Fraser (Polmaise Community Council)
Naomi Ross (Secretary)	Andrew Wylie (Alpha Committee)
Karen Perrie (Trustee)	Iain Guthrie (Strathcarron Hospice)
Steve Royce Rogers (Trustee)	4 Private Residents