

Monthly Meeting & AGM



**Tuesday 29th July 2025,
18:30 - 19:30, Fallin Community Garden**

Discussion Topics

- New community development worker
- Fun day
- Local place plan
- Finance update
- Garden update
- Bees update
- DTAS event
- Keyholder review
- AOB

Attendees (14) - Listed below in Table 1

Apologies - Alison Grainger, Brian Hambly

1. New community development officer

We welcomed Megan Jack, as Stirling Council's new community development officer for Fallin and Hillpark. Megan introduced herself and set out what she has already started working on for us - namely, trying to get traction with public transport, investigating whether and how we might include the community council in a village-wide regular meeting rather than lots of individual ones with the same people at them - and working to improve overall communication between the council and the community. Megan hopes to be present in the village fairly often, to get to know us better and understand what we need. She replaces Chris Burns, although responsibility for the kids bike track installation will remain with him.

2. Fun day

Final details for the fun day were discussed. Attendees were asked to stay back after the meeting if they could to help pack up the 400 kids goodie bags.

3. Local place plan

It was agreed that the draft plan could be published for consultation this week, for at least 3 weeks. 4 weeks notice is needed to send the plan to local councillors before submitting to Stirling Council by 31st October, although a copy will be issued to them,

and other partners, this week too. **ACTIONS: NR** to publish consultation on FB & issue hard copies to library, Christines & garden; **SRR** to publish on website & circulate to members. **KP** to organise dates and venue for in-person consultation opportunity.

4. Finance update

Grassroots income has dropped this year, so we need to find ways to increase it if we want to carry on running the type and scale of activities we have been doing so far. Stirling Community Lottery money has reduced. Attendees noted they'd cancelled as they hadn't had anything from it, weren't aware of folk who had, and felt the money could be better given direct to the village.

Steve will reinstate the Bonus Ball sessions, which brought in significant income in previous years. ACTION: After the Fun Day **MR** put out a post encouraging more people to donate, including via direct debit option. **ALL** think about alternative ways of raising money. **SW & MR** meet to discuss logistics of running bonus ball.

Given the significant increase in financial activity last year, our previous independent examiner doesn't have capacity to audit our accounts this year. We've gone with a recommended accountant, Brett Nicholls Associates, who has already given us lots of free advice and guidance on use of Xero. They are more expensive at £1000 (previously £300), but the trustees agree it's money worth spending to keep us right with the Charity Regulator and right with our own financial management.

5. Garden update

We are now almost sold out of indoor and outdoor raised beds, thanks to Michelle's vlogs boosting demand. Can't build the remaining ones until we have the tool shed in place, which we are still waiting on an ETA from Dorian for. Hopefully in the next few weeks. Grateful to Russell Dalgleish has done the polytunnel doors for us at materials cost only. We are now waiting for the last of the plastic to be put on the ends of PT2, then that will be them both weatherproof. On hot days, recommend we open them in the morning and close at night, to let air flow in and stop plants overheating. The fencing lock and key box are now sorted.

We secured more grant funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, both for Nikki's salary and the electricity mains connection, which has been paid for, we are now just waiting for Scottish Power to connect us, and local electrician Conor is doing the final connection to the clubhouses etc. Scott Glass has agreed the mains can come in through their lawn, providing we pave it afterwards to create an extra footpath. But we can't excavate his tarmac, so may need to redesign the way in slightly which could mean extra cost (Scottish Power didn't advise about the need for landowner permission when proposing initial route and quote).

Finally, big thanks to all who have helped with delivery of water to the garden recently! And if anyone sees any potential funding, please let Nikki know.

6. Bees update

Billy recently had a severe sting event which resulted in hospitalisation for antibiotic and antihistamine treatment. Billy is fine, and has been advised by Beekeeping Society members this can be common for new keepers. But as a result, he and Nikki are reworking the risk assessment for the bees. **ACTIONS: NT & BH** redo bee risk assessment; **NT** get antihistamines for first aid kit.

A beekeeping buddy has also been assigned from an established beekeeping group. They are happy with the state and nature of our bees, and all being well there should be a second hive by Spring. Winter bee food & disease treatment will need bought, but this should be less than £100. The shed for the bee equipment has been bought and thanks to Martin for installing the base. This should be built in the next few weeks, subject to help. .

New beekeeping course begins in January and is popular, so anyone who wants to be signed up, let Nikki know ASAP. No one will be allowed to help with the bees without doing this training.

7. DTAS event

26th & 27th August, DTAS are hosting a community energy event. If anyone would like to sign up to go, please let Naomi know.

8. Keyholder review

Reminder to all that Stirling Council have asked for all Alpha Centre keyholders to complete paperwork so they have an up to date record of who is a keyholder.

9. Action Log

[Action log](#) has been created with actions from historic meetings added. This was reviewed and updated, and will be reviewed at each meeting going forward.

6. Any Other Business (AOB)

Steve Wilson flagged that there is no note in the last AGM minutes of he and Billy Hodgson coming on board as trustees. All agreed to note here that both were voted on as Fallin Community Voice trustees at our AGM on 25th March 2025.

Volunteers asked to stay behind to help make up goody bags for the Fun Day.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 26th August 2025, Community Garden

Attendees

Michelle Robertson (FCV)	AnneMarie Hamilton
Steve Royce-Rogers (FCV)	Kevin jack
Naomi Ross (FCV)	Megan Jack, Stirling Council
Karen Perrie (FCV)	Joe Millar (Resident)
Billy Hodgson	Irene Mckay (Resident)
Steve Wilson	Wilma Perrie (Resident)
Elaine Wilson	Helen Kerr (Alpha)
Nikki Thomas	