

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 31st March 2026,
18:30 - 20:00, Fallin Church Hall



Discussion Topics

- Actions from previous meeting
- Finance update
- Community Garden Update
- Vertical farm visit
- Scottish parliament invite
- Community support from Poverty Alliance
- AOB

Attendees - Listed below in Table 1. No apologies

1. Actions from the previous meeting

The action log was reviewed and updated and is available to review [here](#).

2. Finance update

An update on the charity accounts was provided, details available [here](#). As expected, we are in a healthier place financially than we were last month. Thanks to Karen's £50 in 5 drive, Joe's sponsorship and additional grant income.

This sets us up well for our community events for the year ahead.

3. Garden

The new year has begun and there is a waiting list for the beds already so anyone who hasn't already returned their paperwork/made a donation for their bed, please do so. Another 6 indoor beds have been built (these will be community growing ones), and just need filled.

Amazing development work done last year clearly - and it's going to be another busy one this year, so we need as many volunteers to help as possible. Top priorities for the year ahead (in no particular order) include:

- Connecting the IBCs

- Getting the electricity installed (we are discussing going to the ombudsman now given the ongoing issues with British Gas). Once connected, power will be extended across the site to the toolshed, bee shed, polytunnels and elsewhere.
- Mains water connection (we cannot have the café without mains and foul water.)
- Path improvements (Funding secured to improve the 4 entry points (5 th where the utilities excavation will occur) and to tarmac in front of the café container.
- Addressing surface water issues. Additional to the mains and sewer water connections, we will ask the excavation company if a surface water drain can be put in near the gate to reduce the flooding issues in PT1 and the surrounding area.
- Installation of more security cameras.
- Building of permanent compost bays
- Setting up of permanent toolshed inside the fenced area
- Establishing a proper café – Looking at 2027 for launch; lots of preparation work needed including Planning, Environmental Health and funding.
- Installing a permanent noticeboard
- Setting up storage shelving in PT1.
- Community chickens (subject to funding & volunteer commitment)
- Establishing the food forest
- Setting up the outdoor learning area
- Installing the solar panels we were gifted.
- Installing garden lighting
- Adding more safety signage on the far side of the bees to inform of CCTV on site.
- Upgrading the toilet block
- Installing wheelchair ramps
- Connecting to wifi #
- Sanding and painting the container exteriors
- Planting up the sensory beds

4. Vertical farm visit

Rachel Nunn has offered to arrange a visit to a vertical farm set up somewhere in Central Scotland. Naomi and Nikki will be going. Date TBC. Anyone interested in attending should let Naomi know. **ACTION:** NR to liaise with Rachel re date for visit.

5. Scottish parliament invite

Scottish parliament are keen to work in the village to help people understand more about how government works (how decisions are made, what everyday people can do to help influence things that affect them etc.). As well as educational sessions within the village, anyone participating will also get a visit to parliament to see what happens there in person. Was suggested that something at a local council level would be really beneficial. **ACTION: NR** Speak to Innes to see if students would be interested, and put a post out on Facebook. And speak to Poverty Alliance/Brian Hambly to see whether

this would be possible at a local level (including “what is the role of a council/councillor”).

6. Community support from Poverty Alliance

Poverty Alliance may be able to help us with getting our voices heard and pushing for the things we want with Stirling Council/Scottish Government. Agreed support with public transport for the Eastern Villages could be beneficial. **ACTION: NR** discuss with Poverty Alliance to see what they can do in this area.

7. Any Other Business (AOB)

Approve new office bearer roles for FCV: Chair - Michelle Robertson proposed by Billy Hodgson and seconded by Joe Millar. Secretary - Naomi Ross proposed by Wilma Perrie and seconded by Steve Wilson. Treasurer - Steve Wilson proposed by Billy Hodgson and seconded by Karen Perrie.

Request for support with crochet club: Adele and Emma host their crochet club at the library, where Adele is PVG'd via Stirling Council. They are keen to host crochet sessions for children, but outside library opening hours, so would like to do this at the Community Garden. This would require PVG checks done under FCV rather than Stirling Council. **ACTION: Trustees** discuss offline whether this is feasible and update at next meeting.

River Forth safety issue: Fallin Primary School is the only school in Stirling with no security perimeter. Recently, a child has been regularly escaping school and going to play at the river next to the old piggery. The land belongs to Stirling Council housing department. Given that most of the pathway there is already inaccessible, Marie Brennan is keen to understand whether this can access point can be fully closed off until the area has been made safe. **ACTION: MR** Issue FB post to take public initial public view, and feed back results to Bob Buchanan. If community supports it, he will pursue closure via the council. **ACTION: BB** Also find out what existing plans are for the area.

Geothermal update: Meetings are ongoing with relevant partners to secure funding and determine scope of feasibility study. A site visit has been arranged to help with this.

Community food project: Agreed to keep M&S food collections running at the Goth for the foreseeable, which Billy confirmed the Goth is happy to keep hosting. The community garden will be used as primary alternative when the Goth isn't available.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 28th April, 6:30pm

Attendees

Michelle Robertson (Chair)	Steve Royce Rogers (Trustee)
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Naomi Ross (Secretary)	Nikki Thomas (Project Coordinator)
Steve Wilson (Treasurer)	Bob Buchanan (Councillor)
Billy Hodgson (Trustee)	Marie Brennan (Fallin Primary School)
Karen Perrie (Trustee)	10 residents