PORT OF MENTEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the general meeting of the Port of Menteith Community Council

At 7.00pm in the Port Hall on Monday 19th October 2026

Draft Minutes

1. Members Present and Apologies for Absence

Jim Riach (Chair)
Becky Saunders (Secretary).
Martin Stewart (Treasurer).
Peter Stewart (Vice Chair)
Alastair Orr-Ewing
Robin Armstrong
Councillor Martin Earl
Fraser Wykes - Resident
John Craig - Resident
Caitlin Cameron – Resident (remote)

Apologies – CEO Brian Roberts

2. Declarations of Interest in the Items of Business
No declarations of interest were noted.

3. Adoption of the Draft Minutes of the OGM held on 17th August 2026
Minutes of the meeting held in August 2026 were adopted. **BS** proposed and **MS** seconded.

4. Roads and Other Issues

4.1 **Flashing Speed Signs and joining up Bus Stop**

No further update from Angela McGibbon on a timeframe for speed limit or flashing (VAS) sign. **ME** acknowledged the importance of this due to the proximity of the school to the road and offered to intervene and raise the issue of the 20 mph and flashing lights back at SC.

RA noted that a resident had sent an email to SC regarding issues that her daughter has experienced when trying to cross the road after leaving the school bus, and no communication had been received. **BS** asked **RA** to forward it to the CC. CC will report this to the council. **JR** mentioned that the issue had been raised by the PTA in the school report as well. **ME** noted that the HT should be raising these issues on behalf of the school community directly and CC will advise PTA of this. **ME** mentioned to cc Gary Neil in on any correspondence.

AOE asked if was more pertinent to have a broader list of service managers within SC. **ME** suggested that the CC contact himself and he would direct them in the right direction in order to escalate.

4.2 **Community Benefit - Cardross Bridge and Hall Car Park**

AOE mentioned the weight restriction signage remains outstanding. **BS** informed the CC members about discussions with Maria Lucey following the meeting held in the hall car park with contractors and subsequently nothing being done despite our availability being sought and passed on. **BS** had queried

what communities should be able to expect from Community Benefit and the ability of the council to hold its contractors to account. **BS** asked that ML's response be added to these minutes:

There is no set amount for community benefit. Community Benefits element of the works are not measured in a qualitative [sic. Should be quantitative] *(financial) or qualitive (environmental, programme compliance etc) sense at point of contract award. Initiatives are usually left to be agreed between contractor and established community groups. With no written records of what was agreed between these parties however it is difficult to hold anyone anywhere to account. I do agree that filter trench works seems to have been shambolic and I have asked that full remedial works take place on site to alleviate any issues/damaged caused by the contractor works. I await confirmation from our site supervision resource as to whether matters have now been fully rectified or not. I have also asked for evidence of delivery or the item entitled "scraping entrance and placing stone". I also critically challenged the pricing exercise. Dialogue on all matters are unfortunately still ongoing.*

BS asked ME best way to deal with SC moving forward. **JR** noted that the Community were a beneficiary and that SC should be holding their Contractors to account and this should not be left to the CC. **BS** noted that the on-sight meeting had appeared to be fruitful and the works should have been undertaken when the snagging works were undertaken on the Cardross Bridge. **ME** asked for the correspondence to be forwarded to him so that he can escalate the matter further.

ME agreed that verbal or otherwise there was community benefit agreed that was left undone and the council should be responsible.

NF drew our attention to point 7.2 of April minutes in which Lindsay Neil explained the issue to Maria Lucey and what had and had not been done.

In addition, the meeting onsite in July <u>was</u> minuted and agreed with the contractors and still the job has not been done. **BS** to forward all correspondence to ME to take up with the council.

5. **Other Ongoing Matters** – Website and Emails - Item deferred until next meeting

6. **Council Performance and Relationship** – Discussion with Stirling Council CEO Brian Roberts – Open discussion on key issues suggested actions and improvement.

CEO unable to attend due to illness.

JR informed the CC members that Brian Roberts had been expected to attend the meeting this evening. Due to illness he was unable to attend, however this is the third occasion now. BS is in communication with his secretary to rearrange an extraordinary meeting for him to attend in order to get the issues raised and discussed. Once confirmed this would be open to others to attend from the CC. **JR** asked if anyone wanted to add anything to the discussion items already set out in the email to BR. It was noted that members had already met separately giving up time to put a clear and concise document of issues together in order to ensure that progress was made moving forward and it felt as if SC are not working with us.

MS asked if he had attended any other CC meetings, **ME** noted that he had been present at several meetings and there are over 40 CC for him to attend. **ME** further added that when Brian Roberts had attended meetings, they had been productive and he had been open to the discussions

AOE asked if **ME** had seen any progress on issues raised at other CC meetings he had attended, **ME** said yes but so far BR had not addressed the systemic problems rather he had assisted to unblock barriers to allow local issues to be resolved. **JR** noted that it would be helpful if Community Link Officers were reintroduced to attend CC meetings. The previous PoM officer was noted as Michelle Flynn. They used to take actions back to SC and bridge the communication gap between CCs and SC.

All CC Members agreed to attend the extraordinary meeting subject to availability and evening and daytime slots may be proposed. **MS** asked what Stephen Bly's role was and **JR** replied it was that if CC had issues, they raise them with him as a conduit in order to move things forward. **JR** asked if he held an action tracker in order to share how many actions were actually acted upon. **ME** noted he felt there wasn't KPI for CCs but there were for others MSPs etc. and he would raise the issue at SC.

7. Correspondence

7.1 ***Karma Lake Hotel – see appendix 2***

It was noted that the previous manager was back and things had settled down but that there is a notice outside that states it is a Private Members Club.

RA recounted the story of a local resident who had mistakenly filled in the members application online, nearly signing up for a membership costing £1600.

It was agreed to leave this issue at present as the hotel had dropped its requirement for membership.

7.2 ***6th October 2026*** – **General email – see appendix 2**

8. Reports

8.1 **Councillors Report – Councillor**

a) updated about Callander Recycling Centre adding a covered re-use exchange area for useable goods. Mobility aids will go to a charity called Wheels to Heel.

b) updated about proposed improved protocols for utility companies carrying out road works. B8034 should be designated as a traffic sensitive road. This would require a higher level of utilities communication - earlier contact, signage, letters and reporting to the community.

c) School meals, this was debated at the last SC meeting but with little detail so that **ME** felt they shouldn't have allowed the item to be brought to the meeting. Although the detail wasn't there the motion was passed there has subsequently been a lot of misinformation. ME did update that the Food For Life accreditation would be maintained. Nutritional Values would also be maintained. Questions still around the moving of frozen meals and defrosting before the children receive the meal. Who would be staffing this part of the process, the information hasn't been received as yet. An engagement campaign is due to happen. There is a video of the

discussion on the SC website and is worth taking a look at and passing to the school. **JR** mentioned the Good Food Plan and was this part of the process. **ME** couldn't remember but if legislation is coming in it would have to be referenced.

d) School Transport changes are coming through. Officers have agreed there is a gap in the policy which lead to a narrowing of understanding of how the policy is interrupted. There should be a tweak to the current policy. When asked about timeframes issue, **ME** noted that they have to wait until they know who is going to be attending the school, which happens right up to the end of the school holidays.

e) Car Park Revenue Budget, monies had built up and accumulated a surplus. (£1m) 250k reserves leaving 750k. It is governed by legislation on spending. It was proposed to use for upgrading of public toilets and EV charging. **ME** suggested that this should be what Visitor Levy should be spent on. **JR** noted that there were still reservations on how POM would benefit from VL even though POM has over 50,000 visits a year. **ME** suggested getting projects into the VL Committee in order to be included in the discussion and decision making moving forward.

8.2

8.2 Financial Report – Martin Stewart

Opening balance £709.96. Expenditure - Insurance £34.12, Minute Taking £130, Wix £201.60, Email Services £80.64. Income SCGrant £378.57. Closing Balance £642.17. Still waiting for an invoice from the Village Hall in order to make payment.

Questions:

AOE what is the policy on receiving income into the CC, are the CC allowed to receive funding from events. **MS** suggested the CC would be able to.

8.3 Port Hall – Kevin Harrison

A very successful farewell to Jim the Postie and a massive thanks to the community for coming out in force.

And a massive failure from the Bridge Contractors and the Council who have failed to manage their contractors and hold them to account.

Also we have been turned down by OSCR for a transfer of the hall to the new Port of Menteith Development Trust so we need to go down a process of reorganisation with the old Port of Menteith Village Hall Charitable Trust which may take some months.

We hopefully have a new prospective committee member.

Questions:

JR explained the process mentioned above with regards to OSCR. **MS** added that the land may still belong to the landowner, which might be causing the delay.

8.4 School Report – Natalie Bain

The big news at the school is that with one days notice at the end of term parents were told that our Head Teacher, Mr Fleming, is moving to Balfron primary as Acting Head Teacher as of start of the new term 26th October. The children were upset to sadly not have been given the time to say a proper goodbye or have any transition visits from the new acting head. This seemingly poor planning can be addressed to the Stirling council representative if appropriate.

Our new acting head teacher will be Mrs Taylor. She is known to the Gartmore school and we welcome her to Port of Menteith primary and look forward to getting to know her.

Another area of concern for many parents is that of road safety in the village linked to car speed and the children's walk to and from the village hall for PE and school pick up/drop off. The road signage in the village still does not reflect an 20mph zone. The road markings are faded or incorrect. There is even a 40mph road marking outside the village hall. Other villages in the area show 20mph and have rumble strips etc. As the primary school is directly on the road and the narrow pavement used almost daily by the children please can this also be addressed to the council member.

On a positive note the children are very excited to be having a Halloween disco next week at the hall and the parent council are planning for the annual Fisheries fundraiser in November.

Thank you
Natalie

Questions:

RA asked was the HT moving permanently? **BS** said yes and noted that this would feed into the dialogue with Brian Roberts regarding communication

8.5 Police Report – PC Donald King

Antisocial Behaviour

You are concerned about antisocial behaviour including drunken behaviour.

None Reported

Road Safety

You are concerned about speeding, dangerous driving and indiscriminate parking.

None reported

Theft
You are concerned about homes being broken into and travelling criminals.

None reported

Community Engagement and Reassurance
It is important to you to have community officers who you know, who are accessible and who address local problems.

Should anyone have any Policing issues or concerns that they wish to discuss, we can be contacted via email at StirlingCommunityPolice@scotland.police.uk

Please note that this form of contact should not be used to report an ongoing incident/crime. This should be done by contacting 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Other Incidents
None reported

Questions:

AOE noted that the Wildlife Officer has been removed from post or the post had been disbanded, do we know why? **ME** noted that budget restrictions meant that it couldn't be maintained. **ME** asked when this happened? **AOE** informed 2nd October but only notified by the Officer herself not by the Police.
FW noted that the accident between POM and Aberfoyle was reported as both Police and Fire Service attended.
JR asked about inviting them to the next meeting
BS to go back to Police to challenge why the accident was not recorded.

8.6 Port Church & Cemetery – Robin Armstrong

RA reported a joint event with the school for Harvest. Thursday 12th November a Remembrance event will be taking place. Julie Bowie Community Connection has helped to increase the activity between the Church and School. **RA** also informed that 8th November is the Remembrance Service. Some future events around Christmas will be disseminated later.

8.7 CoSPG/ MCF/ STVM Reports – Jim Riach

Carse of Stirling **JR** updated the CC on the things that had been occurring, although as they involve Land Owners and Farmers, community members might not be aware of them. This network is growing and is open to any land managers, farmers and owners in the area and **JR** can disseminate any details to those interested.

F2O hosted a meeting in the VH about what water meant to the whole of the Forth catchment and more information will be shared moving forward.

They are trying to create a community flood group to work on flood management and ways to input moving forward. JR noted that some very interesting insights to how other areas i.e. Kippen and Gargunnock were impacted by flooding and drought.

There is also a Climate Action Plan, community managed green spaces is the focus and baseline measurements of bio-diversity of these spaces.

McClaren Futures – all communities with the school catchment looking to create a climate action plan moving forward.

Tourism and Visitor Management – no real meetings or involvement had taken place.

8.8 NPA Report & Entry Sign Progress – David Mackie

No report received.

ME noted the next NP Board meeting would be in December. With New Board appointees stepping in from the 1st of November to work alongside and transition with existing board members. ME stepping up to be temporary convenor of the NP until March 2027.

7.8 Forestry and Land Scotland – Julie McAlpine

See Appendix 3

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Meetings schedule - Agreed by all members – See Appendix 4.

9.2 Defibrillators with Dykehead out of action only one on site at the VH and one at the Fisheries this needs to be disseminated. **AOE** asked about costs to repair. **JR** noted approximately £900 for both needs to be funded for battery maintenance. The Dykehead defibrillator is not hooked up to electricity, which impacted the battery life, it wasn't known where/who it had come from in the first instance. **AOE** queried solar power. **BS** mentioned funding from BHF. **JR** added that Trossachs Search and Rescue could fit but not contribute financially.

CC spoke about setting up a community food project, and offer surplus food to the community and use the monies raised to put towards the defibrillator and/or maintenance.

JR looking for a group to work on raising funds: **CC,MS,AOE** and **RA** agreed to be part of that group. There was discussion over support for the group v running the group. BS said she would collate the info we currently have and put it to the group to take forward**.**

JR to contact **KH** in order to get support from the VH committee to support this project too. **ME & AOE** suggested seeking support from local businesses with fund raising.
CC noted a book hub could also be set up and again contributions cd go towards defibrillators maintenance. **ME** highlighted the difficulties of maintenance and that we consider this going forward.
JR mentioned Stirling Resilience Hub meeting planned that may be able to feed into this issue. **ME** mentioned Balquidder is a resilience hub but not council owned.

NF added links to websites that might be worth looking at to support this group

https://www.stjohnscotland.org.uk/public-access-defibrillators
https://pulse4all.co.uk (subscription v purchasing)
https://www.bhf.org.uk/how-you-can-help/how-to-save-a-life/defibrillators/apply-for-a-free-defibrillator-for-your-community
https://www.savealife.scot/resources/defibs/

9.3 **RA** updated briefly on low flying aircraft.

Appendices below:
1. Letter to Brian Roberts sent one week before the meeting
   Summary of meeting in August about the letter
2. Correspondence into CC mail box
3. Forestry Report
4. List of Meetings for 2027

Date of Next Scheduled Meeting

OGM 7.00pm Monday 7th December 2026

Port of Menteith Village Hall

Appendix 1 – Letter to CEO Brian Roberts from CC

Port of Menteith Community Council

Mr Brian Roberts
Stirling Council
Old Viewforth
14-20 Pitt Terrace
Stirling
FK8 2ET

13th October 2026

Dear Mr Roberts

We understand that you are to join us at our community council meeting in the Port of Menteith on Monday 19th October at 7pm and felt it would be helpful to outline ongoing issues with the council that will be the focus of that meeting with you. We hope, by sending this in advance, that we will be able to make the most constructive and efficient use of our time with you and enable you to gain a greater understanding of the issues of Stirling's smaller rural communities.

Stirling Council Performance

Much of our time and resource is centred on trying to hold to account the various departments within Stirling Council and dealing with their failures to perform. It seems from our perspective that this is a result of:

Poor Communication

The issues around communication have been a consistent bugbear. Emails, particularly in relation to roads, go unanswered; we send summaries of meetings that get no acknowledgement and then no action; we have online meetings and agree certain actions and then the opposite is done.

Examples:

1. We wrote to the council about this in December 2023 in relation to contractors shutting roads with no notice - predictably we got no response and the situation remains one of our biggest sources of contention. We understand that Councillor Martin Earl is now campaigning on our behalf on this issue; this is 3 years on from the initial complaint and the Community Council received no response. It makes one question the point of community councils.
2. The weight limit on the Cardross Bridge was under discussion. We asked for a delay in finalising by a week to give us time to discuss this in the CC meeting. The day after the CC meeting I had a teams call with a representative from the council and various measures and preferences were discussed. We emailed a summary of what was discussed that evening and asked for agreement. No response was received until several days later when the weight limit was set at the same level as pre the 9 month closure. None of the measures discussed with you were put into place. When we questioned this we were told that there had been no comments. The 40 minute Teams call and follow up was not acted on or passed on and therefore a waste of time.
3. On 2nd July 2026 there was a meeting at the hall with the contractors regarding the community benefit they were supposed to have conferred on the village hall the previous year as a result of the rebuilding of the Cardross Bridge. I did a full summary of the

meeting and got no acknowledgement and no subsequent communication and work still has not been done. The council say they are powerless to hold contractors to account over community benefit done badly and cannot give communities a budget for community benefit. When we questioned the value of CB (eg we were told they spent £1250 on 5m2 of tarmac against a market rate of £400) the response we received was that such comments were 'not well received'. It seems odd when Stirling Council are surely the client here?

4. We asked for confirmation of your attendance at our October meeting and it took 5 days to get a response.

These are just a few of hundreds of examples of poor communication both internally between departments and externally with rural communities. It makes the job of CC's completely exhausting and recruitment of community members impossible.

Accountability

Time and again it has been noted that there is a lack of accountability among staff, with promised outcomes often remaining undelivered or delayed for years. There appears to be no requirement for, or pride in, delivering on targets.

Examples:

1. Referencing the community benefit promised in the point above: Who is responsible for holding contractors to account and insisting that they deliver to an agreed amount and agreed schedule – in writing – and that the CB is signed off in the same way as the work on the bridge. The CB has been an exercise in cynical avoidance by the contracting company with no ramifications or penalties and, again, the CC feeling that the council in no way has their back.
2. We have a problem with vehicles speeding through the village which is on a straight fast A road. We have asked for both reduced speed and flashing warning signs as per all the other villages in the area. Speed limits promised in the village have been in the offing for approaching 2 years now and despite assurances that this would be done (the last promise was by Spring of this year) – still we do not have that. Our primary school feeds directly onto that fast road; it has inadequate parking and a very narrow overgrown pavement and when this was mentioned, we were told by the council that nothing would be done '*as there had not been an accident yet*'.
3. Yellow lines promised by April to prevent blockage of the B8034 by day trippers to the lake were finally delivered in September after onsite meetings, summaries (again unacknowledged), endless correspondence and multiple chases.

In an attempt to find solutions to these issues, and if the council systems lack the teeth to hold employees or their contractors to account, a proposal was put forward to introduce a community-led rating or feedback system to provide honest assessments of departmental performance, rather than relying on internal reports that may be overly positive.

Operational Silos

A recurring theme is the institutionally "siloed" nature of the council. Departments such as Roads, Economic Development, Utilities and Licensing constantly fail to communicate internally, leading to decisions made without assessing the wider economic or community consequences.

Examples:

1a. Road closures being authorised during the Back Doune the Rabbit Hole festivals because the event was not entered into the council's central planning system. The organisers had filled in vast amounts of paperwork and been at pains to ensure they had done everything they needed to only to find the road had been closed on the set up day. Contractors were rude and obstructive and requests to stand them down had to be escalated via Councillor Earl to an employee that we could not access (and who was on holiday with no replacement). It resulted in at least 10 hours of our working days to put right the errors of the council and this is totally unacceptable.

1b. Redundant Requests: Event organisers were asked for the same information six to eight times by different individuals and for arbitrary requests such as the academic records of the jugglers. The performers in question said they had played all over the UK and had never had anything like the levels of pointless requests for information that they got from SC.

1c. In a further point, SC requested a Section 89 building warrant and structural engineer reports for stages that had been used hundreds of times before and across other Scottish councils without such demands. This resulted in an £8000 additional cost for this fledgling event.

2. Despite schools planning their intakes months (if not a year) in advance, 2 families with children already at the school were given a week's notice that their new P1's would not be able to take the bus and parents should instead take older children to the bus and younger children to school themselves. The bus confirmed it had capacity to drop children at the school as it went past and then collect the rest of the children but this was deemed to be unacceptable to the Council. It was down to the persistence and lobbying of parents taken to the highest level – rather than to common sense - that this standpoint was eventually reversed.

To summarise

Stirling Council appears to suffer from a lack of leadership vision and a defensive, risk-averse culture that stifles economic development and community engagement. To improve, the council must break down internal silos and adopt a supportive "can-do", common sense attitude. It should hold its employees to account and ask them to start everything from the viewpoint of how can I make this happen in the most sensible, stress free way possible that will enhance the lives of those in our rural communities. 'Am I working for the communities or against them?'.

In addition, it should always be the case that paid Council employees should be mindful of the fact that community councils are fully made up of unpaid volunteers who give up many *many* hours of their time. To feel that that time is wasted does not encourage participation. This is evidenced by how hard it is to get new members along to CC meetings.

We would like to mention that there are, of course, notable exceptions to this: There are a couple who, we feel, do their best for us within the limitations of their silo but they clearly lack the support of a progressive, forward thinking Council. Stephen Bly and Councillor Martin Earl are excellent at responding and following up on our behalf – it would be great if they could be the norm rather than the exception.

We look forward to discussing these matters with you.

Best wishes

Port of Menteith Community Council

Meeting with Martin Earl on 19.8.26 Appendix 1b

Taking a broad view of all we have discussed so far I see the central issues being:

1. **Lack of joined up thinking.** Projects lack 'Co-Design'. No wholistic overview is taken of any project, other departments appear not to be consulted, things are done in a linear fashion and financially things are done in 'silos' when this does not reflect reality.
   Eg Cardross bridge – do the surveys before – consult ALL parties not just some – cofferdams not fit for purpose – check issues with road width – line up the bridge weight limit survey for last week of build – inspect coping stones before the end of the project – be onsite longer hours when weather is good
   Eg Village footway – not doing the job of joining up the village – a stated aim of our LPP – stops short of bus stop, cemetery, Inchmahome car park etc. No consultation
   Eg BDTRH – allowing BDTRH to take place just before the Radio 2 event. No system that speaks to the roads department to say that non-essential works should not happen outside the festival entrance on open days and then no named person to talk to on the day (accountability)

2. **Lack of clarity of vision.** Does the council have a stated vision and values? Everything they do should be informed by this and it should be front and centre of every decision council makes.
   Eg Sustainability? Parents making unnecessary journeys to school.
   Health? Why are we considering a frozen/microwave diet for all school children…
   Mental Health? Separating siblings on school buses. Closing down libraries.
   Working for the people of Stirlingshire? Why do they make everything so bloody difficult…eg HWRC
   Safety? No joined up pavements. Kids walking to school on narrow paths with no enforcement of speed limits

3. **Lack of compassion/kindness.** Council contractors now routinely close roads where once there were contra flow systems put in place. In rural areas this can add 25 miles each way to a 3 mile journey. Workers are increasingly disinterested in finding solutions to real problems such as helping parents getting their kids to school, enabling carers to attend to patients, enabling residents with special needs to attend their day care centres. The council underestimate the amount of bad will and frustration this engenders.
   Eg Just this morning – shutting road at 8 when it says 9 and saying parents cannot get through. Workers being rude and aggressive.
   Eg 10 years ago – Thornhill – bin men trying to get through at school close and telling parents to get their cars up onto pavements. Had to call David Hopper direct.
   Eg A hundred examples between

4. **Lack of accountability.** In no other area of business is so little expected from employees and their contractors.
   Eg Cardross Bridge – 4 months and £x overdue and several subsequent closures with more to come due to poor workmanship.
   Eg Kate's Brae – Lines promised by Easter and not delivered
   Eg Speeding solutions in village promised by March and not delivered
   Eg Education dept knowing about pupil numbers in January and not addressing the issue, coming up with a terrible solution and informing parents a week before school starts.

5. **Lack of communication.** Where do I start? The PoM CC wrote to the council about this – specifically in regard to contractors – in December 2023. We have brought it up with various departments endlessly ever since. Martin Earle has been involved on many occasions and lobbied on our behalf but there has been no improvement – I would argue that it has got worse.
   Eg Cardross Bridge build. One week's notice. No forewarning – even from councillor at the cc meeting a week before the notice. No or minimal notice of road closures.
   Eg Cardross Bridge weight limit. I had a meeting with Maria Lucey and asked her to comment on my summary sent the same day as the meeting. She got back to me a week later by which time a deadline had passed and the bridge was returned to 3 tonnes because, Maria said, there were no objections despite her having my draft email with 10 objections on it. Hence 15 months since bridge opened the weight limit will be corrected.
   Eg Shutting roads with no warning for non-essential works and then not actually doing the works. Yesterday on B8034; last year on A873 in Ruskie for a whole week – not a single workman.
   Eg Kate's Brae – 6 months to get email responses from Angela McGibbon.

6. **Lack of common sense.** In all aspects of service provision surely common sense should be employed? If I go to Callander HWRC with two bags of recycling and turn up 20 minutes before my slot to an empty car park, I don't want to be made to feel like I have committed a crime.
   Eg School Transport situation in PoM at present

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE CBA

Particular mention should go to Stephen Bly who is prompt and good at chasing on our behalf.
Also to Martin Earl who works his socks off for us and is prompt and accountable and has common sense and clear vision.
Maria Lucey rarely responds very quickly but does try her best with community engagement aspects and deserves thanks for this.
Angela McGibbon does not respond to anything without prompts and is averse to finding solutions in the main.

Suggestions for improvements

- ✓ **Identify values and run every decision about every issue through the lens of whether it is in keeping with those values and enhancing the lives of residents.**
- ✓ **Solutions focused responses**
- ✓ **All parties meetings about projects so they are thought about from every angle before starting.**
- ✓ **Performance related bonuses**

Appendix 2

6.1 -14th September 2026 – Response to MS enquiry as to the licensing position in relation to the imposition of a membership in order to enter the Lake Hotel.

Dear Community Council,

I refer to your enquiry above and advise I have received a response from the Service as detailed below:-

"I have spoken with the manager of Karma, and as their parent company is a private members club they are offering people an option to join and receive offers and promotions. A person is not required to do this if they wish and can refuse. People can still use the bar and restaurant without joining. They also do not want to make this venue a private members club at this time.

Anyone has the right to refuse the gathering of information, and any premise has the right to refuse entry or alcohol to anyone at any time if this wish so.

I hope this answers you question

Kind regards

Gordon Dewar
Licensing Standards officer"

6.2 - General Email – David Stewart

I was wondering if you could help to raise awareness of the following free employability programmes for Stirling residents:

- Stage 3 All-Age Employability Programme (Bannockburn Enterprise Hub - commencing 26th October 2026)
- Stage 3 All-Age Parents Customer Service Programme (Fletchers Restaurant - commencing 27th October 2026)
- Stage 3 All-Age Construction Programme (Raploch Community Campus - commencing 26th October 2026)

Please can you promote the attached poster to all parents, customers, parent councils, third sector organisations, and/or any other networks you have access to via newsletters and social media platforms? I am also happy to provide you with hard copies if needed.

Thanks in advance and please don't hesitate to get in touch if there is anything else you need from me.

Kind Regards, David Stewart



Appendix 3

CC update - Port of Menteith

Forestry and Land Scotland | Coilltearachd agus Fearann Alba

	Request ID	Function	Activity key	Status	Forest blocks - Trossachs	Destination - Trossachs	Trail name - Trossachs	Facility type	Operational type	Expected start date	Expected end date	Actual start date	Actual completion date	Community update
1	OPE00000963:25.26	Harvesting		Active	Letter				Clearfell	13/01/26	09/08/26	23/07/26		Forest road and car park closed, safety signage should be followed by site users.
2	OPE00001089:25.26	Harvesting		Active	Achray				Thinning – general	30/06/26	30/07/26	30/06/26		No impact on access or site use
3	OPE00001143:25.26	Harvesting		Active	Achray				Thinning – general	15/09/26	15/12/26	15/09/26		Timber haulage from the forest drive exit. Potential delays / short closures when completing roadside felling, bankpeople will be used. Users asked to follow all on site safety signage and instructions from staff.
4	OPE00001144:25.26	Harvesting		Active	Achray				Clearfell	28/09/26	15/03/26	30/09/26		Unofficial trails / camping spots within the wood will be closed and inaccessible. Timber haulage from the Leanach entrance. Possible short delays when completing roadside felling, which will be completed with banks people. Users asked to follow all on site safety signage and instructions from staff.
5	OPE00001163:25.26	Planning		Active	Achray				Survey	27/09/26	31/03/27	29/09/26		No impact on access or site use
6	OPE00000663:24.25	Projects		Active	Flanders				Clearfell	01/03/25	01/07/25	07/07/25		No impact on access or site use
7	OPE00000825:25.26	Harvesting		Haulage only	Achray				Clearfell	30/07/25	28/02/26	29/07/25		No impact on access or site use
8	OPE00000929:25.26	Harvesting		Haulage only	Achray				Clearfell	03/11/25	31/12/25	03/11/25		Trail closures & diversions. On going haulage from braeval entrance.
9	OPE00000930:25.26	Harvesting		Haulage only	Achray				Clearfell	01/12/25	28/02/26	10/12/25		Braeval car park closure. Trails and forest road closures. RRW closed / diverted. On going haulage from the braeval car par.
10	OPE00000932:25.26	Harvesting		Haulage only	Achray				Clearfell	09/11/25	31/01/26	13/11/25		Felling near the forest road - delays or closures. ongoing haulage from the wayfarers entrance.
11	OPE00000964:25.26	Harvesting		Haulage only	Achray				Clearfell	15/01/26	09/10/26	09/01/26		No impact on access or site use
12	OPE00000970:25.26	Harvesting		Complete	Achray				Thinning – general	27/01/26	31/03/26	27/01/26	15/09/26	Ongoing haulage within forest, users asked to follow all on site safety signage.
13	OPE00000934:25.26	Projects		Complete	Achray	Ben A'an	Ben A'an hill path	Hill path	Fell to waste	01/03/26	31/03/26	20/01/26	07/09/26	Access restriction will be minimal during the operation, any roadside restrictions will be managed by staff to allow site users to pass safely. We ask that public are patience and listen to instructions from on site staff.
14	OPE00001149:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Quarry works	16/09/26	21/12/26			No impact on access or site use
15	OPE00001151:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray	Three Lochs Forest Drive		Forest drive	Road maintenance	25/10/26	25/11/26			Maintenance works on 3LFD would have an impact on access for residents. They will receive a letter detailing the works and phases of the works to ensure their access isnt restricted throughout the works.
16	OPE00001152:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
17	OPE00001153:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
18	OPE00001154:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
19	OPE00001155:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
20	OPE00001156:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
21	OPE00001157:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use
22	OPE00001158:25.26	Civil engineering		Pending	Achray				Road construction	16/09/26	30/11/26			No impact on access or site use

	Request ID	Function	Activity key	Status	Forest blocks - Trossachs	Destination - Trossachs	Trail name - Trossachs	Facility type	Operational type	Expected start date	Expected end date	Actual start date	Actual completion date	Community update
23	OPE00001145:25.26	Harvesting		Pending	Achray				Clearfell	02/11/26	15/03/26			Timber haulage from Leanach entrance. Users should follow all on site safety signage.
24	OPE00000270:23.24	Peatland restoration		Pending	Flanders				Rewetting	31/07/25	31/03/26			No impact on access or site use, NCN7 and forest roads will still be open for use.
25	OPE00001171:25.26	Planning		Pending	Achray				Survey	28/09/26	31/03/27			No impact on access or site use
26	OPE00000921:25.26	Projects		Pending	Achray	Leannach			Clearfell	03/11/25	16/03/26			Ben Venue Hill Path will have works alongside it, diversions will be in place when working close to path.
27	OPE00001161:25.26	Visitor Services		Pending	Achray	The Lodge	Lime Craig	Promoted trail	Trail maintenance / upgrade	05/10/26	19/10/26			There will be pathworks to repair the footpath to the summit of Lime Craig starting on October 5th. Please obey any signage and advice from operators and expect some delays.
28	OPE00000043:				Flanders									

PORT OF MENTEITH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPENDIX 4

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2027

	Date	**Time**	**Venue/Platform**
January			
February	15th	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall
March			
April - AGM	19th	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall
May			
June	21st	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall
July			
August	23rd*	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall
September			
October	18th	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall
November			
December	6th	7pm	Port of Menteith Village Hall

Other Important Dates: **AGM April 19th 2027**