

Community News Sheet

Update on community issues

February 2018

Welcome

Welcome to the January edition of Stirling Council's Community News Sheet. We have included a host of information which we hope that you will find useful – if you have any questions about any of the information – or would like to know more – please don't hesitate to contact us on 01786 233076 or email communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk.

Your Place, Your Priorities

Your Place, Your Priorities is an introduction to participatory budgeting in Stirling. Stirling Council have been successful in securing £65,000 from the Scottish Government's community choices fund and the Council have matched this amount to create a total fund of **£130,000**.

This fund is now open and we are encouraging applications from community, voluntary and non-profit making groups throughout Stirling. Groups can apply for funding of £500 to £10,000 for new or existing projects that will benefit residents of Stirling.

More information on the fund and the application form can be found at

<https://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/community-life-and-leisure/safer-communities-team/crime-prevention-and-community-safety/community-grants>

The closing dates for applications is **12 noon on Friday 16th March**.

All applications that meet the Your Place, Your Priorities criteria will then be asked to attend a public event on **Saturday the 24th March**. At the public event, groups will be given up to 2 minutes to 'pitch' their project idea to members of the audience. Following all the pitches, the audience will vote to decide on which projects should receive funding and the results are announced on the day.

If you require any assistance please contact

Jean Cowie, Funding Officer, tel 01786 233141, email cowiej@stirling.gov.uk or

Pam Campbell, Senior Community Link Officer, tel 01786 233141 email campbellp@stirling.gov.uk who will be happy to help clarify any issues you have.



Reporting Fly Tipping

Stirling Council will investigate all instances of fly tipping on public or private land, the council can only remove fly tipped items from public land, any fly tipped items deposited on private land would be the responsibility of the land owner for its removal.

Under the current legislation used for the control, recording, and enforcement of Fly Tipping, if a Council Enforcement officer has the registration number “VRM” of any vehicle witnessed taking part in Fly Tipping they can issue a £200 Fixed Penalty Notice “FPN” to the keeper of the vehicle, we can also force the guilty party to remove the offending material and have it disposed of in the correct manner. In severe cases a report can be referred to the Procurator Fiscal’s Office for consideration of prosecution.

If any member of the public witnesses fly tipping while it is taking place the following steps should be taken:

1. Stay Safe;
2. Record the VRM of the vehicle involved and if possible record a description of the people carrying out the fly tipping;
3. Record what materials are being tipped;
4. Phone the Stirling Council Contact centre on 01786 404040 stating clearly the location where the incident is taking place, leave your name and contact details with the call handler these details will be treated with the strictest confidence by Stirling Council;
5. If possible take a photograph of the incident especially the VRM of the vehicle;
6. Do not approach any persons engaged in fly tipping;
7. If any person discovers Fly Tipping which has already taken place simply follow instructions item “4”, or report on the Stirling Council web site using their My Stirling Account if available.

New Project to Combat Isolation and Loneliness Among Older People

A project to combat loneliness among older and vulnerable people is being launched by Stirling Council. LinkAge Stirling aims to reduce social isolation by helping people feel more connected with their communities.

The pilot project will be launched in North Rural Stirling, which has a high percentage of elderly residents. Currently one in five of the area’s population is over the age of 65 and it is projected that by 2032 this will rise to almost 1 in 3.

Older people are more likely to experience periods of loneliness, which is known to contribute to a higher incidence of mental and physical health problems. Getting out and about can become more of a challenge due to health or mobility issues, and this can be a particular issue in rural areas.

North Rural Stirling was chosen for the pilot because the area has some of the longest drive and public transport times in Scotland to access key services, such as GP surgeries or the Post Office.

The council is set to introduce a Linkage Co-ordinator for the rural north area, who will assist people to access services and activities locally, help them to meet more people in their community, provide information and advice on the support available and help to build confidence and promote independence.

The project will also seek to publish and distribute a database of information on events and services available to older people, to help those who are not able to access details online.

We would still love to hear your views on what support and services you think would make a big difference to your life going forward. To complete the Community Connections survey online please visit www.stirling.gov.uk/Linkage. To request a paper copy of the survey, or let us know about a group or club within your area, please email linkage@stirling.gov.uk.



DigiKnow Days

New library workshops put digital services at fingertips of local communities

Stirling residents can get hands-on experience with the latest technology through workshops which demonstrate the digital services on offer at their local libraries. The DigiKnow Days provide an opportunity for everyone, with absolutely no prior knowledge or experience, to try out a wide range of digital tools, toys and technology.



Stirling Libraries Digital Services team provide an extensive suite of services, including 3D printing, digital design, minecraft, robots, HP Sprout and Lego mindstorms, meaning there is something for everyone, from tiny tots upwards.

The first DigiKnow event attracted 240 people to Strathblane Library on a Saturday, where visitors were able to get hands on with a range of the newest technology like 3-D printers, coding software and hardware and even mini robots. DigiKnow is suitable for any age, and we have specific opportunities for pre-school children with Appiness tablets, Osmos and Quiver. These activities introduce children to digital technology and tools which support them in literacy, numeracy, science and design, but most of all, are fun and creative.

The activities that we offer all support the STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) agenda and link closely with Curriculum for Excellence, which we know is important for children, parents and educators.

The next DigiKnow Day will be held at Central Library on Thursday 8 March from 11:30am-6:30pm. The day is free and drop-in by nature, with no experience necessary, and are suitable for all ages (children should be accompanied by an adult).

Stirling Scottish Marathon – Great Run Company

Almost a third of the runners who took part in the inaugural 26.2mile event through the heart of Scotland in May 2017 raised money for charity, benefiting good causes to the tune of £1,421,917. The total was hailed by local charities and politicians, with runners encouraged to sign up for this year's event which takes place on Sunday, 29 April.

The Stirling Scottish Marathon established itself as one of Scotland's leading marathon events in only its first year, and had an economic impact to the wider area of more than £1.8million. In 2018, the event will boast a start and finish in the City Centre of Stirling and also features a half marathon alongside the existing family-friendly events.

The Stirling Scottish Marathon takes on a breathtaking route through Doune, Dunblane, Bridge of Allan and features a lap of the University of Stirling, while runners will pass the iconic Wallace Monument and run in the shadow of the magnificent Ochil Hills and the imposing cliffs of Dumyat.

The Great Run Company will be hosting drop in sessions on 8 March 2018 which will give all communities and organisations on or near the Marathon route the chance to learn this year's plans and how to make the most of showcasing their area and involving as many of the community as would like to take part in celebrations and cheer on the runners.

8 March 2018 5pm-6.30pm
Allan Centre Bridge of Allan, FK9 4AT, and
7.30pm-9pm
Old Viewforth, Pitt Terrace, Stirling, FK8 2ET

The Stirling Scottish Marathon will be held on 29 April 2018 -
<http://www.greatrun.org/stirling-scottish-marathon>



Renovation scheme will upgrade 2km of paths at Dunblane's Laigh Hills Park

Stirling Council are leading a renovation to upgrade 2km of paths across Dunblane's Laigh Hills Park.

Muddy conditions in wet weather is currently preventing the path being used as a route for walkers to connect to schools, amenities, services, longer distance paths and cycleways.

The funding will greatly improve the path surface, create new signposting and seating, and open up viewpoints that have been lost due to excessive plant growth, as well as address issues relating to the steeper section of the path.

The work following the success of the footpath improvements along the Scouring Burn, which were completed at the end of 2015.

Stirling Council then assisted Dunblane Community Council in securing funding of £75,000 from the Scottish Government under the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) Agri-Environment Climate Scheme to improve the path network.

The project has also been supported through funding from Stirling Council's Park Masterplan Implementation budget.

Secretary of Dunblane Community Council, Alan Booth said, "We're absolutely delighted that work is now well underway to significantly improve access across this well used park, which will help to make the Laigh Hills an even more valuable local greenspace.

"Dozens of local volunteers also recently helped to plant 300 fruit trees. We would now like to get interested local people on board to help make the area even better for people and wildlife and so are planning to set up a Friends of the Laigh Hills Group in the near future."

Convenor of the Environment and Housing Committee, Councillor Jim Thomson, said, "These works will create a fantastic path network that will be of benefit to residents and visitors. The improvements will open up Laigh Hills Park to a wide range of walkers and are a result of us working with and listening to the people of Dunblane on the best way forward for the parkland."

Work is due to be completed by mid-February.

Anyone interested in joining the Friends of the Laigh Hills Group should contact Alan at cc@dunblane.info



River Park for Stirling

Stirling Council has a vision for Stirling to become a vibrant thriving city and region to rival the best in the world. This is the vision behind an ambitious programme of change designed to secure a City Deal for Stirling.

A Stirling River Park forms a vital part of this City Deal. The River Park aims to transform the meandering river corridor, creating an open space network that supports a range of outdoor activities for local people and visitors alike.



The project will deliver an improved and expanded habitat network and develop proposals that will help to successfully integrate flood alleviation measures. Existing and new paths and bridges will connect attractions and communities, encouraging walking and cycling and making journeys much more attractive and convenient. Waymarking and interpretation will help people navigate to and within the river park and help to describe the historic and natural assets woven into the park area.

Your voice is vital. The more you tell us, the better the park can be.

We are in the early stages of developing a masterplan for the river park concept. We would like to know your views on the river through Stirling:-

- How you use the river park area?
- What routes you take?
- What problems you encounter?
- Where you wish to see improvements?
- What ideas you might have for the river park?

You can also complete a quick survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RB956XS>.

Stirling Council announces launch of a new digital local information sharing platform

Stirling Council announced on 13 February the launch of a new digital local information sharing platform designed to help its citizens lead long, safe, happy and healthy lives.

Developed in partnership with Glasgow based Frog Systems, the platform brings together health, wellbeing, social care service providers, businesses, groups and activities, visitor attractions in one single easy to use local directory for the first time ever in the UK.

Frog effectively builds upon the self-directed support model by connecting citizens with the local service providers and groups within the Stirling area who provide the services and support that they require. It also provides a powerful promotional and communication channel for the many locally run support, activity and special interest groups that struggle to gain visibility within their communities.

Stirling Council leader, Councillor Scott Farmer, stated: "The development of Frog further cements Stirling's focus on using digital and interactive technology to enhance the services that it provides its citizens and visitors alike.

"Stirling Council is a passionate advocate of effective information sharing and of providing individuals, families and communities with the information they need to help themselves. We want to ensure that every person within the area wishing to join a club, find a tradesman, seeking health support or simply planning a day out has easy access to current and relevant information at the click of a mouse. We are therefore urging all of our local service providers, businesses and visitor attractions to get a listing on Frog as soon as possible."

Cal Dunan, CEO and Founder of Frog Systems stated: "Frog has been developed on the simple premise that citizens need better connectivity within their communities and Local Authorities tell us that they need to signpost their communities to services and support that can help people lead long, safe, happy and healthy lives."

The Frog platform features a Care and Support area that is curated by the Council and is designed to provide practical solutions for the most commonly requested services. Frog also includes the Champions Cinema which harnesses the power of peer support, by allowing people to upload and share their own personal experiences and journeys on video to help others who might find themselves in similar situations. Local employment opportunities and a what's-on events section will be added to the platform within the coming weeks.

Local Stirling area social care providers, support groups, local businesses and tradespeople can upload 'listings' onto www.stirling.frog.net with immediate effect.

Organisations can sign up to www.stirling.frog.net today, free of charge using the voucher code: **stirling100**

To find out more about Frog.net, the project team will host a Question & Answer session and open workshop to help register local groups, organisations and providers on the **20th March 2018**. Two sessions will be held in the Council Chambers at Old Viewforth:

Session 1, 3pm-5pm

Session 2, 7-8.30pm

To register attendance at a session, please email frog@stirling.gov.uk





We provide a range of counselling, community rehabilitation & recovery development services for people affected by substance misuse to help them on their recovery journey. We are seeking an experienced and competent practitioner to join us in providing high quality and effective services across our organisation.

Addictions Worker
28 hours per week
Salary £23,697 to £26,235 pro rata

Based in Stirling and Falkirk and working across Forth Valley, as a qualified counsellor you will be passionate about recovery and have a good track record in providing Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) interventions. You will be competent in undertaking assessments, participating in and facilitating group work and working with service users to develop effective recovery plans. Working under tight deadlines you will be comfortable with multi-agency working and being part of a dynamic organisation that has recovery at its heart.

You will:-

have a recognised professional counselling qualification at a minimum of SVQ level 4 and have a recognised award in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), and be familiar with the SSSC Codes of Practice for employees and employers

An application pack is available on-line on www.goodmoves.org.uk

If you are interested in this post and wish to have an informal discussion please call

Paul Mooney Chief Executive or Narek Bido Service Manager on (01324) 874 969 or e-mail at chiefexec@asc.me.uk or servicemngr@asc.me.uk

Closing date for applications is **Monday 12 March at Noon**. Interviews will be held **on Wednesday 21 March** in Falkirk.

This post requires an enhanced disclosure
SCO Charity Number SCO23353

Funding

NEW FUND **The Festival 2018 Our Place Fund Stirling -** **up to £2000 available**



Stirling Council is delighted to announce the launch of a new Community Grant initiative for 2018 funded through the Glasgow 2018 European Championships cultural programme.

You can apply for up to £2000 by deadline of 3 April 2018.

The Festival 2018 Our Place Fund Stirling is about creating artistic and cultural projects which celebrate the people and talent of your area. If you have an idea for an arts activity this could be for you. The activity must take place within the Stirling Council area between 30 June – 12 August 2018.

Full details are within the attached Guidelines and Application Form.

If you wish to discuss your project idea please contact Fiona McLean or Carolyn Paterson:-

mcleanf@stirling.gov.uk - 01786 237528

patersonc3@stirling.gov.uk - 01786 274023

If you have any queries about the application process or would like a word version (for electronic completion) of the application form please contact Jean Cowie:- cowiej@stirling.gov.uk 01786 233143.

Scotch Whisky Action Fund re-opens for 2018

The 2018 round of applications to the Scotch Whisky Action Fund is now open. The Fund is looking to support and develop a range of projects/initiatives which will deliver targeted interventions designed to tackle alcohol-related harms across three themes:-

- Young people (aged under 18)
- Families
- Communities

Awards of up to £25,000 for a one year period can be made through this Fund. There are two categories of award as follows:-

- **Seedcorn funding Awards** made under this category could fund new initiatives and test out innovative approaches designed to reduce alcohol-related harm. Awards could also be used to fund existing smaller scale projects that are seeking to expand or develop their services.
Please note that whilst you can apply for up to £25,000 under this strand, an award of this level would only be granted in exceptional circumstances. In practice, we would expect to make awards in the region of £10,000 for new or innovative projects.
- **Growth and Development Awards** could fund projects that are seeking to consolidate and build on emerging, successful practice in relation to the reduction of alcohol-related harm. You must be able to provide evidence of any evaluation of your work to date.

For 2018, the closing date for applications is 29 June 2018.

All potential applicants should read the Fund profile and submit appropriate supporting documentation.

For further information, application form and fund profile and guidance notes see <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/scotch-whisky-action-fund/>.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact Ros Houldsworth – ros@foundationscotland.org.uk or call 0131 524 0340.



Lil' MissHits

Lil' MissHits is a Judy Murray initiative which looks to increase the female delivering workforce in tennis with this perhaps being the first steps to working in more sports or activities. This is a fun based session where participants will learn basic fundamental drills they can deliver in school, in the home or as part of a community programme. Active Stirling are looking to host sessions within the Hillpark, Eastern Villages and Cornton communities, led by the attendees of this course.

Venue - St. Margaret's Primary School

Date - Friday 9th March, 5-8pm

Cost - Free

Booking via Active Stirling Bookings - 01786 27355
(or through Club DO/Partners)

This course is for FEMALES ONLY.

All participants will receive a FREE kit bag worth £250

If you have any questions please contact 0300 028 0041



A Connected Scotland: Tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness and Building Stronger Social Connections



In the last Parliamentary term, the Scottish Government welcomed The Equal Opportunities Committee report on Social Isolation which was the first of its kind anywhere in the world. The committee found that social isolation and loneliness was a problem in Scotland, and recommended that the Government developed a national strategy to tackle it. This consultation is an important part of the process.

Social Isolation and Loneliness is an issue that can affect anyone at any age or stage of their lives. Feelings of loneliness have been demonstrated to have wide ranging consequences for those effected and has been shown to lead to depression across all ages, as well as cognitive decline and dementia in older people. There is also the potential for serious physical health implications which have been compared to those of obesity or smoking.

We want a Scotland where individuals and communities are more connected and everyone has the opportunity to develop meaningful relationships regardless of age, status, circumstances or identity. We see the role of communities as vital in achieving this goal, and have already began to empower them to make decisions that help them address their unique priorities. Because communities are so central to tackling this problem, it is important that the people who live in them get to have their say.

Link to consultation: <https://consult.gov.scot/equality-unit/connected-scotland/consultation/>

Closes 27 April 2018

Bring People Together

A search is underway for people in Stirling to volunteer for new community activities. New activity groups and clubs are being formed under a new programme, 'Bring People Together' launched by national volunteering charity, Royal Voluntary Service in partnership with Prudential.

We want to encourage more people to volunteer, particularly those aged from 50 to 65, and aims to recruit volunteer co-ordinators who may be keen to help run or start their own activities for older people. No previous experience is necessary as full training will be provided.

Royal Voluntary Service will also give guidance on recruiting volunteers to help Manage money and raise funds, and run the activities safely and legally.

To find out more contact Linda on linda.stuart@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk, or call 0300 012 0261 or visit www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk)

Police Scotland Rural Initiative

Police Scotland have recently starting a monthly initiative which involves them using the Mobile Police Office to visit rural villages to offer local people the chance to meet their local officers and speak to them on Policing matters. The date and times are as follows:

Thursday 15th March 2018

Riverside car park, Aberfoyle – 10am to 11am;

Outside Community Hall, Gartmore – 11.15am to 12.15pm;

Main Street, Thornhill – 12.30pm to 1.30pm;

Car park, Doune Ponds, Doune – 2pm to 3pm.

Community Resilience Workshop

Thursday 26th April, 2018 at 6.45pm –9.30pm

Stirling Council Chambers

Old Viewforth, 14-20 Pitt Terrace, Stirling FK8 2ET

Tea and Coffee will be served from 6.30pm

All Stirling Council Communities with Emergency Plans in place or in progress, are being invited to attend this evening. The aim of the exercise is to provide a test of the activation and co-ordination arrangements in your Plan. There will also be a guest speaker in attendance from SP Energy Networks.

If your plan is no longer current or if you do not have a plan but are interested in finding out more, please come along to the workshop and take part.

The Exercise Objectives will be to:

1. Verify and give confidence in the completeness, consistency and accuracy of your emergency plan.
2. Ensure that your plan dovetails with the plans of external organisations.
3. Provide all exercise participants with an overview of their own roles and responsibilities in an emergency.
4. Gain an appreciation of the roles and responsibilities of others.
5. Generate a list of plan improvements if required.

We would be very grateful if you could give us an indication of participant numbers from your Community by Thursday 1st April 2018.

sloanal@stirling.gov.uk or by calling 01786 233169

Training

PVG Training

by Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise (SVE)

SVE are holding FREE PVG Training on Tuesday 13th March at Jubilee House, Forthside Way, Stirling 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Aim: To have a clear understanding of who requires to be PVG checked, and who does not and to develop an understanding of what the criteria is for undertaking a PVG check within your own organisation.

Objectives

- Understand what the PVG Scheme is
- Know which PVG application form to use
- Understand how to interpret the disclosure information received
- Understand legal requirements

Book here (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pvg-training-tickets-38728013531>)

Training



Basic Food Hygiene Training

Thursday 22nd March 2018

9.30am–12 pm

Braeport Centre, Dunblane, FK15 0AT

Why should you attend?

The aim of this course is to raise awareness of key food hygiene issues:

- **Bacteria:** Their shapes and sizes. Where are they found? Which bacteria are harmful? How do bacteria multiply?
- **Causes of food poisoning:** How food poisoning may be caused. The main sources of food poisoning and physical contamination. The symptoms of food poisoning.
- **Preventing food poisoning:** How to prevent food poisoning by protecting food from the risk of contamination. Prevention of bacteria from multiplying. How to destroy harmful bacteria.
- **Personal hygiene:** The need for personal hygiene. Washing of hands – when, where and how. The wearing of protective clothing. Covering of cuts and sores. Problems that can occur when wearing jewellery and nail varnish. Legal requirements.

The course style is informal and requires participation from delegates with active discussion, group exercises and the use of video extracts . There is no test or exam at the end of the course, delegates simply receive a certificate of attendance.

Booking is essential

To book please register at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-stronger-communities-201718-tickets-29606216992>

Or call 01786 233076.

Community Engagement Team, communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk phone 01786 233076