

St Fillans Community Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 8th October 2025
Sandison Hall, St Fillans

Welcome: Chair Donna Littler welcomed 21 villagers, Cllr Stewart Donaldson, Baillie Rhona Brock, Constable Donnie Florence

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Colette and Mac Macleod Isobel Howell, Russell Cunningham, Moira Loudon, John Littler, Trish Forrester, Hilary Burnett, Francis Brown, David Fettes

2. Minutes of last AGM meeting

Minutes of the last AGM Meeting on 16th October 2024 were proposed as a true record by Steve Howell and seconded by Richard Graham.

3. Chairs report

A warm welcome to everyone and thank you for attending.

Firstly, I'd like to thank all our volunteers for their support throughout the year and indeed, the last 3 years.

Secondly, a huge thank you to our Community Councillors, Audrey, Tom and Graham. Audrey Gavigan as Secretary, has been the glue that keeps the Community Council together over my three-year term, keeping me right and acting as a sounding board for managing issues and challenges the Community Council has handled. A huge thank you to Audrey as she is due to step down as Secretary on 5th November.

Tom Green has completed two years on the Council now and continues to manage the engagement with Foundation Scotland, representing the village in relation to community benefits on a regular basis, trying to engage our Community Police in our Community Meetings and supporting the local groups including Bus Group and Eco Group.

Graham Price took over as Treasurer a year ago and has done a great job on the accounts and proactively worked away engaging local business to support the Village Website.

We also have our 2 associate members of the community council that we would like to extend thanks to, Don and John who between them keep the Village Website going both technically, and with great content. The website is now the number 1 search result on google for St Fillans and is currently receiving an average of 18,000 hits a year.

I also want to highlight the ongoing voluntary work completed across all the subsidiary groups of the community council. Everyone involved helps to maintain and enhance the Village. These include Paths Group, Garden Group, Playpark Group, Festive Committee and Bus Group.

One of the biggest highlights of this year is most certainly the re-introduction of Still to the Loch. This has been a huge success receiving a high footfall of visitors and lots of social media attention. The tenacity shown to make it happen was a real testament to Geoff Hardman-Carter, Audrey Gavigan and the other volunteers who supported this project that all started back in 2019.

A thank you also to the ongoing support of the Community Trust and Church for their support of the community council and the village.

There are so many people that have helped throughout this last year and the previous two years so a thank you from the Community Council for anyone that was missed.

Lastly, before moving onto key activities of the last year, I'd also like to extend a big welcome to new villagers that have moved to St Fillans since our last AGM. We hope to have a new Community Council member co-opted in February, but that still leaves two empty seats in Community Council that can be filled. We need new people to come through to community council to support its continuity. The village volunteer groups will also welcome any additional pairs of hands.

Traffic Management

Early this summer finally saw the introduction of speed restrictions into the village. This saw 20mph signage being added from the east end of the village to approximately 100 metres past Manse Lane. This has been added on an initial 18-month trial basis and will be managed via speed monitoring. Station Road and Dundurn Walk were also converted to 20 mph zones.

Dundurn Walk Phase 3 Development

After an extensive period finalising the Legal Agreement for the Development, Approval was finally published last week. The approval contains a number of conditions to be satisfied before any development can be commenced. This includes providing an approved SUDS plan. This followed the Planning Committee meeting held at the Four Seasons in February 2024.

Dundurn Waste Pump

Following Scottish Water communication last year, that they will proceed to commence actions to adopt the pumping station and associated infrastructure, their sub-contractor, Ferrier have now added an automated alarm that alerts to any issues with the pump. They have brought the existing pump up to good running order in the meantime.

Public Toilets

The Public toilets remain an item that needs investment from PKC. Meantime, a Portaloo is being placed in the area during the season and signage has been added to the toilet block to advise users that the Four Seasons toilets are available to use as part of the comfort scheme.

Policing

Following another change of Local Inspector, we have had little joy engaging community police this last year aside from 1 update. This is disappointing after the good relationship built over the previous 2 years, but the Community Council will still attempt to get engagement in the quarterly meetings

Bus Stops, Shelters and Service

The work to the bus stops took place during the summer as well as the installation of the new wooden bus stop in the west end of the village. It's ironic that PKC unfortunately continue to cut back the bus services however Tom has now set up the lift sharing group and the timetable containing the full range of existing buses servicing the village is now on the village website to promote greater awareness. The Bus Group have been exploring the option of a Community Bus meantime.

Windfarms – Glentarken (SSE) and Glen Lednock (Low Carbon)

Following both SSE and Low Carbon submitting their applications one shortly after the other in Spring this year, a number of objections and some supporting notes have been added to both applications including objections from The National Park and PKC. Tom continues to engage in Community Benefit discussions in relation to Glen Lednock whereby The Trust and I met with SSE who confirmed they have a tried and tested process for allocated Community Benefit, should their application be approved. Should they go ahead, the community investment would be welcome. It is noted that there will only be some minor visibility of the farms should they go ahead and that is not visible from within the village due to the positioning. Community Council opted not to submit a response as there was no overall strong feeling of objection from across the village.

SSE Hydro Fund

The Hydro Fund went live with 2 rounds of applications now being completed. The village has now had 3 applications approved - more on that later in the ordinary meeting.

SSE Weir Structure

Following the Weir screen cleaner construction by SSE being implemented through PDR, a small group of residents, 'The Weir Group' supported by Community Council input as needed, have managed to secure a healthy number of mitigations to shield the village from the visual impact of the structure following significant discussions with SSE. This includes painting it green which has already taken place, significant landscaping activity, new fencing on the South Shore Road and cutting back of the surrounding trees. This should all make a big difference once these works are completed.

Drummond Lane Signage

After a recent meeting with Drummond Estate, they have committed to replacing the broken sign for Drummond Lane. It has been ordered, and the Estate will also remove the old sign and posts. This issue was ongoing for 2 years, during which period, PKC let us know they won't take it on as the land isn't adopted by them despite it being believed that they

placed the original signage. Hopefully this will be replaced soon. I am looking forward to taking a picture to send to Lorna Kennelly as proof.

Finally, as I will also be stepping down from chairing Community Council following the last 3 years, I just want to extend a personal thank you to everyone that has lent their support in various shapes and forms over the period. The village of St Fillans contains a lot of fantastic people who take pride in where they stay and who support community sustainability.

I'll now pass to Graham to provide the Treasurers report.

4. Treasurer's report

The accounts have been prepared and are being audited. At the end of the previous financial year (31st August 2024) the Treasurer's bank account held a balance of £0.00

Since then, our **income** for the current year was **£717.08** made up of:

- a. A P&K Council Administrative Grant of £700.00
- b. A loan of £17.08 to pay for bills due to lack of funds.

Expenditure over the financial year was **£717.08** made up of:

- a. IT annual maintenance of the village website of £440.08
- b. Rent of Sandison Hall for CC meetings of £155.00
- c. Rent of £112.00 for Playpark. It is understood that this expense will no-longer be covered by P&K under the Administration Grant and the Trust has agreed to pay this cost in future.
- d. £10.00 loan repayment

Insurances were provided by P&K directly.

Our surplus at the end of the year is £0.00

At the end of the current financial year the Treasurer's bank account held a balance of £0.00

It is therefore anticipated that we will get a "top up grant" from P&K to cover administration costs for 2025/26 to an amount of **£888** (£1000 – playpark rental of £112).

5. Elections

To be covered in the EGM

6. Date of next AGM

Wednesday 4th November 2026 at 7:30pm in the Sandison Hall