

Bridge Of Allan Community Council

The Bridge of Allan Community Council is in good heart. There are fourteen members now including some younger members whose drive and enthusiasm is more than welcome. New to the group are the representatives from Wallace High, Kieran Hamilton (replacing Jamie Nicol) and Fraser Robertson from Beaconhurst School. There has been an excellent turn out from the public whose input is always appreciated.

Les Ferguson, Chairman, and Frances Hamilton, Secretary, have announced that they will resign at the AGM in April. This is a

blow for the Council as they have both worked tirelessly and achieved a great deal. The Community Council would like to thank them for not just keeping the show on the road but actually making things happen in the village.

Some of the things achieved by the Community Council since Les and Frances took over are listed below.

Help for any of these projects is always gratefully received - particularly with planting flowers and shrubs.

The full minutes of meetings are in the Library and on the notice boards in the village.

Should you wish to contact the Community Council, please drop a letter in to the Library or send an email to bofacc@hotmail.co.uk

The Community Council meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 19.30 in the Leisure Centre. Members of the public are always very welcome.

Museum Hall	Not reopened as concert hall but the building façade preserved for flats.
War Memorial	Renovated and rebuilt. To be opened in May.
Memorial Park	Work started to tidy this up. This will take time as the heavy work and the War Memorial have to be completed before paths can be laid. Volunteers being gathered who will be 'Friends of the Memorial Park'. A Civic Trust to be set up.
Wood clear up and paths	Some felling has been done and donations from this will be used to improve Bridge of Allan. Core paths have been improved. This has to be ongoing as grants are available. Again volunteer group needed to take an interest in this. Additions to wildlife garden at Primary School.
Parking and speeding	Frequently raised at the Community Council especially around the schools, Cornton Road and Keir Street. The police have been involved both in moving vehicles and raising awareness particularly at the Primary School but an ongoing problem. Speeding is being monitored.
Toilets and bus shelter	Money not available for maintenance/repair of present toilets but Bridge of Allan to get a Superloo. Bus stops and shelters have been moved and seat provided.
Fountain	Cleaned and painted.
Paterson Memorial Clock	Permission received for repainting this in its original form. At present seeking grants.
Wallace High School access	Improvements at last being carried out to Airthrey Road as far as University but no sign yet of a complete safe access to Keir Street for cyclists and pedestrians.
Tennis courts	One Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) provided although more had been promised. Promises again to attend to the courts this year and supply another net early enough to play! Council representative came to a meeting but ongoing.
Avenue Arch	To be cleaned. Aiming to tidy up the Avenue.
Hanging baskets, flower planting and seats	Baskets provided and maintained with the help of the merchants. Howff at bottom of Blairforkie planted and new seats to be put in place. Circular bench outside Clydesdale Bank.
Dog fouling	This is still a problem particularly in the Chicken Run and Keir Street. Hopefully more bins are going to be provided.
Car park and pavements	Keir Street car park improved with safer exit. Some pavements improved but others still hazardous e.g. in front of Royal Hotel.
Fun Day	Supplying a Playbus.

Bridge of Allan 100 Years Ago

Improvement of Airthrey Mill Road

In connection with the improvements currently being made on Airthrey Mill Road, the following cutting from the "Glasgow Evening Times" of Monday's date may be of interest:-

IMPROVING A GLASGOW RESORT

Bridge of Allan, one of the old-established yet ever favourite holiday resorts in the spring and autumn, after a very quiet time

in the earlier part of the season, was filled up at the week-end with visitors, a large proportion of whom came from Glasgow for the Easter relaxation. A score of attraction at the Bridge, apart from the fact that it is an admirable centre for trips to some of the grandest scenery in Scotland, is the woods, in which visitors are free to ramble without restriction. A great and much-needed improvement of access to the beautiful Wharrie Glen Road is being carried out by the straightening and grading of the narrow, tortuous, and steep part between

the bridge over the Allan, past the Airthrey paper-mill, to Sunnyslaw. ...

By the way, it is a constant source of wonder to Glasgow visitors to the Bridge why the cars to and from Stirling do not run on Sundays. Possibly, if they travelled at the same rate of speed as they do on weekdays, they might disturb the Sabbatic calm of the village.

Stirling and Bridge of Allan Reporter, April 17, 1909