

Strathmartine Local Community Planning Partnership (LCPP)

Café Conversation Summary

Date: 27 August 2026

Venue: Ardler Complex

Theme: Community Safety and Protection

In attendance:

Robert Thomson – Community Member	Wullie McFarlane – Community Member
Caroline Thomson – Community Member	Anne Leslie - DVVA
Kari Breen – University of Dundee	Steve Laurence – DCC Community Safety
Rebecca Morton – Community Member	Chris Barlas – Craigowl Church
Tracey Kerrigan – NHS Public Health	Daniel Coleman – Elected Member
Barbara Myloff – Community Member	Chris Howe – DCC CLD Youth Work
Margaret Wilson – Community Member	Jane Caithness – DCC Housing
Gillian Gordon – Health & Social Care Partnership	Gary Fullerton – DCC CLD Youth Work
Fiona Malloch – Community Member	Kylie Christie – Police Scotland
Jacky Nicoll – Community Member	Ollivia Watson – Police Scotland
Lynne Vandertoorm - DCC Corporate Services	Justine Campbell – St Marys Community Engagement Worker
Arlene Brady – DCC Corporate Services	Hugh McAninch – Baldragon Academy
Jen MacDonald – Sanctuary Housing	Monica Dobson – DCC Social Work
Mohrag Mitchell – Community Member	Jillian Divers – St Pauls RC
Alix Dolan – DCC Housing	Hazel Feilder – DCC CLD Worker (CET)
Cathy Reid – Community Member	Claire Ramsay – DCC CLD Worker (CET)
Jimmy Black – Elected Member	Nichola Taylor – Dundee Health & Social Care Partnership
Cheryl Simpson – Community Member	Chris Traynor - Community Member
Glyn Lloyd – DCC Children & Families	Mark MacDonald – DCC Communities Officer

Welcome and Updates

Mark MacDonald, Communities Officer, welcomed participants and provided an update on recent Local Community Planning Partnership activity. This included feedback from the previous LCPP meeting, where priorities for the future were discussed, with particular emphasis on increasing opportunities and provision for young people across the Strathmartine area.

An update was also provided on ongoing engagement with Baldragon Academy. Discussions have been held with the school's Senior Management Team, and plans are being developed to pilot a Café Conversation approach with pupils, supported by members of the LCPP.

Conversation One

Preparing for Halloween, Bonfire Night and Winter

Kylie Christie from the Strathmartine Community Police Team provided an overview of community policing developments and outlined how local policing teams will continue to engage with residents and partners.

Participants discussed how the community and partner agencies can work together to promote safety during Halloween, Bonfire Night and the winter period.

Key Themes

- Support and promote existing community events and activities.
- Increase awareness of how residents can report fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles and other environmental issues.
- Encourage residents to remove unwanted items and waste from gardens and communal areas before Bonfire Night.
- Share more positive stories about local communities through social media and community networks.
- Improve promotion of local events and opportunities.
- Deliver education and awareness raising with young people around fire safety and the responsible use of fireworks.
- Organise community clean-up activities in advance of Bonfire Night.
- Explore alternative community celebrations, such as organised light displays and family-friendly events.

Conversation Two

Building Safe and Supportive Communities

Steve Laurence from the Dundee City Council Community Safety Warden Service provided an overview of the role of Community Safety Wardens and how they work with communities across the city.

Participants were then invited to consider what a safe community looks like and what preventative actions could help strengthen community safety across Strathmartine.

What Would a Safe Community Look Like?

Participants highlighted the importance of:

- High-quality green spaces, play areas and welcoming public spaces.
- Improved street lighting and accessible open spaces.
- Inclusive, affordable and free activities for all ages.
- Opportunities for local residents to gain skills and confidence to lead community activities.
- Community cafés and informal gathering spaces where residents can access support and information.
- Strong support services available throughout all stages of life, from early years through to older age.
- Accessible community facilities offering a wide range of activities and services.
- Additional support for young people to develop life skills and positive opportunities.
- Increased support for expectant parents and families with young children.
- Better support and information for people moving into local communities.
- Greater awareness and education around online safety, healthy relationships and domestic abuse.
- Action to address concerns relating to motorbikes, e-bikes and e-scooters.

Agreed Areas for Action

The discussion identified several priorities for partners to take forward:

Communication and Awareness

- Share coordinated information in advance of Halloween and Bonfire Night.

- Promote local events and activities.
- Raise awareness of reporting routes for environmental issues, anti-social behaviour and community safety concerns.

Children, Young People and Families

- Continue efforts to increase opportunities and provision for young people across St Mary's, Ardler and Kirkton.
- Develop and expand family-focused activity and support programmes.
- Create pathways for parents and carers to become community volunteers and leaders.

Community Safety and Prevention

- Continue partnership working focused on early intervention and prevention.
- Strengthen community-led approaches that support safe, welcoming and connected neighbourhoods.
- Improve access to community facilities and green spaces that encourage positive community activity.

Closing Reflections

The conversations highlighted the strength of partnership working across Strathmartine and the shared commitment to creating safer, more supportive communities.

Participants reflected on the positive impact that coordinated partnership efforts have had in recent years, particularly around Halloween and Bonfire Night, and recognised the importance of continuing to work together with residents, community organisations and public services.

There was strong agreement that future progress should continue to focus on prevention, early intervention, support for families and young people, and ongoing investment in community facilities and green spaces.

Next Meeting

The next **Strathmartine LCPP Café Conversation** will take place on **19 November 2026 at 10:00am**.