



## Latest news from Daniel and the Strathmartine Focus team!

Welcome to Strathmartine Focus Edition 55.

Councillor Daniel Coleman and the Strathmartine Focus Team are grateful to all residents who have been in touch recently about local concerns, problems and queries.

We are always pleased to help! Daniel can be contacted as follows :

- By e-mail - [daniel.coleman@dundee.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.coleman@dundee.gov.uk)
- By phone - Dundee 433533 - or send back the Grumble Sheet on the back of this edition of Focus.



Daniel's weekly ward surgeries during school term time are as follows :

**First Thursday of each month :**

5.45pm prompt - Ardler Complex,  
Turnberry Avenue

**Second Thursday of each month :**

5.45pm prompt - St Mary's  
Community Facility, St Kilda Road

(pictured - left)

**Third Thursday of each month :**

5.45pm prompt - Kirkton Community Centre, Derwent  
Avenue

**Fourth Thursday of each month :**

5.45pm prompt - Garry Place sheltered housing lounge

All welcome and no appointment necessary.

**Campaign to save the Kingsway Circus RBS branch :** News from the Royal Bank of Scotland that it intends to close its Kingsway Circus Branch in Strathmartine Road from October 2024 has been greeted with dismay by customers and the local community.

Daniel wrote to the Chief Executive of the NatWest Group who manage RBS to make clear the community's opposition to the closure. He has also placed an agenda item on the council's City Governance Committee in an attempt to get all-party support to oppose the closure.

Daniel said, "Residents are rightly angry at the proposed closure. This branch serves a huge part of the north of Dundee. The lack of consultation is completely unacceptable and I will do all I can to campaign to keep the branch open."



## Keep up with Strathmartine updates ...



In addition to the regular Focus newsletter, Daniel also does daily on-line updates :

- ❖ His Strathmartine Facebook Page covers local news and now has over 1 400 followers. You can view it on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/danielcoleman.strathmartine](https://www.facebook.com/danielcoleman.strathmartine)
- ❖ His X/Twitter followers are over 800 - again covering Strathmartine updates and other local news and events - follow Daniel on X/Twitter at [@ColemanDundee](https://twitter.com/ColemanDundee)



# Strathmartine updates from Cllr Daniel Coleman

WORKING FOR  
STRATHMARTINE  
ALL YEAR ROUND!



## Roads and pavements improvements in the Strathmartine Ward area

The City Council's Roads Maintenance Partnership has published its proposed roads and footpaths resurfacing and improvements programme for the new financial year and the Strathmartine Ward area proposed work includes :

### Adopted Footway Programme 2024-25

- Baird Avenue North Footway
- St Giles Terrace - north section (St Kilda Road to Terrace and South Section St Fillans Terrace to shops)
- St Kilda Terrace - west section

### Non-adopted Paths Programme 2024-25

- Gullane Road - internal paths

### Carriageway Resurfacing Programme 2024-25

- Baird Avenue - Telford Road to Rutherford Road
- Faraday Street - Baird Avenue to Edison Place

Whilst any pavements and roads improvements are welcome, the current budget is wholly inadequate and far too few roads and footpaths are being upgraded. It is particularly stark this year and brings into focus the bad effect of many years of SNP under-investment in pavements and roads.

At the council's revenue budget, the Liberal Democrat Group proposed an additional £2 million next year for roads resurfacing and £1 million on pavements resurfacing to properly tackle the state of many footpaths and road surfaces that we get so many complaints about. Unfortunately, the SNP voted down the LibDem budget proposals 15-12, but Daniel will continue to campaign for roads and pavements improvements across Strathmartine.



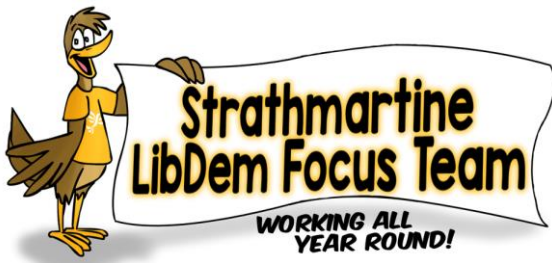
❖ **Bus stops and timetables** : Daniel is firmly opposing the council proposal to remove dozens of bus stops across Dundee. He feels that the logic of making passengers have to walk further to get to a bus stop makes absolutely no sense and there is no evidence that fewer bus stops would speed up bus journeys. There is already a campaign by St Mary's residents to save the bus stop and shelter in St Kilda Road outside the community facility (see right) but the council proposals envisage other stops being removed including in Birkdale Place, Old Glamis Road, Laird Street, Strathmartine Road and Turnberry Avenue.



Daniel said, "I am of the view that the council would be better putting its efforts into repairing vandalised bus shelters, cleaning shelters and also ensuring all bus stops have up to date bus timetables, rather than wasting time and public money reducing the number of bus stops."

The picture (left) shows the bus stop in Strathmartine Road near Brackens Road where there is no timetable information - one of many across the area like this - and Daniel has reported this to the City Council.

❖ **Fanzone for the Euro championships** : Daniel led calls for there to be a properly organised fanzone for next month's European Championships and his motion to the council's City Governance Committee on this was unanimously agreed. He is delighted that a fanzone facility is now being organised to allow thousands of local fans to cheer Scotland on during the June championship.



## Latest Strathmartine news from Cllr Daniel Coleman

❖ **Ardler former bowling green** : Sadly the former bowling green in Ardler has fallen into a state of disrepair and Daniel has raised this with environment management officers at the City Council. Daniel pointed out that elsewhere in Dundee - for example in Lochee Park and Victoria Park - former bowling greens have has a new positive use as community gardens.

Daniel said, "It would be good to see a community growing project to make positive use of the Ardler former bowling green."



❖ **Faded signs** : Daniel has received residents' concerns about badly faded directional signs in Garvock Place (see left) and a badly faded street sign in Pitreavie Place at its junction with Baldovan Road (see right). There's also a missing street sign on the opposite side of that junction.



The Focus Team raised these issues with the City Council along with the lack of any road markings at the junction of Kinnettles Terrace and Collace Crescent.

❖ **Royal Mail deliveries** : There have been a number of concerns about the reliability of postal deliveries locally. If any resident has had concerns about this recently, Daniel would be pleased to raise any local complaints with Royal Mail's Senior Public Affairs Manager.



❖ **Future of Kirkton Community Centre** : Last year, when the SNP council administration pushed through a proposal to close the Kirkton Community Centre with effect from the autumn of 2024, Daniel opposed this, proposing that any decision on the future of the community centre should be deferred pending further and better consultation with the local management group and the wider community.

Now, following a legal challenge, the community centre has been given a stay of execution, which Daniel welcomes. He will continue to campaign for any changes to community facilities in Kirkton to be made only with the consent of the Kirkton community.

❖ **Pitcairn Road - road resurfacing** : Residents will recall that, in the last edition of Strathmartine Focus, Daniel highlighted residents' concerns about the poor condition of the road in Pitcairn Road - see right - which he had highlighted to Dundee City Council. Although the overall roads resurfacing programme this year in Dundee is underfunded and disappointing, as the article on page 2 of Focus mentions, Daniel was pleased to note, in addition to the list on page 2, a resurfacing of Pitcairn Road between Baldovan Road and Pitempton Road is promised this month.



❖ **Beaully Avenue shops** : Daniel has received many residents' concerns about the graffiti mess around the Beaully Avenue shops, including on litter bins and the community noticeboard - see photos.



He has raised this with the City Council requesting a clean-up.



**Councillor Daniel Coleman works all year round for our local area**



**City Council revenue budget 2024/25 :** The Liberal Democrat Group had a fully-costed alternative budget proposal to the SNP administration’s budget that would have seen a far better outcome for residents including :

- **Strathmartine Ward issues** - Daniel strongly opposed the possibility of the closure of the Caird Park Golf Course. Thankfully this was not in the event included in any party’s council budget proposals this year. However, the SNP administration pushed through a consultation on the future of the golf course which Daniel opposed saying it is tantamount to a “Sword of Damocles” for golf course users. He is adamant that the golf course must remain open into the future.
- **Street cleaning improvements** - We proposed re-employing every single street cleaning post that has been lost since 2015 under the SNP - some 39 posts - to get the city back into a much cleaner state. We would also have cut the bulky uplifts and brown bin charges - not increased them as the SNP has done.
- **Sheltered shoppers’ bus service** - We proposed that the council continue to fund the shoppers’ bus service that takes tenants in sheltered accommodation to a local supermarket once a week. This is an invaluable service which covers Garry Place, Rannoch Court and Turriff House. Unfortunately, the SNP administration axed the council’s funding. The service has been given a ‘stay of execution’ to the end of June to allow a local charity to see if it can get lottery or similar funding to keep the service going, which Daniel hopes will be successful.

**The FOCUS “Grumble Sheet” :** The Strathmartine Focus Team is here to help. If you have a problem or complaint that you’d like sorted, let Councillor Daniel Coleman and the Focus Team help.

My problem/suggestion/complaint is:



Your Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

**Post this to Daniel at our Freepost address :  
 Freepost DUNDEE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

*(please just write Freepost DUNDEE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS all on one line on your envelope)*  
 You can alternatively e-mail your grumble to [daniel.coleman@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.coleman@dundeecity.gov.uk)