

from Councillor Daniel Coleman
and the local Liberal Democrats

Serving Downfield, Ardler, Kirkton,
St Mary's, Brackens, Trottick and
surrounding areas



Edition 53 ++ Spring 2023 edition

Paid for & delivered by voluntary effort. Your local newsletter for the past 21 years - the original and the best!

Latest updates from Daniel and the Strathmartine Focus team!

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

The Focus Team is always pleased to assist anyone in our local area with any concerns, problems or queries.

Daniel holds weekly ward surgeries during school term time 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

Third Thursday of each month :

5.45pm prompt - Kirkton Community Centre, Derwent Avenue

Fourth Thursday of each month :

5.45pm prompt - Strathmartine Parish Church, 507 Strathmartine Road
(pictured right)



All welcome and no appointment necessary.

Getting in touch! Daniel can also be contacted as follows :

- By e-mail - daniel.coleman@dundeecity.gov.uk
- By phone - Dundee 433533 - or send back the Grumble Sheet on the back of this edition of Focus.



Keep up with the Strathmartine area news!

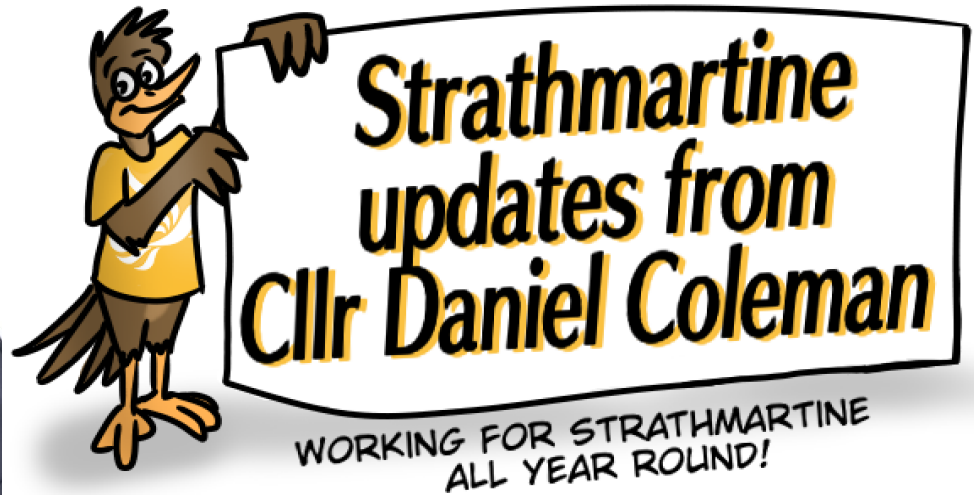
In addition to his regular Strathmartine Focus newsletter, Daniel also does daily updates on the web :

* Daniel's Strathmartine Facebook page covers daily local news and other updates and now has over 1 300 local residents in our local area following the page. You can view it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/danielcoleman.strathmartine



* Daniel's Twitter followers have now reached over 700 - again covering local news and events - follow Daniel on Twitter at @ColemanDundee





❖ **Secure cycle parking** : The City Council is to be providing secure on-street residential parking units across the city to tackle the lack of storage for residents' bikes in flats. In our own area, initial facilities will be provided in St Columba Gardens, Turnberry Avenue, St Boswells Terrace, St Clement Place, Strathmartine Road (south of junction with Cloan Road), and St Nicholas Place.

Prior to the sites being finalised and necessary permissions sought, Daniel suggested ensuring these should be located to avoid losing parking spaces where possible and, as a result, the St Boswells Terrace location was changed to achieve this.



❖ **Flooding issues - Strathmartine Road at Sidlaw Drive** : Daniel is pictured (left) along with Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP, Scottish Liberal Democrat Leader, in Strathmartine Road at the Sidlaw Drive junction back in November when there was a significant flooding problem, cutting off the Craigowl View area for a period of time.

There was also flooding in parts of Ardler at the time and Daniel raised these with the City Council. During Alex's visit to Dundee, he, Daniel and the Strathmartine Focus Team spoke with many residents on local and national issues.

❖ **School placing appeals** : Daniel has strongly opposed the SNP Scottish Government's proposals for the national Scottish Tribunals Service to hear placing requests for schools. Although most parents opt for their local catchment school, others apply for a place for their child at another school. Where this is not granted, the appeals process is currently dealt with locally by the council.

Daniel said, "Appeals should continue to be considered locally by people with knowledge of our city, not by an unelected national quango. I am pleased that Dundee City Council has responded to the consultation on this opposing this further attempt at centralisation - something the SNP government has a bad record on."

❖ **Pavement upgrade - St Kilda Road** : Daniel welcomed the recent resurfacing of pavements in St Kilda Road - see right. However, he has raised numerous other pavements that are urgently requiring attention, including in St Monance Place.

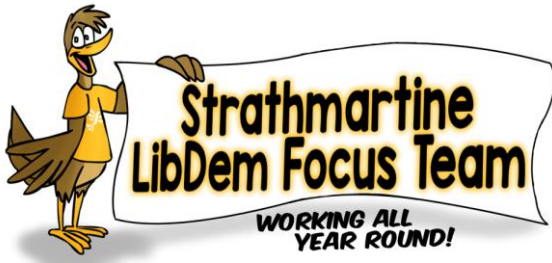


At the request of residents, Daniel raised with the council the lack of any pavement at the first part of the Clatto Gardens entrance to Clatto Park. However, unfortunately it is not possible to provide a proper pavement here due to land ownership issues.

❖ **Dundee Ice Arena** : Daniel recently raised with the City Council requests from residents that there be Wi-Fi available throughout Dundee Ice Arena. Although public Wi-Fi is available at the bar and function room, the ice arena accepts Wi-Fi connection was poor in the arena itself.

Following Daniel's enquiry, both the arena's Wi-Fi receivers have been replaced which will improve coverage.

Cllr Daniel Coleman - keeping in touch - all year round!



Latest Strathmartine news from Cllr Daniel Coleman

❖ **City Council revenue budget 2023/24** : 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 :

- **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.
- **Council Tax kept down** - Given soaring inflation, food prices and energy bills, Liberal Democrats proposed keeping the council tax increase down to just 1% - as opposed to the SNP's large increase of 4.75%.
- **Funding for local communities** - The SNP council administration axed £50 000 of community regeneration funding across the city, with £6 000 of this cut made to Strathmartine Ward's local funding. Daniel said, "Our group opposed this SNP cut that reduces funding for anti-poverty and social inclusion initiatives. Instead, we proposed an additional £10 000 for each ward area across Dundee to increase cost-of-living support for local people this year."
- **Saving local buses** - The SNP council administration has forced through cuts to council-supported bus services which will sadly mean that the 202 service across parts of Kirkton will be axed next year along with other services, including the sheltered housing shopping bus service. We strongly opposed the bus services cuts that will impact especially on older residents and also opposed the SNP ending support for evening and Sunday services for bus service 10 that serves Ardlar and Kirkton.



❖ **Path - Camperdown Road to Macalpine Square** : At the request of residents, Daniel raised the very poor condition of the path that runs from Camperdown Road to Macalpine Square, near to West School Road - see left.

He's pleased to say the path surface is to be improved this financial year.

❖ **Road safety across Strathmartine** : Over the past few months, Daniel has received numerous residents' concerns about pedestrian safety in residential areas across Kirkton, St Mary's, Ardlar and Craigowl View. He continues to campaign for 20mph zones in highly residential areas where there are elderly people trying to cross roads and children out playing.

❖ **Scottish Attainment Funding cuts** : Daniel has campaigned against cuts by the SNP Scottish Government to Dundee's share of the Scottish Attainment Fund that is helping to close the attainment gap in the city's schools. Funding of over £6 million in 2021/22 is being reduced each year and by 2025/26 will be reduced to just £1.3 million - a 79% cut.

Daniel said, "It is vital that, if Dundee is to continue to improve attainment across our schools, additional support is given where it is most needed. The cuts to the Scottish Attainment Fund are extremely short sighted and I will continue to campaign for Dundee's original funding level to be restored."



❖ **Camperdown Development Plan** : Daniel has been in touch with the City Council about progress with developments at Camperdown including the upgrade of Camperdown House and the Craw's Nest public toilets. He's also pressed the council for progress on the reinstatement of golf facilities at Camperdown.

❖ **Garry Place sheltered housing** : Daniel raised tenants' concerns here about a missing bench - see left. He has been assured it will be reinstated after repair.

**Councillor Daniel Coleman -
working all year round for our local area**



Roads and pavements improvements for Strathmartine

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



Strathmartine updates from Cllr Daniel Coleman

WORKING FOR STRATHMARTINE ALL YEAR ROUND!

- ❖ **Adopted Footway Programme 2023-24**
Balmuir Road - Both Sides, Dalmahoy Drive - East Side St Clement Place to Laird Street, Eskdale Avenue - Frederick Street to Teviotdale Avenue
- ❖ **Non-Adopted Asset Programme 2023-24**
Camperdown Road - Path from Camperdown Road to Macalpine Square
- ❖ **Active Travel Schemes 2023-24**
Balgowan Avenue - Lismore Street to Old Glamis Road South path, Clatto access road - Patches at Dalmahoy end and at right angle bend near reservoir, Laird Street - St Boswells Terrace to school - south path
- ❖ **Carriageway Programme 2023-24**
St Clement Place - St Dennis Place to 6 St Clement 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. 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 other parties voted this down but Daniel will continue to campaign for roads and pavements improvements across the Strathmartine area.



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

General Data Protection Regulation : If you return this form, the Liberal Democrats, locally and nationally, may use information in it, including your political views, to further our objectives, share it with our elected representatives and/or contact you in future using any of the means provided. Some contacts may be automated. You may opt out of some or all contacts or exercise your other legal rights by contacting us. Further details are in our Privacy Policy at

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