

FALKIRK ARCHIVES

Local authority records

Falkirk Stentmasters Finding Aid

Falkirk was erected a Burgh of Barony in 1600. It became a Parliamentary Burgh in 1833 and was incorporated in 1900. Local government originated with two other bodies: the Stentmasters and the Feuars. They had no legal powers but they raised levies in the burgh and dealt with maintenance and improvements. Their powers were gradually replaced by the legal powers of Falkirk Town Council from 1833.

Falkirk Stentmasters

Falkirk Stentmasters came into being during the 17th century. They had no legal powers but they raised levies in the burgh, initially dealing with water supplies and later with sanitation, street cleaning and lighting.

In 1859 Falkirk adopted the 1850 Police Act which gave the Town Council authority to appoint a Superintendent of Police, and take over the water, sanitation, street cleansing, public works and improvements from the Stentmasters and various other powers. The Stentmasters therefore ceased to exist after 1859.

<i>Reference No</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
A812.007/01	1803-1821	Minutes
A812.007/02	1821-1838	Minutes
A812.007/03	1838-1857	Minutes
A812.007/04	1858-1859	Minutes
A066.142	12 Oct 1849-29 Dec 1851	Draft minutes of meetings of Stentmasters
A066.035	1854-1859	Minutes of meeting of Stentmasters, balance sheet and details of arrears of stent
A812.007/05	1800-1822	Cash book
A009.010	Dec 1845-Mar 1846	Cash book
A812.007/06	1842-1843	Memorial to Counsel by the Stentmasters of Falkirk in a process of interdict at their instance against the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Company
A054.002	02 Apr 1834	Extract copy minutes of meeting relating to access road to Marion's Well
A054.028	03 Apr 1834	Sketch referred to in the Memorial of the Stent Masters of Falkirk showing Corporation Street and surrounding area
A058.342	1812	Falkirk Town Steeple. Elevation to the west. Scale 1.125":10ft. Signed by the Stentmasters of Falkirk
A120.002	1812	Elevation of proposed Steeple at Falkirk (?) [not identified on elevation] Annotated Ro. Smith, 1812
A066.130	09 Apr 1857	Report by a committee of Stentmasters concerning the bringing of an extra water supply to Falkirk
A066.134	18 May 1842	Answers for the Edinburgh & Glasgow Railway Co

		to the petition for interdict of the Stentmasters of Falkirk relating to water supplies from the coal wastes area in Falkirk Muir and the effect of the Union Canal and the Edinburgh & Glasgow Railway on this
A066.135	1851	Report by Alexander Black, Surveyor to the Committee of Stentmasters for Improving the Supply of Water. Relates to supply of water from Falkirk Muir and effect of coal mining
A066.136	1851	Report to the Stentmasters by a Committee appointed at a meeting held on 12th October 1849. Accompanies report of Alexander Black, Surveyor (see A066.134). Relates to water from Falkirk Muir and effect of coal mining
A066.137	18 Jun 1850	Report by Alexander Black, Surveyor to the Committee appointed by the Stentmasters of Falkirk for the purpose of superintending the operations in the coal waster under the Common Muirs
A066.138	18 Jun 1850	Memorial for the Stentmasters of Falkirk for the Opinion of Counsel. Contains brief history of the Stentmasters, role as the managers of Falkirk's common property ""from time immemorial, customs concerning appointment of electors, and questions relating to proposed adoption and implementation of the Valuation Act, 1857
A066.139	17 Apr 1851	Letter, Samuel Neil, Schoolteacher, Falkirk Charity School, to Falkirk Stentmasters, appealing against his stent assessment on grounds that he was not resident in Falkirk and was an employee not a proprietor or tenant
A066.141	1850-1851	Account of James Hosie, Treasurer to Falkirk Stentmasters, for bills paid on behalf of Stentmasters relating to wages and equipment. Includes payment for ""Stopping Leak of Canal""
A1422.001	1793	Extract decret of absolvitor, in causa Corbet vs Young & c.[Dr Hon Corbet, William Scott, Thomas Duncan, John Crawford, James Walker and John Johston, a Committee appointed by the Stentmasters of Falkirk} Relates to objections by Thomas Young to Stentmasters proposed new tract of conveyance for the well water and replacement of wooden pipes by lead pipes