

Leadhills Community Council - Minutes of Regular Meeting **04 December 2025**

Present (LCC): Steve Johnstone (SJ), Margaret Harley (MH), Bryan Turpin (BT), Suzie McGraw (SMcG) and Charmaine Gittens (CG) and Associate Member Gerard Godfrey (GG)

South Lanarkshire (SLC) Councillors for Ward 3 - Clydesdale East: Ralph Barker

One Member of the Public was also present

Meeting commenced at 19h45

Preamble:

On 01 December 2025, **Nigel Davies (ND)** advised LCC by email that he had to immediately stand-down as a member of LCC due to health issues.

By return email, SJ said:

Quote

Dear Nigel,

On behalf of Leadhills Community Council, I send you best wishes for your recovery. May I take this opportunity to thank you for the time and effort that you have given to supporting LCC and the wider community; particularly in connection with the Men's Shed, which is a remarkable achievement. Hopefully we will see you back at LCC's meetings when you are well enough to attend. In the meantime, if I or LCC can do anything to assist you, please don't hesitate to ask or have Lorna ask on your behalf.

Yours sincerely,

Steve

Unquote

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

1.1 SJ welcomed the SLC Councillor, Leadhills Community Council members and the member of public to the meeting.

1.2 An Apology for absence was received from Joshua Howard (JH) of Leadhills Community Council.

Note: SLC councillors Ralph Barker, Ian McAllan and Alex Adamson attend LCC's meeting on a rotational basis.

2.0 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting

2.1 Draft minutes were circulated to all LCC members by email on 28 October 2025 and again on 06 November 2025 following incorporation of corrections. No further comments were received. The draft minutes issued on 06 November 2025 were unanimously approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3.0 Questions and Answers – Questions from Residents

3.1 No questions were raised

4.0 Grant Visor Scheme

4.1 Pursuant to a request from SLC, SJ asked for two volunteers willing to participate in the Grant Visor Scheme.

4.2 BT and CG volunteered. **Action - SJ to advise SLC**

5.0 Treasurer's Report

5.1 MH advised that that the current balance in LCC's account is £15,032.75. Some of this balance is money received from SLC to fund micro-grants.

6.0 Secretary's Report

6.1 Other than the correspondence referred to elsewhere in these minutes (if any), no formal or significant correspondence was received or issued in the period since the last meeting - **information**

7.0 Informal Meeting with members of Wanlockhead Community Council to discuss Points of Mutual Interest

7.1 The next informal meeting with representatives of Wanlockhead Community Council to be proposed for January 2026 – **Action SJ**

8.0 Planning Matters

8.1 No new significant applications for planning permission have been submitted since the last regular LCC meeting – **information**

9.0 Village Hall Improvement Plan

9.1 The Halls SCIO will write to SJ and BT following internal discussions. This is long overdue – **SJ to send reminder**

9.2 The Structural Maintenance Report to be provided by the Halls SCIO is also long overdue – **Action: SJ to send reminder**

9.3 A proposal has been received for the complete internal repainting of the main hall. The amount of the proposal will not be disclosed publically until later in the process when all administrative requirements have been satisfied ready for the work to commence. At this time, the amount of the proposal is considered to be commercially sensitive.

9.4 It was proposed to pay for this work through one micro-grant with the balance from LCC funds and this approach was unanimously agreed - **information**

10.0 Suggestions for Projects / Improvements

10.1 SJ urged all residents and LCC members to put forward suggestions for project and improvements in Leadhills – **information**

For the list of projects completed during the last LCC reporting term, please refer to the minutes of the AGM held on 04 December 2025.

10.2 The following suggestions have been received and are awaiting investigation / implementation or have been completed or have been dropped – as indicated:

(a) Establish dedicated website and collective email address for LCC – **ongoing – Action CG**

(b) Service / refurbish existing play equipment / apparatus in play-park – **Action SJ**

(c) Provide improved apparatus in the play-park for younger children to enjoy. Will SLC maintain such equipment? A proposal has been submitted to SLC – **Action SJ to Follow Up**

(d) Repair collapsed section of cemetery wall – **BT to follow after handover from ND**

(e) Resolve concern regarding movement / slippage of William Symington Memorial – **BT to follow after handover from ND**

(f) Reduce grass / vegetation by strimming to expose footpath from new footbridge on Ramsay Road to the Symington Memorial. The Gardening Group expressed concern that, because this is an informal footpath, there were worried about possible consequences if the vegetation is strimmed by them to make the path more conspicuous / useable and someone is injured. **SJ to seek an alternative solution.**

(g) Organise and implement boarding-up of window at 1 Symington Street – **Completed**

11.0 Comments Box

No comments deposited in box.

12.0 Ravengill Energy Park (“REP”)

- 12.1 SJ and GG met SLC planning personnel in the County Buildings on 09 October 2025 to discuss this proposed development. The discussions were friendly, informative and helpful – **information**
- 12.2 GG briefly described the reasons why the scope (number of turbines) has recently been reduced – including: ecological considerations, impact on flight / air traffic control radar, interruption of microwave signals – **information**
- 12.3 Community Benefits were discussed at the most recent CLG meeting but nothing concrete was proposed or agreed. Discussion of community benefits are likely to continue for some time - **information**
- 12.3 The next meeting of the Community Liaison Group will take place in Abington in February 2026 – date TBA - **information**

13.0 Glensalloch Wind Farm (“GWF”)

- 13.1 It was noted that although this proposed development is within close proximity of the LCC’s boundary, LCC is not a consultee. **Action – SJ to write to the ECU to seek clarification**

14.0 South Clyde Energy Park (“SCEP”)

- 14.1 On 02 December 2025, LCC (a consultee) responded to the ECU correspondence dated 10 November 2025 with LCC’s comments on the “Request for Scoping Opinion - Clyde South Energy Park” submitted by Renewco. **Action - SJ to request an acknowledgement of receipt from the ECU**

15.0 New Website for Leadhills Community Council

- 15.1 The effort to find the passwords / administrators for the redundant websites (with a view to closing / removing them) continues – **Action SJ**
- 15.2 An effort, led by CG, is underway to establish a new website for LCC. It was agreed that CG would set-up a website to include a link to a common email address for LCC’s office bearers. The indicative cost for the first year is £120.00 plus a monthly fee but it is hoped to reduce the annual total cost. SJ suggested that the cost could be the subject of a micro grant - **information**

AOCB

16.0 Snar Forrest

- 16.1 Minutes for Snar Forrest EIA held at Crawfordjohn on 10 September 2025 have not yet been received. SJ has sent a reminder. **Action SJ – send a further reminder.**

17.0 Leadhills Fund held by South Lanarkshire Council

- 17.1 Initially, LCC require information allowing them to understand the value of the fund in total including the value of any sub-funds should any sub-funds still exist. LCC also need to understand how the fund(s) is / are administered by SLC and the application form / protocol in place for residents to request assistance. The criteria applied by SLC for residents to qualify for assistance must also be clearly established. **Action: BT and SJ to discuss prior to contacting SLC**

18.0 Micro Grants

Note: LCC requests individuals and groups from within the community to apply for micro grants that meet the simple eligibility requirements set out on SLC’s website - **information**

Applications from the activities / entities listed below, each for £500.00, have been approved:

- 18.1 Leadhills Silver Band
- 18.2 Braw Clan
- 18.3 Leadhills Reading Society (Miner’s Library)
- 18.4 Leadhills Polytunnel Group
- 18.5 Leadhills Angling Association
- 18.6 PTC of Leadhills Primary School
- 18.7 Leadhills Golf Club
- 18.8 Leadhills Akido Club
- 18.9 Leadhills Gala Committee
- 18.10 Lowther and District Men’s Shed
- 18.11 Refurbishment of Notice Board at Surgery

- 18.12 Leadhills Seniors
- 18.13 Leadhills Community Book Club
- 18.14 Yoga Classes in Leadhills Hall
- 18.15 Repainting of main hall in Village Hall – payment in abeyance pending completion of associated prerequisite administrative requirements

19.0 Local Development Plan 3 – (LDP3)

19.1 LCC await further contact from SLC on this topic – **information**

20.0 Talk on History of Leadhills

20.1 A well attended talk was held in Leadhills Hall on 25 October 2025. The talk was fascinating and made all the more enjoyable by the humour in the delivery which amused everyone present.

Note: A talk by the same speaker on **The Covenanters** is being arranged. The date for this will be announced as soon as it is known - **information**

21.0 Establishment of Advisory Panel – Applications for Funds Held by SSE Clyde Wind Farm Extension Fund for Leadhills

21.1 An advert inviting residents to join the advisory panel was delivered to every live residential address in Leadhills – thanks to ND for this. The advert was also posted on the local Facebook pages. – **information**

21.2 CG and SJ were unanimously confirmed as the nominees to represent LCC on the panel -

Action: SJ to inform SSE.

21.3 LCC encourages more residents to apply to join the panel by contacting Colin McMillan of SSE by email <Colin.McMillan@sse.com> or by phone **T: 01738 344360 / M: 07423 314 294** to request an application form – **information**

22.0 Recruitment of New Member(s) for LCC

22.1 A campaign to recruit (a) new member(s) will be launched in January 2026 – **Action SJ**

23.0 Date and Time of Next Regular Meeting

23.1 The next regular meeting will be held in Leadhills Village Hall on **Thursday 05 February 2026 – Commencing at 19h45**

24.0 Close of Meeting

SJ thanked all attendees and closed the meeting at 21h20.