

Leadhills Community Council - Minutes of Regular Meeting

05 June 2025

Present (LCC): Steve Johnstone (SJ), Bryan Turpin (BT), Joshua Howard (JH) and Stuart Marsh (SM)

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

Sixteen Members of the Public were also present

Meeting commenced at 19h45

1.0 Welcome and Apologies

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

1.2 Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Harley (MH) and Nigel Davies (ND) of Leadhills Community Council and from Ian McAllan and Alex Alison (SLC Councillors)

2.0 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting

2.1 Draft minutes were circulated to all LCC members by email on 07 April 2025 and again on 21 April 2025. No comments requiring any correction were received. The draft minutes issued on 21 April 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 New Members for Leadhills Community Council

4.1 Effort to recruit two new members continues by word of mouth and by advertising on Facebook and on the village notice boards. Residents who are interested in helping the community are encouraged to apply to join LCC - **information**

5.0 Grant Visor Scheme

5.1 In the absence of ND, SJ reported that the following grants were awarded via SLC from the Renewable Energy Fund in the period from 01 April 2024 to 01 April 2025:

(a) Leadhills Golf Club - Rebuild = £290,000

(b) Lowther and District Men's Shed - Phase 4 = £ 94,268.63

(c) Leadhills Golf Club – Architect = £12,141

(d) Leadhills Community Company Limited – Consultation and Legal Fees = £10,120

6.0 Treasurer's Report

6.1 In the absence of MH, SJ advised that that the current balance in LCC's account is approximately £16,000.00, including £5,000.00 received from SLC for micro-grants.

7.0 Secretary's Report

7.1 No formal correspondence received or issued in the period since the last meeting - **information**

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

8.1 Another informal meeting with Wanlockhead Community Council to be arranged – **Action SJ**

9.0 Planning Matters

9.1 Planning Application Ref P/25/0501 is for the formation of a vehicle hard standing and associated works at 10 Symington Street – **information**

9.2 Planning Application Ref P/25/0493 is for the Upgrade of a Forestry Track at Elvanfoot – the Applicant is SSE Renewables - **information**

9.3 Planning Application Ref P/25/0533 is for the Installation of a Medipoint Prescription Collection Machine at Leadhills Surgery. BT advised that the dispenser will continue her presence at the surgery after installation of this machine - **information**

9.4 Planning Application P/25/0515 is for the Upgrade of Forestry Roads and Ditches at Elvanfoot – the Applicant is SSE Renewables - **information**

9.5 Ref P/25/0479 is for a Planning Consultation in connection with a Storage and Distribution Warehouse plus offices, hardstanding and Vehicular Access on Land 125m Northeast of 2 Dumfries Road, Elvanfoot. **This development is intended for the handling and storage of materials for wind turbines - information**

10.0 Village Hall Resilience Plan – Asset Transfer

10.1 A representative of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture SCIO is scheduled to meet LCC in the coming weeks to discuss hall improvements - **information**

11.0 Suggestions for Projects / Improvements

11.1 SJ urged all residents and LCC members to put forward suggestions for project and improvements in Leadhills.

11.2 The following suggestions have been received and are awaiting investigation / implementation or have been completed:

- (a) Service / refurbish existing play equipment / apparatus in play-park – **Action SJ**
- (b) Provide improved apparatus in the play-park for younger children to enjoy. Will SLC maintain such equipment? **Action SJ**
- (d) Repair collapsed section of cemetery wall – **ND following**
- (e) Resolve concern regarding movement / slippage of William Symington Memorial – **ND following**
- (f) Reduce grass / vegetation by strimming to expose footpath from new footbridge on Ramsay Road to the Symington Memorial **ND following**
- (g) Water jetting to clear obstruction in outlet drain from gully at junction of Bell View and Store Brae – **Completed**
- (h) Make good depressions in Menzies Place / Bell View roadway surface between end of Curfew Place and top of Store Brea – **Completed**
- (i) Make good depressions in roadway surface on low-numbered section of Lowther View (i.e. to the right from the junction with Menzies Place) – **Completed**
- (j) Clean-out the three surface water channels on Menzies Place / Bell View – **Completed**
- (k) Copy of Leadhills Conservation Area document to be provided in village hall – **Completed**
- (l) Arrange for LCC to resume emptying the (dog dirt) black wheelie bin on the corner of Horner's Place next to the red mail box - **Completed**
- (m) Clean out trap – gully located at corner of Bell View and Store Brea – **Action SJ**
- (n) Clean out trap – gully located near corner of Menzies Place and Lowther View – **Action SJ**
- (o) Organise a skip to prevent fly tipping.

SJ has established that the cost for an 8 cubic yard skip for one week on location is about £400.00 including VAT.

Previously, eight skips were provided in succession by SLC, and all eight were filled.

One skip will make little impression and the cost is prohibitive. LCC will not pursue this – **Closed**

(p) Can the grey car that has been parked on the square for a year taking up space be moved – The owner moved this car very quickly when contacted – **Completed**

(q) Arrange for the provision of replacement pads for the village's two AEDs (defibrillators). The PTC of Leadhills Primary School may fund this purchase.

12.0 Comments Box

Three comments were received.

12.1 First Comment (Anonymous):

Crawford village enjoys the pleasure of the mobile post office van. With banks closing and POs offering bank services, is this something the CC would be interested in enquiring about for Leadhills.

Answer: SJ will contact PO to investigate.

12.2 Second Comment (Anonymous):

Can I ask what is happening with all the outcomes needed from the Action Plan. Has a Development Worker been employed?

Answer: The group to approve / reject applications for funding from the Clyde Wind Farm Extension Fund has yet to be formed. The group composition proposed by SSE was in conflict with SSE's own rules. SJ has informed SSE for this and has been chasing SSE for a response – **Action SJ**

12.3 Third Comment (Anonymous):

Is it possible to look at getting the grass cut again during summer months at the junction where Ramsay Road comes out opposite Elvanfoot Road. It is dangerous pulling out of that junction due to lack of visibility. Thanks

Answer: The grass in this location was previously cut by a now deceased volunteer resident and his son after SLC removed this from their grass-cutting list some years ago. Due to their present financial constraints, it is highly unlikely that SCL will resume cutting this area. SJ will approach Leadhills Gardening Group (Flowerpot Men) to ask if they could provide this grass cutting service – **Action SJ**

13.0 Advance Notice of Leadhills Power Outage

15.1 The power outage scheduled for the first week of May 2025 has been rescheduled for the first week in July 2025. The date will be advised in due course.

14.0 Ravensgill Energy Park (“REP”)

14.1 The first drop-in “consultation” day was held at Leadhills Village Hall on 20 May 2025 – This first session was very disappointing because the “visualiser” system was not operational due to the lack of a sufficiently strong mobile / Wi-Fi signal. Renewco / Cavendish have been aware of the poor signal quality since they gave an overview presentation of Ravensgill Energy Park in Leadhills Village Hall on 13 June 2024 - **information**

14.2 Draft of the proposed Terms of Reference for the Community Liaison Group (“CLG”) for Ravensgill Energy Park and the other Renewco projects that are to be included in the same basket are not yet agreed – **Action SJ to chase**

14.5 In order to gauge the actual strength of feeling in the community for or against REP, LCC will post a Questionnaire through the letter box of every live address in Leadhills by the end of this week.

Post Meeting Note: The questionnaires were delivered on 06 and 07 June 2025 to be completed and deposited in the ballot box in Leadhills General Store by 17 June 2025. The result from the Questionnaires will be known during week ending 21 June 2025.

15.0 New Website for Leadhills Community Council

15.1 A renewed effort is ongoing to find the passwords / administrators for the redundant websites – **Action SJ**

AOCB

16.0 Micro Grants

16.1 The application for £500 from the Village Gardening Group was approved.

16.2 An application for £500 from Lowther and District Men's Shed was received during the meeting. This will be scanned and emailed to all LCC members for review and comment and will be presented for approval during the next LCC meeting.

17.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting

20.1 The **next Regular Meeting** will be held in Leadhills Village Hall on **Thursday 07 August 2025 – Commencing at 19h45**

18.0 Close of Meeting

SJ thanked all attendees and closed the meeting at 21h00.