

Leadhills Community Council - Minutes of Regular Meeting 02 October 2025

Present (LCC): Steve Johnstone (SJ), Margaret Harley (MH), Nigel Davies (ND), Stuart Marsh (SM) and Charmaine Gittens (CG)
South Lanarkshire (SLC) Councillors for Ward 3 - Clydesdale East: Ralph Barker

Six 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 Bryan Turpin (BT), Suzie McGraw (SMcG), Joshua Howard (JH) and Gordon Ross (GR) of Leadhills Community Council and from SLC Councillors Ian McAllan and Alex Alison

2.0 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Regular Meeting

2.1 Draft minutes were circulated to all LCC members by email on 22 August 2025 and again on 09 September 2025 following incorporation of corrections. No comments were received. The draft minutes issued on 09 September 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 ND advised that there had been no awards of local interest since the last regular meeting of LCC held on 07 August 2025.

5.0 Treasurer's Report / Book Keeping and Accounting

5.1 MH advised that that the current balance in LCC's account is £16,638.74 of which a significant amount is money received from SLC for micro-grants.

5.2 It was unanimously agreed that the book keeping and accounting of LCC should be simplified by combining separately accounted funds together wherever possible – **Action SJ and MH**

6.0 Secretary's Report

6.1 Other than the correspondence referred to elsewhere in these minutes (if any), no formal 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 An informal meeting with representatives of Wanlockhead Community Council was held on Tuesday 12 August 2025. The main topic of discussion was the proposed Glensalloch Wind Farm situated close to Wanlockhead to the South – **information**

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 SJ and BT met a representative of South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture SCIO on 10 September 2025 at the hall to discuss hall improvements - **information**

9.2 The SCIO will write to SJ and BT following internal discussions – **information**

9.3 VASLAN have just issued a survey questionnaire about village halls. This has been circulated to all members of LCC - **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**

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

(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? A proposal has been submitted to SLC – **Action SJ to Follow Up**

(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 stated that as this is an informal footpath, there was concern about possible consequences if the vegetation is strimmed by the Flower Pot Men to make the path more conspicuous / useable and someone is injured. **SJ to seek an alternative solution.**

(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 and unblock outlet - gully located at corner of Bell View and Store Brea. LCC express their thanks to Ian Arnott who volunteered to empty the trap and cleared the blocked outlet – **Completed**

(n) Organise a skip to prevent fly tipping - **dropped**

(o) 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**

(p) Arrange for the provision of replacement pads for the village's two AEDs (defibrillators). The PTC of Leadhills Primary School funded the purchase of new pads. LCC express their thanks to the PTC for their generosity – **Completed**

(q) Arrange talk on the history of Leadhills – **Action CG / SJ**

(r) Organise and implement boarding-up of window at 1 Symington Street – **Action SJ**

11.0 Comments Box

No comments deposited in box.

12.0 Ravengill Energy Park (“REP”)

12.1 SJ and GG have arranged to meet SLC planning in the County Buildings on 09 October 2025 – **information**

12.2 GG briefly described the several response to the Scoping Request and noted that SLC had reserved their position – **information**

12.3 The next meeting of the Community Liaison Group will take place in Abington on 26 November 2025 - **information**

13.0 New Website for Leadhills Community Council

13.1 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 and SMcG, 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. Initially there will be a free two week trial period for the website. After the trial period, the cost for the website is £12/month payable for one year up-front. SJ suggested that the cost of £144 could be the subject of a micro grant - **information**

AOCB

14.0 Snar Forrest

14.1 SJ attended the Snar Forrest EIA at Crawfordjohn on 10 September 2025 – **information**

15.0 Leadhills Fund held by South Lanarkshire Council

15.1 Initially, LCC require information allowing them to understand the value of the fund in total together with the value of any sub-funds should any still exist. LCC also need to understand how the fund(s) are administered by SLC and the application form / protocol in place for residents to request assistance. SJ suggested that BT and SMcG should form a sub-group to investigate this. **Action: SJ to discuss with BT and SMcG prior to handing over the existing records to them.**

16.0 Remembrance Day Service at Leadhills Cenotaph – Sunday 09 November 2025

16.1 This year's service will commence at 13h30. It will be appreciated if LCC members attend - **information**

16.2 BT is requested to buy a poppy wreath - **Action BT**

17.0 Micro Grants

Note: SJ requested 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 entities listed below, each for £500.00, have been approved:

17.1 Leadhills Silver Band

17.2 Braw Clan

17.3 Leadhills Reading Society (Miner's Library)

17.4 Leadhills Polytunnel Group

17.5 Leadhills Angling Association

17.6 PTC of Leadhills Primary School

17.7 Leadhills Golf Club

17.8 Leadhills Akido Club

17.9 Leadhills Gala Committee

17.10 Lower and District Men's Shed

17.11 Calum Dougan – for Refurbishment of Notice Board at Surgery

17.12 Leadhills Seniors

18.0 Local Development Plan 3 – (LDP3)

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

19.0 Talk on History of Leadhills

19.1 CG is working on arrangements to have James Brown, the eminent author and historian, give a talk in Leadhills Hall covering the following topics:

- Prehistory and History
- Landscape, Flora and Fauna and Place Names
- The Genius of the People
- A Vision of the Future

19.2 The provisional date is 25 October 2025. Precise date tba.

19.3 Free Admission. No collection.

19.4 Free refreshments

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

20.1 SJ explained why circulation of the advert inviting residents to apply to join the panel at this time was not appropriate - **information**

20.2 Another meeting between SSE and SJ has been arranged to finalise the wording of some part(s) of the suite of documents that SSE will issue to applicants. Once finalised, the advert can be circulated - **information**

20.3 ND volunteered to deliver a hard copy of the advert by hand to every household in Leahdills – **Action ND and SJ**

21.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting

21.1 The next meeting will embrace the AGM plus a Regular Meeting and will be held in Leadhills Village Hall on **Thursday 04 December 2025 – Commencing at 19h45**

21.2 All existing members of LCC will remain in office until the 2026 AGM – **information**

21.3 BT and MH must stand down and nominate themselves to be reinstated as Secretary and Treasurer respectively – **Action BT and MH**

22.0 Close of Meeting

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