



# BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting. Date: Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024  
Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
<b>COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS</b>	Community Police
Marion Stewart (Chair)	John Ramsay
Fiona Wilson (Secretary)	Andrew Valentini
Dawn Lindsay	Caroline Melville
Rebecca Rylott	
Billy Craig	
Alan Montgomery	
Kate Strachan	
Sadie Montgomery	
<b>INVITED GUESTS</b>	
Claire McGoldrick (H/T Blackridge PS)	
Councillor Andrew McGuire	
Councillor Susan Manion	
Ally Graham	

## 1. Minutes from last meeting

Proposed: Dawn Lindsay  
Seconded: Billy Craig

Marion welcomed everyone to the meeting and Kate Strachan was introduced to the new members.

## 2. Matters Arising:

There was nothing to report.

## 3. School Update:

Claire McGoldrick gave a brief update on the following.

Recent Validated Self Evaluation by West Lothian Council went very well. Strengths across both 2.3 (Learning, Teaching and Assessment), 3.2 Raising attainment and next steps in line with planned improvements within the school improvement plans. Report will go to the Education Committee in January 2025. PPP and Incredible Years being delivered to all Community members within the ELC.

Partnership with Beechbrae to continue with a targeted intervention beginning soon.



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Nativity 'Whoops a Daisy Angel' will be held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and invitations will be extended to Community Council Members (formal invite).

Primary seven pupils will be invited to visit the Monday Club and the Craft Club which are held within the Craig Inn Centre to give pupils the opportunity to help familiarise members with the latest mobile phone technology, and Apps. There will include a visit to the adjacent Library to allow pupils to see facilities available to them.

**4. Police Update:**

Apologies received from the Community Policing Team who were unable to attend. The Community are looking for support in relation to recent incidents within the Village and it is hoped that the Community Police will be available to attend the December meeting to give an update. Councillor Susan Manion will contact them to obtain statistics and other information.

**5. Finance:**

There have been no transactions since October 2024.

Kate Strachan will explore the possibilities of other bank accounts for the BCC which will not incur monthly charges and will report back.

There is currently £9,512.29 held in the account most of which is allocated to projects.

**6. Planning:**

There is still no update on the new housing development in Blackridge. Applications in progress were discussed.

**7. Newsletter/Website:**

Dawn Lindsay will assist Alan Montgomery on maintaining the website.

Those who submitted articles for the next Newsletter were thanked for their input.

Focus will be on the Community Support Survey QR Code which is based on the closure of the Craig Inn Centre and giving residents the opportunity to provide their input via the questions on the QR code. Volunteers are required to deliver the Newsletter within the Blackridge area.

**8. Projects:**

Costings to be looked into for installation of fingerpost signs within the village to provide directions for visitors and residents to the Health Centre, Craig Inn Centre, and other places of interest.

Costings also being looked into for provision of additional Dog Bag dispensers.

New members are required to help at Blackridge Railway Station. Application Forms can be obtained upon request and once approved Training will be provided.

**9. Health Centre:**

There is no update this month.



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### **10. AOB:**

Concerns were raised regarding the recent incident where boulders have been placed on the cycle path between Northrigg Road, Blackridge and Armadale. This is also a concern for disabled access. Unfortunately, Custodians of the track have proved unhelpful.

It is hoped that the overgrown grass on the narrow section of this cycle path can be tidied up allowing users to safely stay within the footpath, once permission has been sought from the Landowner(s)

Concerns expressed regarding Herris Fencing placed around the recently burnt-out building in Main Street West which could prove a Health & Safety issue for visually impaired, disabled and Mothers with pushchairs.

### **Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on the **17<sup>th</sup> December 2024** at **7pm** within the Craig Inn Community Centre, Blackridge.