



# BLACKRIDGE

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting. Date: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2025  
Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
<b>COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS</b>	Community Police Officers
Marion Stewart (Chair)	Caroline Melville
Kate Strachan	Clark Steele
Dawn Lindsay	Fiona Wilson
Keith Baylis	Rebecca Rylott
Billy Craig	Ally Graham
June MacKay	Sadie Montgomery
John Ramsay	Alan Montgomery
	Mrs McGoldrick
	Mrs Barker-Harrison
<b>INVITED GUESTS</b>	
Cllr Andrew McGuire	
Cllr Lynda Kenna	
Cllr Susan Manion	

**1. Minutes from last meeting**

Proposed: John Ramsay  
Seconded: Billy Craig

**2. Matters Arising:** None.

**3. School Update:** None available.

**4. Police Update:** Police sent a report highlighting four incidents.

1. Windows smashed at the Health Centre over a weekend. As there was no CCTV or witnesses, suspects could not be identified.
2. Group of six youths throwing rocks at windows of an address, but they had run off before the Police arrived. There were a further six calls of a similar nature in the same area over the month including ASB, shoplifting, and vandalism. Reactions from parents are mixed, with a lack of responsibility taken by many. The behaviour is continuing.
3. A disturbance between two males, with fighting, broken bottles, and threats. Both parties traced and no injuries and did not want to cooperate with Police.
4. Total of five calls over one week relating to off-road bikes on main roads. The last of these reported an offroad bike colliding with a fence and causing damage. Officers attended, but the male had made off before they arrived.

Discussion followed on other ASB issues. Graffiti on bus shelters, telephone junction boxes, etc. If the words are sectarian or abusive, the Council will clean it. Further discussion on a rock thrown by children, breaking a window of a house on Westcraigs Road. Cllr Kenna advised that she is trying re-activate an initiative used in the past to tackle ASB. General agreement that the problems are getting worse again and that it is a small cohort of children and youths who are difficult to manage and unwilling to engage with adult supervision.

There is an untaxed vehicle parked in the village. Details will be sent to DVLA.

**5. Finance:** The balance in the account is **£10,593.48**

**6. Planning:** 55 Harthill Road, garage, and garden room  
5 Entryfoot, House and wind turbine.  
5 Maclean Terrace, parking area.

**7. Newsletter/Website:** The deadline for contributions to the winter edition is 21<sup>st</sup> of November. The 2026 calendar is available from the Camera Club.

**8. Projects:** The baskets are now in place at the station, and we hope to have whisky barrel planters in the spring.  
The trees from the school are still in storage and should be dried enough to be workable. Suggestion that perhaps the woodwork department at Armadale Academy could turn them into objects for Blackridge.

**9. Health Centre:** E-Consult is still causing problems for patients. Cllr Manion is raising this with the Scottish Government.

**10. AOB:**

Enid Trevett, from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust will be at the Craig Inn Centre at **6.30pm** on **18<sup>th</sup> November** to discuss our wishes for the community.  
Please bring a friend for this Community Mapping event.  
Community councillors are reminded to attend before the next meeting.

Billy Craig attended a peatland restoration open day at Blawhorn Moss. He reported that a significant sum of money has been spent on machinery.  
Keith Baylis circulated a paper on possible improvements to Blackridge's facilities and services.

**Date of next meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7pm at the Craig Inn Centre.**