

BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes from Tuesday 21st February 2023

Craig Inn Centre

PRESENT

APOLOGIES

COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS	A Valentini
Marion Stewart	A Montgomery
S Montgomery	R Rylott
B Craig	J Robertson
J Ramsay	Cllr S Borrowman
K Strachan	Cllr L Kenna
	K Baylis
INVITED GUESTS	
A Graham	
Cllr McGuire	
A Middleton	

Minutes from last meeting

Proposed: S Montgomery

Seconded: J Ramsay

Matters Arising:

Craig Inn Centre open day went really well. There was good attendance, but the centre may be under threat of closure if it is not used more. Cllr McGuire advised that the Council voted today not to close the library. Whilst the Council is looking at cost saving measures, Blackridge is not over-provided and there may be other ways of achieving this.

School Update: None.

Police Update:

Police unable to attend, report circulated. Nothing of note for Blackridge.

Finance:

Kate will make a spreadsheet to record transactions. Will send to Marion.

Planning:

Benches for Westrigg Way. Design circulated for approval.

New windfarm plans for Harthill.

Following the windfarm open evening held in the Craig Inn Centre on 9th February, discussion took place on how Blackridge projects were currently being funded by Drumduff, at present they do not fund through Foundation Scotland, but make their own grants. No information was available until Marion brought some details to this meeting. Representatives are invited to the next meeting to discuss.

Quarterly BMET meeting will be taking place on Thursday 16th March at Craig Inn Centre.

The revised MOU for Foundation Scotland has been sent to the community council for approval.

Application in the pipeline for 600 houses on the old brickworks site in Armadale.

Discussion of work starting in the site on Craiginn Terrace near the railway station.

Newsletter/Website:

Deadline is the end of April.

Hoping to have a children's event for Easter on 16th April.

Projects:

Trees will be arriving soon to be planted at various locations around the village.

Health Centre:

Very busy with phone calls and patients. Highest demand ever. Congratulations and thanks to the staff, who have been understanding, polite and kind.

AOB:

New bus route Edinburgh to Glasgow via Heartlands. Cllr Kenna has written to Citylink asking if the new route could take in Blackridge.

New road open at Blawhorn Moss, access is much easier now. A new boardwalk is planned for the future.

Buses are still unreliable. Cllr Maguire advised that McGills have ordered 47 new buses. The Council will try to help with advertising for recruitment of drivers. There may be other options to improve services. You can complain about a bus that does not arrive and these figures are collated by the Transport Commissioners.

New head teacher has started at Armadale Academy. She is keen to come to a CC meeting and introduce herself.

Request for traffic lights at the railway bridge on Harthill Road was put to the councillor. This has been requested before and refused.

Question was asked to see if there is any progress a proposed shop at new development at Craiginn Terrace.

Question was asked to see if Louburn flats going to be demolished? Residents seem to have been told that they are, but Cllr Maguire has not heard this.

Inappropriate parking was mentioned on entrance and exit to J4A Heartlands. Cllr Maguire will speak to the police.

Next Meeting: AGM, 21st March 2023 at 7.00pm in the Craig Inn Centre