



BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting. Date: Tuesday 17th February 2026
Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS	Cllr Susan Manion
Marion Stewart (Chair)	Lorraine Bryce
Fiona Wilson (Secretary)	
Alan Montgomery	
Keith Bayliss	
Rebecca Rylott	
Kate Strachan	
June MacKay	
John Ramsay	
Billy Craig	
Sadie Montgomery	
Caroline Melville	
Michelle Thackeray	
INVITED GUESTS	
Cllr Andrew McGuire	
Community Police	
Ally Graham	
Callum Rylott (S5 Armadale Academy)	
Clarke Steele	

1. Welcome

Marion welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Acting Head Teacher Kelly Plenderleith for attending her first BCC Meeting having started her new post at Blackridge Primary School the previous day.

2. Minutes / Matters Arising

Proposed – John Ramsay
Seconded – June Mackay

Marion announced the resignation of Dawn Lindsay from the Community Council.

3. School Update

- **Blackridge Primary School**

No update due to Acting Head Teacher Kelly Plenderleith taking up post the previous day.

- **Armadale Academy**

No update due to no representation at the Meeting.

4. Police Update

Police Officers attended and gave their apologies for being unable to attend the last meeting. A brief update was provided on reported incidents within the Blackridge area. It was also noted that incidents of vandalism to the Health Centre had increased and this was being monitored.

5. Finance

The books were recently audited, and all was in order. No issues raised.

6. Planning

Information to be e-mailed to Marion.

7. Newsletter/Website

Discussion took place regarding application to Foundation Scotland to assist with the increased costs involved to produce additional / larger Newsletter to village residents. The front cover for the next edition will be provided by someone different, giving others the chance to be involved.

Gala Day will be held on 30th May 2026 therefore the **deadline** for submitting items for inclusion in the Newsletter will be 5th June 2026. Proposed delivery date to village residents is 26th - 28th June 2026. A survey on the BBC can was shared with the community councillors and can be completed using the QR Code provided to give feedback.

8. Community Council Projects

The recent event held to promote physical & mental wellbeing provided a good range of options for the public and a few people attended the event.

Members will be looking at various locations in Blackridge for potential areas to locate the new dog poo bag Dispensers. This will allow dog walkers to tidy up their dog poo safely in the bags provided.

9. Health Centre

No updates at this time.

10.A O B

The Management Committee are holding a 'Celebration' at the Craig Inn Centre on 21st March 2026 between 2pm - 5.30pm to mark the end of the Management Committee prior to West Lothian Council taking over the running of the Centre on the 1st of April 2026. A small buffet will be provided but attendees may take their own drink. Invites are for Management Committee Members, Councillors, and Members of the Users Groups within the Centre.

Notice of the AGM will be held on Monday 16th March 2026 within Room 1 at the Centre and members of the public are invited to attend from 6.15pm - 6.45pm for an update on the future of the Centre.

Blackridge Primary School were invited to submit any articles for the next Newsletter if required.

Fly tipping is still a huge issue within Blackridge and surrounding areas. This is being monitored.

Potholes underneath the Railway Bridge have again been repaired despite the repairs not lasting.

Coalfields Regeneration Trust are holding a Conference on Thursday, 12th March 2026 between 10am – 3pm at the Glenboig Life Centre, 110 Main Street, Glenboig, North Lanarkshire. ML5 2RD. RSVP by 5th March 2026 to CRT.HUB@COALFIELDS-REGEN.ORG.UK

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026 at 7.00pm in the Craig Inn Centre, Blackridge.