



BLACKRIDGE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting. Date: Tuesday 16th June 2026
Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

PRESENT	APOLOGIES
COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS	Alan Montgomery
Marion Stewart (Chair)	Kate Strachan
Fiona Wilson (Secretary)	Cllr Andrew McGuire
Sadie Montgomery	Caroline Melville
Keith Baylis	
Rebecca Rylott	
Billy Craig	
June MacKay	
John Ramsay	
Michelle Thackeray	
INVITED GUESTS	
Cllr Lynda Kenna	
Cllr Susan Manion	
Ally Graham	
Callum Rylott (S5 Armadale Academy)	
Clark Steele	
Kelly Plenderleith (A/Head Blackridge PS)	
Heather Baird	
Enid Trevett	
Lorraine McGrorty	
Christine McGhie	
Matthew McGhie	
Andrew Valentini	
Andrew Cruickshank	
Angela Crolla	
Ruby Gallagher	
Jim Gallagher	
Laura Redmond (WLC)	
Ruth Reid	
George Dakers (Camera Club)	
Michelle Murray	

1. Welcome

Marion welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked those present to introduce themselves to the assembled group as the meeting was a celebration of Blackridge Community Council having first started 50 years ago. Marion gave a brief update and then invited one of the founding members, namely Mr John Ramsay to cut the celebration cake and give a short speech. Mrs Ruby Gallagher was also invited to take part in the celebration and a photo shoot of the occasion. Those present enjoyed the informal buffet and chat amongst the group. Mr Andrew Valentini was thanked for collecting the cake for the event.

2. Minutes / Matters Arising - None

3. School Update

- **Blackridge Primary School**

(Acting) Head Teacher Kelly Plenderleith gave a brief update on the achievements of the pupils which included awards for Netball, Bronze Literary Award and the involvement of a Nature Project with the World Wildlife Fund. It has been a very successful time for pupils and staff in the school on their hard work.

- **Armadale Academy - No update**

4. Police Update - None

5. Finance - None

6. Planning - None

7. Newsletter/Website

The Newsletters were available for distribution by Community Council members to the residents in Blackridge.

8. Community Council Projects

Marion discussed the proposed free trial Handicabs direct bus service from Blackridge to Livingston Centre for residents aged 50 plus. There will be 4 x pick up points in the village. The bus will depart from Blackridge to Livingston at 11.30am and leave Livingston at 3.30pm prompt to return to Blackridge. It was mentioned that one of the recently installed red dog poo bag dispensers has disappeared. Community Council members will visit Blackridge PS next week where they will distribute dog poo bags to pupils and their families when out walking their dogs.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15th September 2026 at 7.00pm in the Craig Inn Centre, Blackridge.