



BLACKRIDGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes from meeting. Date: Tuesday 21st April 2026
Held at Craig Inn Community Centre

| PRESENT | APOLOGIES |
|---|---|
| COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS | Keith Baylis |
| Marion Stewart (Chair) | Kelly Plenderleith (Blackridge PS - HT) |
| Fiona Wilson (Secretary) | Cllr Susan Manion |
| Alan Montgomery | Rebecca Rylott |
| Sadie Montgomery | |
| Kate Strachan | |
| Billy Craig | |
| June MacKay | |
| John Ramsay | |
| Caroline Melville | |
| Michelle Thackeray | |
| INVITED GUESTS | |
| Cllr Andrew McGuire | |
| Cllr Lynda Kenna | |
| Ally Graham | |
| Callum Rylott (S5 Armadale Academy) | |
| Clark Steele | |
| Helen Davies (WLC Youth Action Project) | |

1. Welcome

Marion welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes / Matters Arising

Proposed – Sadie Montgomery
Seconded – Michelle Thackeray

3. School Update

- **Blackridge Primary School**
(Acting) Head Teacher Kelly Plenderleith gave her apologies.
No update.
- **Armadale Academy** - No update.

4. Police Update - None.

5. Finance

Balance is £12,784.03. Nothing further to report

6. Planning

Various items were looked at, and these can be obtained on website.

7. Newsletter/Website

Deadline for articles submitted for inclusion in the Newsletter is 29th May 2026. All group users were again reminded to provide brief information regarding their Club for the Newsletter. Kate will help with the website input. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the BCC it was proposed that an article would be published in the Newsletter by Mr Ramsay and Marion who are longstanding members of the BCC. Photographs to be taken and published with this.

Minutes of the BCC Meetings can be found on the Website which will provide residents with information on things happening in the Centre and village.

8. Community Council Projects

Callum was thanked for restoring two wooden benches which will be delivered to Blackridge Primary School.

Keith and Callum were thanked for their efforts in the installation of Dog Poo Bag Dispensers in various locations in the village. Members now have a key and a supply of bags to keep these Dispensers topped up. Two more Dispensers to be purchased.

Fingerpost signage awaiting installation.

Keith and Rebecca jointly working on the litter picking initiative in the area. 'The Explorers' were in attendance. It was stressed anyone wishing to help with litter picking need to be insured to do so and can contact West Lothian litter pickers for more information and support.

9. Health Centre - Nothing to report.

10. A O B

- Helen Davies, '**Youth Action Project**' attended the meeting and provided an insight on services provided by them. They can be contacted on their website for further information.
- Could additional bins be provided and could current bins be relocated, e.g. possibly outside the Pharmacy and health centre.
- Concerns were again raised about vandalism and graffiti.
- Quad bikes, off road bikes are still being driven erratically in and around the area causing distress and concern to residents.
- A question was asked surrounding West Lothian's strategy on Travelling communities in the village and surrounding area.
- Tree branches and bushes overhanging onto the pavement(s) in some streets causing problems for pedestrians.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th May 2026 at 7.00pm in the Craig Inn Centre, Blackridge.