

Minutes of Meeting of Old Luce Community Council held in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm on Monday 2nd June 2025.

Present

Ian Paterson - Chairman

Allan Clark

Gordon McKinstry

Fred Murray - Vice Chairman

Neil Douglas

Joan Miskimmins

Kenny McKinstry - Treasurer

Diane Lowe

Jocelyn Vance - Secretary

In attendance: Jane McDowall, Minute Secretary

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

1. Apologies

Marion Muir.

2. Police Business

One (non-disclosable) incident this month. It is an isolated incident which will have no impact and poses no risk to the wider public.

Information on Responsible Dog Walking in Scotland and Police recruitment.

The first Online meeting was held on 20th May. Fred was the only community council representative to attend. They had discussed a 20 mph speed limit for Glenluce and difficulties in parking cars in Stranraer.

The next online meeting is on Tuesday 17th June.

It was stated that a van parked on the corner of Main Street opposite junction for C3W (Whitecairn) causing vehicles to have to swing out on to other carriageway on a blind corner. Jane to report to Police.

Jane

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (5th May 2025)

All agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and the adoption of the minutes was proposed by Gordon and seconded by Fred.

4. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda

None.

5. Finance and Micro Grant Applications

Bank account balance = £30,173.47, which includes grant awards for path at Lady Stair Park and work on Stairhaven Coastal Path.

Micro grant applications - none received.

Glenluce Initiative Bank Account - Ian will arrange to meet Robert Copeland to complete form.

Ian

6. Local Issues - Updates and Any New Issues

- **North Street Lorry Park (April 2025)** - D&G Council has sent an update on ongoing misuse of the car park. There are several teams involved, including Trading Standards, and they are working on resolving the issue.
- **Japanese Knotweed (May 2025)** - Growing up back burn. D&G Council advised that it had been due to be treated on 15th May.
- **Sign for New Luce at west end of Glenluce (May 2025)** - A team from D&G Council had inspected the area and a repair will be carried out as part of our future maintenance works.

6. Local Issues - Updates and Any New Issues (continued)

- **Dunragit Level Crossing (May 2025)** - A request had been sent to Network Rail to for a representative to attend a Community Council meeting. There had been no response direct from Network Rail. The discussion is currently between Karen Brownlie at Dumfries & Galloway Council and Network Rail. Karen Brownlie has stated that the Council will keep elected members up to date with progress and next steps.
- **Possible Pollution in Lady Burn (May 2025)** - Notified after last meeting. Reported to SEPA. A staff member had inspected the Lady Burn and did not identify any pollution or impact to the watercourse, stating that there had been a natural reduction of flows due to prolonged period of dry weather.
- **Stairhaven Toilets (June 2025)** - Complaints received again about toilets being locked and human waste being deposited in and around the site. Last year the Council had advised that the toilet block was open April to September. Jane to follow up.

Jane

7. Flower Tubs

Fresh compost had been added to the tubs prior to delivery and planting of flowers by Stuart Kiltie on 12th May. The chairman thanked Jocelyn, Kenny and Fred for watering the plants for five days prior to Gary and Lynne Shaw taking over the watering on their return from holiday. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr and Mrs Shaw.

Diane confirmed that the tubs at Dunragit had been watered during the dry spell.

Ian confirmed that £500 had been paid for the flowers and planting. Stuart had said he would consider doing again next year - for an increase in price to cover his costs. Ian is to contact Stuart early in 2026.

8. Paths and Core Paths Maintenance

Stairhaven - Auchenmalg Coastal Path (March 2022) - D&G Council Access Officer had advised that first cut of path is due to be undertaken at the end of May / beginning of June. The specification for the boardwalk is being drawn up.

Allan advised that a large tree was down, taking some of the banking with it, at the Corkscrew at the Bents. Jane to report.

Jane

9. Lady Stair Park

Path - Fred stated that the contractor planned to commence work in mid-June.

Fred

Changing Accommodation - Fred has inspected the accommodation and believes that the floor can be repaired relatively inexpensively. The toilets will also require replacement.

Jane to contact the Council to progress a lease.

Jane

Tables and Chairs in Glenluce Public Hall - Fred remarked that the Tractor Rally volunteers had quite a wait to return the borrowed tables and chairs due to door being locked. Discussion took place around a fee of £100 having to be paid for the loan of tables and chairs for a community event.

It was agreed that Jane would check the information provided by Old Luce Development Trust on loan of furniture. All agreed that for a community event a deposit should be taken and then refunded as long as the furniture was returned in a clean condition and undamaged.

Jane

Disc Rotor in Lady Stair Park Play Area - No response to initial e-mail to D&G Council - reminder sent.

Jane

10. Whitefield Loch - Woodland

The contractor had sent through the Felling License application for signature. It was agreed that Ian sign on behalf of the CC. Jane will scan and return completed form.

Jane

10. Whitefield Loch - Woodland (continued)

Ian and Fred will arrange a meeting with the Angling Club to discuss format of the new ownership organisation. *Ian*

Mick Bird was thanked for sending Jane contact details for Community Woodland Association.

11. Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company (KCBC)

Fred confirmed that he was standing down. Kenny indicated an interest. Jane to contact Foundation Scotland to enquire if Kenny would be able to sit with Fred at the next online meeting. *Jane*

12. Old Luce Development Trust - Update

Ian reported that he, Lesley Goodchild and Fred, as representatives of Old Luce Community Fund, had attended the meeting of the Trust at the Dunragit Hub on 29th May to discuss the Doctors Surgery. Ian said that it had been a good meeting and there had been a big step forward with progress. Fred stated that he was delighted with the outcome of the meeting and progress.

Neil and Diane confirmed that the plans were now out to tender.

Brambles building warrant is still awaited.

Neil has installed new gates at Ballingclach Industrial Estate. Mathers have now started moving in.

Ian enquired about the Trust looking for funding for a new Activities and Facilities person. Neil confirmed that it would be good to create another job in the area and that Tracy and Leah were at full capacity with workload.

13. Old Luce Community Benefit Fund - Update

Next meeting in July.

Dunragit Hub Defibrillator - Diane reported that this has now been installed and the electrician's invoice will be forwarded for payment, once received. Diane has registered the defibrillator on the national database.

Fourteen people had attended the defibrillator training in the Hub on 8th May.

14. Councillors Update

None present.

15. Correspondence

Community Council Licensing and Planning Session - presentations and documents from D&G Council forwarded to OLCC on 31st May.

South of Scotland Enterprise - Developing a Community Energy Project workshop on 19th June in Castle Douglas. Jane to circulate information. *Jane*

Glenluce Abbey - Historic Environment Scotland - Colin Smyth, MSP had recently met with official from HES. Jane had contacted him about the Abbey. Colin has followed up with HES to request an update in relation to the Abbey.

Glenluce Primary School - had requested the loan of the BBQ for School Fete on 6th June. Ian and Fred had agreed.

Glenluce Gentle Exercise Group - Thank you card received from Sue Murkowski.

Memorial Bench - Eva Legemah - Awaiting further information from Eva.

16. Any Other Competent Business

Jocelyn reported that there was no water available at either Glenjorrie or Old Luce Cemeteries. Jane to report.

Jane

Fred reported on another request for hall fees for the Boccia and New Age Curling group and payment of fees by both OLCC and the Community Shop. Fred will make enquiries.

Fred

Fee for Administration and Book-keeping Services - Kenny proposed an increase of £200 per annum per role and this was seconded by Fred. The increase was awarded for the current financial year and is to be reviewed annually. All agreed.

17. Date of Next Community Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 7th July 2025 in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.58 pm. Ian thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

Future meetings: 2025 - 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December.