

Minutes of Meeting of Old Luce Community Council held in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm on Monday 7th July 2025.

Present

Ian Paterson - Chairman
Fred Murray - Vice Chairman
Kenny McKinstry - Treasurer
Jocelyn Vance - Secretary

Allan Clark
Neil Douglas
Gordon McKinstry
Joan Miskimmins
Marion Muir

Statkraft Representatives:
(part meeting)

Steve Reid, Project Manager
Sam McMillan, Consultant

In attendance: Jane McDowall, Minute Secretary

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

1. Apologies

Diane Lowe and Councillor McCamon.

2. Artfield Forest Wind Farm - Update from Statkraft

Steve Reid and Sam McMillan talked through the project and answered a variety of questions including community benefit fund, use of local contractors, recycling, concrete bases, height of turbines, STEM training, etc. The local suppliers register is open for local businesses.

The Chairman thanked them for their attendance. Steve and Sam left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

3. Police Business

One x fraud this month.

Fred attended the online meeting in June and raised concerns about the roadworks at both ends of the village which were hampered by residents leaving cars in the coned off areas.

The next online meeting is on 15th July.

Police officers had spoken to the owner of the vehicle parked on the corner of Main Street opposite junction for C3W (Whitecairn) and this had now been moved.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting (2nd June 2025)

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

5. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda

A letter of resignation had been received from Mick Bird. A letter of thanks to be sent.

Jane

Members were asked to consider if they knew anyone who would be willing to join the Community Council.

All

6. Finance and Micro Grant Applications

Bank account balance = £29,685.42, which includes grant awards for path at Lady Stair Park and work on Stairhaven Coastal Path.

Micro grant application - Kenny proposed that a micro grant of £185 be awarded for the works required to install a water tap from the Church Hall for use in Old Luce Cemetery. This was seconded by Fred.

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

Ian

7. Local Issues - Updates and Any New Issues

- **North Street Lorry Park (April 2025)** - Response from D&G Council on 4th July: A letter from D&G Council Legal Services will be attached to all items (other than motor vehicles) within the car park instructing that the item must be removed by July 14th. Upon which time anything left in this car park will be removed by D&G Council and any cost recovery may be pursued through the Sherriff Court.
- **Japanese Knotweed (May 2025)** - Growing up back burn. D&G Council advised that it had been due to be treated on 15th May. No change to growth of plants. To be reported. *Jane*
- **Sign for New Luce at west end of Glenluce (May 2025)** - Road sign has been removed.
- **Dunragit Level Crossing (May 2025)** - No update has been received. Jane to contact Karen Brownlie at D&G Council. *Jane*
- **Stairhaven Toilets (June 2025)** - D&G Council advised that these should be open 24 hours a day from April to October, then closed between November and March. Outside water tap available and an Elsan container.

D&G Council staff member had advised that an unknown person had put a sign on the door stating it should be closed, which then meant the door was locked, requiring a key to re-open. The locks are to be changed and the doors will be opened and closed by the person cleaning the toilets.

The D&G Council staff member also advised that a hedge had been planted at the rear of the toilet block and enquired who would maintain it.

- **Tables and Chairs in Glenluce Public Hall (June 2025)** - Further information had been provided since the June meeting. Representatives of Glenluce Vintage Tractor Rally had been advised about the conditions for loan of furniture well in advance of the event, to which they had not raised any query. When representatives of the Tractor Rally collected the furniture they refused to pay the deposit, and said they were taking the furniture.

The chairs had been returned in good condition but the tables had been dirty and required the services of a cleaner to ensure they were clean and available for use.

The members of Old Luce Community Council were disappointed by the behaviour of the representatives of Glenluce Vintage Tractor Rally when collecting the furniture.

Members fully supported the payment of a deposit, which is returned once the furniture is returned in good order. Members made the suggestion that the deposit should be paid at least two weeks in advance, particularly where a group or organisation is involved, otherwise they should be informed that the tables and chairs will not be available to collect because they have not abided by the terms of the loan agreement.

- **Water Supply at Old Luce and Glenjorrie Cemeteries (June 2025)** - D&G Council has repaired the water supply at Glenjorrie Cemetery. Micro Grant awarded to allow for installation of water for Old Luce Cemetery. *Jane*
- **Pavement / Path between New Luce junction and Viaduct (July 2025)** - The edge of the path above field below is broken and would appear to be subsiding, along with the fence. To be reported. *Jane*
- **Metal Items at side of A75 (July 2025)** - Joan passed on a report by a local resident about bits of metal and a tyre rim left at the side of the road near Daisyknowe after a local litter pick. Allan offered to lift. *Allan*
- **Road Markings at Junction to North Street (July 2025)** - Fred advised that these required re-painting. Jane to report. *Jane*
- **Dunragit Railway Line Path (July 2025)** - It was noted that this lack of cutting of this path had been a recent topic on a local Facebook page. The Trust had recently advertised for contractors to cut paths around the area and had received no responses.

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

- **Community BBQ (July 2025)** - At the request of the school, this had been collected and is now stored in the Sports Hut. It was noted, with disappointment, that it was covered in bits of food and would require cleaning before it was able to be used again.
- **Glenluce Primary School - Additional Teacher (July 2025)** - Concerns were raised about the recent correspondence from the Head Teacher advising that an extra teacher was joining the school after the summer term, shortly thereafter followed by notification that this would not be happening.

There are now 71 pupils on the school roll with one full time teacher and several others on job share making up the other two teaching roles. This included one who was only able to be present for two hours a week. Children will be split into three groups: P1 - 3, P3 - 5 and P5 - 7. Concerns were raised about why the funding for a fourth teacher had been announced and then pulled so quickly as well as how this will impact upon the children.

It was agreed that Jane was to send a letter to request further information.

Jane

8. Paths and Core Paths Maintenance

Stairhaven - Auchenmalg Coastal Path (March 2022) - D&G Council Access Officer had advised that first cut of path was due to be undertaken at the end of May / beginning of June. This has not yet happened. Update requested. A contractor has been contacted about installation of the boardwalk.

9. Lady Stair Park

Path - The works have now been completed by Slavin Plant and many compliments have been received. Invoice from D&G Council is being sent to the chairman for payment by OLCC.

Changing Accommodation - Jane has twice contacted the Council to progress a lease. No response to date.

Jane

Disc Rotor in Lady Stair Park Play Area - D&G Council looking to replace in the winter.

10. Whitefield Loch - Woodland

The application for a felling license has now been submitted. Details for two arborists have been supplied - Jane to contact.

Jane

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

Ian

11. Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company (KCBC)

The chairman of KCBC and Foundation Scotland has agreed that Kenny is able to sit in with Fred at the next meeting in August.

12. Old Luce Development Trust - Update

Ian, Fred and Lesley Goodchild from the Panel had attended part of the Trust's recent meeting for an update on the Doctors Surgery and to discuss funding. The project is moving forward.

Neil advised that all is going fine. The works for Brambles are out to tender and the Doctors Surgery is moving on. One quote has been received for the first stage.

13. Old Luce Community Benefit Fund - Update

Ian advised that they had met in the middle of June. No grant applications at that time.

Katie at Foundation Scotland has provided the Panel meeting report to be circulated with Old

Luce Community Council's minutes.

13. Old Luce Community Benefit Fund - Update (continued)

Dunragit Hub Defibrillator - The electrician's invoice has still not been received and the grant report is long past due. Kenny agreed that he will contact the electrician to chase up the invoice.

Kenny

14. Councillors Update

None present.

15. Correspondence

Kilgallioch Extension - online meeting on 14th July - Ian and Fred attending.

GDPR Information from D&G Council - circulated.

Dumfries and Galloway Council has produced a draft Small Turbines Planning Guidance for consultation. Responses due by 25th July. Circulated.

16. Any Other Competent Business

None.

17. Date of Next Community Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st September 2025 in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm. Ian thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

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