

Minutes of Meeting of Old Luce Community Council held in Glenluce Public Hall at 8 pm on Monday 1st September 2025.

Present

Ian Paterson - Chairman
Fred Murray - Vice Chairman
Kenny McKinstry - Treasurer
Allan Clark

Gordon McKinstry
Joan Miskimmins
Marion Muir

In attendance: Jane McDowall, Minute Secretary

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

1. Apologies

Councillor McCamon, Jocelyn Vance and Neil Douglas.

2. Police Business

Four x breach of the peace, one x fraud and 1 x non disclosable reported this month. Most are part of the same incident.

Fred had attempted to join the online August meeting but not been admitted by the host. Nothing to report.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (7th July 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 Gordon.

4. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda

None.

5. Finance and Micro Grant Applications

Bank account balance = £29,483.67, which includes grant awards for path at Lady Stair Park and work on Stairhaven Coastal Path.

Expenditure = £14,088 to D&G Council for the installation of path at Lady Stair Park and £200 for the AED and CPR course at Dunragit Hub. No invoice has been received for the installation of the defibrillator.

Micro grant reports received from Glen of Luce SWI and Glenluce Gentle Exercise Group. Both groups had found the micro grants very beneficial. Glenluce Gentle Exercise Group had offered to return the unspent portion of the grant, which was £2.25. It was unanimously agreed that this should be retained by the Trust, on behalf of the group.

Jane

Micro grant application from Newton Stewart Initiative - Request for £500 for postage to distribute Machars Events leaflets to all households in the DG8 postcode area. It was unanimously agreed not to award a micro grant as the benefit was not primarily for residents within Old Luce Parish.

Jane

Dumfries and Galloway Council Discretionary Grant for Events - Glenluce had been awarded £552.80 for events, including the Christmas Lights Switch on. Diane had applied separately for the £300 allocated to Dunragit.

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)** - It was reported that although most of the vehicles, caravans and trailers had been removed there were still some in the lorry park, with new ones being added. To be reported again. *Jane*
- **Japanese Knotweed (May 2025)** - Still growing up back burn - now in three areas. This has been reported twice to D&G Council and not treated. To be reported again. *Jane*
- **Dunragit Level Crossing (May 2025)** - Updates received from both D&G Council and Network Rail. Statement from Network Rail:

"Network Rail is currently in the development stages of works to modernise the signalling system of the railway between Girvan and Stranraer. Part of the works will involve the rationalisation and removal of redundant infrastructure and includes looking at options for Dunragit level crossing. Once the proposal is at a stage where there is sufficient detail to share, we will engage with the community and their representatives including Dumfries and Galloway Council."
- **Stairhaven Toilets (June 2025)** - The toilets are open and there are no other issues.
- **Water Supply at Old Luce Cemetery (June 2025)** - Minister advised that micro grant had been awarded to allow for works to be undertaken to install tap.
- **Pavement / Path between New Luce junction and Viaduct (July 2025)** - D&G Council has this on their repairs list.
- **Metal Items at side of A75 (July 2025)** - Allan was thanked for removing items.
- **Road Markings at Junction to North Street (July 2025)** - D&G Council has on their list.
- **Dunragit Railway Line Path (July 2025)** - The Trust had undertaken some strimming work.
- **Glenluce Primary School - Additional Teacher (July 2025)** - Unable to follow up without the background information.
- **Potholes at North Street and Church Street (September 2025)** - To be reported.
- **Fineview Path (September 2025)** - A local resident had reported that the path from the back of Fineview to Sun Street and down to shop was overgrown. To be reported. *Jane*
- **Closure of The Cock Inn (September 2025)** - The sudden closure of The Cock Inn had been noted at the May meeting. A group of concerned local residents had met at the beginning of August and formed a group called Friends of The Cock Inn. They have contacted MSPs, MP, Councillor and D&G Council to try to ensure this historic Inn remains open. Old Luce Community Council fully supported the group in their campaign. *Jane*

7. Paths and Core Paths Maintenance

Stairhaven - Auchenmalg Coastal Path (March 2022) - D&G Council Access Officer had advised that the first cut of the path had been undertaken at the start of July but he had not been able to verify. Kenny agreed to check. *Kenny*

It was agreed to utilise the grant award to carry out a thorough cut back of vegetation before the winter set in. The boardwalk is progressing.

8. Lady Stair Park

Changing Accommodation - The Council has now responded with a proposal for the Community Council to pay £50 per annum, and be responsible for any rates, utilities and costs of repairs.

The secretary was instructed to reply and offer £1 per annum from Old Luce CC. *Jane*

9. Whitefield Loch - Woodland

An arborist is due to visit the site in September.

The Woodland Trust was offering saplings to community groups with applications closing on 29th August. Ian and Fred had agreed that Jane should submit an application. The Woodland Trust had recently confirmed that the Community Council had been successful and would be sent the saplings in November. It was noted that tree guards would be required.

Jane

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

Ian

10. Christmas Lights Switch On

Saturday 29th November in Glenluce Public Hall. Jane to book the Hall.

Jane

Fred will organise refreshments and Jocelyn had offered to assist.

Fred

Ian will make enquiries about a tree for Glenluce - approximately 5 metres.

Dunragit organising their own tree and refreshments this year. Date and details awaited.

11. Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company (KCBC)

Kenny had been unable to attend the meeting on 11th August due to work commitments. Fred and Jane had attended the online grant decisions meeting.

12. Old Luce Development Trust - Update

Ian, Fred, Marion and Lesley Goodchild from the Panel had attended part of the Trust's meeting held earlier this evening at the Dunragit Hub for an update on the Doctors Surgery. The project is moving forward.

13. Old Luce Community Benefit Fund - Update

Ian advised that the Panel had met online recently. An award to Old Luce Ploughing Society had been granted to support their 180th Anniversary match, which is being held on 4th October at Whitecreek. The match will be attended by horse and vintage ploughers.

14. Councillors Update

None present.

15. Correspondence

Soil Association - Forestry Consultation - consultation - responses by 15th August. Circulated.

FREE Stay Warm Stay Well Training from Energy Action Scotland - August dates available to book now - circulated.

Public Consultation - Independent Review of the process for Determining Electoral Boundaries in Scotland - circulated.

D&G Council - Online meetings for Community Councils - circulated.

D&G Council - Community Council Conference on 20th September - circulated.

Galloway Mountain Rescue - Request for letter of support towards GMRT's purchase of the courtyard at Kirroughtree - circulated. It was unanimously agreed to provide a letter of support for Galloway Mountain Rescue.

Jane

Foundation Scotland - Update on Foundation Scotland Investment Strategy - circulated.

15. Correspondence

D&G Council - Community Resilience - Engagement and Training Sessions - circulated.

Invitation to Community Ownership Roadshow on Thursday 18th September at The Merse in Wigtown from Meg Taintor, Community Land Scotland. Circulated.

Old Luce Development Trust - SP Energy Networks / Sirio Strategies inviting the Public Hall to become an emergency Warm Hub. It was recommended that the Trust enquire about a generator for the Hall in the event of power cuts.

Jane

16. Any Other Competent Business

Kilgallioch Extension - Arex and Kilx Delivery Route e-mail - online meeting on 14th July - Fred attended.

There will be one or two payments to communities impacted by the transport of turbines. Old Luce is not included as a main beneficiary.

17. Date of Next Community Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 6th October 2025 in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm. Ian thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

Future meetings: **2025** - 3rd November and 1st December. **2026** 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April, 4th May, 1st June, 6th July, 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November and 7th December.

**Annual General Meeting of Old Luce Community Council
to be held in Glenluce Public Hall at 7.45 pm on Monday 6th October 2025**

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting (4th November 2024)
3. Chairman's Report
4. Annual Accounts and Appointment of Independent Examiner of Accountant
5. Appointment of Office Bearers and confirmation of Community Councillors
6. Any Other Competent Business