



WANLOCKHEAD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 11th August 2026
Wanlockhead Community Centre
6.30 pm – 8.00 pm

Chair's Welcome and Meeting Protocol.

The Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting and remind members and members of the public of the meeting protocol, including respectful participation. Questions and comments from the public will be taken during the Public Forum agenda item unless invited to speak earlier.

Present Committee Members: (7) Elected Members) Chair, Robert McCafferty (RM) Secretary, Karen Morrison (KM), Treasurer, Steven Morrison (SM), Paris Dearden (PD), Lesley Johnston (LJ), Androulla Richford (AR), Lincoln Richford (LR),

Also in Attendance: Five members of the public present.

1	Welcome and apologies for absence. Chair RM welcomed members, guests and members of the public to the meeting. The Chair read out the Chair's Meeting Protocol. Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Williamson (MW), Gordon Wishart (GW), Graham Auld (GA) and Jon Evans (JE). The meeting was confirmed as quorate.
2	Declarations of Interest. No member declared an interest in any of the agenda items.
3	Adoption of Minutes from - 12th July 2026. Corrections to Draft Minutes - The names of the seven newly elected members, which were omitted from the relevant section of the draft minutes, have now been included in Section 5 of the minutes of 12 July 2026. The seven newly elected members are: Graham Auld (GA), Paris Dearden (PD), Lesley Johnston (LJ), Androulla Richford (AR), Lincoln Richford (LR), Margaret Williamson (MW), Gordon Wishart (GW). A copy of the amended minutes will be forwarded to Dumfries & Galloway Council for their records. Amendment proposed by: SM Seconded by: AR The full minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2026 were then proposed for adoption. Proposed by: RM Seconded by: LJ The minutes were approved.



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4	Matters Arising. Moffat Surgery Update: KM reported information provided by GW following his telephone conversation with James Crosbie, Operations Manager at Moffat Surgery, undertaken on behalf of Wanlockhead Community Council. The dispensing machine at Leadhills has been repaired and is operational. However, it will remain out of use until the surgery's current IT system changeover has been completed. In the meantime, prescriptions will continue to be dispensed through Leadhills General Store. KM also reported that the nurse-led clinics at Leadhills, held every second Wednesday, have resumed after an approximate two-month interruption due to the illness of the nurse assigned to the clinic and the lack of a suitably qualified replacement. The clinics have now been running again for around one month. James Crosbie advised that the surgery is currently undergoing an IT system changeover and that the timescales provided are his best estimate based on the information available. He also offered to provide any further information the Community Council may require. Remembrance Day - KM advised that Lindsay Warren from Southern Upland Pastfinders, has volunteered to coordinate the Remembrance Day arrangements independently of the Community Council, has been in contact and will now proceed with the necessary preparations. It was also noted that LJ has kindly agreed to lay the poppy wreath on behalf of Wanlockhead Community Council during the Remembrance Day service. Action: KM to email Dumfries & Galloway Council to confirm that Wanlockhead Community Council is content for the Southern Upland Pastfinders to seek funding towards hospitality for the event. Recycling Bank Relocation - It was reported that contact had been maintained with D&G Council regarding the proposed relocation of the recycling bank. The Council is currently considering alternative locations within the village. Action: KM to follow up with Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding progress.
5	Correspondence. Correspondence received since the previous meeting had been circulated to members for information and review.



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5 Cont.	An email response from the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) regarding Watchman Energy Park (ECU00006030) was read out to members. The ECU confirmed that the consultation period for the application had now closed. It was noted that, as set out in the application's public notice, Scottish Ministers may still consider written representations received after the consultation period has closed. A general discussion took place regarding the consultation process and the opportunity for members of the community to submit representations following the close of the formal consultation period. It was noted that any further representations must be made in writing by post to the address provided in the application's public notice. Ravengill - Consultation Extension - Correspondence had been received regarding a request from members of the Leadhills Ravengill Action Group (RAG) for the three local Community Councils – Leadhills, Wanlockhead and Crawford & Elvanfoot to jointly request an extension to the six-week consultation period for the Ravengill Energy Park (ECU00006172) application. The current closing date for representations was noted as 25 August 2026. A general discussion took place regarding the request and the limited timeframe available for Community Councils to consider and submit representations. It was also noted that Wanlockhead Community Council had, to date, had no direct contact with either RAG or Glensalloch Action Group (GAG) in relation to any wind turbine proposals or related matters. Following discussion, it was agreed that Wanlockhead Community Council would formally write to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit to request an extension to the consultation period for the Ravengill Energy Park application. Action: PD to arrange for the correspondence to be prepared and sent to the Chair of Wanlockhead Community Council for approval, before being submitted via the Secretary's inbox to the Energy Consents Unit, requesting an extension to the consultation period. Community Centre Resilience Enquiry - An email had been received requesting confirmation from the Community Council regarding the Wanlockhead Inn being identified as the Resilience Hub, when required, to allow the Community Centre to consider its own resilience planning and next steps. The email was read out to members, and a general discussion took place. It was noted that three buildings had originally been considered in relation to resilience arrangements. The Community Council does not determine which building will be used
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5 Cont.	as the Resilience Hub at the time it is required; the current arrangement identifies the Wanlockhead Inn as the preferred hub. It was also noted that having two buildings identified as Resilience Hubs could potentially cause confusion. The Community Council's role is to support the wider community resilience arrangements rather than make decisions regarding the operation of another organisation or business. The Community Centre and other relevant organisations were advised to contact the Community Council when they can provide further information regarding its own resilience arrangements. The Community Council will consider any updates received and help where appropriate. Community Shed - The Board of the Wanlockhead Community Centre had requested that the Development Officer prepare a submission to the Community Council for consideration of the Community Shed being transferred to WCC SCIO, to be managed as part of its proposed offer. The submission should include consideration of the shed's capacity, opening times and potential uses. A general discussion took place regarding the feasibility of this proposal and the future use and management of the shed. It was noted that, although the shed is currently closed to the public, it remains operational and is used for a few community purposes. The Community Council currently oversees the shed, primarily through the Office Bearers, and the shed is covered by insurance. The clothing swap facility and collection of printer ink are currently provided through the Community Centre, and it was considered that these uses would be better suited to remain within the Community Centre building. The potential use of the shed for the storage and distribution of wood and fuel was also discussed, as this could provide a useful service to the community, particularly given the Community Council's existing annual provision of wood. D&G Council Telecare Service - It was agreed that a representative from the Dumfries & Galloway Council Telecare Service would be invited to attend a future Community Council meeting to provide information on the service. Action: KM to contact the Telecare Service and arrange an invitation to a future meeting.
6	Treasurer's report. Account 1- £6,865.68 Account 2 – £2,595.69 Account 3 – £11,655.19



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7	Funding Applications. Clyde Microgrants Applicant: Wanlockhead Community Centre Amount Requested: £475.15 Purpose: Purchase of a wood store to store kindling from the community payback scheme. Outcome: Approved The application was approved with 7 members voting in favour, no abstentions and no members not voting. Action: KM to arrange payment to the Wanlockhead Community Centre.
8	Local Place Plan. A comprehensive discussion took place regarding the Local Place Plan and the way forward in progressing the plan to the next stage. Relevant sections of Section 5 of the Local Place Plan were reviewed, including the role of the three key community organisations, the Wanlockhead Museum Trust, Community Centre and Community Council. It was noted that there should also be opportunities for local businesses and residents to become involved. A general discussion took place regarding community engagement and how local organisations, businesses, volunteers and residents could be encouraged to participate. It was agreed that an initial meeting should take place between the Wanlockhead Museum Trust, Wanlockhead Community Centre, Wanlockhead Inn, Wanlock Visions CIC and Wanlockhead Community Council to discuss the next steps. Action: KM to contact the Community Centre to confirm hall availability and arrange an initial meeting with the organisations mentioned for dates in September.
9	Renewco / Glensalloch Wind Projects. The Ravengill Energy Park (ECU00006172) consultation remains open for comments until 25 August 2026. The consultation extension request is addressed under the relevant correspondence item. There were no further updates to report regarding the Glensalloch Wind Project at this time. For the most up-to-date information, members and residents are encouraged to refer to the respective project websites.

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10	Public Forum. A question was raised regarding the funding for the Local Place Plan, which was provided through the Twentysilling Hill Community Benefit Fund, and whether there may be an opportunity to employ someone to assist with progressing the plan. It was noted that progressing the Local Place Plan may involve a significant amount of work for the Community Council, and the possibility of employing someone to assist with this work could be considered as the plan progresses.
11	Roads, Drainage & Infrastructure. Spray patching has recently been carried out on the B797 and within the village. Members noted concerns regarding the quality of the spray patching, with some areas appearing not to have adequately filled the potholes and leaving considerable mess on the road surface. Dumfries & Galloway Council has advised that works to repair two landslips on the B797 are scheduled to commence on 24 August 2026, with works expected to continue until 25 September 2026. The works will include repairs to the landslip currently controlled by temporary traffic lights and a second landslip within Wanlockhead village, adjacent to Hastings House. Road closures will be in place during working hours, Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 5.00pm, with signed diversion routes in operation. Resident access will be maintained in accordance with the Council's traffic management arrangements. It was noted that Dumfries & Galloway Council has written to every household regarding the planned road closure, and the information has also been shared on social media. Drainage issues will also be considered as part of the upcoming roadworks. Action: KM to contact the Roads Department to request a site meeting to discuss the road surface, drainage and ongoing issues within the village.
12	Community Police Report. KM attempted to join the Community Policing Team meeting on 5 August 2026; however, the meeting link failed. Inspector Callum Dalgleish-Little subsequently advised by email that there were no incidents to report within the Wanlockhead Community Council area. KM also raised a concern regarding reports of vehicles speeding through the village, following concerns brought to the attention of the Community Council.



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13	Community Council Update. River Nith Fishery Trust - Mennock Pass Riparian Habitat Scheme: The Community Centre has been booked for a public engagement event on 19 August 2026, from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. Everyone is welcome to come along, hear about the proposed scheme and find out more about what is planned. War Memorial. The preferred contractor has been contacted regarding the planned works to the War Memorial and will commence the works as soon as possible. Community Shed - Discussion on Community Centre Proposal A general discussion took place regarding the Community Shed and its use over the past year. It was noted that logs and kindling had been purchased for the shed and had proved to be a useful option. It was agreed that this would be considered again for the coming year, with a community microgrant application to be sought to support this. The shed had been monitored over a period of 68 weeks, during which there were 20 weeks when nobody attended. Attendance had been recorded by numbers only, with no personal details collected. The use of the shed for a food-sharing facility was also discussed. Concerns were raised regarding the lack of heating in the shed and the potential impact of both summer temperatures and winter conditions on the storage and shelf life of food. The operation of the food-sharing facility was also considered in relation to insurance, monitoring and ensuring that it provides good value to the community. It was agreed that there would no longer be food available from the community shed at this time, it may be revisited if found to be a benefit to the community. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Community Council would continue to support the winter fuel project through the Community Shed. A community microgrant application will be sought to support the continuation of the project. Action: RM to progress the community microgrant application. Residents are invited to provide any comments or feedback regarding the proposed expansion of the winter fuel project. Lowther Railway Society - It was noted that Wanlockhead Community Council has had no contact with the Lowther Railway Society despite several attempts and also an invitation to attend a past meeting.
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13 Cont.	Correspondence has been sent to Buccleuch Estates requesting clarification regarding the ownership of the land on which the railway line between Leadhills and Wanlockhead is situated at Glengonor. This enquiry follows ongoing concerns regarding water runoff from the railway embankment, which is affecting the recently resurfaced road and surrounding area near the top of the village. The Community Council is working with D&G Council regarding the clearing of drains in this area and throughout the village. The Community Council has previously attempted to contact the Lowther Railway Society regarding the water runoff but has not received a response. Clarification of the land ownership and any lease arrangements would assist in identifying the appropriate party to engage with to address the issue, particularly ahead of the winter months. Action: Await a response from Buccleuch Estates regarding the land ownership and any relevant lease arrangements. Resilience - A discussion took place regarding the need to strengthen communications as part of the Community Council's resilience arrangements. It was proposed that a low-orbit satellite communication system, such as Starlink, be considered to provide communications in the event of an emergency. The main consideration was how the system would be powered in the event of a power outage. Various options were discussed, including the purchase of a portable power station and solar panel to provide an independent power supply. It was proposed that the satellite receiver, power station and solar panel could provide an interim communications facility until an emergency resilience hub is operational, at which point the equipment could be relocated if required. Members agreed that funding should be sought to purchase the required equipment and that the wider community should be informed of the proposal. Action: RM to progress the proposal and investigate suitable funding opportunities. Potential Funding Applications by Wanlockhead Community Council. Wanlockhead Community Council wishes to inform residents of potential funding applications and invite comments from the community. Each year, the Community Council endeavours to support residents by providing wood products for home heating, particularly for those using open fires & stoves. A
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13 Cont.	Community Benefit Fund application will be submitted to seek funding to support the proposed expansion of the project. The Community Council is also considering applying for funding towards resilience and emergency communications equipment, including a low-orbit satellite communication system, portable power station and solar panel. This equipment would provide an independent means of communication during a power or communications outage and could be used as an interim facility until an emergency resilience hub is operational. Residents are invited to provide any comments or feedback on these proposed funding applications to secretary.wanlockhead.cc@gmail.com
14	Any Other Competent Business. A general discussion took place regarding the community gardens. Funding was secured from the Twentysilling Hill Community Benefit Fund in 2024 by the community centre to purchase a strimmer, blower and other equipment. It was noted that the equipment does not appear to have been regularly used to maintain the gardens. The availability and location of the equipment will be clarified by the community centre chair as soon as possible, with the aim of ensuring that it is made available for the benefit of the community to maintain the gardens. It was noted that, once the strimmer is located and available, assistance with cutting the grass can be arranged. It was also noted that the community polytunnel, situated within the gardens, currently has an abundance of fresh produce and that residents are welcome to make use of the available produce. The recently distributed Community Council information leaflet was also discussed. It was noted that the response from residents had been positive when the leaflets were delivered, and that the leaflet had been a good start in communicating with the community. It was agreed that further work could be undertaken to develop and improve future editions. This will be brought forward for further discussion at a future meeting, with volunteers encouraged to assist with its development.
15	Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting. RM thanked members and public present for their continued support. The next meeting will be held on 6 September 2026, 6.30pm in the Wanlockhead Community Centre. The meeting was closed at 8.39pm.