

Wanlockhead Community Council (WCC)
Ordinary Meeting

Sunday 22 February 2026 at the Museum of Lead Mining Tearoom, 6.30pm – 8pm

Contact: secretary.wanlockhead.cc@gmail.com **Website:** <https://wanlockhead.cc>

Present Members: Jon Evans (JE) Chair, Karen Morrison (KM) Secretary, Steven Morrison (SM) Treasurer, Robert McCafferty (RM), Bert Auld (BA).

Present Non-Members: 13 members including Cllr Tony Berretti (Mid Upper Nithsdale)

Item	Discussion
1	<p>Welcome & Apologies.</p> <p>JE Welcomed members and public present to the first meeting of 2026.</p> <p>Apologies noted from Gordon Wishart</p>
2	<p>Adoption of Minutes 2 November 2025.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2025 were approved as a true record, proposed by RM and seconded by SM</p>
3	<p>Place Plan.</p> <p>Chair JE welcomed Nick Wright, who has been commissioned to develop Wanlockhead's Place Plan, to the meeting of Wanlockhead Community Council (WCC).</p> <p>Discussion took place about comments received during the 4 week consultation on the draft Local Place Plan, as contained in this consultation report dated 19 February 2026: https://www.wanlockheadplan.net/s/Wanlockhead-responses-and-changes-to-draft-Plan.pdf). It was agreed by the Community Council that the Plan should be updated as proposed on pages 4 to 7 of the consultation report subject to the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency 'warm hub' (point 9 on page 5 of the consultation report; page 35 of draft Plan) - add an extra action e.g. "Review community emergency resilience plan and seek resources to implement it" and remove reference to the warm hub under action 1 (Community Centre).• Wind turbines (point 16 on page 6 of the consultation report; page 37) - in addition to the amendments suggested in the consultation report, mention other protected bird species such as hen harriers, ospreys and grouse.• Temporary heating pipes in burn near Museum (point 17 on page 6 of the consultation report) - it was agreed to include this under the action on page 37 of the Plan relating to village tidy-up. The pipes are due to be removed in the Spring/Summer as part of an upgrade of the Museum's heating system.• Other small amendments by the Community Council (to be confirmed). <p>All changes to the draft Plan will be recorded in an updated version of the consultation report, which will be made publicly available and attached to the finalised Plan as an appendix. The Community Council will then submit the finalised Plan to Dumfries and Galloway Council for registration as the community's Local Place Plan, noting that it is an accurate reflection of the community's aspirations.</p>

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4	<p>Public Forum.</p> <p>Roads: Concerns were again raised regarding the condition of roads within the village and on routes leading to and from Wanlockhead. Road markings (white lines) within the village are now barely visible. Additional issues highlighted included blocked drains, cracks in the road surface, and areas of possible subsidence.</p> <p>The Chair advised that he has completed a detailed inspection of the B797 (Mennock Pass) and Wanlockhead village, walking the full route and taking approximately 130 photographs as evidence. A comprehensive report has been submitted to the Roads Department at D&G Council and to the Chief Executive of the Council. To date, no response or update has been received to share with residents. The mention of contacting the local press was mentioned and agreed by members,</p> <p>Action: Follow up with D&G Council Roads Department and the Chief Executive requesting a response and update.</p> <p>KM Report Road markings, blocked drains, cracks on the roads, etc to D&G Council.</p> <p>Contact local press if no response regarding the ongoing lack of road repairs to the B797.</p> <p>Buses. Residents raised concerns that the last bus to Wanlockhead does not always run in bad weather, particularly when there is snow and ice on the B797. This is causing difficulties for people who rely on the service and, at times, preventing residents from travelling.</p> <p>There is also concern that if the service does not run consistently, this could affect future decisions about keeping the route.</p> <p>Action: Raise concerns again with the relevant transport authority regarding service reliability.</p>
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<p>4 Cont.</p>	<p>Glensalloch Wind Farm. https://www.glensalloch.co.uk</p> <p>At the previous meeting, Wanlockhead Community Council (WCC) advised that it consider organising its own ballot to gauge interest of the above wind project. Members of the public asked if there had been any progress. RM advised that residents should be surveyed following the second public meeting on 28 April at the Community Centre and further information will be made available on the WCC website https://wanlockhead.cc and social media.</p> <p>A question was also raised regarding progress in opposing the proposed Glensalloch Wind Farm. KM advised that the WCC has received two formal objections to the above wind project. WCC encourage all residents to attend the consultation event on the 28 April where visual representations of the proposed turbines will be available.</p> <p>To date the WCC has not received any correspondence from the newly formed Glensalloch Action Group (GAG). It was suggested this may be due to emails being sent to the wrong address KM advised that the email address has been live since November 25 secretary.wanlockhead.cc@gmail.com and encouraged residents to check the WCC website, social media page where minutes with updated email, and times of future meetings can be found. RM advised that it would have been appropriate for GAG to contact the Community Council to arrange a meeting. It was agreed that a meeting will now be scheduled.</p> <p>Action: Promote attendance at the 28 April consultation meeting to be held within the Wanlockhead Community Centre. Arrange meeting between WCC and GAG.</p> <p>Community Relations A member of the public commented that greater cooperation between village organisations would benefit Wanlockhead and expressed hope that the Place Plan would help bring groups together to work more cohesively.</p> <p>A concern was raised by the Wanlockhead Inn Wanlockhead Inn - Scotland's Highest Pub that events held by the Community Centre Home Wanlockhead Community Centre SCIO may be affecting trade at the pub. This led to a heated discussion.</p> <p>WCC Chair called for order and reminded those present to remain respectful.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Matters Arising from November.</p> <p>Festive Lights. Thanks were expressed to Wanlockhead Museum Trust Scotland's Only Lead Mining Museum Museum of Lead Mining for sponsoring this year's festive lights.</p> <p>It was noted that no formal final meeting of the former Wanlockhead Village Council appears to have taken place to agree the distribution of assets and funds prior to its dissolution in 2021. As a result, ownership of the festive lights remains unclear. The WCC does not currently hold ownership of the lights. Discussion took place regarding whether WCC should adopt the festive lights on behalf of the village and</p>

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<p>5. Cont.</p>	<p>seek funding for future years. It was agreed that residents should be consulted before any decision is taken therefore, Wanlockhead Community Council would like to inform residents of potential funding applications and invite any comments to WCC taking ownership, with responses requested by the next WCC meeting.</p> <p>Actions: Include as an agenda item for decision at the next meeting.</p> <p>Streetlights. Following a CCES request for additional lighting at Toll Brae/Church Street, a response was received advising that four further lights around the Museum and bus stop would be beneficial, at an estimated cost of £7,500. It was suggested this could potentially be funded through Wind Farm subsidies.</p> <p>Members noted the installation of two new lights at Toll Brae/Church Street. The proposal to seek Wind Farm funding for the additional four lights was discussed however, members agreed this would not be appropriate, as street lighting is a statutory responsibility.</p> <p>Action: KM to inform Dumfries and Galloway Council that the matter has been discussed and a decision reached.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Correspondence. Correspondence received since the last meeting November 2025 has been circulated to members.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Treasurer Report.</p> <p>Account 1 – WCC Main Account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Balance: £10,904.70• Closing Balance: £8,137.70 <p>Account 2 – Clyde Wind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Balance: £2,307.00• Closing Balance: £4,402.94 <p>Account 3 – Twentyshilling Hill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Balance: £16,592.44• Closing Balance: £16,579.69

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<p>8</p>	<p>Funding Applications. <u>Twentyshilling Hill</u></p> <p>Wanlockhead Museum Trust - £1,400 Purpose: to carry out white line marking within the museum car park. Outcome: This application has been withdrawn by the Museum Trust and will no longer be considered.</p> <p>Clyde Microgrant Wanlockhead Community Council - £385 Purpose: to purchase ballot boxes, paper, ink, and envelopes. Outcome: Approved</p> <p>Wanlockhead Community Council - £153 Purpose: to match fund the 2nd year of website hosting and management. Outcome: Approved</p> <p>Southern Upland Past Finders advised that they had submitted a funding application, this has not been received by the WCC, advised to check emails and re submit.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Wanlockhead Community Centre – Ongoing Review</p> <p>A letter from Vicky Reid, Chair of Wanlockhead Community Centre, regarding the ongoing review (circulated 20/01/26) was considered.</p> <p>Members noted that the letter suggests that the Community Centre believes it has been subject to discrimination and references each individual member of WCC.</p> <p>KM clarified that the review was initiated in relation to the handling of the Proms & Pizza funding application and associated governance considerations. The purpose of the review is to ensure transparency, consistency, and proper process in funding decisions. It was emphasised that the review was not initiated based on discrimination, but to examine procedure and decision-making to ensure fairness to all applicants.</p> <p>Chair advised that any allegation of discrimination is a serious matter and would require clear supporting evidence. As a statutory body, WCC must ensure that any such claims are properly evidenced and handled in line with governance requirements.</p> <p>KM advised that the review remains ongoing. It was noted that information previously requested from Wanlockhead Community Centre to allow the review to progress has not yet been received. Members agreed that the review cannot be formally concluded until the requested information is provided and considered.</p>

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<p>9 Cont.</p>	<p>The Chair of the Community Centre stated that the Community Centre provides important local activities for residents, and that continued funding is necessary to support the continuation of these services. Members acknowledged these comments. Members reiterated that the review was initiated to ensure transparency, good governance, and fairness in the consideration of funding and community support arrangements. The review is not intended to disadvantage any organisation but to ensure that decision making processes are consistent, evidence-based, and in line with WCC responsibilities as a statutory community body.</p> <p>It was agreed that further discussion is required and that a meeting with trustees of the Community Centre should be arranged to clarify the purpose and scope of the review and to determine next steps.</p> <p>Action: KM to contact the Community Centre secretary to arrange a mutual date for a meeting.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Roads.</p> <p>JE confirmed that he has submitted a comprehensive report to D&G Council regarding the condition of the roads, primarily the B797. An update was provided that the majority of the B797 lies within the Sanquhar Community Council boundary. Despite extensive correspondence, works previously indicated to commence during the week beginning 20 October 2025 have not yet started. Concerns were raised regarding, the poor overall condition of the B797. Its importance as part of the Southwest 300 tourist route, bringing significant visitor traffic to the village and approximately 150 road cones and orange lights currently lying in the burn. While replacement cones have been installed, the old cones have not been removed.</p> <p>JE advised that he personally walked the full length of the Mennock Pass, took photographic evidence, and submitted a detailed report to D&G Council. Given the lack of progress, JE proposed contacting the press to raise awareness of the ongoing concerns. All members agreed to proceed with contacting the press. Concern was also expressed regarding how emergency services are managing access along the current road conditions.</p> <p>Action: JE to contact the local press regarding the condition of the B797 and lack of progress on agreed works and follow up with Dumfries and Galloway Council requesting an updated timeline for works.</p>

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11	<p>War Memorial</p> <p>A future project was proposed for completion during Spring/Summer to improve the War Memorial area and support potential future funding applications. Proposed works may include painting the surrounding wall and railings, adding decorative stonework to the memorial foundation, and installing a memorial bench. These proposals were circulated to members on 31/01/26. Three maintenance priorities were previously identified. Two have been completed, with remaining works focused on the preservation and improvement of the memorial structure and surrounding area. Members agreed to proceed with the outstanding cosmetic works, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cleaning and tidying of the memorial base.• Painting of the memorial base and railings.• Inspection and repair of the surrounding wall structure where required. <p>Discussion took place regarding the proposed memorial bench. Members considered whether the bench should be positioned inside or outside the memorial enclosure. It was agreed that the bench proposal is not an immediate priority and will be reviewed at a future meeting, subject to further consultation and funding availability.</p> <p>Actions: RM to obtain quotes for the memorial repair and cosmetic improvement works. Memorial bench proposal to be deferred and reconsidered at a future meeting.</p>
12	<p>Resilience.</p> <p>RM provided an overview of the recent visit from the D&G Resilience Team. It was emphasised that effective communication remains a key priority for resilience planning within the village.</p> <p>Resilience Recognition – Silver Award.</p> <p>Representatives from D&G Resilience team visited the village to present the Silver Resilience Award. This award recognises the work undertaken to date in developing resilience planning and emergency preparedness.</p> <p>Insurance Changes (From 1 April 2026)</p> <p>KM advised that, from 1 April 2026, all Community Resilience Groups will be covered under a new insurance policy, including public liability cover. The policy will cover typical resilience activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing information during emergencies• Welfare checks on residents• Shopping or collecting prescriptions for neighbours• Snow clearing and gritting• Assisting with flood protection measures• Providing hot drinks within a communal facility

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<p>12 Cont.</p>	<p>Communications.</p> <p>The importance of maintaining reliable communication with D&G Council during emergencies was discussed. Options for improving communications were considered. The potential use of a Starlink communication system was discussed as a possible method of maintaining village communications during power or network outages. Members felt this may be of interest to Wanlockhead, subject to further investigation of costs and feasibility.</p> <p>Village Hub</p> <p>Members were advised that Wanlockhead Inn has been identified by D&G Council and SP Energy Networks as the village hub location to provide meals for residents during power outages. Following a meeting with representatives of the Wanlockhead Inn, several points require further clarification, including arrangements for generator provision and operational resilience support.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <p>Explore costs and feasibility of Starlink communication systems for village resilience use. Continue engagement with D&G Resilience Team regarding future support and training opportunities.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Wind Projects.</p> <p>Glensalloch https://www.glensalloch.co.uk</p> <p>Two formal objections to the Glensalloch Wind Farm project have been received by the WCC.</p> <p>Representatives from WCC attended a community workshop hosted by BayWa r.e. in Sanquhar on 3 February 2026, which focused on community benefit opportunities. Further community consultation events are planned, including a consultation session at Wanlockhead Community Centre on Tuesday 28 April 2026 (3pm–7pm). Members discussed the possibility of undertaking a community survey following this consultation, once visual representations of the proposals have been presented, as discussed in item 4.</p> <p>Members noted that discussions with developers are ongoing, particularly in relation to community benefit opportunities. It was noted that developers have indicated potential investment of £1 million towards tourism-related initiatives prior to construction of the wind turbines.</p> <p>Members noted that there has been no further contact from GAG, see item 4.</p>

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<p>13 Cont.</p>	<p>Developers provided an update on the Glensalloch Wind Farm proposals, advising that work continues with technical consultees to better understand site constraints before finalising the proposed turbine layout. Specialist assessments have taken longer than originally anticipated, but work is progressing.</p> <p>Updated proposals will be presented at the next round of community consultation exhibitions, scheduled for the week beginning 27 April 2026 at the,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wanlockhead Community Centre – Tuesday 28 April, 3pm–7pm <p>Following feedback from earlier consultations, a specialist agency is developing an interactive digital display to allow residents to visualise potential views of the proposals within their communities.</p> <p>Developers reiterated their commitment to open communication and encouraged anyone wishing to discuss the project further to contact them directly at www.info@glensalloch.co.uk or 0141 291 5170.</p> <p>Renewco / Ravensgill Wind Ravensgill Energy Park Renewco Power</p> <p>RM gave updates regarding Renewco’s proposed wind energy developments. The Ravensgill layout has been revised, with 10 turbines removed from the proposal, leaving a total of 21 turbines. Representatives from WCC continue to meet with developers at the Community Liaison Group (CLG) and community councils. The next community consultation event was scheduled for 10 February 2026 in Leadhills. A new wind project, Clyde South, has also been introduced. This project may include four of nine turbines located on the former Crookedstane site at Elvanfoot, near Watchman. It was noted that these turbines are expected to be developed when the existing Clyde Wind Farm is decommissioned, currently anticipated around 2034. Members were advised that community benefit discussions are ongoing with Renewco. Proposed areas of community benefit investment include education, community ownership opportunities, and energy-related initiatives. Members agreed to seek input from residents on potential community benefit priorities and ideas.</p> <p>South of Scotland Community Councils Convention – Unified Statement</p> <p>RM attended the South of Scotland Community Councils Convention in Jedburgh on 17th January 26 on behalf of WCC. Information from the convention was circulated to members on 31 January and 7 February 2026. Members discussed a unified statement directed towards the Scottish Government regarding community views on renewable energy development and planning consultation processes. Members noted that there is currently no formal document detailing how such statements are formally approved. Members agreed to support the unified statement and recognised that collective community representation strengthens the voice of rural communities.</p> <p>Action: RM will contact organisers to confirm that WCC will support the unified statement.</p>
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14	Planning. WCC had been notified of three planning applications. Details of all applications were circulated to members for consideration. No objections were raised by WCC members in relation to any of the applications.
15	AOB. Nothing currently.
16	Date & Time of Next Meeting. Chair thanked WCC members, elected councillors, and members of the public for their attendance and contributions to the meeting. Chair formally closed the meeting at 20:47. The next meeting of Wanlockhead Community Council will be held on Sunday 12 April 2026.