

Lesmahagow Community Council
Minutes of meeting held on 8th May 2025

1. Welcome & Apologies

The following committee members were present: Gordon Lennox (Chair), Cheryl Paterson, James Brownlee, Mags Cathcart, Ronnie Holdes, Ailsa Lorimer (Secretary), John Court, Mark Waugh (Treasurer)

Apologies were sent in advance of the meeting from – Catriona Arthur-Inch (Secretary), Gary Hilan, Shona Meikle.

Desmond Middleton has opted to resign from the Community Council after the April meeting. LCC would like to thank Desmond for his contribution to the committee.

Non committee Members: PC Nicole Boyle was present on behalf of Police Scotland.

2. Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were taken as read with no changes, they were adopted by Cheryl Paterson, seconded by Mags Cathcart.

- 3. Police Update:** 83 incidents reported in the last month, resulting in 19 required crime reports. 12 of crime reports have been completed and other 7 have ongoing enquiries. There has been an increase in calls regarding quad bikes and dirt bikes within the village.

4. Construction Developments/Closures within village

- a. Hollandbush Golf Club – A discussion was held over the £50,000 that SLC can nominate to a community cause. The community council would be in support of the Hollandbush receiving this award if possible. Community Asset Transfer is ongoing.
- b. Persimmon Homes – no updates, to be taken off the agenda.
- c. Lesmahagow Parish Church - no updates, to be taken off the agenda.

5. Project Updates

1. **McKirdy Park.** The park opening event was a great success and was well attended by the local community. The funding from Cumberhead Windfarm is still pending to be released. Ailsa Lorimer has completed the final paperwork and has sent it back to Foundation Scotland to action this. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of setting up a Friends of McKirdy Park Group. This idea was supported by the group and it was agreed a Facebook post would be created to see if there was any interest in setting this group up.

2. **Lesmahagow in Bloom (LIB).** The first set of planters have arrived 17Apr2025. SLC has put in 2 concrete slabs at the bench near the council yard for planters to sit upon. LIB attended the Easter Event hosted by the Highland Games Committee and it was commented that the event was a success. £6976.60 funds received from REF into LCC account, during the meeting Mark Waugh transferred this over to the LIB group back account. No further funds are held in the LCC account for LIB.

3. **Defibrillator** – The location at Sheema's Take Away is agreed as confirmed by Gary Hilan at previous meetings. Funding will need to be applied for. Gordon Lennox will look into funding options for this project.

4. **Website** 3 quotes have been received, the quotes are around £2000k. There would be an ongoing cost of hosting the website. Gordon Lennox will look into the cost of hosting the updated website and will provide further information at the next meeting.

6. Wind Farm Community Benefit

1. Microgrants – last year all paid out. Review to go back to SLC by end of May 2025, to be submitted by Mark Waugh. New fund will be released thereafter. Two additional applications that missed the deadline, Womens Rural and Lesmahagow Community Football Club. It was agreed these would be funded from Brokencross. Mark Waugh will complete the bank transfers.
2. KMCP – Closed end of April for May review. Multiple applications received from Lesmahagow Area.
3. REF – no new applications that LCC are aware of.
4. Cumberhead Community Benefit – met on 6th April. 3 applications were submitted from Lesmahagow, all 3 were approved.

5. Auchrobert - Ailsa to reach out to Janet Loxley to confirm if this fund covers Lesmahagow as there appeared to be some dispute from the Highland Games Committee who thought it did not.
6. Broken Cross Community Benefit – Forms will be ready by end of May 2025. Fund to be opened soon, final date to be confirmed. The fund will be promoted on Facebook.
7. CDLR – Set up process. There is an open night on the 11th Jun 2025 at Hollandbush Golf Club 7-9pm. To be advertised on Facebook by LCC.
8. Douglas West Extension – Netro Entergy – no update.
9. Hagshaw Energy Cluster – Western Expansion Phase 1 – 3R Energy – will be powered in 2027, no new information available at this time.

7. Community Action Plan/Place Plan

No update received from Lesmahagow Development Trust, Ailsa Lorimer will follow up LDT to see if there are any updates.

- 8. Finance Update** - £500 received as cost of living crisis from Foundation Scotland.
Finance update as per attached documents.

LCC agreed they have the funds to cover park opening costs.

- 9. AOB** – There will be a Race Night held in the Masonic Lodge on 6th June 2025 to raise

funds for a memorial bench for Margaret Craw (previous Chair of LCC)

- 10. 22nd May Business Networking Meeting at Abbeygreen Café.** 7pm Gordon Lennox has

been invited and will speak on behalf of LCC.

The next meeting will be 12th June at Hollandbush Golf Club at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed.