

Muckhart Community Council: Minutes 18th February 2026	
In attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gillian Thompson (GT), Chair ● Matthew Pease, (MP), Vice Chair ● Marion Riddell (MR), Secretary ● Jonathan Bacon (JB) ● Celia Norton (CN) ● Greig Ness (GN) ● Neil Rodger (NR) <p>In attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cllr Denis Coyne ● One resident
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Danny Conroy (DJC), Treasurer ● Jon Jordan (JJ) ● Ann Wilson (AW) ● Cllr Scott Harrison ● Cllr Kathleen Martin ● PC Barry Reiter ● PC Barry Ritchie
1. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GT welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Declarations of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● JB reported that he had provided engineering advice to several of the planning applications under consideration.
3. Minutes of 7th January 2026 meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposed by GN and seconded by CN.
4. Matters arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Defibrillator First Aid training had been provided to several MCC members. ● GN reported that the fly tipping on the Water Treatment road had been removed. He understood that although the perpetrator was known and had been reported to the Police, no action was to be taken. ● The water leak on the A91 between Pool and Yetts had now been fixed. ● The dead trees on the School path had been removed by the Council. MCC wish to record their thanks to Cllr Harrison for his role in the speedy resolution of this matter. ● CN had been informed that the Keiran's Legacy donation to Police Scotland in relation to defibrillators had been made for road policing unit vehicles only, as opposed to general police vehicles. Local police vehicles are therefore not included. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CN to write to political candidates on behalf of MCC about Keiran's legacy and the importance of defibrillator equipment in police vehicles, particularly as they can attend emergency situations.

5. Police report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No crimes had been reported since the previous meeting.
6. Residents voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GT raised the issue of planning advice on fencing applications for properties on School Road and Golf View, following concern that the Council's action in erecting substantial fencing at their properties seemed to be at odds with the open aspect requirement and previous advice to householders. ● MR stated that recently obtained advice confirmed that any fencing application would be assessed against the General Permitted Development order for residential properties. If planning permission were required, the nature of the property would be taken into account and may mean that higher fencing was permitted due to the circumstances.
7. Active Dollar and Muckhart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Following the application by ADM for Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) status, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is being developed between Dollar Community Development Trust and ADM outlining the principles and framework for the transfer of ADM's monies out of the DCDT accounts. ● MR stated that a launch event is planned for the second walking and cycling map on the evening of 26th March at Dollar Academy. ● There was a brief discussion about increasing sporting and other activities generally and it was agreed that it would be useful to explore the reintroduction of a Film night and youth club. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JB to explore the reintroduction of a Film night.
8. Foundation Scotland/EDF Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MR is chasing completion reports on the microgrant, event fund and Christmas lights awards prior to providing reports to Foundation Scotland.
9. Traffic calming and road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GT and MR had met with Stuart Cullen (SC), Clackmannanshire Council's transportation team leader, to discuss various road safety issues. ● Three experimental Traffic Regulation Orders are planned for the A91 Dollar to Muckhart road and through Muckhart following a period of consultation. The first would reduce the national speed limit to 40 mph from just after Cherry Tree Cottage to Anchorage, the second would reduce the national speed limit to 50 mph from Anchorage to the village western entrance and the third would reduce the speed limit to 20 mph through the entire village from the western entrance to Birkhill cottage. ● GN raised the question of enforcement. Councillor Coyne confirmed that new vehicle activated signs are to replace the existing sign, with their location to be decided. ● It was reported that the residents of Meadowside Crescent continued to be concerned about the way in which the shared use road in front of the bungalows is being used. SC confirmed it is not possible to change the road layout. A 12 month maintenance period will allow any requirements or faults to be rectified before the road is adopted. It was noted that it might be useful to remind Meadowside Crescent residents that the road is for pedestrians and vehicles and now has increased traffic.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident raised concern about the dangers of the road's proximity to the proposed play area beside the wetland. • Thanks had been offered to the Council for their work on the A91 pavement and for arranging the new speed table at the west end of the village. • CN confirmed that work to fix the flooding on Kirkhill was due to take place on 9th March. She raised concern about flooding on the A91 at Middlehall and GT supposed that this was due to run off from the field. CN agreed to report it to the Council.
10. Neighbourhood Watch Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT and AW had met to discuss plans to reinvigorate the Neighbourhood Watch group, including more communication and funding for signage to deter antisocial behaviour such as dog fouling. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AW to arrange a further meeting of the NW group.
11. Local Place Plan (LPP) and Community Action Plan (CAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clackmannanshire Council are still to place the Local Place Plan on the public Local Place Plan Register.
12. Development Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community event is being planned to discuss next steps on the plan and consider the setting up of a Development Trust. There was considerable support for this during the plan consultation and the event will explain the benefits and gauge interest in taking it forward. • The event is to be held in late March to avoid clashing with other events and will include a speaker from Development Trust Association Scotland and representation from local groups. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MR to arrange the event.
13. Community Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MR had spoken to Clackmannanshire Council's Transport team about the possible introduction of develop a Hubs-based Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) system. The details of this are yet to be confirmed. • She is also continuing discussions with Glenfarg Community Transport Group about the possibility of recommencement of an extended DRT service following last year's pilot.
14. Sub groups	
a) Meadowside Crescent	<p>Section 75 Planning gain projects</p> <p><u>School Path Improvement:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB reported that any existing monies are likely to be spent on tree clearing and maintenance work. <p><u>Playpark Improvement Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GT had received confirmation from the landowner of the north end of the playpark that the lease had expired in 2021 and that this should be renewed. • After a brief discussion on liability in these circumstances, Councillor Coyne suggested that "use of the equipment at your own risk" signage may be beneficial.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MR has contacted the Council to advance renewal of both this lease and the lease for the south end of the playpark which is owned by a different landowner. ● It was noted that if a Development Trust is established it is likely that any new lease arrangements would be with the Trust. ● MR subsequently spoke to Cllr Coyne and agreed it may be helpful to secure written confirmation from both landowners of their willingness to put in place new leases with either Clackmannanshire Council or a Trust should one become established. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Further consideration of liability issues and new lease arrangements - GT/MR
<p>b) Muckhart Community resilience plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GT had raised the Resilience Plan with the Hall Committee at its last meeting. Another Hall Committee member had agreed to be part of a Resilience Team. It was agreed that MCC representatives meet with the Hall Committee representative to review the Resilience Plan and consider next steps. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Resilience Team to meet as above – GT/MR/JB/GN/DJC
<p>c) Planning</p>	<p>Planning applications The updated planning log had been circulated as follows:</p> <p><u>Woodcroft, Pool of Muckhart</u> Alterations and part demolition of existing extension, and two storey extension to side of house.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Now approved <p><u>Braeside, Drumburn Road</u> Internal Alterations, Conversion Of Storage Space To Form Ensuite Bedroom And Single Storey Extension To Rear To Form Gardener's Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Now approved <p><u>The Barn, Drumburn Road</u> Removal Of Existing Extension, Alterations And Erection Of One And A Half Storey Extension To Rear Of House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Now approved <p><u>Toll House, Yetts of Muckhart</u> Demolition of existing porch and single storey extension to rear of house</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional information sought and deadline extended. <p><u>Blyth Cottage, Pool of Muckhart</u> Change of footway in front of house to garden and erection of garden wall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Under consideration <p><u>Blyth Cottage, Pool of Muckhart</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Under consideration <p>GT raised a question about the circumstances around which an application would be considered by the full Community Council. It was noted that this was related to the impact of any proposal. The Planning subgroup remit also states that where both positive and negative impact is identified by subgroup members a detailed response or referral to the full committee should be considered. It was also noted that where a consensus cannot be reached a neutral response reflecting both positive and negative impacts should be made.</p>

	<p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MR to circulate the proposed Planning Subgroup response to the Blyth cottage applications to the full Council for consideration.
<p>15. Muckhart Primary School</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GT and JB had attended the recent impressive 180th anniversary performance by the school. It was agreed that the whole community would benefit from a further performance if this were possible. <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JB to follow up a possible repeat performance for the community.
<p>16. Treasurer's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DJC had circulated this prior to the meeting, and it was noted.
<p>17. AOCB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The next Joint Communities Council Forum is planned for March. ● MR and DJC to attend a planning process event during March. ● GN to attend an event at the Japanese Garden on behalf of MCC.
<p>18.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Date of next meeting: 1st April 2026.