

<b>Muckhart Community Council: Minutes</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> April 2026</b>	
<b>In attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gillian Thompson (GT), Chair</li> <li>● Matthew Pease, (MP), Vice Chair</li> <li>● Danny Conroy (DJC), Treasurer</li> <li>● Marion Riddell (MR), Secretary</li> <li>● Jonathan Bacon (JB)</li> <li>● Jon Jordan (JJ)</li> <li>● Celia Norton (CN)</li> <li>● Neil Rodger (NR)</li> <li>● Ann Wilson (AW)</li> </ul> <p>In attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cllr Denis Coyne</li> <li>● Three residents</li> </ul>
<b>Apologies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Greig Ness (GN)</li> <li>● Cllr Scott Harrison</li> <li>● Cllr Kathleen Martin</li> <li>● PC Barry Reiter</li> <li>● PC Barry Ritchie</li> </ul>
<b>1. Welcome and Introductions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● GT welcomed everyone to the meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Declarations of interest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● N/A</li> </ul>
<b>3. Minutes of 7th January 2026 meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Proposed by MP and seconded by NR.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Matters arising</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All dealt with under agenda items.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Sustainable Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● GT welcomed Madeline Muirhead, Strategic Lead (Community Collaboration and Redesign), Clackmannanshire Council, who had been invited along to provide an update on the Council's Sustainable Transport work.</li> <li>● Following the paper on this issue at the Council's October meeting, a cross collaboration group had been meeting quarterly to progress matters. Specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Procurement was about to start for a Hub based DRT service with hubs at Alloa, Sauchie, Tillycultry and Tullibody, aimed at enhancing current provision to reach outlying and underserved areas such as Muckhart. It was noted that this approach reflected the findings of the Mott Macdonald Report "Multi-Use Vehicle for Clackmannanshire Council" following their 2024 consultation work for the Council. It was hoped that the service would be in place by early summer.</li> <li>○ A local living audit was being undertaken to assess gaps in provision of access to essential services such as healthcare and pharmacies.</li> <li>○ In terms of infrastructure maintenance, a new Active Travel strategy was about to go out for consultation. The community</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>access group was addressing disabled access for transport through bus ramparts at bus stops. E bike, adapted bike and secure bike storage provision were also being increased.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Work had begun on expanding real-time passenger information (RTPI) via digital signage in areas such as Tillycoultry.</li> <li>○ In terms of community transport solutions, the recent patient transport plot to Falkirk Community Hospital had not been very successful – due to poor communication and inability to schedule appointments to fit in with the pilot which only operated on Wednesdays. The CERT volunteer driver scheme has been more successful and funding has been secured to continue this for another six months. Other options were being explored such as using underutilised buses to provide transport to groups such as dementia groups and considering how end of life buses might be utilised.</li> <li>○ Community engagement work to embed transport discussions into regular meetings, and support bottom-up planning and community ownership was being progressed.</li> <li>○ Forth Valley regional collaboration work was considering coordinated transport planning across the three FV local authorities.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● During discussion, MCC members stressed the need for an active travel route from Dollar to Muckhart and highlighted that this proposal was now included in Muckhart’s Local Place Plan. Madeleine confirmed that this was being considered as part of their AT strategy and the Council were very aware of our area’s transport poverty.</li> <li>● A resident also highlighted the impact of poor public transport on the ability of local businesses such as the golf club to attract and retain staff. Madeleine reported that Scottish Government funding for transport for employability had recently been announced and the Council was addressing how this might be used, including shared transport provision for employers.</li> <li>● GT thanked Madeleine for her update, arranged following a request by MR to Cllr Harrison.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Police report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● MR stated that no crimes had been reported since the previous meeting. There had been two reports of off road bikes being used at Geordie’s Wood and on Seamab.</li> <li>● GT stated that this issue would be highlighted in this week’s newsletter and it was agreed that the local Neighbourhood Watch Group could also consider it. In the meantime, signage to deter any illegal vehicle activity was being investigated.</li> <li>● A resident also undertook to raise the issue at a meeting of the Local Access Forum which he was due to attend in mid-April.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MR to continue to investigate whether signage to deter illegal vehicles was possible.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Residents voice</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No issues raised.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8. Active Dollar and Muckhart</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● MR stated that the second in a series of three walking and cycling maps had been launched at an evening event on 26th March at Dollar</li> </ul>

	<p>Academy attended by over 80 people. It was now available in a range of retailers for £5 and included QR code links to local and historic points of interest and nature notes by Keith Broomfield on Dollar Museum’s website. Map 1 was now available at £3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADM’s application for Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) status was progressing and ADM was keen to have discussion with Dollar Community Development Trust on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlining the principles and framework for the transfer of ADM’s monies out of the DCDT accounts. In the meantime MCC agreed to hold ADM income such as map sales and sponsorship on behalf of ADM until the SCIO had been formed and a bank account opened.</li> <li>• GT reported that groundwork had been undertaken for the siting of changing and storage containers at the Dollar Way Sports Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GT and MR to continue to progress ADM issues.</li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Foundation Scotland/EDF Funding</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MR thanked those who had undertaken completion reports on the microgrant, event fund and Christmas lights awards. Reports had now been made to Foundation Scotland which will allow the release of this year’s funding.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Traffic calming and road safety</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following GT and MR’s meeting with Stuart Cullen , Clackmannanshire Council’s transportation team leader, to discuss various road safety issues, the new speed table at the west end of the village was operating well. It was hoped that there would be discussion on the nature and location of two new electronic speed signs once these had been procured.</li> <li>• A resident had raised inappropriate parking outside the hall which led to access issues for emergency vehicles in particular. This issue was exacerbated by the hall’s wish to retain hall parking for hall users and the two EV charging points.</li> <li>• It was noted that inappropriate parking was also a concern at the A91/Kirkhill corner. There was discussion about possible remedies including the use of double yellow lines, although this was not necessarily appropriate in a Conservation Area. MP suggested that a pinch point road layout may provide a better solution. GT also suggested that it may be helpful to remind all residents of the availability of parking near the Meadowside Crescent entrance. Whilst discussion of a solution was inconclusive, it was agreed that a strategic approach was necessary now on parking issues in the village.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GT to progress consideration of a more strategic approach to parking in the village.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Neighbourhood Watch Scotland</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AW reported that a NWS group meeting was to be arranged once a speaker and possible dates had been confirmed.</li> <li>• Signage was also to be sought to deter antisocial behaviour such as dog fouling.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AW to continue to progress a further NWS meeting.</li> </ul>

<b>12. Local Place Plan (LPP) and Community Action Plan (CAP)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Muckhart’s Local Place Plan and Community Action Plan is the first to be placed on Clackmannanshire Council’s Local Place Plan Register.</li> </ul>
<b>13. Development Trust</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A community event to discuss next steps on the plan and consider the setting up of a Development Trust had been postponed following the unavailability of a speaker from Development Trust Association Scotland .</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MR to rearrange a community meeting as soon as possible.</li> </ul>
<b>14. Sub groups</b>	
<b>a) Meadowside Crescent</b>	<p><b>Section 75 Planning gain projects</b>  <u>Playpark Improvement Project</u></p> <p>It was agreed to consider lease renewal arrangements following the Development Trust meeting.</p> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GT and MR to progress,</li> </ul>
<b>b) Muckhart Community resilience plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB reported that the refreshed Resilience Team had had a useful initial meeting attended by David Webster, Clackmannanshire Council’s Emergency and Resilience Officer. The team included MCC and Hall Committee representatives as follows: GT, JB, DJC, MR and Phil Craig.</li> <li>• It had been agreed that the current plan be reviewed and updated prior to being shared with the Hall Committee. It was also noted that whilst the community was grateful for the Inn’s availability as a warm space and food provider during the recent power cut, consideration should also be given to other community spaces’ ability to provide a warm space as part of consideration of a revised Resilience Plan.</li> <li>• <b>Action:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MR to provide an initial redraft of the Resilience Plan for consideration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>c) Planning</b>	<p><b>Planning applications</b></p> <p>The updated planning log had been circulated as follows:</p> <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"> <li>○ Approved 9/3/26</li> </ul> <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"> <li>○ Awaiting decision. MCC objection on grounds of reduction of public pavement.</li> </ul> <p><u>Blyth Cottage, Pool of Muckhart</u>  Installation of Air Source Heat Pump and enlarged rooflight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Awaiting decision. MCC support with comments.</li> </ul> <p><u>Glendevon Water Treatment Works, Yetts O Muckhart</u>  Installation of Hydroelectric Turbine House.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Under consideration. Awaiting noise assessment report.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wind Farm developments</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst not yet at planning stage, MCC has been invited to comment on the Green Knowes Wind Farm Repowering scoping report. This is provided by Scottish Ministers to outline opinion on what should be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposal which is for a reduced number of turbines with a greater height of up to 200 m.</li> <li>• GT had attended a recent meeting of the Sustainability Group of 8 community councils which existed to optimise community benefit for wind farms across the combined area. If approved, E Power are keen to discuss community benefits from their wind farm proposal at Brunt Hill consisting of 13 turbines.</li> <li>• The Sustainability Group had responded to a Scottish Government consultation on community benefits from renewable energy. The group will meet again in May and may invite a member of the more established 9 CC group based in Ayrshire to come along.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ GT to attend the next meeting of the Sustainability Group.</li> </ul>
<b>15. Muckhart Primary School</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JB had spoken to headteacher, Mrs Mcglinchie, about the section 75 planning gains Education sum from the Meadowside development, which was to be used for future proofing of the school.</li> <li>• Whilst grateful for the church's support in supplying toilet facilities, Mrs Mcglinchie had asked if it might be possible to erect a rain shelter at the Nature Park, which is used by MPS children most Wednesdays.</li> <li>• MP stated that a shelter may be available at Blairingone school which Fossoway Community Development Trust is currently considering for lease with the long term aim of purchase under Community Asset Transfer. It was agreed that this matter could be raised with the Nature Park Committee.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MR to approach relevant parties to investigate the possibility of a rain shelter in the Nature Park.</li> </ul>
<b>16. Treasurer's Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DJC had circulated this prior to the meeting, and it was noted.</li> </ul>
<b>17. AOCB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next Joint Communities Council Forum is planned for April.</li> <li>• Following regular contact by CN with Clackmannanshire Council, work to rectify the flooding at Kirkhill had successfully been completed. The water run off near Middlehall on the A91 is to be investigated and it is hoped that it will be resolved soon.</li> <li>• MP sought views on the possibility of the Muckhart Community area of land being used for a long term art installation project. It was agreed that this should be explored.</li> </ul>
<b>18.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026.</li> </ul>