



ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting held in County Buildings Wigtown

Monday 13 April 2026

PRESENT: Paul Tarling (chair), Cora Sharp, Anne Barclay, David McAdam, Jock McDowall, Shona Herries, Ian Lovell, Tracey Warman, Dawn Revie, Grace Crichton and Andrew Pym

APOLOGIES: Nicole Court.

In attendance: No-one.

- 1. Welcome:** The meeting opened with apologies, recorded above.
- 2. Notification of AOCB and Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved, with one item added to AOB.
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** None.
- 4. Minutes of 9 March 2026:** These were approved without change, proposed by Jock McDowall and Anne Barclay.
- 5. Matters arising:** All are reported below.
- 6. Updates and reports:**
 - a) Town Team: Four applications were submitted to Borderlands for investment funds, two from the Town Team SCIO for County Buildings and the central gardens, and two from WBCI for the garage site and some housing. Decisions should be made by mid-May.
 - b) Finance: Andrew Pym presented the draft accounts for 2025-26 which will now be reviewed by the Independent Verifier. He reported the new banking arrangements are in place with Paul and Cora on the account. The only payment in the past month was bank charges at £4.75. Future sums agreed for payment as and when they arise are for GDPR registration, the Independent Verifier and the new website. It was also agreed to refund the cost of dog poo bags from the wonderful donation received from the Community Shop.

It was agreed to take out an annual policy for insuring seven events at £78.40, being less than the sums paid each time in recent years. All insured events must be run under the Community Council but this can be done in conjunction with others.
 - c) Planning: Dawn presented a very clear report on minor matters, both applications and recent approvals. Once again, she was thanked.
 - d) Police Matters: no report had been received.
 - e) Resilience: The final version is now approved by insurers and DGC. Paul will circulate a copy to all councillors before our next meeting.
 - f) Town maintenance: No plants are to be supplied by DGC for the gardens this year. Paul will talk with the Wigtown in Bloom team and find out what is required and at what cost. Subject to the cost, WCC agreed to the principle of supplying plants.

Gates in the McGuffie gardens are to be repaired by DGC, without cost to WCC. The railings round the gardens were discussed and these feature in the bid by the Town Team. Accordingly, no works will be undertaken for the present.
 - g) WCC communications: there were no further updates from the last meeting. Awaiting training from Kris Edgar on the new site and email account.
 - h) Roads & Pavements: These continue to cause great concern with some dreadful examples around town, the worst being on the road to the football club. Everyone is encouraged to report and chase their repair as much as possible.

i) **GDPR registration:** This will be actioned by Cora in accordance with the DGC Scheme.

7. Neighbourhood Watch: The application to set up the Wigtown Group is still awaiting approval. A WhatsApp Group and Facebook will follow.

8. Correspondence: Anne reported that an expression of interest to become the UK Town of Culture had been submitted and we now wait to hear. Partnership working is important in the bid and it was agreed that WCC would be a partner.

9. Councillors' report: With no Councillor present, there was no report.

10. AOB: Several matters were tabled in advance and more were added:

a) WCC discussed ways to involve both Braehead/Kirkcaldy and Whauphill. It was agreed to post both minutes and agenda in both places and we should invite key people from community groups to attend a meeting. It is important that we represent all of the residents in WCC Area. We will consider a flyer to all homes once the new website and email addresses are in place.

b) The Community Fridge remains a concern. All members believe that it could and should be sited in County Buildings, given that no other site is able to host it. It will help families and individuals as the cost of living causes increasing challenges. Andrew will draft a letter to DGC to try and get them to change their attitude.

c) The road signs on the A714 at the Bladnoch turn fail to indicate the nature of the T-junction. The road markings are in a poor state. WCC will continue to press for a proper turning sign.

d) Hire fees and the letting conditions for the County Buildings were discussed, given that use is reducing. This is a concern for the future but it was agreed to delay any discussion with DGC and review the position when the Town Team bids had been decided.

e) Relay For Life currently has 11 teams. Ideally they want 15 and volunteers are being sought.

f) Christmas lights will be discussed at the next meeting.

g) It is intended that there be an official opening of the Play Park but the final numbers (and knowledge of the remaining funds) have yet to come through.

11. Public forum: None.

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 May 2026 at 7.30pm in The Hub.