



ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting held in County Buildings Wigtown

Monday 13 July 2026

PRESENT: Paul Tarling (convenor), Anne Barclay, Nicole Court, David McAdam, Jock McDowall, Ian Lovell, Tracey Warman, Grace Crichton and Andrew Pym.

Apologies: Dawn Revie, Shona Herries and Cora Sharp.

In attendance: Two members of the public.

- 1. Welcome:** The meeting opened with apologies, recorded above.
- 2. Notification of AOCB and Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved.
- 3. Declarations of Interest:** None.
- 4. Minutes of 8 June 2026:** These were approved without change, proposed by Tracey Warman and Ian Lovell.
- 5. Matters arising:** All are reported below.
- 6. Updates and reports:**
 - a) **Finance:** The Treasurer reported on a quiet month. The notice boards agreed for Kirkinner and Whauphill have been acquired at a cost of £145.90, funded by the Common Good monies. The bank account stands at £20,786.
 - b) **Planning:** No applications were received this month and a new farm building has been approved at Stewarton Farm.
 - c) **Police Matters:** There is no report this month. Ian Lovell raised speeding on the A714 about which he has written to the police and he will advise WCC of the response in due course.
 - d) **Resilience:** The plan has been circulated to all councillors, with one to be sent a further e-copy.
 - e) **Town maintenance:** As usual the team has been busy, with a keen new member working hard to smarten the town. The old railway line has been strimmed by DGC and the arching branches have been cut back. Lovers Walk is to be mowed soon.
 - f) **WCC communications:** The new website is up and running. A recent post has appealed for more help with more volunteers to support initiatives in the town.
 - g) **Roads & Pavements:** There have been complaints about plant growth impacting pedestrians outside the school; discussions are in hand. A willow tree in Lochancroft Lane is to be trimmed. A problem outside Tahall in Kirkinner was raised, along with a streetlight in Station Road and a loose paving slab in North Main Street. The Southfield Lane junction with Agnew Crescent was discussed again because the request from the person raising the issue is for a convex mirror opposite the junction rather than extended double yellow lines. At a later stage in the meeting, the lights in the pavement outside the County Buildings were raised.
 - h) **Christmas Lights and Switch On:** Scad was congratulated and thanked for the £300 raised at his quiz for the lights during Wigtown Week. The team decided against taking on the Newton Stewart lights because of their weight and replacement bulbs would be expensive. The plan is to extend the runs of lighting to go right round the Square; lighting curtains are also being considered for the first floor windows of the County Buildings. The discretionary grant application to DGC is in hand. A budget of £2000 was agreed for purchases.
 - i) **Community Fridge:** Tracey Warman reported on a meeting which she and Alison had with two Food Bank trustees. As a result, Alison is not to pursue her plan for Wigtown and Tracey will investigate the position further, including the pitfalls, and will talk with the people running such a fridge in Creetown and Whithorn.

j) Notice Boards: the Kirkinner board is up by the village hall and the one in Whauphill should be installed shortly. Members returned to the idea of a leaflet drop about WCC to the outlying communities, including reference to the new website. This is to be pursued. It was also suggested that WCC should meet in Whauphill and Kirkinner once a year, if a cost can be avoided.

7. Neighbourhood Watch: This continues steadily. Ian Lovell pointed out that membership of NW can lead to a reduction in house insurance premiums.

8. Correspondence and consultations: Paul reported on two DGC consultations: WCC will discuss the Common Good report in August. Individual members might also like to review the draft of the new Biodiversity Action Plan. Also, he reported the change of name of the Galloway Fisheries Trust to Galloway Rivers Trust, as this reflects what they do in the catchment areas much better. The latest Wigtown Bay LNR rules for Wildfowlers has now been published. Members were also reminded of the invitation to the annual DGC conference for community councillors at The Bridge, Dumfries on 12 September.

As part of the Common Good discussion, the car park by the Martyrs' Stake was discussed. DGC says that it does not own this so efforts will now be made to establish who is the owner.

10. AOB: No matters were raised.

12. Public forum:

- a) The closure of the lorry park for a week in the near future was raised. This will allow the gable wall of the flats to be repaired – at long last.
- b) Anne Barclay confirmed that the next Community Conversation for anyone interested would be on 16 July at The Hub.

Date of next meeting: Monday 10 August 2026 at 7.30pm in The Hub.