



**MINUTES OF MEETING of the CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL held in the Council Chamber, Kilncraigs, Alloa, on Thursday 21 MAY 2026 at 9.30 am.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Phil Fairlie, Convener (Chair)  
Provost Donald Balsillie  
Councillor Martha Benny  
Councillor Denis Coyne  
Councillor Kenneth Earle (Via Teams)  
Councillor Ellen Forson  
Councillor Wendy Hamilton  
Councillor Scott Harrison  
Councillor Fiona Law  
Councillor Darren Lee (Via Teams)  
Councillor Graham Lindsay  
Councillor Kathleen Martin  
Councillor Bryan Quinn  
Councillor Janine Rennie

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Nikki Bridle, Chief Executive  
Lorraine Sanda, Depute Chief Executive and Director of Wellbeing  
Chris Alliston, Head of Corporate Services  
Dr Jennifer Borthwick, Interim Chief Officer for Clackmannanshire and Stirling Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)  
Colin Bruce, Chief Education Officer (Wellbeing)  
Sharon Robertson, Chief Social Work Officer (Wellbeing)  
Lindsay Sim, Chief Finance Officer (Corporate Services)  
Lesley Baillie, Strategy and Performance Adviser (Corporate Services)  
Aidan Fleming, Equality, Diversity & Human Rights Officer (Corporate Services)  
Alastair Hair, Senior Manager (Corporate Services)  
Cherie Jarvie, Senior Manager, Partnership & Transformation (Corporate Services)  
Wendy Robertson, Senior Manager (Transformation and Capital) (Corporate Services)  
Lee Robertson, Senior Manager, Legal and Governance (Corporate Services) (Clerk)  
Robbie Stewart, Senior Manager, Sport and Leisure (Wellbeing) (Via Teams & Chambers)  
Melanie Moore, Committee Services (Corporate Services)  
Gillian White, Committee Services (Corporate Services) (Minute)

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At the start of the meeting, the Convener advised that the Chief Executive would make a statement on the incredibly difficult and challenging circumstances for people who have been caught up in the Coalsnaughton ground movement incident.

The Chief Executive provided a brief update on the significant incident impacting Benbuck View residents in Coalsnaughton. She advised that the incident continues to be managed in the response phase of the Council's civil contingencies duties. The incident requires a multi-agency response and the Forth Valley Resilience Partnership has been coordinating the multi-agency response chaired by Police Scotland. A further meeting of the Forth Valley LRP is planned and it will continue to meet as required. The Mining Remediation Authority have control of the site of the incident and are continuing their investigations to identify the cause of the ground movement. Council officers continue to consult with MRA several times a day on the progress being made. Depending on the outcome of both the MRA's investigations and the LRP meetings, next steps and leadership of these activities into the future will be determined. Until then, the Council will continue to meet the response responsibilities under the civil contingencies' legislation.

A briefing has been arranged for affected residents that will be attended by some of the key multi-agency partners, specifically the Mining Remediation Authority, utilities representatives and the Council. This briefing aims to provide the opportunity for partners to explain their role and provide an update on activity, but most importantly, provide the opportunity for residents to ask questions. The Chief Executive invited the Council leader, spokesperson and ward members from the affected ward to attend. Member briefings will continue to be separately provided by officers for members' information.

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#### **CC(26)037 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Mark McLuckie, Councillor Craig Holden, Councillor Jane McTaggart and Councillor William Keogh.

#### **CC(26)038 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **CC(26)039 MINUTES OF MEETING OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL – 19 MARCH 2026**

The minutes of the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 19 March 2026 were submitted for approval.

##### **Decision**

The minutes of the meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 19 March 2026 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Convener.

##### **Action**

Clerk to the Council

#### **CC(26)040 MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCIL – 23 APRIL 2026**

The minutes of the special meeting of the Clackmannanshire Council held on 23 April 2026 were submitted for approval.

##### **Decision**

The minutes of the special meeting of Clackmannanshire Council held on 23 April 2026 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Depute Convener.

##### **Action**

Clerk to the Council

#### **CC(26)041 BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE PLAN 2026-32**

The report, submitted by the Head of Corporate Services, presented for approval the draft British Sign Language Plan 2026-2032.

Mark Cross and Younee Grman were in attendance to provide a BSL interpretation service.

## **Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

## **Decision**

The Council:

1. Noted the steps taken to develop a new British Sign Language; and
2. Approved the draft British Sign Language Plan 2026-2032 to replace the Clackmannanshire Council's British Sign Language Plan 2018-2023.

## **Action**

Head of Corporate Services

### **CC(26)042 BE THE FUTURE UPDATE – TOM UPDATE**

The report, submitted by the Chief Executive, provided the latest update in respect of the Council's Be the Future Target Operating Model (BtF TOM) and associated Transformation Programme.

The report provided an update on progress on the implementation of the 'immediate state' changes to the management structure set out in the previous Council paper in February 2026

## **Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

## **Decision**

The Council noted that:

1. The Target Operating Model has substantially implemented the "immediate state";
2. The new portfolios and Corporate Services function, as previously agreed by Council, are now established and the Directors and Depute Chief Executive have been appointed;
3. Three Heads of Service have been appointed, with the remaining post currently being recruited;
4. The next phase of implementation will focus on improved cross-Directorate alignment around shared outcomes, strengthened internal partnership and collaboration, and the continued development of outcomes-based portfolios led by the Chief Executive and Strategic Leadership Group; and
5. A structured organisational change programme will be established to oversee the implementation of the new outcomes-focused Target Operating Model.

### **CC(26)043 BUDGET STRATEGY AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE**

The report, submitted by the Chief Finance Officer, maintained Council's regular update on the approved Budget Strategy and its Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The report provided an update on the post Budget context and set the timetable and key milestones to commence the 2027/28 Budget process.

## **Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

## **Decision**

The Council:

1. Agreed the high level Budget Timetable (Appendix A);
2. Noted the extremely challenging financial position and financial risks faced by the Council and the mitigations being put in place to manage these risks (paragraphs 3.1 and 3.9);
3. Noted the indicative funding gap of £10.096m in 2027/28 rising to £24.462m by 2031/32 (paragraph 3.2);
4. Noted the update on the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) (paragraph 3.10);
5. Noted the arrangements for 2027/28 budget preparation, including the work of the Budget Working Group and the proposed scheduling of three tranches of Budget Challenge sessions (paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3 and Appendix A);
6. Noted the creation of the Capital Programme Board, previously the Capital Operations Group (paragraph 4.1);
7. Noted the approach to the preparation of the HRA 2027/28 Revenue and Capital Budgets (paragraphs 4.4 to 4.6);
8. Noted the continuation of the cross party working group to support the budget setting process (paragraph 4.7); and
9. Noted the ongoing work with CoSLA and the Scottish Government to raise awareness of the systemic and contextual challenges facing Clackmannanshire (paragraph 4.9).

## **Action**

Chief Finance Officer

## **CC(26)044      SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS**

The report, submitted by the Head of Corporate Services, sought approval to review the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils to allow for revisions in keeping with current circumstances and attitudes.

## **Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Donald Balsillie. Seconded by Councillor Scott Harrison.

## **Decision**

The Council:

1. Proposed to make a new Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils; and
2. Agree to give public notice of the Council's intention to revoke the existing Scheme and to make a new Scheme, and to invite members of the public, within a period of not less than eight weeks from the date of the notice, to submit representations on the proposed areas and composition of community councils in Clackmannanshire.

**Action**

Head of Corporate Services

**CC(26)045 HR POLICIES**

The report, submitted by the Senior Manager (HR and Workforce Development), invited Council to approve the following policies and procedures: Additional Employment and Extra Mural Activities Policy & Procedure; Corporate Security Policy; Mental Health, Stress & Wellbeing Policy; and Smoking Policy.

**Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Ellen Forson. Seconded by Councillor Wendy Hamilton.

**Decision**

Having challenged and commented as appropriate, the Council:

1. Agree the policies and procedures; and
2. Noted the Equality Impact Assessments.

**Action**

Senior Manager (HR and Workforce Development)

At the conclusion of the public business, the Provost intimated that May Cameron, who had

**EXEMPT ITEMS**

**The Council resolved in terms of Section 50(a) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973, that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Schedule 7A, Part 1, Paragraph 9**

*The Convener paused the meeting for to provide an opportunity for external parties attending virtually to leave the meeting.*

**CC(26)046 KEEPING THE PROMISE – SALE AND LEASE BACK OF 8 GRANT STREET, ALLOA**

The report, submitted by the Depute Chief Executive and Director of Wellbeing, provided Council with an update on progress toward improving outcomes for children and young adults who are currently accommodated and cared for out with Clackmannanshire, by supporting their return to care settings closer to their families, communities and established support networks. The report outlined the position on negotiations and sought approval for a proposed sale and leaseback of Grant Street, Alloa. It also highlighted that some of the terms of the transaction have changed since the original report approved by Council on 29 August 2024.

**Motion**

To agree the recommendations as set out in the report.

Moved by Councillor Fiona Law. Seconded by Councillor Graham Lindsay.

**Decision**

The Council agreed the recommendations set out in the report.

The detailed minute from this item of business is recorded separately.

**Action**

Depute Chief Executive and Director of Wellbeing

Ends: 11.17 am