

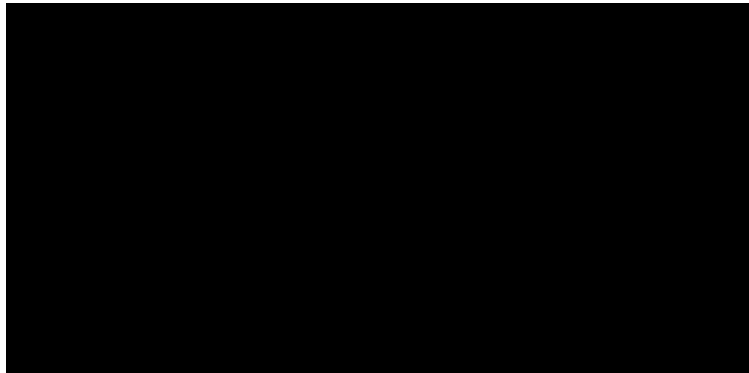


**Minutes for the
Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group (SCIO)
Second Annual General Meeting
Held at the Lochmaben Library at 7PM 1st May 2025**

1) Welcome from the Chair.

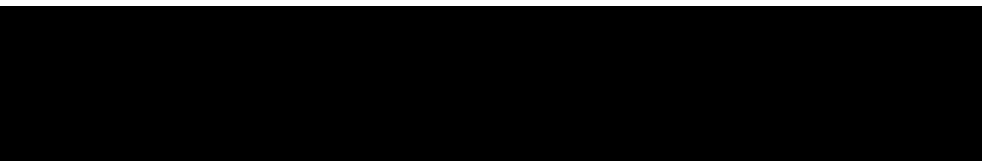
The Chair welcomed all that attended the second AGM of the Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group.

In attendance:



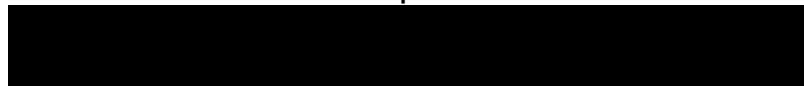
2) Apologies.

Were as follows:



3) Minutes of 2023/24 AGM.

The draft minutes were passed as a true record of events. Proposed by



4) Chairs Annual Report.

The Chair gave an account of the past years events. There had been many ups and downs, and a lot of effort had been put into identifying landowners along the preferred route

The Chair's full report is included in Appendix I

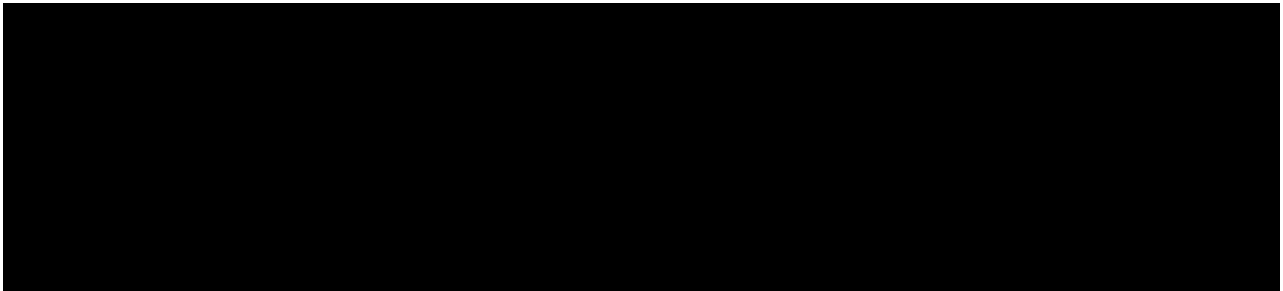
5) Treasurers Report and Statement of Accounts.

The Treasurer presented the statement of accounts and with there being a current surplus of £252.31. This was after paying for the Public Bike Maintenance Stand installed in Lochmaben and covering the cost of landowner searches on Scotlis.

The audited accounts for the year 2024-25 appear in Appendix II.

6) Election of Office Bearers.

The Chair addressed those attending and outlined the circumstances we found ourselves in with regards to whether we continued and would be the topic of conversation at the SGM following the AGM. There were no objections for the current office bearers to continue and were re-elected unopposed. They are as follows:



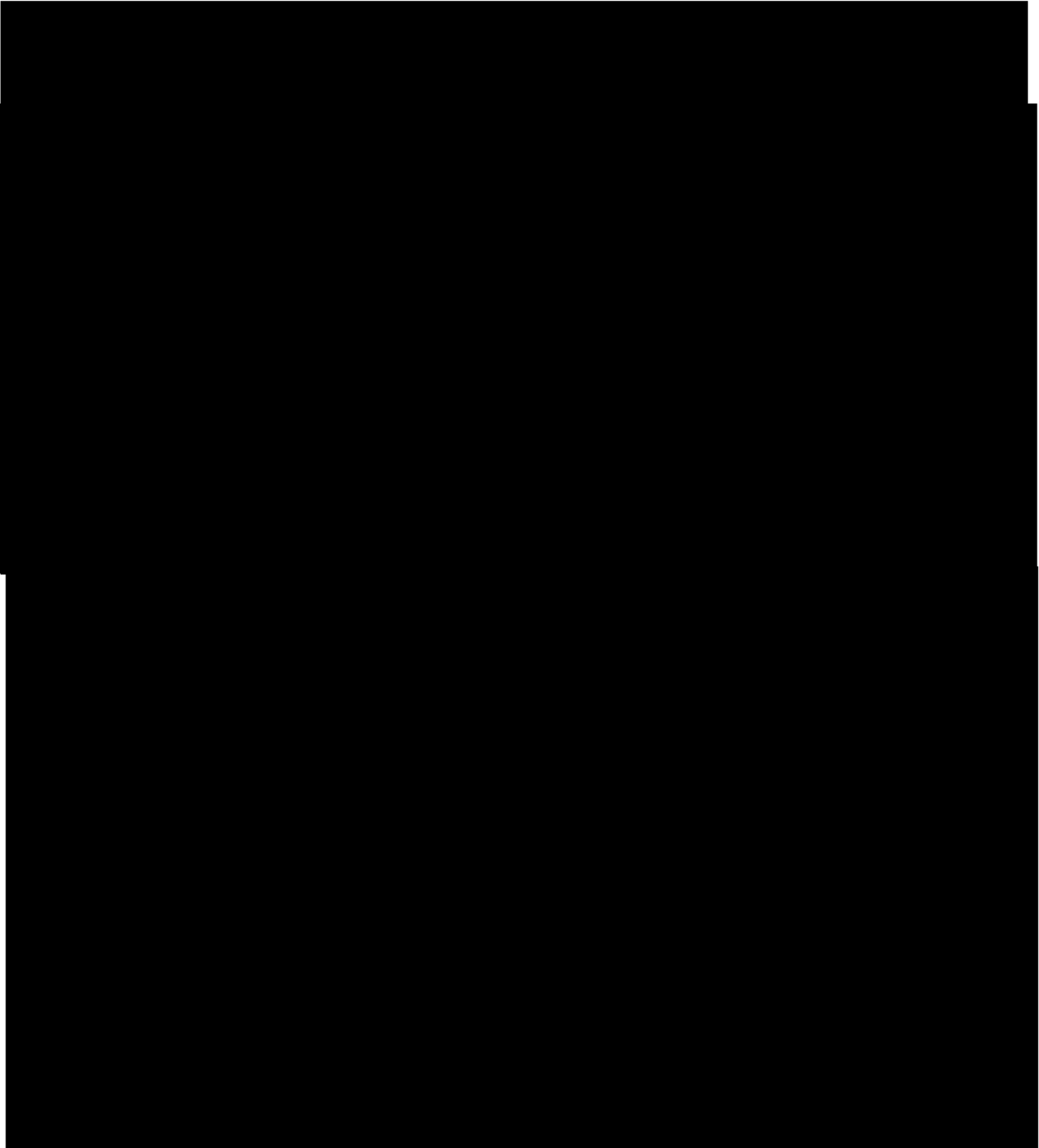
7) Date of next AGM.

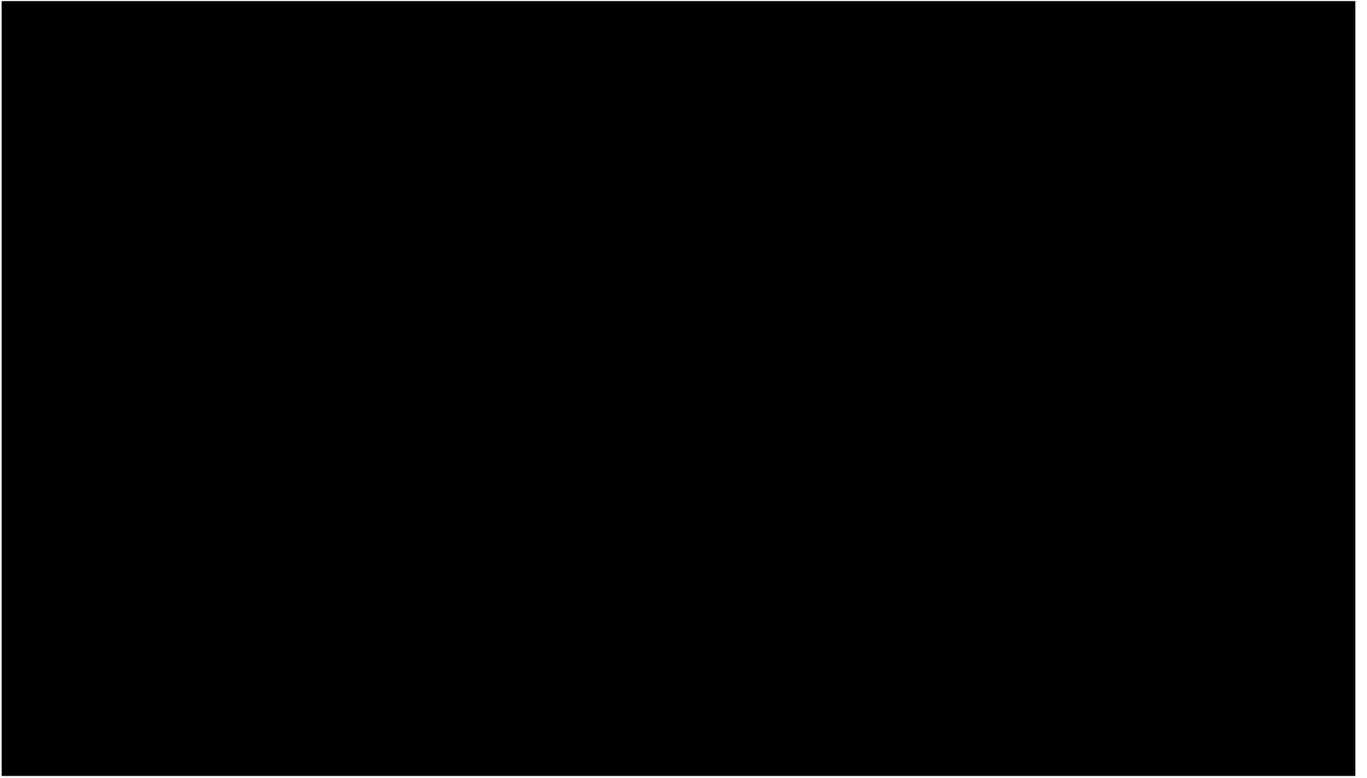
April 2026

8) Close of AGM.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm.

**Minutes for the
Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group (SCIO)
Special General Meeting
Held at the Lochmaben Library at 7.20PM 1st May 2025**





APPENDIX I

Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group (SCIO) AGM **Chairs Report 2024/25.**

The past 12 months have continued to be a bit of a roller coaster for LLCAG. There have been several positive highlights, however despite the hard work of the committee we have encountered a number of hurdles that have resulted in both frustration and disappointment and the potential for the project to fold.

The year started well with LLCAG continuing to work with SWESTRANS and Amey Consultants Ltd on the development of an Active Travel path feasibility study. The final report was received in late May of 2024 with the recommendation that the preferred route would follow the old railway line using what remains of the bridge structure to cross the River Annan.

At this point SWESTRANS reaffirmed their support for the project and indicated that LLCAG's Active Travel path was one of 3 such projects within D&G that had secured funding for the 2024/25 financial year to progress to the design stage of the project. This news was very welcome especially given the challenges in securing funding the committee previously had. All being well the hope was to have the project "shovel ready" in 2025 with construction starting in 2026.

The Committee then took some time to work with representatives of SWESTRANS and the consultants to determine who was best placed to progress the delicate process of approaching landowners to have discussions around land purchase/long term community lease. It was decided that initial approaches should be conducted by LLCAG, as the local community group, in the hope that this would have a positive effect in securing such support. These initial discussions would centre around sharing the Feasibility report, maps etc so that all landowners had sufficient information to consider and to secure their agreement to have further, more technical discussions around finance etc with the consultants.

Over the summer work was undertaken to achieve an appropriate set of principles/messages under which these conversations could take place. This was to ensure all landowners had similar approaches and it was in line with the other groups operating within Dumfries & Galloway.

During this period the committee was not idle and worked closely with our Ward Officer [REDACTED] at the Council's roads department to identify a suitable site for our public Bike maintenance stand. People will recall the funding for the stand was provided by the George Hunter Trust and had to be for the benefit of Lochmaben. Thanks to [REDACTED] all the necessary consultations and permissions were secured and with huge thanks to [REDACTED] Nairn Construction who did the work for free, our bike maintenance stand was installed, adjacent to the Kirk Loch, in October 2024. The maintenance stand has been used by both young and old and is a valuable asset to the Lochmaben community.

In late October 2024 committee members were allocated landowners to contact and hold initial conversations to secure their support. It was hoped this process would be concluded by Christmas and that this would allow the procurement process for the design stage to take place in early 2025. Having the agreement of all Landowners to enter further discussions was a necessary requirement before the procurement process for the next stage could begin.

Several landowners were immediately supportive and indicated their willingness to enter further discussions. However, it quickly became clear that some would be more challenging than others with securing initial discussions and sharing of the report etc becoming very drawn out. Ultimately, at the end of March 2025 the committee was informed that one landowner, who has land that is key to both the preferred route and the alternative route, indicated that he did not want to have any further discussions and would not consider the sale of any of his land.

This situation has been hugely disappointing for all involved! The overwhelming support for the path from communities, stakeholders, local councillors and SWESTRANS remains and it is clear the path is both wanted and needed.

The challenge for the committee for 2025/26 is to explore the "what now" question and determine the next steps.

[REDACTED]
Chair of Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Group (SCIO)



APPENDIX II

Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Path - Accounts 2024 – 2025.*Year end 31 March 2025.*


Lochmaben to Lockerbie Community Access Path - Accounts 2024 – 2025.

Year end 31 March 2025.

Total Income	zero
Bike repair station, Lochmaben	£1344.00
Printing and stationary	£454.74
Land Searches	<u>£252.00</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>£2050.74</u>
Deficit for year	£2050.74
Opening Bank Balance 01 April 2024	£2303.05
Closing Bank Balance 31 March 2025	£252.31

30 march 2025
 verified by [redacted]
 [redacted] 11/6/25.